

Town of Peru - Municipal Office
Select Board Meeting Minutes
June 12, 2023

PRESENT: Gail Belyea (note-taker), Dan Carrier Jr., Jackie Child, Jason Dolloff, Lyndzi Dolloff, Patrick Houghton, Brad Hutchings, Kathryn Lawrence.

ABSENT: Jessica Carrier (medical); Arthur Clifford (family vacation).

1. Minutes:

a. Minutes of the June 5, 2023, Selectboard Meeting:

Gail motioned to accept the minutes as read. Patrick seconded. Vote 3-1; Arthur absent tonight, and Jason abstained (absent on June 5).

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

a. Code Enforcement Officer Randy Thurston, no report.

b. Road Commissioner Brad Hutchings. Reported that Veterans Street has been paved. Spencer Paving completed the overlay from the central fire station intersection to just past the Dickvale Road/Ridge Road intersection. Flaggers were present at this job.

Brad spoke again to Senator Lisa Kiem's office regarding the D.O.T. donor truck; he said there is nothing she can do to facilitate the town acquiring the truck. It is not yet on the auction block, and Brad doesn't want to bid \$16,000 for it (which is what the State is asking for it).

No building committee meeting was held the week of May 29, 2023. It may meet this week.

New town garage concrete work by Marty Morgan should begin Thursday of this week; if it does not, Brad will seek another contractor.

Road department used the Worthley Pond fire truck today to flush culverts.

Brief discussion occurred about contracted services on the selectmen's ledger, i.e., G & P, and fuel reimbursement under the miscellaneous account.

Broken excavator at the garage site belongs to Dwayne Vaughn, in response to a question as to its ownership.

Katie shared the list of insurance payouts for the town garage fire, as of June 12, 2023:

Trucks	\$379,273.33
Building	\$360,974.98
Debris removal	\$ 11,946.02
Equipment leased	\$ 1,285.00
Unscheduled contractor equipment	\$ 73,349.00
Fuel, Accessories, Parts	\$ 15,086.70
Personal property of others	\$ 3,351.94
Fire department	\$ 12,610.00
Scheduled equipment	\$ 15,715.00
Business personnel	\$ 6,786.74

Valuable papers (John Deere manual)	\$ 1,337.65
Historical society siding	\$ 6,695.02
Other non	\$ 6,600.00
Tools in truck	\$ 4,729.55
	\$899,741.83

Taxpayer approval may be necessary to carry over this money after July 1, 2023, once the current budget is past. She revealed that the town's policy includes up to a million dollars for a new well if necessary to bring it up to code. Town would have to prove that a new well is needed.

Brad called State of Maine D.O.T. Wilton office regarding Spear Stream bridge deck at Ridge Road/Dickvale Road intersection. Deputy Supervisor in Charge of Operations said he would come look at it.

c. Fire Chief Dan Carrier, Jr. Discussed with the board upgrading the current cost recovery program policy to an ordinance, in order to present it to voters for approval. Katie will research this process for presentation at next meeting.

Still waiting for installation of slide-outs and drawers on the department's new fire truck.

d. Town Clerk/Treasurer/Tax Collector, Debra Coudrain, sent a handwritten note to the board that the town's excise tax receipts as of June 12, 2023, are \$293,479.46.

3. Incoming Correspondence:

a. Med-Care Re: Alberta Broomhall. Gail motioned that Jess compose a congratulatory letter recognizing her 32 years of service. Jason seconded. Vote 4-0.

4. Select Board Business:

a. New Business:

* Bunker trust fund release of funds/Waite cemetery fence. Vice Chair Katie signed the form to release these funds to the town. The town will receive one-third of \$42,000; we have not received information on when this money will become available or on what it may be spent. Discussion followed by the board that maybe a special town meeting will be necessary to access the Bunker funds, and also if insurance covers volunteers who might want to help clean up Waite cemetery fence, or work in any town cemetery. Chair will contact MMA.

* LRAP carryover. Road commissioner says LRAP funds can be carried over year-to-year, and "hold the balance".

* First truck payment. Katie motioned to carry forward \$52,000 for the first payment on the new plow truck to the 2023-24 municipal budget. Jason seconded. Vote 4-0.

* Katie motioned to carry forward the money in garage general funds to the 2023-24 budget. Jason seconded. Vote 4-0.

b. Old Business:

* Septic done. Arthur and Pat replaced the metal piece on top and Brad used the town's backhoe to fill in the hole with the original dirt.

* Cemetery trees. Patrick said Jake Chartier is ready any time to cut the trees by Demerritt cemetery. He also offered to remove two old soccer goal frames near the trees at the same time, for \$200 extra. Jason motioned to accept this offer. Gail seconded. Vote 4-0. Pat said that Dig Safe was contacted; they stated that as there are no wires and no digging, their services are unnecessary.

* Town landfills. Ed Patenaude told Gail that he would lower his bid by \$400 for mowing the two town landfill sites. He said his equipment includes two week whackers, one with a saw blade; and two new lawn

mowers, one a zero turn. He has walked the Worthley Pond site, but not the one on Pleasant Street. Gail will contact him again re: insurance. Jason motioned to table, Pat seconded. Vote 4-0. There have been no other bids and the town has not advertised for bids, either.

* 457(b). Protracted discussion on fees, number of town employees necessary to join. Gail motioned to table this topic and to ask Jess to contact Deanna Doyle at MainePERS with our questions. Jason seconded. Vote 4-0.

* Andy Freeman told the chair that he and his daughter cannot commit to serving on the town recreation committee due to work schedules. He suggested the board consider buying two new basketball hoops for the playground. Katie added that perhaps a LED light for basketball after dark would score points. Pat added that new hoops can cost from \$1000-\$3000. Andy also commented that he'd be pleased to see the town erect American flags on telephone poles in town; they would complement the new paving.

* Board discussed the possibility of holding a workshop to discuss a policy change on vacation pay, and additional responsibilities for the board secretary. No decisions made.

5. **Warrant #25, 06/12/2023.**

a. Payroll warrant #25 in the amount of \$14,916.92. Pat motioned to accept, Jason seconded. Vote 3-1, Katie negative.

b. Accounts payable warrant #25 in the amount of \$269,381.54. Pat motioned to accept, Katie seconded. Vote 4-0.

6. Public Participation. Gail motioned to enter public participation at 8:47 p.m. Jason seconded. All in favor. Discussion surrounded the selectboard's responsibility in monitoring the four cameras, and it was decided that Katie will have access set up on her cell phone.

Jackie asked who is in charge of scheduling events at the playground/playing fields behind the town office. She said there could be confusion if different AYP, baseball, or softball teams want to use them at the same time. She suggested the board consider asking Jess to keep a spreadsheet of requests for use.

The board hopes to keep summer and winter fests continuing annually. More discussion next meeting.

Gail moved at 9:07 p.m. to exit public participation. Jason seconded. Vote 4-0.

7. Adjournment. Jason moved at 9:07:30 p.m. to adjourn the meeting. Pat seconded. Vote 4-0.

Next selectboard meeting is Monday, June 19, 2023, at 6:00 p.m.

Gail D. Belyea 6-19-23
Gail Belyea Date
Chair

Kathryn Lawrence 6/19/23
Kathryn Lawrence Date
Vice Chair

(ABSENT 06/12/2023)
Arthur Clifford _____
Arthur Clifford Date

Jason Dolloff 6-19-23
Jason Dolloff Date

Patrick Houghton 6/19/23
Patrick Houghton Date