

**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 meet in the Town Fire Station, 11 East Main Road Peru, MA on Saturday, June 7, 2025, at 6:00 PM for the Annual Town Meeting, then and there to take action on the following articles, namely:

Article 1: To choose a Moderator for the Annual Town Meeting if the elected Moderator is absent or take any other action relative thereto:.

Article 2: To see if the Town will vote to accept the reports of the several Town Officers, or take any other action relative thereto:

Article 3: To see if the Town of Peru will vote to approve the Central Berkshire Regional School District Amended Regional Agreement as presented by the School Committee, which will be on file at the Peru Town Clerk's Office, Superintendent of Schools Office and the Peru Public Library, or take any other action relative thereto:
Board of Selectmen in support of this article.

Article 4: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the following sums of money for the Central Berkshire Regional School District FY26 Assessment, or to take any other action relative thereto:

Net Operating Assessment	\$ 1,021,339.00
Capital Assessment	<u>160,437.00</u>
Total Town of Peru Assessment	\$1,181,776.00

Board of Selectmen and Finance Committee in support of this article.

Article 5: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the following sums of money to fix the salaries of all elected officers as provided by Section 108 of Chapter 41 of M.G. L., for FY26 or take any other action relative thereto:

Selectboard	
Member	\$ 3,792.71
Member	3,792.71
Member	3,792.71
Town Clerk	\$15,000.00

Board of Selectmen and Finance Committee in support of this article.

Article 6: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the following sums of money to fix the salaries of the following appointed officers for FY26, or to take any other action relative thereto:

Assessors'	
Lead Assessor	21,840.00
Assessor #1	3,888.38
Assessor	2,652.25
Treasurer	15,600.00
Tax Collector	15,600.00
Accounting Services	35,100.00
Animal Control Officer	2,027.37
Police Chief	80,000.00
Inspector of Animals	1,007.25
Veterans' Agent	530.12
Council on Aging Director	2,400.00
Fire Chief	6,000.00
Cemetery Sexton	750.00
Town Auditor	1.00

Board of Selectmen and Finance Committee in support of this article.

Article 7: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the following sums of money for the following accounts for FY26, or take any other action relative thereto:

Assessors' Salaries	\$ 28,380.63
Selectmen's Salary	11,378.15
Tax Collector's Salary	15,600.00
Town Clerk's Salary	15,000.00
Treasurer's Salary	15,600.00
Accounting Services	35,100.00
Assessing Services	25,000.00
Animal Control Officer's Salary	2,027.37
Inspector of Animals Salary	1,007.25
Veterans' Agent Salary	530.12
Council on Aging Director	2,400.00
Fire Chief	6,000.00
Police Chief	80,000.00
Cemetery Sexton Salary	750.00
Town Auditor	1.00

Board of Selectmen and Finance Committee in support of this article.

Article 8: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the following sums of money for the following wage accounts for FY26, or to take any other action relative thereto:

Recording Secretary	\$ 5,150.00
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Elections & Registrar's Account	3,500.00
Assistant Town Clerk	2,500.00
Compactor Attendants	9,171.12
Town Administrator's Salary	\$40,000.00
Board of Selectmen and Finance Committee in support of this article.	

Article 9: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the following sums of money for the following accounts for FY26, or to take any other action relative thereto:

Assessors' Expense	\$ 1,000.00
Bank Service Expense	100.00
Animal Control Officer's Expense	1,000.00
Selectmen & Other Expenses	2,500.00
Tax Collector's Expenses	1,500.00
Tax Collector's Tax Taking Charges	2,000.00
Town Clerk's Expense	2,000.00
Town Report Expense	2,000.00
Treasurer/Accounting Expense	1,500.00
Treasurer Tax Title Expense	6,000.00
Board of Appeals Expense	100.00
U.S. Postal Expense	4,200.00
Health Department Expense	15,172.00
Hogweed Eradication	\$1,500.00

Board of Selectmen and Finance Committee in support of this article.

Article 10: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the following sums of money for the following accounts for FY26, or to take any other action relative thereto:

Assessors' Annual Computer Support	\$ 2,400.00
Computer Supplies & Maintenance IT	21,000.00
Treas./Acct. Annual Computer Support	14,638.87
Tax Collector's Annual Computer Support	11,981.73
Assessors' Tax Map Maintenance	1,600.00
Continuing Education	3,000.00
Office Supplies	2,000.00
Assessor Utility Appraisal	3,500.00

Board of Selectmen and Finance Committee in support of this article.

