

**ORDER OF BUSINESS
COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
Berkshire, ss**

To either of the Constables of the Town of Peru, in said County.

GREETINGS:

In the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, you are hereby required to notify and warn the inhabitants of the Town of Peru, qualified to vote in Town affairs, to vote meet in the Peru Fire Station, 11 East Main Road on Saturday, June 3, 2017 at 6:00PM for the Annual Town Meeting, then and there to take action on the following articles, namely:

The moderator, Richard Haupt, called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM. There was a total of 48 registered voters and 5 guests attending the meeting.

The moderator called for a recess for about 15 minutes because Town Counsel had not yet arrived. A vote was taken to recess the meeting and was passed overwhelmingly

The moderator called the meeting back to order at 6:22 PM and stated that the recess was over and that Town Counsel was still not present, but we would continue with the meeting. Counsel arrived at 6:55 PM.

Article 1: To choose a Moderator for the Annual Town Meeting if the elected Moderator is absent.
Moderator, Richard Haupt is present.

Article 2: To see if the will vote to accept the reports of the several Town Officers.

A motion was made and seconded to accept the article as written.

Voice vote: carried

A motion was made and seconded to move Article 22 forward.

Voice vote: carried

Article 22: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the following sums of money for the following Central Berkshire Regional School District FY 18 Assessment, or take any other action relative thereto:

Transportation Assessment	\$43,553.00
Net Operating Assessment	795,297.00
Capital Assessment	<u>20,498</u>
Town of Peru Assessment	\$859,348.00

A motion was made and seconded to accept the article as written.

Voice vote: carried

Article 3: To see if the Town will vote to fix salaries of all elective officers as provided by Section 108 of Chapter 41 of M. G. L., or take any other action relative thereto:

Selectboard

Member	\$ 3,403.00
Member	3,403.00
Member	3,403.00

Town Clerk

7,920.00

A motion was made and seconded to accept the article as written.

Voice vote: carried

Article 4: To see if the Town will vote to fix salaries of the following appointed officers, or to take any other action relative thereto:

Assessors'

Member	\$3,403.00
Member	3,403.00
Member	3,403.00
Treasurer	9,283.00
Tax Collector	9,283.00
Accounting Officer	9,283.00
Assistant Town Clerk	2,100.00
Dog Officer	1,715.00

Forest Fire Warden	853.00
Inspector of Animals	853.00
Veterans' Agent	2,250.00
Council on Aging Director	578.00
Fire Chief	1,155.00
Cemetery Sexton	300.00
Town Auditor	1.00

A motion was made and seconded to accept the article as written.

Voice vote: carried

Article 5: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the following sums of money for the following accounts, or take any other action relative thereto:

Assessors' Salaries	\$10,209.00
Selectmen's Salary	10,209.00
Tax Collector's Salary	9,283.00
Town Clerk's Salary	7,920.00
Assistant Town Clerk	2,100.00
Treasurer's Salary	9,283.00
Accounting Officer's Salary	9,283.00
Dog Officer's Salary	1,715.00
Forest Fire Warden's Salary	853.00
Inspector of Animals Salary	853.00
Veterans' Agent Salary	2,250.00
Council on Aging Director	578.00
Fire Chief	1,155.00
Town Auditor	1.00

A motion was made and seconded to accept the article as written.

Voice vote: carried

Article 6: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the following sums of money for the following wage accounts, or to take any other action relative thereto:

Administrative Compensation Account	\$6,800.00
Elections & Registrar's Account	3,850.00

A motion was made and seconded to accept the article as written.

Voice vote: carried

Article 7: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the following sums of money for the following wage accounts, or to take any other action relative thereto:

Assistant Assessor's Wage Account	\$18,900
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A motion was made and seconded to accept the article as written.

Voice vote: carried

Article 8: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the following sums of money for the following wage accounts, or to take any other action relative thereto:

Town Administrator's Wage Account	\$20,000.00
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A motion was made and seconded to accept the article as written.

