

Peru Select Board Meeting Minutes

September 21, 2016

Present: Gail Acosta, Chuck Black, Michael Batcher, Jay Ouellette, Wayne Blanchard, Barbara Petra

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

Review/Approve Minutes from Previous Meeting: Chuck made a motion to accept the minutes; Gail seconded; all in favor; motion passed.

Requests to Change Agenda/Public Comment: Michael Batcher from the BCRC requested to speak in regard to Hazard Mitigation Planning.

New Business

Hazard Mitigation Plan: Michael Batcher from the BCRC returned to encourage the Select Board to consider working with the BCRC in developing a Hazard Mitigation Plan for Peru. This plan is intended to identify and prioritize natural hazards, develop a strategy in handling the situation should it arise, identify how towns pay for damages and assist in qualifying for government funding should the need present itself. Michael would be doing most of the work and relying on a team formed in Peru in the identifying process of areas of concern. A copy of the outline for this plan is available in the Town Clerks office. The Select Board said they will reevaluate this proposal.

Act 46 Update: Jay Ouellette updated the Select Board in regard to the Northshire Merger Study. Act 46 encourages and eventually requires school districts to merge into larger units. The Merger Study Committee required by law to be formed, study the benefits and implications of merging and produces a report that recommends if a merger is advisable or not. The districts that are represented on the committee are Danby, Dorset, Manchester, Mt. Tabor, Sunderland and Mountain Towns RED(Londonderry, Landgrove, Peru, and Weston). Public forums will be held in all districts for input, before sending report to the State for review. A FAQ's fact sheet is available in the Town Clerks office for review. The Select Board thanked Jay for his continued effort in this very complicated endeavor.

Old Business

Community House: Gail reported that the spray-in foam insulation has been completed in the Community House. The Select Board agreed that the stair chair lift will be removed by the road crew next week in anticipation of the sheetrock work planned for the building. In addition, they will repair some broken panes of glass.

Road Foreman Report: The recall on the truck has been addressed. The 550 has had springs replaced and both trucks will be going in for oil changes. Gravel has been added to Stone Place and Catlin Road. The roadside mowing has been completed satisfactorily. There was discussion about a possible purchase of a tractor so that the towns' mower could be utilized to do future mowing. Wayne will research this for the Select Board.

Other Business

Street Signs: Barbara asked about helping a homeowner in purchasing a road sign for a private road. It was decided to provide the homeowner with the vendor info and have them make arrangements for purchase.

Street Closing: Gail made a motion to close Main St. Peru on Saturday, September 24, 2016 from 6am until 6pm for the Peru Fair; Chuck seconded; all in favor; motion passed.

Policy: John Maher asked the Select Board to review and approve the Delinquent Tax Collection Policy 2016/2017. Chuck made a motion to approve the Delinquent Tax Collection Policy; Gail seconded; all in favor; motion passed. Copy is available at the Town Clerks office.

Appropriation: The Select Board approved and signed the transfer of \$20,000. from the General Fund into the Village Green account.

Review Bills and Approve Payments: Bills were reviewed and approved for payments.

Adjournment: Meeting was adjourned at 7:31pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara A. Petra,
Assistant Clerk
Town of Peru, VT