**TOWN OF PERU**

Selectboard Meeting

January 17, 2024

**Present:** Chuck Black, Jon Mowry, Alex Sheets, Aroline & Eric Hanson, Roberta Baker, Will Goodwin, William Greer, Wayne Blanchard, Cheryl Fox, Melinda Beebe.

**Meeting Called to Order:** Jon called the meeting to order at 6:35pm.

**Review/Approve Minutes:** Jon moved that the minutes from the previous meeting be approved, Chuck seconded; all in favor; motion passed.

**Request to Change Agenda**: William Greer requests to be added to agenda as a representative of the “Flavors” program. He presented the town with a plaque of appreciation.

**Public Comment:** None

**Road Foreman Report**: Wayne reported there have been numerous breakdowns of both plow trucks. We should entertain the possibility of a “back up truck” that could be utilized when these situations arise. Cutting blades have been ordered for both trucks. Cost runs about $4,000.00 each for plows and wing. There is concern about the continuing issue of either water coming in or condensation collecting in the vent going out the right-hand side of the garage. There is no ventilation in the space above the garage. Jon will reach out to find resources to assess this situation.

**New Business**:

1. Will Goodwin requested that the new zoning laws and zoning map be adopted. Jon motioned that we adopt them as presented. Chuck Black seconded; all in favor; motion passed unanimously.
2. Cheryl Fox made a request to increase wages for our Assistant Town Clerk/ Treasurer. Jon made a motion to increase Rhonda’s wages, Chuck Black seconded. All in favor; motion passed.
3. 2024-2025 Budget. Chuck discussed the changes to the budget, the county tax rate has not been set yet. A special meeting is set for Monday, January 22 at 5:30pm to approve our final budget & warning.

**Old Business:**

1. Cheryl presented audit information. The cost will be roughly $19,000.00 for the first audit with the Sullivan, Powers & Company. This audit will be financed with ARPA funds.

Jon motions that we go forward and hire this firm for $19,000.00 to do the audit. Alex seconded the motion; all in favor; motion passed.

1. Traffic issues in the village. Eric Hanson has researched traffic humps versus traffic dips. He has consulted with various resources on the pros and cons of each. Further discussions will ensue. Roberta Baker stated that drainage in the center of town should be addressed.

O**ther Business:** None

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

**Adjournment:** Meeting was adjourned at 7:40 pm

Respectfully Submitted,

Melinda M. Beebe

Town Clerk, Town of Peru, VT