

2021
Annual Report

Town of Peru, Vermont
Fiscal Year July 1, 2020 – June 30, 2021



Town Report also available online at peruvt.org

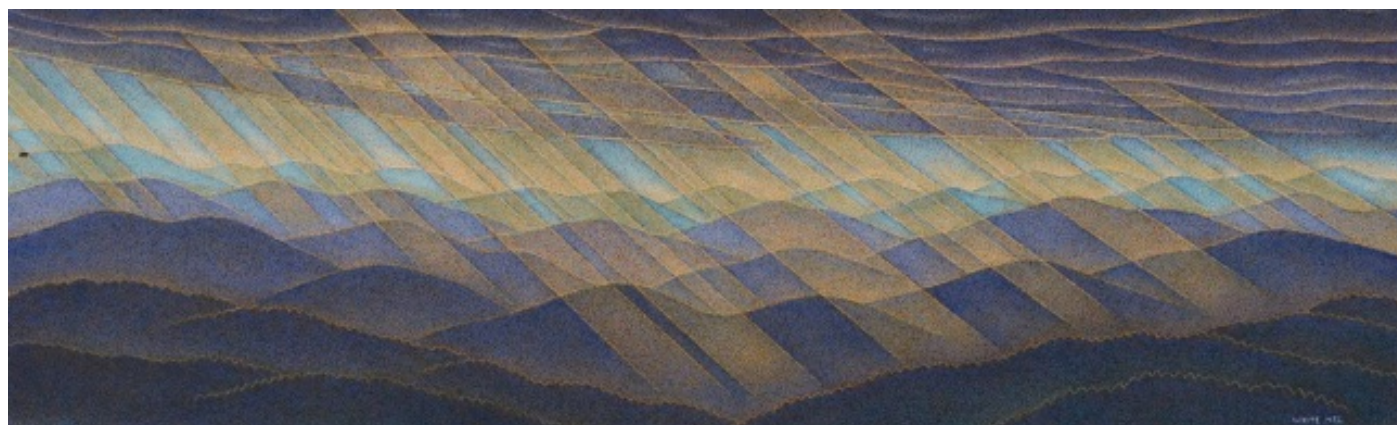
Please note Town Meeting occurs by Australian Ballot on Tuesday March 1, 2022

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Artwork courtesy of David Utiger.



Community Information

PERU TOWN OFFICE
P.O. Box 127 Peru, VT 05152

Open: Tues & Thurs 8:30am – 4:00pm
802.824.3065
clerk@peruvt.org

EMERGENCY NUMBERS

Fire	911
Rescue	911
State Police	802.722.4600
Mountain Valley Medical Center	802.824.6901
First Town Constable, Mike Gayda	802.238.4991
Animal Control Officer, Pat Salo	802.688.4020
Fire Warden, Chuck Black	802.824.6793

SCHOOLS

Flood Brook Union School	802.824.6811
Burr and Burton Academy	802.362.1775
Burr and Burton Mountain Campus	802.824.4846
Green Mountain Union High School	802.875.2146
<u>PERU POST OFFICE</u>	<u>Hours of Operation:</u> 802.824.5472

Window Service:	Monday-Friday 9:30-12:30PM & 1:30-4:30PM
	Saturday 8:30AM-11:30AM
Lobby Open:	Access to Boxes 24 hours, 7 days a week

STATE OFFICIALS

Governor's Action Line	800.649.6825
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VERMONT STATE LEGISLATURE

Senators:	
Brian Campion	e-mail: bcampion@leg.state.vt.us 802.753.7705
Richard Sears	e-mail: rsears@leg.state.vt.us 802.442.9139
Representative:	
Linda Joy Sullivan	e-mail: lsullivan@leg.state.vt.us 802.768.8668

FEDERAL OFFICIALS

Senator Patrick Leahy, Burlington Office	800.642.3193
Senator Bernie Sanders, Brattleboro Office	802.254.8732
Congressman Peter Welch, Burlington Office	802.652.2450

Peru Town Meeting 2022 – WARNING

The legal voters of the Town of Peru are hereby warned and notified that the following articles will be voted by **Australian Ballot** on March 1st, 2022 at the Peru Town Hall between the hours of 9 AM and 7 PM and that there will be an online informational meeting on February 28, 2022 at 7 PM.

The online **information session** can be accessed using the following information, also available at peruvt.org

Time: Feb 28, 2022 07:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/4381647214?pwd=MnZEL25RT0FjY1lpNG1wdDBMTWZBd z09>

Dial by phone

+1 646 876 9923 US

Meeting ID: 438 164 7214 Passcode: 629505

Article 1: To elect a Town Moderator

Article 2: To elect all Town Officers as the law directs.

- A. Town Clerk for a term of one year;
- B. Town Treasurer for a term of one year;
- C. Selectboard member for a term of three years;
- D. Lister for a term of two years;
- E. Auditor for a term of three years;
- F. 1 Cemetery Commissioner for a term of five years;
- G. 1 Cemetery Commissioner for a term of one year;
- H. 1 Cemetery Commissioner for a term of four years;
- I. First Constable for a term of one year;
- J. Second Constable for a term of one year;
- K. Collector of Delinquent Taxes for a term of one year;
- L. Grand Juror for a term of one year;
- M. Trustee of Public Funds for a term of one year;

Article 3:

- A. Shall the voters authorize total fund expenditures for operating expenses for the 2022-2023 fiscal year of \$927,125, of which \$545,000 shall be raised by taxes and \$382,125 by non-tax revenues?

B. Shall the voters establish the date of payment of such taxes as July 1st, 2022 through September 30th, 2022?

Article 4: Shall the Voters authorize the Treasurer to collect current taxes?

Article 5: Shall the voters vote a sum of money to the following organizations which serve the community?

• Bennington County Conservation District	\$300
• BROC Community Action	\$200
• Cemetery Commission	\$5,000
• The Collaborative	\$750
• Center for Restorative Justice	\$300
• Flood Brook Athletic Association	\$1,000
• Green Up Vermont	\$50
• Londonderry Volunteer Rescue Squad	\$5,000
• Mountain Valley Health Council	\$3,000
• Neighborhood Connections	\$1,000
• Project Against Violent Encounters (PAVE)	\$150
• Rural Fire Protection Task Force	\$100
• Southwestern Vermont Council on Aging	\$200
• Vt. Ctr. Of Independent Living	\$140
• Bennington County Coalition for Homeless	\$500
• Visiting Nurse & Hospice	\$2,700
• Bennington County Child Advocacy Ctr.	\$500
• South Londonderry Free Library	\$1,000

TOTAL	\$21,890
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Article 6: Shall the voters approve a veteran's exemption to include an amount up to \$30,000? The State of Vermont currently provides a maximum exemption of \$40,000 with the first \$10,000 provided by the state. The total exemption is deducted from the appraised value of the parcel.

Article 7: Shall the voters approve closing the Sewer and Land Reserve Fund with a balance of \$19,215 plus any accrued interest, and moving the money into the General Fund?

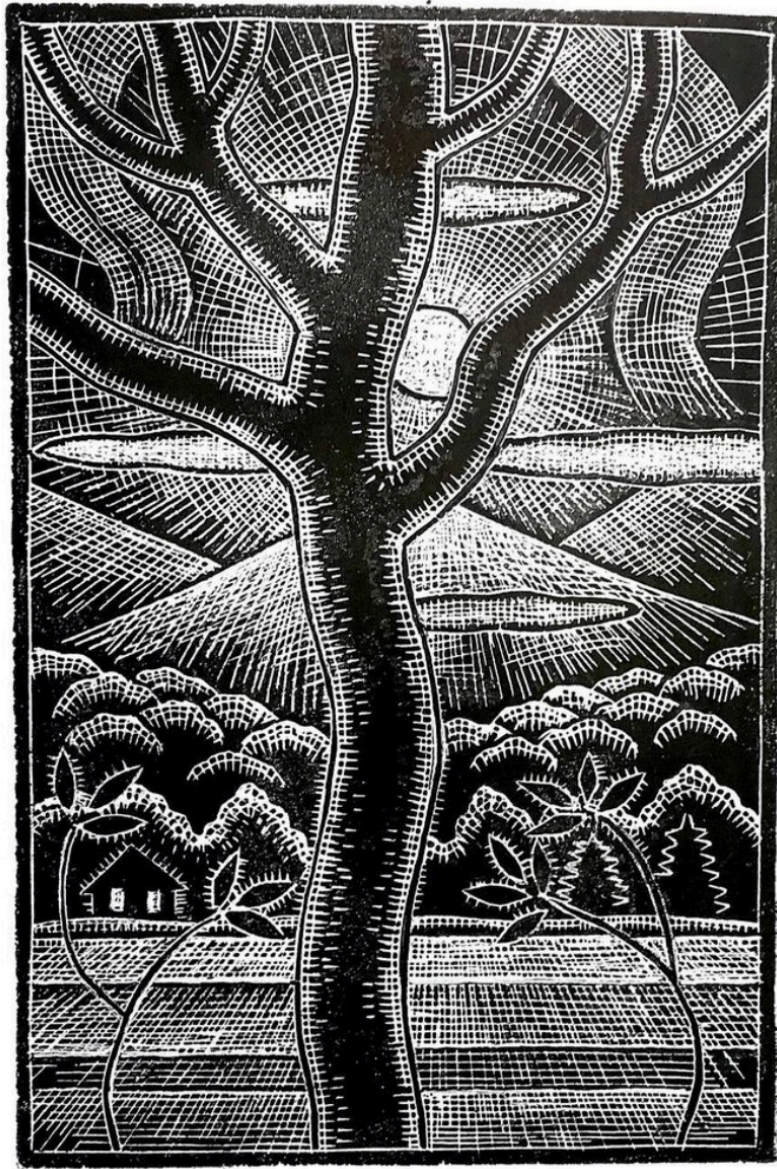
Article 8: Shall the voters indicate support for the concept of a regional Field House at the Dana Thompson Recreation Park in Manchester, with the understanding that towns would participate in its construction costs under a formula based on a combination of grand list,

population and distance, in exchange for a special use status for those who live or own a second home in the Town of Peru. This article is advisory in nature and does not bind the town to further action.

Dated at Peru, Vermont, January 19, 2022

Todd Williams, Jon Mowry, Charles Black

Peru Select Board



Minutes of Informational Meeting, Peru, VT. March 2, 2021

Meeting called to order at 7:00 pm

Jon welcomed everyone to the meeting and introduced Selectboard members Todd Williams and Chuck Black.

Zoom logistics: Jon clearly laid out the process for communicating during the meeting and options for asking questions and contributing.

History of meeting - Usually community members meet in person on Town Meeting Day. Due to Covid 19 pandemic, we are unable to meet in person and we decided to take advantage of one time law allowing towns to switch to Australian Ballot and an informational meeting for one year. Jon explained that the Informational meeting had to be held within 10 days of voting. This rule guided us to schedule the informational meeting right before voting day to discuss articles on the ballot before voting.

