

The regular meeting of the Peru Town Board was held on Monday January 26, 2009 at the Peru Town Hall. Those present were Mr. Don Covell, Supervisor; Mr. Tom Powers, Councilman; Mr. Cortland Forrence, Councilman; Mr. Brandy McDonald, Councilman; Mr. Pete Glushko, Councilman; Mr. Don Biggs, Town Attorney; and Mrs. Kathleen Flynn, Town Clerk.

The meeting was called to order at 7:04 PM by Mr. Covell, with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Motion by Mr. Powers, seconded by Mr. McDonald to pass resolution #09.01.26-1; approving the minutes from the Organizational meeting on January 12, 2009.

Roll Call: Mr. Powers-Yes Mr. Forrence-Abstain Mr. Covell-Yes
Mr. McDonald-Yes Mr. Glushko-Yes **Motion Carried**

Motion by Mr. Powers, seconded by Mr. Covell to pass resolution #09.01.26-2; approving the minutes from the January 12, 2009 meeting.

Roll Call: Mr. Powers-Yes Mr. Forrence-Abstain Mr. Covell-Yes
Mr. McDonald-Yes Mr. Glushko-Yes **Motion Carried**

Community Input

Lynda LaMountain-Addressed the board regarding the recent Outdoor Woodboiler Local Law that was passed. Mrs. LaMountain read her feelings and beliefs and provided copies to the board. In this she states that she believes that the town board did not follow proper procedures regarding the preparation and passing of the above local law, and she has provided her reasoning in the paperwork submitted.

Greg Cassidy- Mr. Cassidy specifically speaks to the board regarding the sidewalks on the Bear Swamp road, which are snow covered. Mr. Cassidy would like to know if the Town Of Peru can clear the sidewalks to allow people to walk safely.

Ed Schiffler- Mr. Schiffler commends Mike Farrell the newly elected Highway Superintendent, for speaking at the last meeting, giving town residents an update on what his department had done during the month.

Paul Blaine- Mr. Blaine referred to comments that were made at the last meeting regarding the purchasing of a projector for the Zoning Office. Mr. Blaine specifically states that he has been planning to purchase this for two years and the board was aware of this. He also says that it could not be purchased locally for a better price, and that he saved the town money by installing it himself. Mr. Blaine stated that he made this purchase to allow the Zoning/Planning Boards the opportunity to view certain projects in a more professional manner.

Update by Supervisor on retirement procedures for elected and appointed salary positions as directed by the State Retirement Dept.

Mr. Covell stated that he has written and passed out a letter to all affected personnel regarding the above. Mr. Covell is requesting that employees keep track of hours worked for specific month. He believes that this would be beneficial to all employees for accountability regarding their retirement system.

Mr. Covell also referred to responsibilities of the liasons. He had written material that was provided to all board members.

Contracts that were not approved at the organizational meeting by recommendation of Town Attorney.

Board members discussed contracts that were approved and possible revisions. Mr. Biggs states that he has not seen the revisions as of this evening.

Policy established by board in 2006 or 2007 that agenda items by board members will be submitted by the Wednesday before the regular board meetings.

Mr. Covel re-emphasized that the requested agenda items are in the Supervisor's office by the Wednesday before the meeting.

Other Business

Mr. Covel emphasized that all department heads should continue to pay close attention to their expenditures. Discussion continued and Mr. Covel began to discuss CHIPS money. Members agreed that if and when this part of the Highway Department is effected; the Highway Superintendent will notify the Secretary to the Board and this will be discussed in the future. Mr. Forrence also states that perhaps members sit with Mr. Timmons regarding Water/Sewer financial information.

Finalizing property and liability insurance for the Town.

Mr. Powers states that he would like to have a workshop with three different insurance companies. Members agree to set a workshop date of March 2nd at 6:00 PM. Mr. Powers will contact all insurance companies involved.

Mr. Covel states that he would like it noted for the record that he would like the town attorney to review the proper procedure for obtaining quotes from insurance companies. Mr. Biggs agrees.

Motion by Mr. Covel, seconded by Mr. Glushko to schedule a workshop on Monday March 2, 2009 at 6:00 PM to discuss property and liability insurance with various insurance companies. Ayes 5 Nays 0 ***Motion Carried***

Overtime rate on holidays and weekends (not addressed in employee handbook)

Mr. Covel reports that some employees received double time, instead of time and ½ for the previous holiday. Mr. McDonald reports that he contacted the Town of Plattsburgh, City of Plattsburgh and the Town of Beekmantown. Members agree that it has always been time and ½. Mr. Powers agrees to draft a policy for the Employee Handbook for the next meeting. Mr. Timmons states that the employees have discussed this and agree that the proper adjustments should be made.

Purchases by non-department heads.

Mr. Covel states that this has been resolved.

Other Business

Mr. Powers states that he would like to have a workshop on Open Burning. Members agree.

Motion by Mr. Powers, seconded by Mr. Covel to have a workshop on Monday February 2, 2009 at 6:30 PM to discuss a local law on Open Burning. Ayes 5 Nays 0

Motion Carried

Mr. Glushko states that Mr. James met with town hall employees and gave many suggestions for a better working environment within the town hall. Mr. Glushko states that he would like the James report to be added to the next agenda.

Mr. Glushko also refers to the various "inaccuracies" that were presented in the Community Input section of the last meeting by Bob Cronin. Mr. Glushko states that these misrepresentations are currently on the Peru Gazette and would like them corrected. Mr. Forrence agrees and Mr. Glushko states that he will respond.

Mr. Forrence refers to Paul Blaines comments and commends him for coming forward to correctly explain how decisions and purchases are made. Mr. Forrence appreciates that Mr. Blaine and Mr. Glushko are taking the time to make sure that the proper information is being relayed to the public.

Mr. Farrell informs the board that he has already been discussing the possibility of clearing sidewalks throughout the town with Mr. Timmons. They are currently researching the proper piece of equipment. Members also discuss the possibility of perhaps devising a local law regarding this topic.

Bill Paying

Mr. Powers reports to the board that Mr. Blaine has requested a voucher from Dell be pulled because it is incorrect.

Motion by Mr. McDonald, seconded by Mr. Glushko to approve payment of the bills for 2008 in the amount of \$180,731.03. Ayes 5 Nays 0 **Motion Carried**

Motion by Mr. Powers, seconded by Mr. McDonald to approve payment of the bills, abstract dated 1.22.2009, for 2009 in the amount of \$185,865.54. Ayes 5 Nays 0 **Motion Carried**

Carried

Motion by Mr. Covell, seconded by Mr. Glushko to adjourn the meeting at 8:52 PM. Ayes 5 Nays 0 **Motion Carried**

_____ **Supervisor** _____ **Councilman**

_____ **Councilman** _____ **Councilman**

_____ **Councilman** _____ **Town Clerk**