

**Town of Peru
Municipal Office
Select Board Meeting Minutes
May 22, 2023**

PRESENT: Gail Belyea (scribe in secretary's absence), Jackie Childs, Arthur Clifford, Debra Coudrain, Mary Dailey, Pam Doyen, Patrick Houghton.

ABSENT: Jessica Carrier (vacation); Jason Dolloff; Kathryn Lawrence.

1. Minutes:

a. Minutes of the May 15, 2023 Selectboard Meeting:

- * Arthur made a motion to table the minutes of the May 15, 2023, select board meeting to the next meeting. Gail seconded the motion. Patrick was absent May 15, leaving only two board members present tonight to vote on those minutes.

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

a. Road Commissioner Brad Hutchings, no report.

b. Fire Chief Dan Carrier Jr., vacation.

c. Building committee, no report.

d. Town Clerk/Treasurer/Tax Collector, Debra Coudrain.

- * Debbie distributed to the board page 21 of the 2022 town audit, in response to Katie's recent questions regarding ledger discrepancies. Page 21 delineates committed and assigned fund balances. She discussed the garage-fire one and two accounts (one for the \$200,000 surplus spending tracking and two for incoming insurance monies).

- * Bernstein Shur, attorneys, made no changes to the Town's draft version of the revaluation contract.

- * Bernstein Shur is still reviewing the Bunker trust (cemetery funds).

- * Debbie stated she is unable to take any of her remaining one-and-a-half weeks of vacation time before the end of this fiscal year on June 30, 2023. Deputy clerk Vera Parent is limited in her availability to cover.

e. School Officials Regarding fiscal year 2024 budget information.

- * Mary Dailey, Business Manager, and Pam Doyon, RSU 56 Superintendent, presented a brief budget overview. It has increased 2.5% over FY 2023, or \$330,379. Total is \$13,545,519. Peru's percentage increase is 3.4%. Budget validation meeting is May 23, 2023, at 6:30 p.m. at Dirigo High School. Jackie asked how many new buses has RSU56 purchased; Pam said four buses over the last three years, with covid money.

3. Action Items:

- a. Arthur made a motion to appoint Wayne Putnam to the Peru planning board. Patrick seconded the motion. All in favor. Board signed his appointment paper.

4. Incoming Correspondence:

- a. Ed Patenaude's bid to maintain landfills at Pleasant Street and at Greenwoods Road was tabled until next meeting, in order to seek more information about how bids are submitted on this work. Arthur made the motion to table. Gail seconded. All in favor.

- b. CMP pole work information. Start date 5/30/23, duration 6 weeks. Dickvale, Jasud, Ridge Roads.

5. Select Board Business:

a. New Business:

- * There have been three separate complaints recently regarding unhealthy conditions in town: one on High Street, one on Pleasant Street, and one on Dolloff Street. The board decided to contact

the town's CEO to ask that he attend the next board meeting to discuss these issues with us before considering taking any action.

b. Old Business:

- * Final septic clean up behind the town office is still unresolved. Gail made a motion to table the issue until next meeting. Arthur seconded the motion. All in favor.
- * Arthur said the insurance adjuster told Brad to re-rail the Western Star 10-wheeler, rather than total it.
- * Patrick will talk to Jake Chartier about setting a date for cutting the trees by Demerritt cemetery.
- * Pat said Clif Thurston stated there is no building committee meeting this week of May 22. The new town garage site is prepped for whenever Morgan Concrete can start foundation work.
- * Gail will contact Don Roach to ask if he will serve as moderator at the June 1 town budget informational meeting (if elected).
- * Katie reported via email that Pro-Flooring cleaned and waxed the town office floors on May 20 and 21, 2023, except for the storage room. Their bill will reflect approximately \$1200 less than their quote of \$5800, due to not doing the storage room. The board agreed they did excellent work.
- * Katie contacted Orr's, who will deliver a Porta-Potty this week to the town office ball field/playground; it will be in place for the next six months at \$95.00 per month (\$570.00 total).

6. Public Participation:

Gail made the motion to enter public participation at 7:35 p.m. Patrick seconded. All in favor.

- * Jackie mentioned the condition of the bridge over Spear Stream at the corner of Ridge and Dickvale Roads. The bridge deck is substantially higher than the bridge bed, resulting in a lot of noise when big trucks drive over it. She wondered if the road commissioner might make a complaint to the State.

Gail made the motion to exit public participation at 7:49 p.m. Patrick seconded. All in favor.

Arthur made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:50 p.m. Arthur seconded the motion. All in favor.

There is no selectboard meeting on Memorial Day, Monday, May 29, 2023.

Next selectboard meeting is Monday, June 5, 2023, at 6:00 p.m.

Gail Belyea 6-5-23
Gail Belyea Date
Chair

Arthur Clifford 6-5-23
Arthur Clifford Date

Patrick Houghton 6/5/23
Patrick Houghton Date

(ABSENT 05/22/2023)

Kathryn Lawrence Date
Vice Chair

(ABSENT 05/22/2023)

Jason Dolloff Date