Voice vote: carried

Article 9: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the following sums of money for the following accounts, or to take any other action relative thereto:

Assessors' Expense	\$1,000.00
Bank Service Expense	100.00
Dog Officer's Expense	600.00
Selectmen & Other Expenses	1,800.00
Tax Collector's Expenses	1,500.00
Tax Collector's Tax Taking Charges	1,500.00
Town Clerk's Expense	2,200.00
Town Report Expense	2,000.00
Treasurer/Accounting Expense	1,500.00
Treasurer Tax Title Expense	9,000.00
Board of Appeals Expense	100.00
U.S. Postal Expense	3,000.00
Health Department Expense	8,200.00

A motion was made and seconded to accept the article as written. Voice vote: carried

Article 10: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the following sums of money for the following accounts, or to take any other action relative thereto:

Assessors' Annual Computer Support	\$3,800.00
Computer Hardware, Software & Supplies	6,000.00
Computer System Maintenance	3,500.00
Treas./Acct. Annual Computer Support	9,722.95
Tax Collector's Annual Computer Support	7,958.44
Assessors' Tax Map Maintenance	1,500.00
Continuing Education	6,530.00
Office Supplies	2,500.00

A motion was made and seconded to accept the article as written.

Voice vote: carried

Article 11: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the following sums of money for the following accounts, or to take any other action relative thereto:

Conservation Commission Expense	\$375.00
Interest on Loans	1,000.00
Legal Expense	10,000.00
Officers' Mileage	2,000.00

A motion was made and seconded to accept the article as written.

Voice vote: carried

Article 12: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the following sums of money for the following accounts, or to take any other action relative thereto:

Elderly Outreach	\$525.00
Council on Aging	200.00
Veterans Service	10,000.00

A motion was made and seconded to accept the article as written. Voice vote: carried

Article 13: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the following sums of money for the following accounts, or to take any other action relative thereto:

Medicare – Town Share	\$5,500.00
Health Ins/Life & Dental	117,000.00
Town Insurance - All	37,345.00
Mass. Unemployment Insurance	1,000.00

A motion was made and seconded to accept the article as written.

Voice vote: carried

Article 14: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the following sums of money for the following accounts, or to take any other action relative thereto:

Partridgefield Playground	\$1,500.00
Peru Library	4,500.00
Mowing: Cemeteries, Town Hall, Town Park and Town Green:	6,500.00

A motion was made and seconded to accept the article as written.

Voice vote: carried

Article 15: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the following sums of money for the following accounts, or to take any other action relative thereto:

Town Buildings' Maintenance	\$16,000.00
Utilities – Electric	10,000.00
Utilities – Heating	15,000.00
Utilities - Telephone	6,000.00
Internet Communication Lines	4,400.00
Wired West Dues	1,000.00
Town Website Fee	850.00

A motion was made and seconded to accept the article and written.

Voice vote: carried

Article 16: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the following sums of money for the following accounts, or to take any other action relative thereto

Compactor	\$30,000.00
Northern Berkshire Solid Waste District	2,431.41

A motion was made and seconded to accept the article as written.

Voice vote: carried

Article 17: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the following sums of money for the following accounts, or to take any other action relative thereto:

Berk. County Sheriffs Dispatching	\$9,588.26
Berk. County Reg. Planning Comm.	642.34
Berk. County Retirement Assessment	43,235.00
Hinsdale Ambulance	1,500.00
Town Fire Station Mortgage Payment	16,386.50
Police Wages	70,856.00
Police Expenses	3,400.00
Police Cruiser Maintenance	3,400.00

A motion was made and seconded to accept the article as written.

Voice vote: carried

Article 18: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the following sums of money for the following accounts, or to take any other action relative thereto:

Peru Volunteer Firemen's Association Operating Expenses	\$17,550.00
Peru Volunteer Firemen's Association Insurances	8,025.00
Peru Volunteer Firemen's Association Building Maintenance	1,500.00

A motion was made and seconded to accept the article as written.

Voice vote: carried

Article 19: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Sixty Thousand Dollars and No Cents (\$60,000.00) for the Highway Superintendent's annual wage account, or to take any other action relative thereto:

A motion was made and seconded to accept the article as written.

