

**Town of Peru - Municipal Office**  
**Select Board Meeting Minutes**  
**May 8, 2023**

PRESENT: Patrick Houghton, Gail Belyea, Jason Dolloff, Katie Lawrence, Jess Carrier, Jim Belyea, Jackie Child, Dan Carrier Jr.

ABSENT: Arthur Clifford (personal)

1. Following the Pledge of Allegiance, a moment of silence was held in memory of Angel Clifford.
2. Spirit of America Award: In acknowledgement of their fostering volunteerism and “doing the right thing,” Dave & Brenda Gammon of the Gammon Family Farm were presented with the 2023 Spirit of America Award.
3. Minutes:
  - a. Minutes of the May 1, 2023, Selectboard Meeting:
    - ***Gail made a motion to approve the Minutes of the May 1, 2023, Select Board Meeting. Katie seconded the motion. All in favor.***
4. Town Officials/Appointed Committee Members/Board Reports:
  - a. Fire Chief, Dan Carrier Jr.
    - Dan will be meeting with Deb tomorrow to finalize numbers and information for the bank.
    - The new firetruck is ready to be delivered to Northeast Apparatus at the end of the week.
5. Action Items:
  - a. ***Katie made a motion to approve the CMP pole permit for new installation at the intersection of Valley Road and High Street. Gail seconded the motion. All in favor.***
  - b. General discussion was had regarding the informational meeting for June vote needing to be held 7-10 days prior to voting day, not the 30 days previously thought.
    - ***Katie made a motion to hold the informational meeting for the June election on June 1, 2023, at 6:30 pm at Dirigo Elementary School. Gail seconded the motion. All in favor.***
6. Select Board Business:
  - a. New Business:
    - General discussion was had regarding increased balances in fire department and cemetery budgets from warrant #21 to warrant #22. Dan shared that he has discussed with Deb and she is working on finding her notes regarding the same.
    - Jason shared that he and Lyndzi have put the swings up at the playground. There is some wetness in the furnace room and old tables, etc., need to be cleaned out. General discussion was had regarding possibly having a general cleanup day.

b. Old Business:

▪ Office maintenance:

- Rick Vaughn joined the meeting to share with the Board that per discussion with Dwayne Vaughn, the location of the town office building's leach field is in the ballfield and not behind the playground. Patrick will measure the cover for the tank and make calls for availability and pricing.
- Floors:
  - a. Katie shared that Pro-Flooring will be here the weekend of May 20/21 to refinish the floors.
  - b. An estimate for having the floors removed has not yet been received.
- Pat shared the estimate from Jacques Chartier Logging & Tree Service for removal of dead trees along Demeritt Cemetery. This estimate includes all work for removal except stump grinding.
  - a. ***Gail made a motion to accept Jacques Chartier Logging & Tree Service's estimate of \$1,500 to remove dead trees along Demeritt Cemetery, pending proof of insurance. Patrick seconded the motion. All in favor.***

▪ Insurance updates:

- Katie shared that Dan Noonan with the insurance company has submitted all claims, except two which are pending more information - \$17,000 for a new well and \$15,000 for the parking lot. Katie was notified shortly before tonight's meeting that a \$310,000 payment is pending, though no clarification was given as to which claims that payment includes.
- Jess updated the Board on her meeting with Flint from Kyes Insurance. Currently, our rate increase is set for 57% (an additional \$8,000 to \$10,000 per year), though Flint is trying to get that lowered by at least 10%; and deductibles have gone up to \$1,000; partly due to insurance company's general increase (10% to 15%), the rest is due to the totality of claims. Flint is hoping to have final pricing completed by the first of June. In the meantime, Jess will work with the road and fire departments on ensuring all equipment, etc., is thoroughly inventoried.

▪ 457 plan:

- ***Jason made a motion to table further discussion of 457 plan until a response is received from Deanna at Maine PERS about meeting with the Board. Gail seconded the motion. All in favor.***

7. Public Participation:

- a. ***Gail made a motion to enter Public Participation at 7:48 pm. Jason seconded the motion. All in favor.***
  - Discussion surrounded Planning Board resignations and process for permits.
- b. ***Gail made a motion to come out of Public Participation at 7:58 pm. Jason seconded the motion. All in favor.***

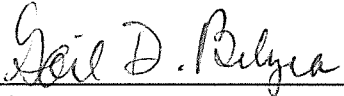
8. Adjournment:

- a. ***Jason made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:59 pm. Gail 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, May 15, 2023, at 6:00 pm**

 5-15-23  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Gail Belyea Date  
Selectboard Chair

 5-15-23  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Kathryn Lawrence Date  
Selectboard Vice Chair

(ABSENT 05/08/2023)  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Arthur Clifford Date

 5-15-23  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Jason Dolloff Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Patrick Houghton Date