Polls are open for in person voting March 2, 2021 from 9:00am - 7:00 pm

Purpose of meeting - This is an informational meeting to respond to questions and comments about the articles on the ballot this year. General business will be discussed at the end of the meeting. The meeting is considered a meeting of the selectboard. No motions can be made. Articles can not be modified. At town meetings, we can modify motions. That is not the case tonight.

Selectboard meetings happen twice/month. Public is always welcome. Please attend if you have anything you would like to discuss or share. Agendas are posted outside and inside the town office, at the post office and online on the town website.

There are two positions without a candidate on the ballot. Unless there is a write in candidate, the selectboard will appoint someone at the March 17, 2021 Selectboard meeting.

Questions about any town business are welcome after Article 9 discussion.

- **Additions or deletions to the agenda**
 - **Public comment** - None
- **Review and discuss Article I:** To elect a Town Moderator
 - **Public comment** - None
 - Gary Ameden is the only candidate for Town Moderator. No questions.
- **Review and discuss Article II:** To elect all Town Officers as the law directs.

- A. Town Clerk for a term of one year;
- B. Town Treasurer for a term of one year;
- C. Selectboard member for a term of three years;
- D. Lister for a term of three years;
- E. Auditor for a term of three years;
- F. Cemetery Commissioner for a term of five years;
- G. First Constable for a term of one year;
- H. Second Constable for a term of one year;
- I. Collector of Delinquent Taxes for a term of one year;
- J. Grand Juror for a term of one year;
- K. Trustee of Public Funds for a term of one year;

There are candidates on the ballot for all of these positions except for Cemetery Commissioner. Peter Bradford and Sarah Hamlett pointed out that we don't have a candidate for Auditor.

- **Review and discuss Article III:**

Shall the voters authorize total fund expenditures for operating expenses for the 2021-2022 fiscal year of \$926,275, of which \$616,650 shall be raised by taxes and \$309,625 by non-tax revenues?

Shall the voters establish the date of payment of such taxes as July 1st, 2021 through September 30th, 2021.

- o Public comment
- No questions

- **Review and discuss Article IV:** Shall the Voters authorize the Treasurer to collect current taxes?

- o Public comment
- No questions

- **Review and discuss Article V:**

Shall the voters vote a sum of money to the following organizations which serve the community

	AMOUNT
Bennington County Conservation District	\$300
BROC Community Action	\$200
Cemetery Commission	\$5,000
The Collaborative	\$750
Center for Restorative Justice	\$300
Flood Brook Athletic Association	\$1,000
Green Up Vermont	\$50
Londonderry Volunteer Rescue Squad	\$4,000
Mountain Valley Health Council	\$3,000
Neighborhood Connections	\$1,000

Project Against Violent Encounters (PAVE)	\$150
Rural Fire Protection Task Force	\$100
Southwestern Vermont Council on Aging	\$200
Vt. Ctr. Of Independent Living	\$140
Bennington County Coalition for Homeless	\$500
Visiting Nurse & Hospice	\$2,700
Bennington County Child Advocacy Ctr.	\$500
South Londonderry Free Library	<u>\$1,000</u>
 TOTAL REQUESTS	 \$20,890

Questions - Welthy Myers inquired whether the visiting nurse association from Weston submitted a request. A request was not received.

- **Review and discuss Article VI:** Shall the voters approve a veteran's exemption to include an amount up to \$30,000. The State of Vermont currently provides a maximum exemption of \$40,000 with the first \$10,000 provided by the state. The total exemption is deducted from the appraised value of the parcel.
 - Public comment

Questions - Welthy Myers inquired about how the Veteran's Exemptions work? Is it for all Veterans, low income veterans? Not limited to low income veterans. If a veteran wants to request this exemption the person should contact the clerk. Sarah Hamlett read from an online source that state law mandates all town have this article on the ballot.

- **Review and discuss Article VII:** Shall the voters approve combining the New Pavement Reserve Fund with a balance of \$69,429.66 and the Highway Resurface Fund with a balance of \$61,383.89 plus any accrued interest into a new Reserve Fund called the Highway Surfacing Fund?
 - Public comment
 - No questions on Article VII
- **Review and discuss Article VIII:** Shall the voters approve combining the Village Green Reserve Fund with a balance of \$5,243.45 and the Peru Park Reserve Fund with a balance of \$2,907.01 plus any accrued interest into a new Reserve Fund called the Town Park Reserve Fund?
 - Public comment

Questions: Jay Reichman asked about the history of the park on North Rd. Tracy Black explained that the park was started about 30 years ago. There were some squatters living there. The community took away the garbage, raised some money and turned it into a park. Susan Bradford noted that it doesn't appear that much money is spent on the Peru Park Reserve Fund. Is that typical for every year? Last year a committee was working on town park and secured a donation for tables that will be assembled in the spring. Jon said that in the past 18 years or so

that he has been here, there were some new swings and a swing set that were added about 15 years ago. In about 10 years there has been virtually no money spent on the town park. Not much money gets spent on the village green. All wiring was put in, electricity was run. Grading has been done for drainage improvement, and this fall part was graded again to level for hockey rink.

No specific questions about the reserve funds.

- **Review and discuss Article IX:** Shall the Town of Peru vote a sum of money not to exceed \$200,000 to construct a multi-use pavilion on the Town Green.
 - Public comment

This is a pre-authorization to spend up to \$200K on the town green.

Jane Worley - Helpful discussions when exploring options for town green that she experienced at Walpole town green. Veterans recognition. Playground. Gazebo - how big? What kind? What will the space be used for? For rent? Walpole has two different locations, similar to Peru.

Jon Mowry said that the bottom line is we, the community, need people to be involved.

Susan Bradford - She has heard people talking about town park for pickleball court. Jon responded that the town park was discussed. There have been discussions about whether a pickleball court could be built on the ice rink for use in warmer seasons and to consolidate efforts for leveled areas.

Susan asked about open slots on the ballot. Jon said email him directly or call Jennie at the town office.

Beth Knox/Bill Hutchins suggested creating an electronic system for communication amongst the community.

Tracy Black - Kathleen James has been skiing regularly at WW. She is a representative from Manchester. She talked about Build Better Places grants that would support this exact type of project. If we could get a project started, it will be much easier to apply for the grant. Kathleen feels strongly we would receive the grant.

Jon asked if anyone would like to be involved in the town park committee. That committee could gear back up again.

Barbara Ardell said the skating rink has been fabulous for Peru. In years past the town green committee discussed various projects. In the end, that committee decided that having open space gives flexibility for use. Barbara questioned whether a pavilion would work for the Peru Fair.

Welthy Myers - Question to Tracy - Did Kathleen share the size of grants. Tracy reported that

the last grant cycle was \$5,000-\$20,000. The town should not be afraid to ask for what is needed.

Tracy talked about the fire department needing help to maintain the skating rink. Jon shared that the rink is a loosely organized group of people who wanted a rink and made it happen.

- **Discussion of other non-binding business (if applicable)**

• School ballot - Peru is part of Taconic & Green School District. We vote on all of the officers in the district, not just Peru.

Jane Worley spoke about the school board looking for more community engagement in the future.

Jon opened up the opportunity for any other questions or comments.

Jon responded to Jane Worley's question regarding the ability of the Selectboard to appoint individuals to roles that are not fulfilled through voting. They will do so at the next Selectboard meeting on March 17, 2021.

- **Entertain motion to adjourn hearing.**

Meeting adjourned at 8:04 pm.



Elected Town Officers

Moderator:	Gary Ameden	<u>Term Expires</u> 2022
Town Clerk:	Melinda Beebe (appointed)	2022
Treasurer:	Donna Williams	2022
Select Board:	Chuck Black	2022
	Todd Williams	2023
	Jon Mowry, Chair	2024
Lister:	Rebecca Williams	2022
	Jack Pennypacker, Chair	2023
	vacant	
Auditors:	vacant	2022
	Alex Sheets	2023
	Josh Witkin	2022
Cemetery Commission:		
	Carl Holcomb	2022
	Vacant	2023
	William Crandall, Chair	2024
	Jeremy Lapan	2025
	vacant	2026
First Constable:	Mike Gayda	2022
Second Constable:	Josh Witkin	2022
Delinquent Tax Collector:	Tracy Black	2022
Grand Juror:	Ivanna Reed	2022
Town Agent:	Tracy Black	2022
Trustee of Public Funds:	Josh Witkin	2022

Justices of the Peace*:

Gary Ameden, Tracy Black, Will Crandall, Karen Utiger, Olivia Rukat

* Terms: February 1, 2021 thru January 31, 2023

Select Board Appointed Town Officers

Planning Commission:	<u>Term Expires</u>
Peter Robertson	2022
Lucas Hughes	2022
Vacant	2023
Andy Dahlstrom	2023
Jim Jordan	2023
LJ Petra	2024
Mike Gayda	2024

Zoning Board:

David Utiger	2022
Charles Howard	2022
Chuck Black	2023
Peter Bradford, Chair	2024

Zoning Administrator: William Goodwin

Sexton: Carl Holcomb

Town Service Officer: Melissa O'Brien

Health Officer: Dr. Roger Fox

Deputy Health Officer: Mike Gayda

Road Commissioner: Todd Williams

Emergency Manager: Chuck Black and Todd Williams

Other Town Positions

Assistant Town Clerk/Treasurer: Barbara Petra

Road Foreman: Wayne Blanchard

Road Crew: Brian Bills

Select Board Report

The Peru Select Board returned to meeting in person this year and trying to conduct business as usual in the third year of COVID-19. We welcomed Melinda Beebe as our new Town Clerk and thank Jenny Freeman for her years of service to the Town. We likewise welcomed Barbra Petra back as Assistant Clerk and Treasurer. We thank Heather Lappan for her time in that role. The Select Board would also like to offer special thanks to Stewart Beattie who retired from a number of Town positions this year but has held many others over the years. Most recently, Stewart served as Town Constable, Chair of the Planning Commission and as a member of the Cemetery Commision. Stewart's help will be missed.

There was some exciting news from our Town Park Committee this fall, spearheaded by Jane Worley and Barbrara Petra, who managed to secure a State grant for an updated playground on North Road. We look forward to a spring installation and will be looking for volunteers. We would also like to thank all the folks involved in building and maintaining the ice rink on the Town Green. It has become a Town fixture in its first three years and helps to make our Town a more vibrant place.

In the new year, the Select Board is hoping to take on some weatherization and improvement projects to keep our buildings in good shape, including adding insulation at the Firehouse and a new roof on the Town Garage. We will also continue to grapple with ways to spend the money received from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) within the guidelines allowed by the US Treasury. The Select Board hired a forester to complete a timber harvest in the Town Forest that will be completed this winter.

The Select Board would like Peru Residents to know we are facing a crisis in terms of filling some important volunteer roles in Town Government. We have been operating this year short a Lister, an Auditor and a couple of members of the Cemetery Commission. If you have the time and the interest in helping out, please stop by the Town Office for more information.