Article 11: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the following sums of money for the following accounts for FY26, or to take any other action relative thereto:

Conservation Commission Expense	\$ 400.00
Interest on Loans	15,000.00
Legal Expense	9,000.00

Officers' Mileage 1,500.00
Board of Selectmen and Finance Committee in Support of this article.

Article 12: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the following sums of money for the following accounts for FY26, or to take any other action relative thereto:

Elderly Outreach \$ 650.00
Council on Aging Expense 1,000.00
Veterans Service 6,000.00
Board of Selectmen and Finance Committee in support of this article.

Article 13: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the following sums of money for the following accounts for FY26, or to take any other action relative thereto:

Medicare – Town Share \$ 6,700.00
Health Ins/Life & Dental 151,431.36
Town Insurance - All 44,800.00
Mass. Unemployment Insurance 600.00
CHUBB Insurance 7,358.00
Board of Selectmen and Finance Committee in support of this article.

Article 14: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the following sums of money for the following accounts for FY26, or to take any other action relative thereto:

Partridge Field Playground Trust \$ 1,500.00
Peru Library 23,256.00
Mowing: Cemeteries, Town Hall,
Town Park and Town Green: 6,600.00
Board of Selectmen and Finance Committee in support of this article.

Article 15: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the following sums of money for the following accounts for FY26, or to take any other action relative thereto:

Town Buildings' Maintenance \$ 12,000.00
Town Building Maint. Salary \$6,000.00
Utilities – Electric 15,000.00
Utilities – Heating 17,000.00
Utilities - Telephone 1,800.00
Internet Communication Lines 7,200.00
Town Website Design, Hosting, & Support 3,000.00
Town Hall Janitorial Services 4,900.00
Cemetery Expense 500.00
Board of Selectmen and Finance Committee in support of this article.

Article 16: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the following sums of money for the following accounts for FY26 or to take any other action relative thereto:

Compactor	\$ 39,520.00
Northern Berkshire Solid Waste District	3,178.48

Board of Selectmen and Finance Committee in support of this article.

Article 17: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the following sums of money for the following accounts for FY26, or to take any other action relative thereto:

Berk. County Reg. Planning Comm.	728.05
Berk. County Retirement Assessment	63,800.00
Hinsdale Ambulance	3,000.00
Town Fire Station Mortgage Payment	14,045.50
Police Wages	28,525.00
Police Expenses	8,250.00
Police Cruiser Maintenance	3,850.00
Police Continuing Education	3,000.00
Emergency Management Expenses	\$1,000.00

Board of Selectmen and Finance Committee in support of this article.

Article 18: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the following sums of money for the following accounts for FY26, or to take any other action relative thereto:

Peru Volunteer Fire Department Operating Expenses	\$ 25,000.00
Peru Volunteer Fire Department Insurances	6,000.00
Peru Volunteer Fire Department Building Maintenance	2,000.00

Board of Selectmen and Finance Committee in support of this article.

Article 19: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the following sums of money for the following accounts for FY26, or to take any other action relative thereto:

Gas & Fuel Account	\$ 33,000.00
Maintain Hard Surface Roads	28,000.00
Material, Gravel Roads	25,000.00
Road Machinery Maintenance	25,000.00
Snow Roads, Private	500.00
Snow Roads, Public	95,000.00
Town Highways & Bridges	20,000.00
Town Highway Garage Mortgage Payment	12,020.00
Highway Employee Wage Acct.	113,516.30
Highway Superintendent Salary	79,567.50
Highway Department Uniforms	3,800.00
Tree Removal	25,000.00
Temporary Summer Help	8,000.00

Board of Selectmen and Finance Committee in support of this article.

Article 20: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the following sums of money for the vocational education and transportation accounts for FY26, or take any other action relative thereto:

Vocational School Tuition	\$216,930.00
Vocational School Transportation	\$88,380.00

Board of Selectmen and Finance Committee in support of this article.

Article 21: To see if the Town will transfer from **Free Cash** the sum of Forty-One Thousand Seven Hundred Eighty-Three Dollars and Ninety-Five Cents (\$41,783.95), or any other sums, for overage in Snow Roads, or take any other action relative thereto.

Board of Selectmen and Finance Committee in support of this article.

