

Peru Select Board Meeting Minutes

February 17, 2016

Present: Charlie Howard, Todd Williams, Gail Acosta, Peter Berman, Bob Stelz, Wayne Blanchard, Chuck Black, Barbara Petra

Call to Order: Charlie called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm.

Request to Change Agenda/Public Comment: Charlie asked to change the agenda to include Kevin Beattie. Kevin will be speaking on an emergency generator at the Flood Brook School. Chuck Black asked to speak.

Review/Approve Minutes from Previous Meeting: Charlie made a motion to amend the minutes to correct typographic errors; Todd seconded; all in favor; motion passed.

New Business

Chuck Black: Chuck Black asked the Select Board to determine if it is proper, valid and/or legal for someone other than the Select Board to request and solicit a proposal from an independent auditor to audit the Towns accounts, policies and procedures. Charlie said he would follow up on this with the VLCT and report on his findings.

Town Audit: An audit proposal was sent to the Select Board that was not requested by any one of the members. Peter Berman said he had requested the proposal. Discussion continued regarding the unsolicited proposal. On the same topic, Gail corresponded with VLCT asking if a town is required to have an outside audit even if the town has elected auditors. The full statute is attached to these minutes. Discussion ensued and Gail made a motion for the Select Board to explore the feasibility of having an outside audit done soliciting proposals from certified public accounting firms; Todd seconded; all in favor; motion passed.

Community House Repairs: Charlie reiterated that the Town did not receive any grant money for repairs/upkeep to the Community House but there is \$10,000. in the budget for capital improvements. Discussion was to proceed with inspections and create a plan to address each issue by priority and make the improvements and

alterations. The Select Board will reapply for a grant next year to continue with historical preservation of the Community House.

Town Green Community: Gail and Barbara are continuing to establish a committee to come up with a plan for the Town Green. In addition, there was discussion of permanent power to the Green to aid the Peru Fair and other future functions in the village.

Old Business

Town Garage: Bathroom is at a standstill. Waiting to have concrete shimmed off to level the flooring. The Select Board will go forward with estimates on the exterior doors.

Town Budget: Because of inaccurate information from the transfer station, a change was made to account #626-Landfill to become \$30,000. This in turn changes the amount raised by taxes to become \$514,100.00

Street Light Update: The Select Board will follow up with the status of the Rte. 11 street light. A dusk to dawn light will be installed to illuminate the Town Centers' flagpole.

Other Business

Rebate: The Town received a check in the amount of \$806.00 from Efficiency Vermont for the new propane heaters in the garage/fire department.

Emergency Shelter: Kevin Beattie did not attend meeting. The Select Board is waiting for further information. No discussion.

Road Foreman Report: Wayne reported that the fuel pump for the diesel pump intermittently does not work. He recommended that it be looked at and possibly replaced. Todd will follow-up on this with Cota & Cota. Trucks are all running well. Sand is being used up. The heaters are working well in the garage. Estimates from Fuller Paving are expected soon. Wayne reported that one of the trucks is in need of tires.

Review Bills and Approve Payments: The Select Board reviewed and approved all bills for payment.

Adjournment: Charlie adjourned meeting at 8:02 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara A. Petra
Assistant Clerk
Town of Peru, VT