The Select Board is proposing a budget this year that is little changed from last year but is raising significantly less from taxes. We would like residents to know that this is in large part to a grant received in 2021 for culvert work that was completed and paid for in 2020, allowing us to apply a significant amount of the surplus caused by receiving the

grant to reducing the tax rate. We should expect to see tax rates tick back up a little in 2023.

The Select Board meets at 6:30 on the first and third Wednesday of the month, and we always love to have residents attend.

The Peru Select Board

Jon Mowry

Chuck Black

Todd Williams



Clerk's Report

VITAL STATISTICS: JULY 1, 2020 – JUNE 30, 2021

MARRIAGES: 7

BIRTHS: 3

DEATHS 5

BURIALS 3

LIQUOR LICENSES: MAY 1, 2021- APRIL 30, 2022

FIRST CLASS RESTAURANT/ BAR:	4 @ \$ 115.00	= \$ 460.00
FIRST CLASS HOTEL:	0 @ 115.00	= 00.00
FIRST CLASS COMMERCIAL CATERER:	0 @ 100.00	= 00.00
OUTSIDE CONSUMPTION:	4 @ 20.00	= 80.00*
TOBACCO:	1 @ 00.00	= 00.00*
THIRD CLASS	<u>3 @ 1,095.00</u>	<u>= 3,285.00*</u>
TOTAL		\$ 3,825.00

*THE TOWN OF PERU DOES NOT RECEIVE ANY PORTION OF THIS FEE

Audit Report

The town auditors conducted our audit of fiscal year 7/1/20 - 6/30/21 by reconciling bank statements throughout the year and using the audit checklist provided by the Vermont League of Cities and Towns. This checklist provides a thorough approach to examining the internal controls and the accounts of all town officers and all other persons authorized by law to draw orders on the town treasurer.

In our opinion, the financial statements presented in the Town Report present fairly the financial position of the Town of Peru as of June 30, 2021.

Alex Sheets, Josh Witkin

Board of Listers Report

GRAND LIST: Each year, the primary role of the Listers is to maintain a fair and equitable Grand List for the purposes of taxation. The Listers establish a Grand List specifying the value of each taxable property as of April 1st. The Preliminary Grand List must be filed with the Town Clerk on or before June 4th. Grievance hearings must begin no later than June 19th and the final Grand List must be lodged with the Town Clerk by July 25th. This year there are 729 parcels in Peru, including 397 structures with land (including residential and commercial properties), 270 condominiums and 59 parcels with open land. No parcel formally grieved their assessments this year. All concerns were resolved at our pre-grievance level

EQUALIZATION STUDY RESULTS: Since the beginning of the Covid pandemic, it has become a seller's market. This year (4/1/20 – 3/31/21) the average increase in the sale price of Residential 1 homes (less than 6 acres) over their appraised value was 20.13%, the average increase in the sale price of Residential 2 homes (greater than 6 acres) over their appraised value was 29.08% and for condominiums, 34.52% over their appraised value. Sales trends are measured by the state using two statistical measures, the Common Level of Appraisal (CLA) and Coefficient of Dispersion (COD). Each is measured by a three year running average. Last year, our CLA was 100.189% and our COD was 11.89 . This year the CLA was 88.66 % and our COD was 15.86%. A CLA below 100% indicates that our town appraisal values are less than fair market value. A high COD indicates that some taxpayers are paying more than their fair share and some are paying less than their fair share. A CLA less than 85% or a COD greater than 120% necessitates a town wide reappraisal. Since the CLA and COD are based on three year running averages and the sales trends still indicate a sellers' market, we anticipate that we

will be required by the state to carry out a town-wide reappraisal, beginning in 2023 at the latest. We will keep you informed of the coming process.

USE VALUE APPRAISAL PROGRAM (CURRENT USE): Owners of agricultural and forest land may be eligible to have land taxed at the lower “use value” rate by enrolling in the Current Use Program. At least 25 acres are required for enrollment, excluding a 2 acre house site. We currently have 36 parcels enrolled in the Current Use program. For additional information and to file an application electronically, please go to <http://tax.vermont.gov/property-owners/curent-use>.

HOMESTEAD DECLARATION AND PROPERTY TAX ADJUSTMENT CLAIM (FORM HS-122): By Vermont law, property owners whose homes meet the definition of a Vermont homestead must file a Homestead Declaration each year., 32 V.S.A. Statute 5410. Many people file their Homestead Declaration at the same time they file their Vermont Income Tax return. However, if you apply for an extension or if you are not required to file a Vermont Income Tax return, the Homestead Declaration must still be filed. Penalties apply after the April deadline. For additional information and to file electronically, please go to: <http://tax.vermont.gov/property-owners/homestead-declaration>.

VETERANS EXEMPTION: Veterans who own their home and declare a Vermont homestead may be eligible for a property tax exemption. We currently have one veteran registered for this exemption. For additional information and requirements, please go to: www.veterans.vermont.gov.

BOARD OF LISTERS: As a board, we must abide by changing state statutes and fixed and constrained timetables. We are here to assist you with any questions or concerns that you may have. The Board of Listers meets on Wednesday morning at 9:00AM. If you have any questions or concerns about the appraisal of your property, feel free to call, stop in, or send us a letter with your concerns. Most issues are handled in April or May by a Pre-Grievance process. If you wish to formally grieve the assessed value of your property, please submit a letter in May describing the basis for your Grievance. The formal Grievance Day will be held in the first two weeks of June.

FINALLY A PLEA TO THE PERU COMMUNITY: Normally, the Board of Listers is comprised of three members. This past June, one of our Listers resigned because of having to relocate. I would like to give a special thanks to Brian Goudro who served for three years as a Lister. Since June, we have operated with only two board members and

we would love to recruit a third. If you would like to volunteer your services for this vital role, please contact the Town Clerk.

Respectfully submitted,
The Board of Listers

Jack Pennypacker, Chair
Rebecca Williams

Planning Commission Report

The Planning Commission did two site plan reviews for minor subdivisions in 2021.

They also worked on the bylaws, the town plan, and supported the work of the Zoning Administrator.

The Planning Commission said goodbye to long time member and chair Stewart Beattie in 2021. His commitment and encyclopedic knowledge of the zoning bylaws will be severely missed.

Respectfully submitted,

Mike Gayda, chair
Andy Dahlstrom
Lucas Huges
L J Petra
Jim Jordan

Zoning Board of Adjustment Report

In 2020 the Zoning board of appeals held 3 hearings, and granted variances for a fence on Rt 11, a shed on Anderson Rd., and a boundary line change.

Peter Bradford, Chair
Chuck Black
David Utiger
Chary Howard
Josh Witken

William Goodwin
Peru Zoning Administrator

Zoning Administrative Officer's Report

In 2021 the Zoning administrator issued permits for:

- A fence
- An addition
- Two single family Homes
- A pool with a deck
- A deck
- Moving a house
- Two garages
- Two sheds
- A playhouse
- A greenhouse
- Two small subdivisions
- One boundary line adjustment

Respectfully Submitted
William Goodwin
Peru Zoning Administrator



Cemetery Commissioner's Report

The maintenance of Peru's three cemeteries, the Village Cemetery, North Cemetery and Stone Cemetery has been ongoing through the year consisting of mowing/trimming grass, removal of leaves, taking down hazardous trees and grave stone maintenance.

The Cemetery Commission is currently struggling with a lack of participation from its board members not attending the meetings. We currently need to fill a position on the board with an active member. Being on the board is not a very demanding position. We only meet May through November which is once a month on the first Thursday at 7 p.m. for about 30 minutes.

It was brought to our attention by the Town Treasurer at our last meeting in November, that the monies for our perpetual care fund were not being transferred from our checking account to our investment accounts. The perpetual care fund is a fund for the ongoing care of the cemeteries of which we can only spend the interest from the fund and not the principle. The money apparently had not been transferred for a long period of time so there was a rather large amount in the checking account, \$57,387 to be exact. Due to the fact that this was the last meeting for the year, we decided to bring this problem before the selectboard because they are the overseers of the Cemetery Commission. The selectboard voted to transfer \$31,500 from the checking account to the investment account leaving us \$25,887 in our checking account for a cushion for large expenses that may come up.

The next large expense for the cemetery will be to get the new portion of the Village cemetery surveyed for burial lots because the old portion of the cemetery is running out of lots.

Respectfully submitted,

Peru Cemetery Commissioner
William Crandall, Chairman

Peru Cemetery Commission Balance Sheet

Checking Account Balance, 6/30/2020	<u>\$ 49,322.28</u>
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RECEIPTS:

Interest	\$ 22.70
Dividends	\$ 1,403.03
Plot Purchase	\$ 600.00
Perpetual Care	\$ 600.00
Town Appropriation	<u>\$ 5,000.00</u>

Total Receipts	<u>\$ 7,625.73</u>
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DISBURSEMENTS:

Maintenance	\$ 5,710.45
Other	<u>\$ -</u>

Total Disbursements:	<u>\$ 5,710.45</u>
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Checking Account Balance, 6/30/21	<u><u>\$ 51,237.56</u></u>
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Assets

Owned:

Berkshire Bank Municipal NOW (Checking Account)	\$ 51,237.56
Mutual Funds and Stock (at Market Value)	<u>\$ 142,668.60</u>

Total Assets	<u><u>\$ 193,906.16</u></u>
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Note: All Revenue over Expenditures in the Checking Account are dedicated to Perpetual Care.

First Constable's Report

This is my second year acting as Constable with help of my assistant Constable Josh Witkin. Other than a couple of noise calls associated with short term renters, I am happy to report that Peru has remained relatively quiet during these unprecedented times.

I would like also to remind us all to drive prudently and slowly, particularly on Hapgood Pond Road and in town.

Please feel free to phone me or text at 802.238.4991 if you require assistance.

Cordially,
Mike Gayda

Fire Department Report

The fire dept. responded to 58 calls in 2021(a record). The calls break down as follows, 2 structure fires, 3 mutual aid requests for fire, 3 mutual aid requests for LVRS, 9 motor vehicle accidents, 32 still alarms (automatic fire alarms), 1 chimney fire, 2 smoke in building calls, and 5 tree on the wires calls.

The Dept. took delivery of the new attack pumper this spring. It is a Pierce all-wheel drive truck with a 1000-gallon tank and a 1250GPM pump. This truck should serve the community for many years.

The Dept. received by donation, an air compressor system that allows us to fill our SCBA bottles in house. This compressor came from the Essex Jct. fire dept, and the donation was arranged by one of their members who got his start in the fire service here in Peru. This compressor would have cost \$60,000 if purchased new.

The Fire Dept. currently has 19 members on the roster. This is the most members in my 43 years. 6 of them are currently talking the FF 1 Course (180 hrs), this is huge commitment, and they should be commended for undertaking this task.