Article 22: To see if the Town will vote to transfer from **Free Cash** the sum of Fifty Thousand Dollars and Zero cents (\$50,000.00), or any other sum, to reduce the tax rate or take any other action relative thereto.

Board of Selectmen and Finance Committee in support of this article.

Article 23: To see if the Town will vote to transfer from **Free Cash** the sum of Fifty Thousand Dollars and Zero Cents (\$50,000.00), or any other sum, towards a 2026 Freightliner Plow Truck, or to take any other action relative thereto.

Board of Selectmen and Finance Committee in support of this article.

Article 24: To see if the Town will vote to transfer from the Future Equipment Account the sum of One Hundred Thousand Dollars and Zero Cents (\$100,000.00), or any other sum, towards a 2026 Freightliner Plow Truck, the balance to be taken from Chapter 90, or take any other action relative thereto.

Board of Selectmen and Finance Committee in support of this article.

Article 25: To see if the Town will transfer from **Free Cash** the sum of Twenty-Six Thousand Seven Hundred Dollars and Zero Cents (\$26,700.00), or any other sum, to repaint and seal the Salt Shed Roof, or to take any other action relative thereto.

Board of Selectmen and Finance Committee in support of this article.

Article 26: To see if the Town will transfer from **Free Cash** the sum of Fifteen Thousand Dollars and Zero Cents (\$15,000.00), or any other sum, to purchase Three (3) portable radios for the Fire Department, or take any other action relative thereto.

Board of Selectmen and Finance Committee in support of this article.

Article 27: To see if the Town will transfer from **Free Cash** the sum of Five Thousand Two Hundred Dollars and Zero Cents (\$5,200.00), or any other sum, to purchase a Snowplow for the Highway Department, or take any other action relative thereto.

Board of Selectmen and Finance Committee in support of this article.

Article 28: To see if the Town will Transfer from **Free Cash** the sum of Four Thousand Eight Hundred Dollars and Zero Cents (\$4,800.00), or any other sum, for Renatus Solutions to upgrade computers, or take any other action relative thereto.

Board of Selectmen and Finance Committee in support of this article.

Article 29: To see if the Town will vote to transfer from **Free Cash** the sum of Ten Thousand Dollars and Zero Cents (\$10,000.00), or any other sum, to the Reserve Fund for FY26 or take any other action relative thereto.

Board of Selectmen and Finance Committee in support of this article.

Article 30: To see if the town will vote to authorize the use of the following revolving funds for departmental operations which shall not exceed the noted sums for each fund, which shall be under the control of the Town Treasurer, which shall be accounted for separately, and to which shall be credited only the receipts received in connection with the departmental operations supported by the revolving fund: further to authorize the Town Treasurer to expend from such funds in accordance with Chapter 44, Section 53E ½ of the Mass General Laws, provided however that said expenditures for the revolving fund shall not exceed the receipts for said fund:

Board of Health Fees	\$1,500.00
Firearms Licensing Fees-Police Department	\$3,000.00

Board of Selectman and Finance Committee in support of this article.

Article 31: To see if the Town will vote to exclude, as provided for in Chapter 135 of the Acts of 2024, it's municipal administrative building and Town property from being defined as "prohibited areas under Chapter 269, Section 10 (k)(2)(i), thereby allowing possession of a firearm, loaded or unloaded, as defined in Section 121 of Chapter 140 in said buildings, or take any other action relative thereto".

Board of Selectmen in support of this article.

Article 32: To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from Chapter 90 funds that are, or may become, available to the Town during FY26 for Roadway Projects and Repairs, and to authorize the Treasurer to borrow such amounts in anticipation of reimbursement by the Commonwealth or take any other action relative thereto.

Article 33: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen, or other 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.

ATTEST:

This is a true copy.



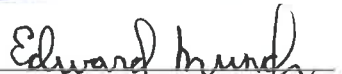
Kim Leach

Town Clerk
Certified: May 5th, 2025

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 day of May 2025.

BOARD OF SELECTMEN


Verne Leach, Chairman


Edward Munch, Member


Samuel Haupt, Member

I have served this Warrant as directed above.

Places of Posting: Bulletin Board/Town Hall/Transfer Station/Library/Community
Center/Website: Townofperuma.com

ATTEST:


Constable

5-28-25
Date

10:33 AM
Time

Posted: May 28, 2025