Voice vote: carried

Article 20: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the following sums of money for the following accounts, or to take any other action relative thereto:

Gas & Fuel Account	\$27,630.00
Maintain Hard Surface Roads	18,000.00
Material, Gravel Roads	14,000.00
Road Machinery Maintenance	20,580.00
Snow Roads, Private	500.00
Snow Roads, Public	70,000.00
Town Highways & Bridges	16,750.00
Town Highway Garage Mortgage Payment	12,020.00
Highway Employee Wage Acct.	83,000.00
Future Machine/Vehicle Purchase	10,000.00
Highway Department Uniforms	2,500.00
Tree Removal	10,000.00
Temporary Summer Help	5,000.00

A motion was made and seconded to accept the article as written.

A motion was made to reduce “Snow Roads Public” from \$70,000 to \$60,000. The motion was seconded.

Voice vote: motion failed to carry.

Voice vote on original motion: carried

Article 21: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the following sums of money for the vocational education and transportation accounts:

Vocational School Tuition	\$162,000.00
Vocational School Transportation	58,000.00

A motion was made and seconded to accept the article as written.

Voice vote: carried

Article 22: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the following sums of money for the following Central Berkshire Regional School District FY18 Assessment, or to take any other action relative thereto:

Transportation Assessment	\$43,553.00
Net Operating Assessment	795,297.00
Capital Assessment	20,498.00
Total Town of Peru Assessment	<u>\$859,348.00</u>

A motion was made and seconded to move this article forward to follow Article 2.

Voice vote: carried

Article 23: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate Four Thousand Two Hundred Dollars and No Cents (\$4,200.00) for a Paid Librarian for the Peru Library, or to take any other action relative thereto.

A motion was made and seconded to accept the article as written.

Voice vote: carried

Article 24: To see if the Town will vote to transfer the sum of One Thousand Five Hundred Dollars and No Cents (\$1,500.00) from the dog license fees to the Peru Library Account, or to take any other action relative thereto.

A motion was made and seconded to accept the article as written.

Voice vote: carried

Article 25: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate Five Thousand Eight Hundred Fifty Dollars and No Cents (\$5,850.00) for the Reserve Fund or take any other action relative thereto.

A motion was made and seconded to accept the article as written.

Voice vote: carried

Article 26: To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Free Cash the sum of Twenty Thousand Six Hundred Five Dollars and Twenty Eight Cents (\$20,605.28) to cover the cost overrun of the FY17 Snow Road Public Account or to take any other action relative thereto

A motion was made and seconded to accept the article as written.

Voice vote: carried

Article 27: To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Free Cash the sum of Seven Thousand Dollars and No Cents (\$7,000.00) for the purchase of a used paper compactor for the Transfer Station or to take any other action relative thereto.

A motion was made and seconded to accept the article as written.

Voice vote: carried

Article 28: To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Free Cash the sum of Forty Five Thousand Dollars and No Cents (\$45,000.00) to purchase a new body and other miscellaneous related items for the Highway Department's 1998 Mack Plow Truck or to take any other action relative thereto.

A motion was made and seconded to accept the article as written.

Voice vote: carried

Article 29: To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Free Cash the sum of Four Thousand Four Hundred Twenty Three Dollars and No Cents (\$4,423.00) for the purchase and installation of an exhaust fan for the Highway Garage or to take any other action relative thereto

A motion was made and seconded to accept the article as written.

Voice vote: carried

Article 30: To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Free Cash the sum of Twenty Thousand Dollars and No Cents (\$20,000.00) for the purchase of a used roller for the Highway Department or to take any other action relative thereto.

A motion was made and seconded to accept the article as written.

Voice vote: carried

Article 31: To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Free Cash the sum of Forty Five Thousand Dollars and No Cents (\$45,000.00) for the purchase of a new police cruiser for the Police Department, or to take any action relative thereto.

A motion was made and seconded to accept the article as written.