Through our fundraising and donations, the Fire Dept purchased \$35,349 of new equipment and donated it to the town

Chuck Black, Chief, Peru Fire Dept.

Fire Warden Report

64 burning permits were issued in 2021. As a reminder, only untreated wood is burnable under VT statute.

Chuck Black, Fire Warden

Road Commissioner's Report

This year the Town was awarded a Better Back Roads Grant that covered 80% of the cost to upgrade and stone line the ditches on North and Walt's Camp Road.

Ditching was also completed on Russel and Bradford Roads.

Tree and Brush work was completed on North, Walt's Camp, and Moss Brook Roads as well as Beechwood and Beechnut Lanes.

Culverts were replaced on North and Mad Tom Notch Roads.

Road grading, dust control, lawn maintenance and servicing of equipment was completed as usual by the Highway Dept.

The Highway Dept. purchased a new zero-turn lawn mower to take care of the town's properties.

Respectfully submitted
Todd Williams
Road Commissioner



Animal Control

The State of Vermont requires that all dog/wolf-hybrid owners license their pets. Current rabies vaccination certificates are required at the time of licensing.

Total licenses sold 2021: 95

Revenue to Peru:	\$771.00*
Revenue to State VT	\$470.00
Total Revenue 2019/2020	\$1,241.00

2022 Fees:	Before April 1st:	After April 1st:
Neutered/Spayed	\$ 12.00	\$ 17.00
Unaltered Male/Female	\$ 20.00	\$ 29.00

*Including late fees

Puppies must be registered by six months of age. New dogs to households may be registered any time without a late fee assessed.

Please be advised that Peru has an Animal Control Ordinance. Section #3 prohibits animals from roaming and Section #4 prohibits animals against creating a nuisance. Our Animal Warden, Patrick Salo cell # 802-688-4020, should be contacted to handle any complaint regarding problem animals, if your dog has gone missing or if a stray has been seen.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Petra
Assistant Town Clerk

Animal Control Officer

The Animal Control Officer is responsible for the enforcement of the Vermont State Laws pertaining to animals. The officer responds to complaints of violations of Animal Control laws by telephone and police dispatch. The officer also investigates complaints of vicious, diseased, neglected or abused animals. Impounded animals are cared for at the officers' kennel. Unclaimed animals are carefully evaluated before being placed for adoption.

The Animal Control Department makes every effort to insure that all functions of the department are carried out in the most economical manner with cost savings in mind,

while providing the highest degree of professional service to the townspeople and provides assistance to the community so that animals and people can co-exist safely and peacefully.

Unlicensed dogs: The Animal Control Officer is responsible for the enforcement of the dog licensing laws. A dog without tags will be considered unlicensed and unvaccinated and fines may be issued.

Respectfully submitted,
Pat Salo, Animal Control Officer
200 VT Rte. 30, Bondville, VT 05340
Phone: (802)297-1032 Cell: (802)688-4020



Peru Fair and Peru Fair Scholarship Report

Due to the Covid Pandemic and Vermont State regulations the 2021 Peru Fair was cancelled. The decision to cancel the Fair was made in late February of 2021 due to the uncertainty of State Regulations and the uncertainty of the virus. The Peru Fair committee made the decision to return all 2020 carry-over vendor deposits in fairness to the vendors. It is our hope that the Fair will be back in action and held on Saturday, September 24, 2022.

Due to the 2021 Cancellation of the Fair, The Peru Fair Scholarship Fund did not receive any funding for 2021. The current balance on 1/20/2022 as reported by Berkshire Bank is \$23,95.78. In February, this balance will decrease by an undetermined amount while we sort through the status of the Upperclassmen. The current climate has many students deciding to take some time off from school, so we are working thru the status of each Upperclassmen.

In 2021 the Peru Fair Scholarship was pleased to award \$1000 to each of the 10 High School Graduate recipients. This was an unusually large graduating class. All high school graduate awards were mailed to their respective schools in August 2021 and the upperclassmen awards, to be mailed by the end of January 2022 is to be determined.

While it is hard to know the exact number of participants on a year-by-year basis, it appears as though the number of recipients is expected to increase for the 2022 school year. The Peru Fair Committee continues to evaluate the amount of the scholarship taking into consideration the balance in the bank, the number of students expected to graduate over the course of the next 3-5 years as well as our ability to successfully have the Fair under the current climate.

Vermont Spay Neuter Incentive Program (VSNIP)

The VT Spay Neuter Incentive Program aka “VSNIP”, under the oversight of the VT Economic Services Department, is administered by VT Volunteer Services for Animals Humane Society (VVSA). VSNIP helps financially challenged Vermont residents spay/neuter cats and dogs for \$27.00. The balance is paid by fellow Vermonters when dogs are licensed by an added \$4.00 fee, the major funding for this important program. Funds are determined by the number of dogs licensed, which is required by law when a dog is six months of age. A current rabies vaccination is required to register, and a rabies vaccination can be administered after 12 weeks of age for both cats and dogs.

Prostrate and mammary cancer is more likely to occur in unsterilized cats and dogs. It's not pretty and they're likely to die. Animals live longer and happier when they're spayed and neutered, are less likely to fight for territory, and mark what they claim to be “theirs”!

Licensing a dog: 1) helps identify your dog if lost, 2) provides proof your dog is protected from rabies in the event your dog is bitten by a rabid animal, but would still need immediate medical attention, 3) if your dog bites an animal or person – which could result in quarantine or possible euthanasia to test for infection, and 4) helps pay for VSNIP, addressing the population situation in Vermont.

Farms with cats should especially be aware that one rabid cat or dog can affect an entire population of animals on the premise. The answer is neutering through VSNIP which includes a rabies vaccination and the first of the two part distemper series.

Look for Rabies Clinics in March across the state. You can call your veterinarian and ask the cost of a rabies vaccination only, or call your nearest Tractor Supply Store for their Monthly Rabies Clinic schedule. Rabies IS in Vermont and it IS deadly.

To receive a VSNIP Application, send a 9” S.A.S.E to: VSNIP, PO Box 104, Bridgewater, VT 05034. Indicate if it's for a cat, dog or both. For more information, call 802-672-5302.

Please visit our website: www.VVSAHS.org

VVSA will be hosting Rabies Clinics in March. Call for dates and locations.

The animals thank you in advance! Together We Truly Do Make A Difference!!

Sue Skaskiw, VVSA Humane Society Executive Director/VSNIP Administrator

Londonderry Solid Waste Group

Unfortunately, **COVID-19** is still on everyone's mind. So, we ask anyone visiting the transfer station to please take the following precautions. Only visit if you are healthy, keep it simple, only bring waste that can't wait like trash and food scraps, minimize the number of trips, practice social distancing by keeping 6 feet of space between other customers and staff, and please wear a mask. Thank you for helping keep yourself and the staff healthy.

2022 Transfer Station Permit Stickers are available for purchase at member towns' Offices. You can also purchase **punch cards** to pay for disposal at these offices and Londonderry Hardware and Weston General Store

Household Hazardous Waste Events: If you missed our two events this past year, visit londonderryvt.org/recycle and click on the A-Z list for information on how to dispose of *architectural paints, alkaline and rechargeable batteries and cell phones, mercury thermostats, fluorescent bulbs, prescription medications and electronics*. Our 2022 Hazardous Waste Events will be on the first Saturday in June and the first Saturday in October. Londonderry Group members can also dispose of materials at the Rutland County Solid Waste District. You will have to purchase a permit for \$60 and pay for disposal. For more information, visit <https://www.rcswd.com/hhw/> where you can register to drop off your hazardous materials.

To many people's delight **The Take It or Leave It Shed** is once again open. Please follow these guidelines.

The Take it or Leave it Shed is open from **12-3 each day** the transfer station is open.

NO ELECTRONIC DEVICES

NO BEDDING

NO VHS TAPES

NO BROKEN/UNUSABLE ITEMS

NO CLOTHING/SHOES-bring to Thrifty Attic or place in One World bins in plastic bags

ALL ITEMS SHOULD BE IN GOOD WORKING CONDITIONS

When in doubt, ask the attendant

Food Scrap Ban: As of July 1, 2020, food waste has been banned from disposal in landfills. Residents, institutions, businesses, and schools should divert their food waste by contracting with their haulers, bringing food to the transfer station, composting at home, feeding food scraps to domestic animals, donating to food banks, and reducing the amount purchased to avoid wasting food. If you compost at home, you can bring your meat and bones to the transfer station's food scrap collection bins or put in your trash.

Vermont's Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) legislation makes manufacturers of products like Computers, Batteries, Paint, Mercury Light Bulbs and Mercury Thermostats take responsibility for their products at the end of their useful life. To find year-round drop-offs call 1-855-63-CYCLE or go to VTrecycles.com. The Londonderry Group will hold an Electronics Collection Event in May 2022. Check londonderryvt.org for dates and times.

If you have questions, want to join the Londonderry Group's mailing list to receive alerts about special collections (hazardous waste & electronics) or if your school or business is interested in learning about ways to handle solid waste, organics, recyclables, and other materials please contact recycle@londonderryvt.org.

Green Mountain National Forest

Excerpts from the full report, which is available at the Town Hall

Peru: In partnership with GMC, a caretaker hosted visitors and maintained the Griffith Lake Tenting Area, Peru Peak Shelter, and surrounding trails. A Long Trail Patrol Crew worked on the AT/LT near Bromley for four weeks. In partnership with VAST, a trail bridge was replaced over Mad Tom Brook enabling the trail to reopen and provide a connection to Dorset. At Hapgood Pond Recreation Area, power was put in at the day use kiosk in preparation for an automated fee collection machine.

Dorset, Mount Tabor, Peru: Visitor encounter monitoring was conducted along the Appalachian Trail/Long Trail and side trails in the Big Branch Wilderness and Peru Peak Wilderness. Invasive plant species were monitored and hand pulled along trailheads, the trail system, and shelters to prevent spreading. Water quality samples were collected on McGinn Brook and Lost Pond Brook to monitor air quality values. Trout were stocked in Big Mud Pond utilizing a helicopter in partnership with Vermont Fish and Wildlife. Wilderness boundary maintenance was completed and signs were painted marking boundaries along the trail system.

Wild Wings Trail Improvement project located in the town of Peru designed to create safer skiing conditions and to allow for an increased variety of trail uses.

Just Neighbors

Just Neighbors is a 501(c)(3) all volunteer organization dedicated to assisting our neighbors in crisis by ensuring that individuals have basic life necessities. We support individuals, families and seniors in meeting their housing, transportation, safety, health and security needs.

