

**Town of Peru
Municipal Office
Select Board Meeting Minutes
January 30, 2023**

PRESENT: Arthur Clifford, Katie Lawrence, Jason Dolloff, Lyndzi Dolloff, Patrick Houghton, Gail Belyea, Jess Carrier, Dan Carrier, Brad Hutchings, Tammi Lyons, Lynda Hebert, David Smith, Bill Hussey, Josh Lawrence, Steve Papierz

NOTE: Selectboard meetings on January 16, 2023, and January 23, 2023, were both cancelled due to weather.

1. Minutes:

a. Minutes of the January 9, 2023, Select Board Meeting:

- ***Arthur made a motion to approve the Minutes of the January 9, 2023, Select Board Meeting. Katie seconded the motion. All in favor.***

b. Minutes of the January 27, 2023, Emergency Select Board Meeting:

- ***Arthur made a motion to approve the Minutes of the January 27, 2023, Emergency Select Board Meeting. Katie seconded the motion. All in favor.***

2. Town Officials/Appointed Committee Members/Board Reports:

a. Road Commissioner, Brad Hutchings

- See section 5a, Town Garage.

b. Fire Chief, Dan Carrier Jr.

- New truck is currently in shop for corrosion repair, estimated to be ready for delivery in February. Training for new truck equipment has been scheduled for February 8, 2023.
- Three new members have joined the department, one being a junior firefighter.

c. Animal Control Officer, Steve Papierz

- Steve stated he is okay with current pay and how it is set up, has had two calls for Peru since starting.
- A more local kennel is in the works, current location to be Poplar Hill in Mexico with plan for Responsible Pet Care to build it.
- Steve shared that he is looking to carry a sidearm, as well as Narcan, on ACO calls. General discussion was had regarding requirements/training of the same.

3. Action Items:

a. Homestead Exemption – Zachary Cabral

- ***Katie made a motion to approve homestead exemption for Zachary Cabral at 119 Hammond Hill Road. Arthur seconded the motion. All in favor.***

4. Incoming Correspondence:

- a. Gail read aloud letters of request from River Valley Chamber of Commerce and Ludden Memorial Library. General discussion was had regarding both.

- b. Arthur shared email he had received from Road Rally group regarding donations/fundraiser. General discussion was had among all present, with consensus being that the town as a municipality will not start any donation or fundraiser programs, though there is certainly no opposition to individuals doing so.
 - ***Gail made a motion for Arthur to remain point of contact for Road Rally and to respond to the above-mentioned email. Katie seconded the motion. All in favor.***

5. Select Board Business:

a. New Business:

- Town Garage: General discussion was had regarding the complete loss of the town garage building and all trucks due to fire on January 27, 2023.
 - The road crew will be utilizing a back room in the town office building for their office. Rick already has a key to building; three new keys were made for other road crew members. Brad stated that he will not be laying off road workers.
 - There had been apparent miscommunication between management at DOT and local drivers regarding Sunday's storm. Along with a borrowed truck from a private contractor which the town crew is driving, Rumford Public Works and Clay Pelletier helped to clear and sand Peru roads. Per the last update from DOT, one of the trucks they were going to loan the town and have delivered Wednesday is in the shop. As far as Brad is aware, the other truck will still be delivered this week; he will be following up with DOT.
 - Brad and Dan met with insurance field adjusters this morning, consensus is that cause will never be determined; insurance claim process should be fairly cut and dry, town is fairly well covered, could possibly begin cleanup at the end of the week. The focus currently will be filling out the inventory forms and checklists provided by the adjusters. General discussion was had regarding process of insurance claim and certain requirements which might be expected, depending on the policy.
 - Brad, Dan and Board members have had and will be having conversations with various local politicians to see what types of state and/or federal grants, programs, etc., may be available. Brad has already sent a couple letters out to tool companies, big-box companies, etc., regarding the possibility of being given discounts.
 - Much discussion was had regarding the replacement of vehicles, equipment, and building. Brad expressed and reiterated to Board members that he would not act alone and would discuss with them prior to purchase of any replacement vehicle. The idea of having a building committee for town garage building was discussed; Bill Hussey offered to serve on this committee.
 - A public adjuster visited the office today, looking to act as liaison between the town and the insurance company. Consensus of Board is that they prefer to have direct communication with the insurance company.
- ***Katie made a motion for Select Board to not vote on new business until it has become old business. Arthur seconded the motion. General discussion was had regarding pros and cons of the same. Vote 2-3, motion not carried.***

b. Old Business:

- Winterfest: General discussion was had, including plans for ice skating rink and Porta Potty.

- Darren Dixon permit: No feedback as of yet from the state regarding their doing a site visit, which may not happen until spring.

6. Warrant #15, 01/23/2023

- a. Payroll Warrant #15 in the amount of \$14,643.81.
 - **Arthur made a motion to approve Payroll Warrant #15 in the amount of \$14,643.81. Jason seconded the motion. All in favor.**
- b. Accounts Payable Warrant #15 in the amount of \$9,293.46.
 - **Arthur made a motion to approve Accounts Payable Warrant #15 in the amount of \$9,293.46. Katie seconded the motion. All in favor.**

7. Public Participation

- a. **Gail made a motion to go into Public Participation at 8:44 p.m. Jason seconded the motion. All in favor.**
 - Discussion included upcoming town meeting Friday February 3, 2023, at 6:00 p.m. *Selectboard clarified that, though wording was inadvertently left off warrant, any monies voted to be taken from surplus would be replaced with money received from insurance company.*
- b. **Jason made a motion to come out of Public Participation at 8:49 p.m. Patrick seconded the motion. All in favor.**

8. Adjournment

- a. **Jason made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:50 p.m. Arthur seconded the motion. All in favor.**

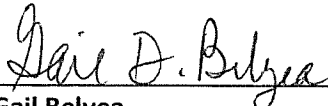
Public Participation: The Town of Peru Ordinance "OPEN TO THE PUBLIC" Sessions enacted by the townspeople on January 19, 2013, is in full force and effect. There will be one "Open to the Public" segment near the end of the Board meeting. This segment is limited to twenty minutes, to allow for the public to ask questions, make comments or express concerns during that portion of the meeting. The Board may or may not respond at that time. Complaints or criticism regarding any Town employee should be put in writing and directed to the Department Head or Chairperson of the Board. The Board will not engage in any discussion of an employee, Town Official or Citizen without that person first having adequate knowledge and having the right to be present at such a meeting and be accurately represented. Copies of the Ordinance are available from the Secretary.


Town Meeting

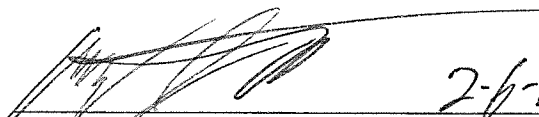
Friday, February 3, 2023, at 6:00 p.m.

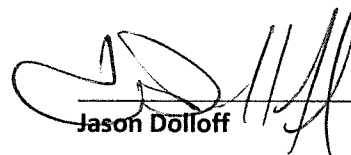
Select Board Meeting

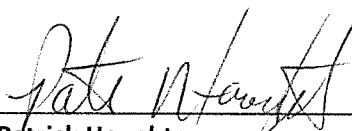
Monday, February 6, 2023, at 6:00 p.m.

 2-6-23
 Gail Belyea Date

 2-6-23
 Kathryn Lawrence Date

 2-6-23
 Arthur Clifford Date

 2-6-23
 Jason Dilloff Date

 2/6/23
 Patrick Houghton Date