**TOWN OF PERU**

Selectboard Meeting

January 5, 2022

**Present:** Jon Mowry, Chuck Black, Todd Williams(via Zoom), Wayne Blanchard, Lisa Cronin, Tom Cronin, Northshire Field House committee members: Seth Bongartz, Bill Drunsic & John O’Keefe, Barbara Petra.

**Meeting Called to Order:** Meeting was called to order by Jon at 6:34 pm.

**Review/Approve Minutes:** Jon made a motion to approve the previous meetings minutes; Chuck 2nd; all in favor; motion passed.

**Request to Change Agenda:** None.

**Public Comment:** None.

**Road Foreman Report:** Due to the current spike of Covid-19 cases in the entire state and more specifically the surrounding area, Wayne asked if there was a back-up plan should he or Brian test positive and/or are ill. The Selectboard had not had a plan in place but asked Wayne for his input and suggestions. He suggested having someone on board to step in if the situation arises. Todd volunteered to be that person. Wayne also said that with the Selectboards approval, that he and Brian could also work independently in separate vehicles. They agreed that that was a good suggestion.

Wayne reported that all equipment is in good working order. The supply of sand has taken a hit with all the rain and icing of roads. He believes that it might be necessary to order more sand in the near future.

**New Business**

**Presentaion on Northshire Field House:** The committee provided a schematic site plan of the project, outlined the intermunicipal agreement key elements, reviewed the projected Town contributions, exiting infrastructure and benefits to the participating Towns\*. Concern was expressed regarding Peru residents really be motivated to use the facility down in the Manchester area. In addition, where did the responsibility lie if the costs run above revenue. The Right Track Foundation is committed to fund the deficit for 5 years as part of the start up of a business.

The committee asked if the Selectboard would include an article in the Town Report 2021 to the effect “Shall the Town of Peru be interested in pursuing further information for possible participation in the Northshire Field House Project.” Jon made a motion; Chuck 2nd; all in favor; motion passed.

\*This information is on file in the Town Clerks Office.

**Approve 2022 Budget:** After reviewing proposed budget, the Selectboard voted to increase the line item “surplus to be applied to tax rate” from $185,000. to $255,000. Jon made a motion to set the 2022-23 budget at

$ 927,124.00, of which $ 545.000.00 will be raised by taxes. The motions was seconded by Chuck; all in favor; motion passed.

**Old Business**

**Town Garage Roof Replacement:** John reported that he had received only one estimate of work to be done on the garage. He is waiting to hear back from several other companies.

**ARPA Funding:** No further information at this time.

**Other Business:**  None

**Review Bills/Approve Payments:** All bills were approved for payment.

**Adjournment:** Jon adjourned the meeting at 8:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara A. Petra

Assistant Clerk

Town of Peru, VT