This includes the following services:

- Firewood – provided in partnership with Burr & Burton’s Mountain campus, delivered by our volunteers
- Emergency funds - provided for housing, fuel assistance, etc. and are in the form of grants
- Transportation – financial support for The Mountain Town Connector van
- Other specific community needs – such as warm winter outdoor clothing for children in need

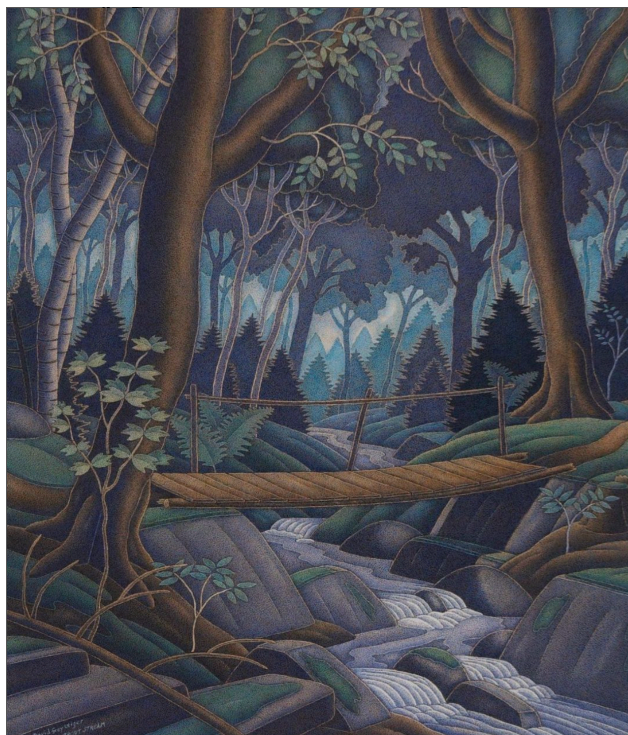
The service area includes the towns of Andover, Bondville, Landgrove, Londonderry, South Londonderry, Peru, Weston, Windham and Winhall.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank our fellow board members, our volunteers and all the “friends of Just Neighbors” for their contributions to our communities!

Just Neighbors

P.O. Box 172, Weston, VT 05161

Help line: 1-802-787-1225



Town of Peru, Budget

TOWN OF PERU, BUDGET

Income

	Actual	Authorized	Proposed
	20/21	21/22	22/23
3000 · REVENUE			
315-Long View Cash Bond			
316 · State of VT- Current Use	24,485.00	17,500.00	20,000.00
318 · Penalties on Delinquent Taxes	10,288.11	9,000.00	9,000.00
322 · Beverage License	70.00	550.00	550.00
324 · Dog License&Marriage Lic	966.00	850.00	850.00
326 · Zoning Permits	3,752.02	1,500.00	1,500.00
328 · Hunting/Fishing Licenses	0.00	25.00	25.00
332 · Town Clerk Fees	23,450.00	10,000.00	10,000.00
334 · Rental of Equipment	0.00	75.00	75.00
336 · Rental of Facilities	25.00	75.00	75.00
338 · Highway- State of VT	65,413.17	40,000.00	40,000.00
340 · Interest Earned	5,023.30	4,300.00	4,300.00
344 · Misc Income	175.00	750.00	750.00
346 · Green Mountain Forest	52,510.60	40,000.00	40,000.00
Total 3000 · REVENUE	186,158.20	124,625.00	127,125.00
Surplus to be applied to tax rate	185,000.00	185,000.00	255,000.00
(To Be) Raised by taxes	552,017.91	616,650.00	545,000.00
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$898,137.16	\$926,275.00	927,125.00
4000 · ADMINISTRATION EXPENSES			
400 · Town Clerk	13,790.96	17,600.00	17,600.00
401 · Treasurer	13,058.48	15,500.00	15,500.00
402 · Asst Town Clerk	9,454.13	9,300.00	13,300.00
403 · Asst Treasurer	713.50	3,100.00	4,100.00
404 · Select Board	5,000.00	5,000.00	5,000.00
405 · Auditors	372.25	1,500.00	1,500.00
406 · Listers	1,692.00	5,000.00	4,000.00
407 · Planning Commission	948.00	3,000.00	3,000.00
408 · Memberships / Training	6,133.00	5,000.00	7,000.00
408.5 · Consulting	3,082.50	400.00	400.00
409 · Legal Services	1,319.00	3,000.00	3,000.00
410 · Town Report & Delivery	1,345.60	1,500.00	1,500.00
411 · Town Meetings	-255.00	250.00	250.00
412 · Election Expense	40.00	300.00	300.00
413 · Comp & Liability Insurance	18,428.33	25,000.00	25,000.00
414 · Admin Misc/Travel	11.99	1,500.00	500.00
415 · Zoning Board of Adjustment	230.00	500.00	500.00
416 · Zoning Administrator	6,000.00	6,000.00	6,000.00
417 · Zoning Board/Administrator Misc	0.00	100.00	100.00
418 · Delinquent Tax Collector	10,075.39	12,000.00	12,000.00
Total 4000 · ADMINISTRATION EXPENSES	91,440.13	115,550.00	120,550.00

	Actual	Authorized	Proposed
	20/21	21/22	22/23
4200 · OFFICE EXPENSE			
420 · Tax Bills	440.00	450.00	450.00
421 · Document Books	1,619.53	1,000.00	1,000.00
422 · Dog Tags & Registration	93.79	125.00	125.00
423 · Paper, Envelopes & Supplies	1,011.94	1,000.00	1,000.00
424 · Postage	953.63	1,500.00	1,500.00
425 · Office Misc/Supplies	279.50	800.00	800.00
426 · Bank Fees	442.78	100.00	100.00
428 · Media/Advertising	683.00	1,200.00	1,200.00
Total 4200 · OFFICE EXPENSE	5,524.17	6,175.00	6,175.00
4300 · OFFICE EQUIPMENT EXPENSE			
432 · Copier Expense	225.86	1,000.00	1,000.00
434 · Computer Expenses	8,961.91	9,000.00	11,000.00
436 · Equipment, furniture & fixtures	0.00	4,200.00	4,200.00
438 · Miscellaneous	61.09	250.00	250.00
Total 4300 · OFFICE EQUIPMENT EXPENSE	9,248.86	14,450.00	16,450.00
4400 · TOWN CENTER UTILITIES			
440 · Electricity	1,668.77	2,000.00	2,000.00
442 · Telephone/Internet	836.08	1,500.00	1,500.00
444 · Heating Fuel	2,874.85	4,000.00	4,000.00
446 · Furnace Maintenance	0.00	750.00	750.00
447 · Security Monitoring System	384.00	1,000.00	1,000.00
448 · Propane	195.00	300.00	300.00
Total 4400 · TOWN CENTER UTILITIES	5,958.70	9,550.00	9,550.00
4500 · TOWN CENTER JANITORIAL			
450 · Janitor Services	825.00	2,500.00	2,500.00
453 · Supplies	0.00	200.00	200.00
Total 4500 · TOWN CENTER JANITORIAL	825.00	2,700.00	2,700.00
4600 · TOWN CENTER MAINTENANCE			
463 · Supplies	68.06	500.00	500.00
464 · Capital Improvement/Maintenance	7,069.12	10,000.00	10,000.00
Total 4600 · TOWN CENTER MAINTENANCE	7,137.18	10,500.00	10,500.00
4700 · COMMUNITY HOUSE MAINTENANCE			
473 · Supplies	0.00	150.00	150.00
474 · Electricity	283.75	500.00	500.00
475 · Capital Improvement/Maintenance	5,153.99	15,000.00	15,000.00
476 · Propane	288.72	250.00	350.00
Total 4700 · COMMUNITY HOUSE MAINTENANCE	5,726.46	15,900.00	16,000.00

	Actual	Authorized	Proposed
	20/21	21/22	22/23
4800 · TOWN GARAGE			
480 · Electricity	2,085.74	2,300.00	2,300.00
481 · Heating Fuel/Propane	1,898.82	4,000.00	4,000.00
482 · Supplies	260.57	500.00	500.00
484 · Uniform(contract services)	2,032.01	2,400.00	2,400.00
485 · Capital Improvement/Maintenance	4,227.25	14,000.00	14,000.00
486 · Telephone	586.00	500.00	700.00
Total 4800 · TOWN GARAGE	11,090.39	23,700.00	23,900.00
5100 · PAYROLL TAXES/BENEFITS			
512 · Soc Sec/Medicare Tax	13,586.80	16,000.00	16,000.00
517 · VT Dept of Employment & Training	0.00	250.00	250.00
518 · County Tax	17,296.34	20,000.00	20,000.00
Total 5100 · PAYROLL TAXES/BENEFITS	30,883.14	36,250.00	36,250.00
6200 · GENERAL SERVICES			
626 · Landfill	34,974.81	25,000.00	35,000.00
628 · Street Lighting	2,111.64	3,500.00	3,500.00
634 · Constable Expense	0.00	400.00	400.00
636 · Animal Warden	2,842.00	3,500.00	3,500.00
Total 6200 · GENERAL SERVICES	39,928.45	32,400.00	42,400.00
7000 · HIGHWAY EQUIPMENT			
700 · Gasoline	38.45	250.00	250.00
701 · Oil	982.85	3,000.00	3,000.00
702 · Diesel	11,460.08	20,000.00	20,000.00
703 · Small Tools	241.20	2,500.00	1,000.00
704 · Radio Repairs	0.00	500.00	500.00
705 · Street Signs	54.16	2,000.00	2,000.00
706 · Truck #1-Maint/Repairs	3,608.19	4,500.00	4,500.00
708 · Truck #2-Maint/Repairs	6,391.95	4,500.00	4,500.00
710 · Chipper Maint./Repairs	15.40	500.00	500.00
710.5 · Truck #3 Maint/Repairs, Supplies	0.00	3,500.00	0.00
712 · Grader-Maint/Repairs	2,715.94	8,300.00	8,300.00
714 · Sander-Maint/Repairs	0.00	1,000.00	1,000.00
716 · Small Equip-Maint/Repairs	1,114.86	500.00	500.00
716.5 · Sweeper-Repairs/Maintenance	2,505.41		2,500.00
717.5 · Lawn Mower	8,699.00		500.00
718 · Backhoe-Maint/Repairs	1,805.79	6,000.00	6,000.00
719.5-Roadside Mower/Maint/Repair	1,059.76	1,500.00	2,000.00
Total 7000 · HIGHWAY EQUIPMENT	40,693.04	58,550.00	57,050.00