Voice vote: carried

Article 32: To see if the Town will vote to transfer from the Overlay Surplus Account the sum of Fifty Thousand Dollars and No Cents (\$50,000.00) to the Future Equipment and Vehicle Purchase Account, or to take any action relative thereto.

A motion was made and seconded to accept the article as written.

Voice vote: carried

Article 33: To see if the Town will transfer from the Overlay Surplus Account the sum of Twenty Thousand Dollars and No Cents (\$20,000.00) for a Town Audit or take any other action thereto.

A motion was made and seconded to accept the article as written.

Voice vote: carried

Article 34: To see if the Town will vote to transfer from the Overlay Surplus Account the sum of Seven Thousands Dollars and No Cents (\$7,000.00) for the clean-up costs of the former Hall Property, a Tax Title Taking Property by the Town or take any other action thereto.

A motion was made and seconded to accept the article as written.

Voice vote: carried

Article 35: To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from Chapter 90 funds that are, or may become, available to the Town during the fiscal year for Capital Projects and repairs, and to authorize the Treasurer to borrow such amounts in anticipation of reimbursement by the Commonwealth, or take any other action in relation thereto.

A motion was made and seconded to accept the article as written.

Voice vote: carried

Article 36: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen, or other the Town Departments with the approval of the Board of Selectmen, to apply for and accept grants from the Federal Government, Commonwealth of Massachusetts or any other source, and to expend the same for purposes received without further appropriation, or to take any other action relative thereto.

A motion was made and seconded to accept the article as written.

Voice vote: carried

Article 37: To see if the Town will vote to establish a revolving fund under the provisions of G.L chapter 44, section 53 E½ for each of the following departments, the Building Inspection Department, Electrical Inspection Department, Gas/Plumbing Inspection Department and Fire Inspection Department FY18 operating budget, in the amount of Fourteen Thousand Four Hundred Thirteen Dollars and No Cents (\$14,413.00) or any other amount, and that the receipts of the above named departments be designated to this account, or to take any other action relative thereto.

A motion was made and seconded to accept the article as written.

Voice vote: carried

Article 38: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Peru Board of Selectmen to convey to the Commonwealth of Massachusetts acting through the Department of Fish and Game 4.049 acres of land located on Pierce Road and shown on Town of Peru Assessor Map 30 as Lot 2, formerly owned by John G Lynch and Irene E Lynch, taken for taxes by the Town of Peru by Instrument of Taking recorded with the Berkshire Middle District Registry of Deeds in Book 5228, Page 68, said parcel being also shown as Lot 22 on Plan entitled "Plan of Lots in Cummington, Worthington, Peru Laid out for Wesley P. Gfroerer", Sheet 2 of 2, Scale 1" = 200' (shown on plan as 100'), dated May 25, 1976, Prepared by John J. Unwin, Reg. Land Surveyor, 30 North St., Pittsfield, Mass.," and recorded in the Berkshire Middle District Registry of Deeds, Pittsfield, Mass., in Drawer A, No. 45, on such terms and conditions and for such consideration as the Select Board deems in the best interest of the Town; and further, to authorize the Select Board to take any other action deemed appropriate in relation thereto.

A motion was made and seconded to accept the article as written.

Voice vote: carried

A motion was made and seconded to dissolve the Annual Town Meeting at 7:58 PM,
June 3, 2017

ATTEST:

This is a true copy.



Kim Leach

Town Clerk

Certified: June 12, 2017

ATTEST:

This is a true copy.

Kim Leach *Sharon B. Steele*
Town Clerk *Asst. Town Clerk*

Certified: May 22, 2017

You are directed to serve this warrant with your doing thereon to the Town Clerk or the Board of Selectmen at the time and place of said meeting.

Given under our hands this 22nd day of May, 2017.

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Bruce Cullett *Edward Munch Jr.*
Verne Leach, Member Bruce Cullett, Chair Edward Munch Jr. Member

I have served this Warrant as directed above.

Places of Posting: Bulletin Board at Town Hall, Transfer Station, Library, Community Center.

ATTEST:

Constable _____
Date 5/23/17 Time 4:00 PM

Posted: May 23, 2017