

Town of Peru - Municipal Office
Select Board Meeting Minutes
June 19, 2023

PRESENT: Arthur Clifford, Patrick Houghton, Gail Belyea, Jason Dolloff, Katie Lawrence, Jess Carrier, Jackie Child, Don Roach

1. Minutes:

a. Minutes of the June 12, 2023, Selectboard Meeting:

- ***Jason made a motion to approve the Minutes of the June 12, 2023, Select Board Meeting. Katie seconded the motion. Vote 4-0, Arthur abstained.***

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

a. Road Commissioner, Brad Hutchings

- Initial insurance adjuster's opinion regarding repairing Western Star has been changed; insurance company is now considering it totaled, with actual cash value determined to be \$129,261. Brad will contact Bims to see if they may be interested in salvage.
- Road crew is still working on Holman Road. Rumford road crew is coming Wednesday to assist with cleanout of culverts (at no charge, as Brad and Dale have an agreement to exchange labor).

b. Building Committee, Brad Hutchings

- Much discussion was had throughout the meeting regarding contractors for concrete work at garage site, as Marty Morgan still has not been available to do the work. Tyler Concrete and SR Concrete have both submitted quotes, which were discussed in detail. Brad reached out to both companies for clarification of quotes and proposed timelines, which he shared later on in the meeting. Katie will discuss with the insurance company reimbursing for price differences from initial quote given by Marty Morgan.
 - ***Jason made a motion to accept the proposed quote from Tyler Concrete, so as to avoid further delays in building progress. Arthur seconded the motion. Vote 4-1, Gail opposed.***
 - ***Arthur made a motion to reconsider the earlier motion to accept the proposed quote from Tyler Concrete. Jason seconded the motion. Vote 4-1, Gail opposed.***
 - ***Arthur made a motion to accept the proposed quote from SR Concrete. Patrick seconded the motion. Vote 4-1, Gail opposed.***
- Brad will discuss with Derrick Vaughn performing a well test at the garage site.

3. Select Board Business:

a. New Business:

- Select Board Chair/Vice Chair nominations:
 - ***Gail made a motion to nominate Jason as Select Board Chair for the upcoming year. Katie seconded the motion. General discussion was had, in which Jason declined nomination. Vote 1-4; Jason, Arthur, Katie, and Patrick opposed.***

- ***Gail made a motion to nominate Katie as Select Board Chair for the upcoming year. Jason seconded the motion. All in favor.***
 - ***Jason made a motion to nominate Arthur as Select Board Vice Chair for the upcoming year. Katie seconded the motion. Vote 4-0, Arthur abstained.***
 - New England Forest Rally: Arthur shared that the rally will be held July 14-15 and that they have already budgeted for \$2,000 payment to the town.
 - Insurance renewal: General discussion was had regarding insurance policies and upcoming increased premium of \$13,512. Secretary will inquire if premium may be decreased with security cameras now installed at town office building.
 - Property Tax Stabilization Program: Gail shared with other Board members proposed amendments to LD290 after the current tax year. General discussion was had.
 - Finance Committee: General discussion was had regarding how to approach reconfiguring the finance committee from 15 members to nine.
 - ***Gail made a motion to re-appoint Don Roach and Joe Kerr for three-year terms, expiring in 2026. Jason seconded the motion. All in favor.***
- b. Old Business:
- 457 Plan: General discussion was had regarding requirement that 75% of employees participate in program. Currently, two of the five full-time employees are interested. Further discussion tabled until Rick returns from vacation.
 - Landfills: General discussion was had regarding Pleasant Street and Green Woods Road landfills. Members of the Select Board will take care of their maintenance this summer.
 - Summerfest: General discussion was had regarding timing and possible activities for Summerfest. Further discussion was tabled until next meeting.
 - Cemeteries:
 - Trees along Demerritt: Pat shared that after researching, he thinks Jacques should be able to access the trees via Main Street. General discussion was had.
 - Waite Cemetery: Katie shared that except for a couple pickets needing to be replaced, the fence is solid otherwise. She and Josh plan to power wash and paint the fence. There is a damaged stone, seemingly from a lawnmower. Secretary will discuss with Todd.
4. Public Participation:
- a. ***Gail made a motion to enter Public Participation at 8:10 pm. Arthur seconded the motion. All in favor.***
 - Discussions included insurance company payouts, town committees/meetings, Lenard vs Adley towing companies, Peru marijuana dispensaries, and solar panel farms.
 - b. ***Gail made a motion to come out of Public Participation at 8:30 pm. Arthur seconded the motion. All in favor.***
5. Adjournment:
- a. ***Arthur made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:30 pm. Jason 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, June 26, 2023, at 6:00 pm

Gail Belyea 6-26-23
Gail Belyea Date
Selectboard Chair

Kathryn Lawrence Date
Selectboard Vice Chair

Arthur Clifford 6-26-23
Arthur Clifford Date

Jason Dolloff Date

Patrick Houghton 6/26/23
Patrick Houghton Date