	Actual	Authorized	Proposed
	20/21	21/22	22/23
7200 · SUMMER ROADS (CLASS 2&3)			
721 · Culverts	-162,350.00	8,000.00	8,000.00
722 · Cal Chloride	0.00	7,000.00	7,000.00
723 · Crushed Stone			5,000.00
724 · Resurfacing Crushed Gravel	23,304.00	22,000.00	22,000.00
725 · Contract Services	1,860.00	10,000.00	7,500.00
726 · General Maintenance	1,664.67	2,000.00	2,000.00
727 · Labor -1st Employee	23,109.24	26,500.00	27,030.00
727.5 · OT Labor-1st Employee	0.00	600.00	600.00
728 · Labor -2nd Employee	17,049.60	20,000.00	20,400.00
728.5 · OT Labor-2nd Employee	0.00	500.00	500.00
729 · Equipment Rental	-125.00	1,500.00	1,500.00
Total 7200 · SUMMER ROADS (CLASS 2&3)	-95,487.49	98,100.00	101,530.00
7400 · WINTER ROADS (CLASS 2&3)			
741 · Plow and Chains	934.09	4,000.00	4,000.00
743 · Contract Services	0.00	1,250.00	1,250.00
744 · Sand	29,376.00	35,000.00	37,000.00
745 · Salt	22,432.89	46,000.00	40,000.00
746 · Labor -1st Employee	26,410.56	27,000.00	27,540.00
747 · Labor-2nd Employee	18,710.40	19,000.00	19,380.00
748 · Overtime -1st Employee	4,322.84	9,500.00	9,500.00
749 · Overtime-2nd Employee	2,232.00	6,500.00	6,500.00
750 · General Maintenance	100.08	500.00	500.00
Total 7400 · WINTER ROADS (CLASS 2&3)	104,518.86	148,750.00	145,670.00
7700 · BRIDGES			
775 · Materials	0.00	1,000.00	1,000.00
776 · Construction	0.00	2,500.00	2,500.00
Total 7700 · BRIDGES	0.00	3,500.00	3,500.00
7900 · HIGHWAY			
791 · Bereavement	649.44	300.00	300.00
792 · Health Insurance	47,234.89	45,000.00	45,000.00
793 · Retirement	8,006.37	8,000.00	9,000.00
794 · Vacation Days	6,281.82	6,500.00	6,500.00
794.5 · Holidays Paid	3,739.20	5,000.00	5,000.00
794.8 · Sick Days	1,853.88	3,000.00	3,000.00
Total 7900 · HIGHWAY	67,765.60	67,800.00	68,800.00

	Actual	Authorized	Proposed
	20/21	21/22	22/23
8000 · MISCELLANEOUS			
800 · Approp -Comm Agencies	19,890.00	22,000.00	22,000.00
803 · Select Board Discretionary Fund	2,671.46	2,500.00	3,000.00
805 · Reappraisal	5,000.00	5,000.00	5,000.00
807 · Highway Surfacing	57,500.00	50,000.00	50,000.00
808 · Fire Engine Fund	40,000.00	40,000.00	40,000.00
810 · Highway Equip Fund	75,000.00	75,000.00	75,000.00
811 · Peru Park Reserve Fund	5,500.00	2,000.00	5,500.00
818 · Document Restoration & Pres.	0.00	0.00	2,100.00
852 · Town Tree Maintenance	1,453.40	3,000.00	3,000.00
Total 8000 · MISCELLANEOUS	207,014.86	199,500.00	205,600.00
9000 · FIRE DEPT			
901 · Fire Dept. Insurance	6,361.67	9,000.00	9,000.00
902 · Radios and Dispatch	17,643.00	17,000.00	18,500.00
903 · Assoc. Dues and School Fees	150.00	2,500.00	2,500.00
904 · Engine and Equipment Maint	6,563.11	4,000.00	7,000.00
906 · Propane	1,808.04	3,000.00	3,000.00
907 · Misc. and Supplies	71.33	500.00	500.00
908 · Capital Improvement/Maintenance	6,900.91	10,000.00	10,000.00
909 · Payroll	8,835.05	6,000.00	10,000.00
Total 9000 · FIRE DEPT	48,333.11	52,000.00	60,500.00
Total Expense	\$580,600.46	\$895,375.00	927,125.00

Town of Peru General Fund - Statement of Revenue, Expenditures, Appropriations and Changes in Fund Balance

			AUTHORIZED	ACTUAL
REVENUE			20-21	20-21
300	Taxes		\$586,900.00	\$609,742.57
	Surplus applied to Tax Rate		185,000.00	
316	State of VT Current Use		17,500.00	24,485.00
318	Penalties Delinquent Taxes*		9,000.00	10,288.11
320,322,324	License/ Dog, Beverage\Marriage		1,400.00	1,061.00
326	Zoning Permits		1,500.00	3,752.02
328	Hunting/Fishing Licenses		25.00	-00
332	Town Clerk Fees		10,000.00	23,425.00
334	Rental of Equipment		75.00	-00
336	Rental of Facilities		75.00	25.00
338	State Aid Highways		40,000.00	65,413.17
340	Interest Income		4,300.00	5,023.30
344	Misc. Income		750.00	175.00
346	Green Mountain National Forest		40,000.00	<u>52,510.60</u>
Total Revenue			<u>896,525.00</u>	<u>795,900.77</u>
EXPENDITURES				
	(See itemized accounts)			
400-418	Administration		114,350.00	91,440.13
420-438	Office/Equipment		20,625.00	14,773.03
440-487	Total Buildings		62,350.00	30,737.73
512-519	Taxes and Assessments		36,250.00	30,883.14
626-638	General Services		32,400.00	39,928.45
700-796	Highway & Roads		365,650.00	117,490.01
901-910	Fire Department		52,000.00	48,333.11
			<u>683,625.00</u>	<u>373,585.60</u>
APPROPRIATIONS				
803	Discretionary Fund		2,500.00	2,671.46
805	Reappraisal		5,000.00	5,000.00
806	New Pavement Reserve		22,500.00	-00
807	Highway Resurface Fund		35,000.00	57,500.00
808	Fire Engine Fund		40,000.00	40,000.00
809	Village Green		3,500.00	-00
810	Highway Equipment Fund		75,000.00	75,000.00
811	Peru Park		2,000.00	5,500.00
817	Digitized Maps		2,400.00	5,575.00
852	Town Tree Maintenance		3,000.00	1,453.40
TOTAL APPROPRIATIONS			<u>190,900.00</u>	<u>192,699.86</u>
WARNING ARTICLES				
800	Appropriations Community Services		22,000.00	19,890.00
TOTAL, Exp.,Approp.,Warning			<u>896,525.00</u>	<u>586,175.46</u>
SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)			<u>0.00</u>	<u>\$209,725.31</u>
CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE				
Opening Fund Balance, July 1, 2020				273,093.17
Ending Fund Balance, June 30, 2021				<u>\$482,818.48</u>

Balance Sheets

	General Fund	Special Funds	Peru Cemetery	Total
Assets				
Municipal NOW	\$439,522.24	\$449,759.67	\$51,237.56	\$940,519.47
Petty Cash	150.00			150.00
Stock/Mutual Funds			142,668.60	142,668.60
Delinquent Taxes Receivable	47,402.99			47,402.99
Prepaid Expense (Cota & Cota)	3,177.98			3,177.98
Total Assets	<u>\$490,253.21</u>	<u>\$449,759.67</u>	<u>\$193,906.16</u>	<u>\$1,133,919.04</u>
Liabilites				
Accrued Payroll & Payroll Taxes	\$7,434.73	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$7,434.73
Total Liabilites	<u>7,434.73</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>7,434.73</u>
Fund Balance				
Appropriated		449,759.67	191,990.88	641,750.55
Unappropriated	<u>482,818.48</u>		<u>1,915.28</u>	<u>484,733.76</u>
Total Fund Balance	<u>482,818.48</u>	<u>449,759.67</u>	<u>193,906.16</u>	<u>1,126,484.31</u>
Total Liabilities & Fund Balance	<u>\$490,253.21</u>	<u>\$449,759.67</u>	<u>\$193,906.16</u>	<u>\$1,133,919.04</u>

Special Funds, Statement of Revenues, Expenditures & Changes in Fund Balance

REVENUE	Equipment	Highway Resurface/Bridges	Fire Engine Equipment	Sewer Land	Peru Park Reserve Fund	Village Green	Re-Appraisal	Restoration & Preservation	New Pavement	TOTAL
From General Fund	\$75,000.00	\$57,500.00	\$40,000.00	\$0.00	\$5,500.00	\$0.00	\$5,000.00	\$7,173.00	31.39	\$190,173.00
Interest Income	14.87	29.64	15.84	8.28	1.41	2.08	35.03	2.69		141.23
From Village Green Acc					5,244.17					5,244.17
From General Fund					45.12					45.12
From New Pavement Acc		69,439.15								69,439.15
TOTAL REVENUE	75,014.87	126,968.79	40,015.84	8.28	10,790.70	2.08	5,035.03	7,175.69	31.39	265,042.67
EXPENDITURES										
Mowing Machine	128,138.40									128,138.40
RK Miles					106.93		299.98			406.91
Chaves					2,765.00					2,765.00
Fuller Sand and Gravel									90,801.92	90,801.92
Nicom (Coating Rds)									25,500.00	25,500.00
New Fire Truck (Balance Due)			39,781.37						39,781.37	39,781.37
To Close Account					5,244.17				69,439.15	74,683.32
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	128,138.40	0.00	39,781.37	0.00	2,871.93	5,544.15	0.00	0.00	185,741.07	362,076.92
Revenues in Excess of Expenditures (Deficit)	(53,123.53)	126,968.79	234.47	8.28	7,918.77	(5,542.07)	5,035.03	7,175.69	(185,709.68)	(97,034.25)
Fund Balance June 30, 2020	150,019.47	61,370.21	36,721.38	19,206.05	2,861.15	5,542.07	81,120.16	4,243.75	185,709.68	546,793.92
Fund Balance June 30, 2021	\$96,895.94	\$188,339.00	\$36,955.85	\$19,214.33	\$10,779.92	\$0.00	\$86,155.19	\$11,419.44	\$0.00	\$449,759.67

Statement of Taxes Raised & Distributed

Grand Lists:

Municipal Grand List	\$2,227,397.36	
Billed at x	<u>0.2766</u>	
	\$616,098.11	
Less Credit	<u>\$2,479.00</u>	\$613,619.11
	Resident	
Education Grand List	407,399.00	
Billed at x	<u>1.5418</u>	
	\$628,127.78	
Less Credit	<u>188,119.95</u>	440,007.83
	Non-Resident	
Education Grand List	1,730,202.87	
Billed at x	<u>1.5975</u>	
	\$2,763,999.08	<u>2,763,999.08</u>
		3,817,626.02
State Adjustment based on final education Grand Li		-21,432.42
Post Grand List Adjustments (late-filed HS122, errors & omissions, etc)		<u>-38,642.82</u>
Total Tax Raised		<u><u>\$3,757,550.78</u></u>

Distribution of Taxes:

State Education Fund-Peru School District-FBUS	\$3,147,808.21
General Fund	<u>609,742.57</u>
Total	<u><u>\$3,757,550.78</u></u>

*

Statement of Delinquent Taxes

STATEMENT OF DELINQUENT TAXES

-

Year ended June 30, 2021

Balance, 6/30/20	\$17,428.44
Collected	<u>-4,865.22</u>
Sub Total	12,563.22
Delinquent	<u>34,839.77</u>
Balance, 6/30/21	<u><u>\$47,402.99</u></u>

Funding Requests to the Town of Peru

Bennington Rutland Opportunity Center

To the Citizens of the Town of Peru,

On behalf of BROC Community Action and the thousands of people with low-income or living in poverty that we serve throughout Rutland and Bennington Counties, we want to express our thanks and gratitude for supporting us over the years on Town Meeting Day. BROC Community Action assists families and individuals in crisis and help provide a sustainable path forward.

