

**Town of Peru
Municipal Office
Select Board Meeting Minutes
April 10, 2023**

PRESENT: Jess Carrier, Jason Dolloff, Katie Lawrence, Patrick Houghton, Bruce Farrin, Jackie Child, Arthur Clifford (arrived at 6:45 pm), Tammi Lyons, Joe Kerr, Donald Roach, Lynda Hebert, Bill Hussey, Earle Wingate, Mike Arsenault

ABSENT: Gail Belyea (medical)

1. Minutes:

a. Minutes of the April 10, 2023, Selectboard Meeting:

- Katie made a motion to approve the Minutes of the April 10, 2023, Select Board Meeting. Jason seconded the motion. All in favor.

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

a. Tax Collector/Treasurer/Town Clerk, Deb Coudrain:

- Per Deb's memo, there is a deficit of \$750 in the assessor's account. General discussion was had regarding the balances in other appointed position budgets.
 - Katie made a motion to take \$750 from the ACO account to cover the deficit in the assessor account. Jason seconded the motion. All in favor.
- General discussion was had regarding the dedication of the 2021-2022 town report. Consensus of the Board was to dedicate the town report to Marlin Thurston, as he is the town's oldest citizen and was Grand Marshall of the bicentennial parade.
- Deputy ACO position: Per Deb, the Board cannot appoint a Deputy ACO without the citizens first voting to have such a position. This information has been shared with Steve Papierz, with no response. General discussion was had.

b. Finance Committee:

- Finance committee members entered the Selectboard meeting just as the Board was coming out of public participation. General discussion was had regarding recommendations being added to the ballots, as the finance committee ended up with a quorum this evening. The Board had already signed both warrants at this point, with recommendations not listed per discussion at the Selectboard meeting April 3, 2023. Lynda called Deb to see about changing the ballot as printed; Deb informed it could not be, as already past the deadline given by the printer so needs to be sent to them ASAP tomorrow.
- General discussion was had regarding the articles for the special town meeting, potentially moving the building article to the June vote, and the effect the articles will have on the mil rate if approved.

3. Select Board Business:

a. New Business:

- Katie presented other Board members with the idea of creating a policy for elected officials and board/committee chair members to come to one Selectboard meeting a month.

b. Old Business:

- General discussion was had regarding needed amendments on articles for special town meeting and referendum ballots:
 - Katie made a motion to amend her prior motion to place on the ballot an article regarding Med-Care and have it now read: *To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$62,200 for Med-Care Ambulance Service.* Patrick seconded the motion. All in favor.
 - Katie made a motion to have no Selectboard or Finance Committee recommendations placed on either the special town meeting ballot or the June referendum ballot, due to the finance committee not having a quorum prior to deadline for Selectboard to sign warrants. Jason seconded the motion. All in favor.
 - Katie made a motion to amend her prior motion to place on the special town meeting ballot an article that now reads: *To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board and Road Commissioner to spend remaining truck insurance monies (\$24,273.00) to purchase tools lost in the fire.* Patrick seconded the motion. All in favor.
 - Katie made a motion to amend her prior motion to place on the special town meeting ballot an article that now reads: *To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board and Treasurer to finance a sum of \$263,000, up to a five-year period, for a new 2023 Stainless Steel Body Plow Truck and to take \$52,000 from surplus for the first payment.* Patrick seconded the motion. All in favor.
 - Katie made a motion to amend her prior motion to place on the special town meeting ballot an article that now reads: *To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board to take \$1,830 from surplus to cover the 2022/2023 Med-Care budget deficit.* Patrick seconded the motion. All in favor.
- General discussion was had regarding office maintenance:
 - The septic tank at town office building has been pumped; inspection scheduled for Tuesday April 11, 2023. General discussion was had regarding the pipes from the old school being cut and capped; Katie will discuss with the inspector.
 - Brian Phelps is working on a quote for security cameras at town office building; he needs to view the upstairs to see how he would run wires before quote is finalized. John Perry will be providing a quote, as well, and will be at the office Friday to view setup.
 - Old estimate from December 2021 for refinishing the floors was reviewed and discussed.
- Katie provided insurance update:
 - The insurance company has estimated repair for historical society building damage to siding at \$5,000 to \$6,000. General discussion was had regarding obtaining a separate quote, for comparison sake. Pat will reach out to Jim Cole to inquire about estimate to replace 880 sq ft of siding, as well as possibly an estimate for replacing the roof.
 - The personal property claim has been finalized; insurance checks will be sent directly to employees.
 - For future note, any items valued over \$2,500 should be on scheduled list, with all items and amounts updated annually.

4. Action Items:

- a. Katie made a motion to accept and approve the special meeting warrant for April 18, 2023. Jason seconded the motion. All in favor.
- b. Katie made a motion to accept and approve the June 13, 2023, referendum ballot. Arthur seconded the motion. All in favor.

5. Public Participation

- a. Katie made a motion to enter public participation at 7:05 pm. Jason seconded the motion. All in favor.
 - Discussion surrounded building design sketches being completed and available at special town meeting, as well insurance monies received to this point.
- b. Katie made a motion to come out of public participation at 7:11 pm. Arthur seconded the motion. All in favor.

6. Adjournment:

- a. Jason made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:14 p.m. Katie 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.

Select Board Meeting

Monday, April 17, 2023, at 6:00 p.m.

(ABSENT 04/10/2022)

Gail Belyea
Chair

Date

Kathryn Lawrence
Vice Chair

Date

Arthur Clifford

Date

Jason Dolloff

Date

Patrick Houghton

Date