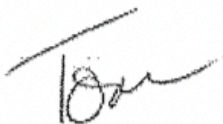
Over the past year, BROC Community Action was available to the residents of the Town of Peru. Whether they need food at the BROC Community Food Shelf, senior commodities, housing counseling, homelessness assistance, weatherization, heating and utility assistance, forms assistance for benefits such as 3SqVT, budget and credit counseling and resources and referrals; we are here.

People come to us cold, hungry, homeless, jobless or facing major health conditions every day. Your town appropriation helps ease the struggle for nearly 10,000 people who seek assistance from us each year as we meet the basic needs of their families and provide a path forward whenever possible.

Respectfully, our appropriation request for the upcoming fiscal year remains \$200.00.

We truly value our collaboration with Peru as we assist those most in need.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tom', with a stylized flourish extending from the end.

Thomas L. Donahue, CEO
tdonahue@broc.org

Cemetery Commission

The maintenance of Peru's three cemeteries, the Village Cemetery, North Cemetery and Stone Cemetery has been ongoing through the year consisting of mowing/trimming grass, removal of leaves, taking down hazardous trees and grave stone maintenance.

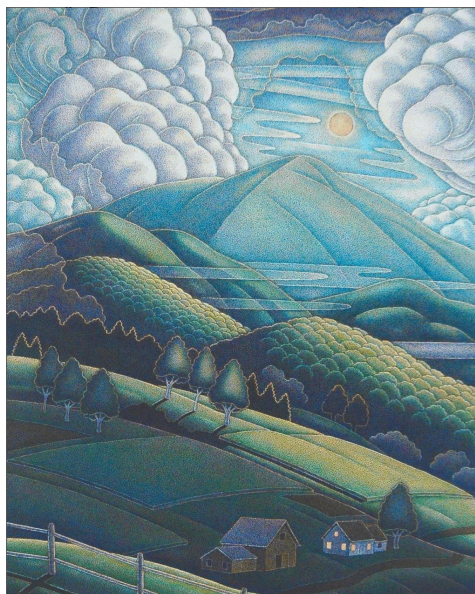
The Cemetery Commission is currently struggling with a lack of participation from its board members not attending the meetings. We currently need to fill a position on the board with an active member. Being on the board is not a very demanding position. We only meet May through November which is once a month on the first Thursday at 7 p.m. for about 30 minutes.

It was brought to our attention by the Town Treasurer at our last meeting in November, that the monies for our perpetual care fund were not being transferred from our checking account to our investment accounts. The perpetual care fund is a fund for the ongoing care of the cemeteries of which we can only spend the interest from the fund and not the principle. The money apparently had not been transferred for a long period of time so there was a rather large amount in the checking account, \$57,387 to be exact. Due to the fact that this was the last meeting for the year, we decided to bring this problem before the selectboard because they are the overseers of the Cemetery Commission. The selectboard voted to transfer \$31,500 from the checking account to the investment account leaving us \$25,887 in our checking account for a cushion for large expenses that may come up.

The next large expense for the cemetery will be to get the new portion of the Village cemetery surveyed for burial lots because the old portion of the cemetery is running out of lots.

Respectfully submitted,

Peru Cemetery Commissioner
William Crandall, Chairman



The Collaborative

Dear Peru Residents,

The Collaborative appreciates your vote of confidence as you vote for the 2022-23 budget. Since 1999, we have grown from a small after school program to an organization providing a wide range of individual, youth, and family programs focused on preventing youth substance use, supporting working families and creating a healthy community. It was another year of change and uncertainty for everyone, but with you on our team The Collaborative was able to continue to provide healthy opportunities for our youth and young adults, strengthen community connections and increase outreach in the Northshire and mountain communities.

In this year's town budget we are requesting funds for The Collaborative mission to support substance free middle and high school youth. Just like you, we had to rethink how we do what we do and determine what was at the heart and soul of it. For example, this year, it is resiliency and connection for the Refuse to Use program. We are honored that 360 RTU participants from 8 schools are participating in over 50 virtual, in person or distanced substance misuse and healthy alternative programs. These programs are primarily led by community volunteers who recognize the value of this education in our community. With a focus on healthy choices this project allows for our young people to pick their unique path toward a healthier future. Our afterschool program meets daily providing a safe supervised space with time for homework, projects, healthy snacks and free play. Our mentor program has students meeting with an adult mentor weekly to encourage great social and recreational connections.

We are requesting your approval of \$750 in your town's budget to assist The Collaborative in continuing to provide services to our community. We appreciate your involvement!

Sincerely,
Maryann Morris
Executive Director

Center for Restorative Justice

Dear Selectboard,

On behalf of The Center of Restorative Justice (CRJ), I am writing to request funding for our agency in the amount of **\$300** for the upcoming year. CRJ is very grateful for the support it receives from the town and looks forward to continuing to serve the residents of Peru in the year ahead.

I have also enclosed an annual report. If you have any questions or need any additional information, I can be reached at 447-1595 or email leitha@bcrcj.org. CRJ is very grateful for your continued support.

Thank you very much.

Flood Brook Athletic Association

FBAA Board Members

President

Sarah Kiefer

Vice President

Linda Ewens

Secretary

Allison Marino

Treasurer

Fern Cyr

Basketball Commissioner

Sarah Kiefer

Baseball Commissioner

Jason Marino

Members at Large:

Dave Kiefer

Dan Long

Harry Lux

Josh Rourke

Jason Saunders

Dear Residents, Taxpayers, and Peru Town Select Board,

The Flood Brook Athletic Association (FBAA) would like to thank all of the residents, taxpayers, and the Town's Select Board for your consistent support over the years for our programs. FBAA is a volunteer run, nonprofit organization, whose mission is to provide high quality and inclusive opportunities for our local youth to participate in affordable athletic programs. We are committed to providing athletic experiences that promote individual and team skill development, collaborative teamwork, and perseverance. Our group is composed of volunteers who are dedicated to organizing our programs, raising funds for uniforms and equipment, and contributing to the maintenance of the dugouts, fields, and scoreboards at Flood Brook School and Pingree Park.

Like every aspect of our lives, the Covid 19 pandemic upended our programming over the last two calendar years. We ended our 19-20 basketball program strong with over 80 children engaged in our youth programs in grades K-6. In addition to our annual 5th/6th grade basketball tournament, we added our first (hopefully) annual middle school tournament with 8 local teams participating. Unfortunately, Covid 19 disrupted our 2020-21

basketball season. However, our spring 2021 baseball season was the largest on record in terms of athletes, coaches, and volunteers, with over 100 children playing in our pre-K-8 programs. We introduced softball at the 10u and middle school level, and our Tball and 8u teams expanded. Our 2021-22 basketball season has begun, with teams from Kindergarten-6th grade.

If anything, this pandemic has reinforced for us how important youth sports are for our children. In order to continue our work with the area youth, we would like to humbly request the taxpayers to consider appropriating \$1000.00 to assist us in continuing to provide these valuable programs. We anticipate that your support will allow us to continue to offer these programs to players at low or no cost, at a time when families need that support most.

In closing, we would like to thank the residents of Peru, our players' parents and families, the volunteer coaches and referees, and the local businesses who sponsor our programs for supporting our organizational activities and our local youth. We are very grateful for the community support.

Respectfully submitted, The Flood Brook Athletic Association Board

Green Up Vermont

Dear Residents of Peru

Thank you for your past appropriation to Green Up Vermont in support of Green Up Day. We had a great turnout with 22,000 volunteers picking up 418 TONS of trash and 16,250 tires from our roads and waterways. This amazing community service and sense of pride keeps our towns not only looking good, but also safe and healthy places to live. Your help is crucial in sustaining this mission of clean environments and teaching our youth to care about their communities. Your contribution is so appreciated and makes a real impact.

As Green Up rolls into our 52nd year, we are again requesting your support for the usual \$50.00 appropriation. The amount requested is based on town population and goes directly back to your town in the way of supplies, educational tools for your schools, and local promotion for Green Up Day.

• 0- 1,000	\$50	• 1001 - 2000	\$100	• 2001 - 3000	\$150
• 3001 - 4,000	\$200	• 4,001 up	\$300		

Green Up Vermont is a private, non-profit organization whose mission is to promote the stewardship of our state's natural landscape and waterways and the livability of our communities by involving people in Green Up Day and raising public awareness about the health, economic and visual benefits of a litter-free environment year-round. Through this pandemic we learned that Vermonters feel Green Up Day was the one event that shouldn't ever be canceled and found safe ways to continue it. Let's keep building strong communities by working together for our beautiful way of life.

Mark your calendar for **Green Up Day 2022, May 7th** and help us celebrate 52 years of keeping Vermont green! Please contact me anytime with any questions or comments. I am pleased to serve your community and look forward to working with you again. Thank you so very much!

Kate Alberghini, Executive Director
802-522-7245 • greenup@greenupvermont.org

Payment Reminder for Green Up Appropriation 2021

We haven't yet received a check for your 2021 Green Up Appropriation. We realize many of you submit payment upon receipt of this notice. If you think our accounting is in error please contact us at greenup@greenupvermont.org or 522-7245.

Your 2021 balance due is \$0.00 Invoice #1171 Thank you!

Londonderry Volunteer Rescue Squad

Dear Selectboard,

The Londonderry Volunteer Rescue Squad is proud to provide emergency medical services to the Town of Peru, as well as the towns of Landgrove, Londonderry, Stratton, Weston, Windham and Winhall.

As you can imagine, the last two years have been extremely challenging in operating an ambulance service. Despite the pandemic, we remain the only all-volunteer rescue squad in the state of Vermont that doesn't charge patients for our services. Our dedicated volunteers don't receive any compensation for the time they spend providing patient care, and this is the primary reason our yearly assessments to the towns we serve are so low.

But we still have significant expenses, and the hurdles posed by the pandemic have resulted in increased costs for medical supplies, diesel fuel and equipment. All of these items need to be kept up-to-date and fully operational in order for us to continue providing the high quality patient care and transport we are known for. Our expenses this year totaled \$288,717.00.

Because we cover seven towns, we've made adjustments to each town's yearly assessment based on its annual call volume and its proportionate call volume. As a result, some town assessments remained the same, while others needed to be changed. We believe this will be the last year that an adjustment of this type is needed.

This year we are asking the Town of Peru for \$5,000.00

We appreciate your support and look forward to serving our community in 2022,

Sincerely,

The Executive Committee of LVRS

Mountain Valley Medical Center

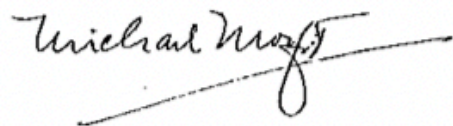
Dear Members of the Select Board,

For many years the Town of Peru has been generous in supporting the Mountain Valley Health Council (MVHC). Your support has made it possible for us to sustain our founding vision of treating all patients from our mountain towns, regardless of their ability to pay. In 2021, we celebrated 45 years of service, and I am writing first and foremost to express our deep gratitude for your continuing support that has helped to make this achievement possible.

We are now requesting that the Select Board again include \$3,000 for MVHC in its annual budget submission for approval on Town Meeting Day. Funds from each town will be earmarked first and foremost for the 'emergency relief fund' that supports residents in our catchment area who are struggling to pay for their medical care. This could include funding office visits, prescription costs, co-pay requirements, gas cards to remove impediments to travel for medical appointments. Any unexpended funds would then be used for other MVHC programs, including scholarship and tuition grants for local staff to advance their medical skills and provide an incentive to remain in the area, expanding the range of services at the Clinic and developing special facilities to respond to new demands, such as Covid.

As you may know, 2022 will be an important year of transition and growth for the Clinic. Dr. Roger Fox will be retiring after 47 years of service. We are very glad to welcome Dr. Meghan Ward as a new MD and are actively working with North Star Health (the successor to Springfield Medical Care Systems) to recruit another MD. Additional staff recruitment, expanded facilities and new programs are under active development. We look forward to continuing a long tradition of community service and community engagement, with the continuing support of the mountain town Select Boards and broader community. Thank you for your consideration.

On behalf of the MVHC Board and Clinic staff,



Michael Morfit
President



Matthew Whitcomb
Director

Project Against Violent Encounters

Dear Select Board,

The staff and Board of Directors of PAVE appreciates the financial support the town of Peru gives to our programs. We hope that our response to the townspeople has met your expectations.

For the 2021-2022 fiscal year we are requesting level funding of \$150.00 .

I have attached PAVE's Annual Report to include in your Town Peru. We would like to express our sincere thanks to the Town of Rupert and its voters for their generosity and ongoing support of PAVE.

Rural Fire Protection Task Force

Please make payment to:

VACD-RFP Program
c/o Troy Dare
170 Lower Sumner Hill Road
Sumner, ME 04292

Thank You!

Questions?

Contact Troy Dare, VACD Rural Fire Protection Program Manager
(802) 828-4582, dryhydrantguy@yahoo.com or

Jill Arace, VACD Executive Director
(802) 496-5162, jill.arace@vacd.org

South Londonderry Free Library

To the Town of Peru Selectboard,

The South Londonderry Free Library is requesting \$1000 from the Town of Peru to help cover the cost of our general operations for the 2022 fiscal year. These expenses include library materials and programming for the benefit of both local and visiting patrons here in our community. We take pride in connecting individuals and families with requested information and resources – free of charge, and strive to create an equitable and welcoming environment for all.

Over the past year, the South Londonderry Free Library has adapted to the ever-changing Covid safety recommendations and has been able to provide our services and programming without interruption. In an effort to meet the community members where they are at, we are continuing to offer a curbside pickup service if requested. The patrons we serve, including the 34 households residing in the town of Peru, have remote access to search our catalog, request inter-library loans, download audio and e-books, access the Vermont Online Library, explore the genealogy database HeritageQuest, and take Universal Classes online. For those comfortable with visiting the library, we are continuing to offer in-person events and programming for all ages, 24/7 access to WIFI, and a librarian available to help with tech support, provide readers advisory services, and answer reference questions.

Thank you for your consideration in continuing financial support of our little house of books!

Please see our attached financial statement.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lauren Roppolo". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Lauren" and the last name "Roppolo" clearly distinguishable.

Lauren Roppolo - Librarian/Director

Sent on behalf of the South Londonderry Free Library Board of Trustees

Southwestern Vermont Council on Aging

Dear Town Officials,

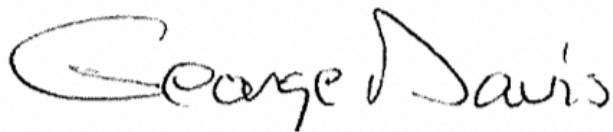
This is a request from the Southwestern Vermont Council on Aging for \$200.00 in funding in your FY23 budget. This is the same level of funding we requested and received last year. If approved, this funding will be used to help support the work we do on behalf of Peru residents.

The enclosed document provides a brief description of the services the Council on Aging provided to older Vermonters in your community over the last year and is designed for use in your town report. Please contact me if you have any questions about any of this information.

We sincerely appreciate the past support that we have received from the town of Peru, and we hope that we can, once again, count on support from your community.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "George Davis". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looping "G" and a distinct "Davis" at the end.

George Davis
Board President

Vermont Center of Independent Living

Dear Ms. Freeman and voters:

The Vermont Center for Independent Living (VCIL), a statewide, non-profit organization dedicated to improving the quality of life for people with disabilities, respectfully requests funding from the Town of Peru for our FY 2022.

Annual support from over 150 cities and towns across the State helps VCIL assist Vermonters with disabilities achieve dignified and self-determined lives. VCIL works to serve individuals who can benefit from our direct services as well as to educate and inform members of the community about disability related issues and independent living. Direct services are available to residents of Peru in a number of ways. Peer counselors work with residents in their homes; small grants for adaptive equipment; Meals on Wheels for people under the age of 60; Home Access modifications; individual and systems advocacy and programs for youth. Information, Referral and Assistance is available to all residents by calling VCIL's I-Line, at 1-800-639-1522 (Voice and TTY).

We are requesting \$140.00 from the Town of Peru to help more people with disabilities in the coming year. Enclosed you will find a summary of VCIL's programs and services for the town and a copy of our FY'22 budget.

Thank you for your consideration. If you have questions or need additional information, please do not hesitate to call.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Sarah Launderville".

Sarah Launderville
Executive Director
slaunderville@vcil.org

Vermont Family Network

Dear Select Board,

The mission of Vermont Family Network (VFN) is to empower and support all Vermont children, youth, and families, especially those with disabilities or special health needs. Formed in 2008 when two organizations, the Vermont Parent Information Center (VPIC) and Parent to Parent of Vermont (P2P), merged, VFN has collectively served the families across Vermont for more than 30 years. Vermont children, youth, and families are provided with a “one-stop-shop” to help them reach their full potential. VFN gives a strong start, lifts family voices, and advances inclusive communities.

We are writing you today to ask for your support in continuing to serve families in Peru and throughout the state, with an appropriation of \$250. Traditionally primarily funded through state and federal grants, we find that waning funds threaten to slow our work and minimize the number of families we can support. We are reaching out to communities like Peru where we have served many families to seek your help. Your appropriation will help ensure the work we can do all around the state continues to happen with the same excellence and care that it has for the past 30 years.

We are proud to serve over 1,400 families yearly with expert information, referral, and assistance services provided by family support consultants located in Williston, Newport, and Rutland, an annual conference and more through our Family Support Program.

Vermont Family Network is also home to Puppets in Education, an educational puppetry team that teaches children and parents about important issues like anxiety awareness, bullying, child abuse, and disability awareness through engaging performances that emphasize compassion, respect, effective leadership, and communication. Each year over 10,000 school children and adults benefit from these educational programs and workshops.

Thank you so much for your consideration. The funding received will go a long way to ensuring our ability to continue to provide the much-needed services to Vermont families. Please feel free to reach out to me at Claire.giroux-williams@vtfn.org, or my cell phone at 301-509-2435 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,



Claire Giroux-Williams
Development and Communications Manager
Vermont Family Network

Visiting Nurse and Hospice

Dear Council Members and Citizens of Peru:

We at Visiting Nurse and Hospice for Vermont and New Hampshire's (VNH) would like to offer our heartfelt thanks for the opportunity to have our appropriation request included in Peru's 2022 funding. **VNH respectfully requests a \$2,700 appropriation. This represents level funding from last year's request.**

As an integral part of the community healthcare system in, VNH serves to breach an otherwise significant gap in the community's continuum of care. Last year, VNH provided 71 visits to 7 residents of all ages and at all stages of life. VNH is also the foremost team of hospice and home health experts for over 140 communities in Vermont and New Hampshire. We deliver nursing, hospice, and rehabilitation services at home with proven effectiveness, integrity and compassion. Just as local families have counted on us since 1907, you can count on us today.

Having our patients maintain their independence is key. Our nurses, therapists, and social workers provide assessments, medical care, and education to assist people in leading a more self-sufficient life. This includes patients who are frail, elderly, and disabled, people with terminal illness, those recovering from major surgery or illness, and children with chronic medical needs. They all benefit by receiving the care they need in the familiarity and comfort of home.

Town funding is what allows us to bring down the cost of services provided to those in need. With adequate town funding, we are able to provide an affordable option for home healthcare in the Peru community. This includes a provider's tax, your money not only helps with the unreimbursed costs but also the tax we pay to provide providers in Vermont. To continue meeting these needs, we urge the Town of Peru to budget continued financial support of Visiting Nurse and Hospice for Vermont and New Hampshire.

On behalf of the people we serve, we thank you for your consideration of this request.

With kind regards,



Hilary Davis
Director External Relations & Service Excellence

Burr & Burton Letter from Headmaster

Dear Sending Town School Boards:

The Board of Trustees of Burr and Burton Academy has voted to set next year's per-pupil sending town tuition at \$19,200, a 3.83% increase.

BBA is committed to maintaining affordability. Inflation is running at 6.8%, and statewide education spending is increasing 4.74% on a per-pupil basis; we wanted to stay well below both of those numbers.

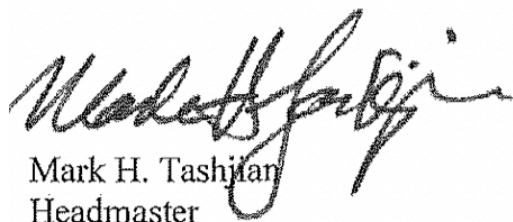
BBA generates over \$3 million in revenues above and beyond town tuition: over \$1 million via our annual fund drive and gala, close to \$1 million from our endowment, and well over \$1 million from international student tuition. We will rely on these supplemental revenues as well as prudent cost containment to stay in balance in the face of inflationary pressures.

We will continue to dream big and look well past the trials and tribulations of the pandemic, the spike in inflation and other economic headwinds. We will continue to rely on private generosity to fund building projects, thereby ensuring that sending towns are never asked for capital support for those purposes. We will continue to be a school that makes us all proud and helps attract new residents to our communities.

Most important, we remain committed to providing the engaging, vigorous educational experience in a highly personalized setting that is the hallmark of Burr and Burton Academy. In the face of widespread, nationwide school disruptions, teacher and staff shortages, and waves of resignations by educators, the BBA team remains strong thanks to the tremendous support from our sending communities.

Please let us know if you have any questions. On behalf of the entire BBA community, we thank you for your continuing support and partnership.

Respectfully submitted,



Mark H. Tashjian
Headmaster



Edgar T. Campbell
Chair, Board of Trustees

