

**Town of Peru Municipal Office**  
**Select Board Meeting Minutes**  
**June 26, 2023**

PRESENT: Jess Carrier, Arthur Clifford, Gail Belyea, Patrick Houghton, Dan Carrier Jr, Jackie Child, Jane Carrier, Don Roach, Brad Hutchings, Cliff Thurston, Derrick Vaughn, Mark Thompson

ABSENT: Katie Lawrence (personal), Jason Dolloff (medical)

1. Minutes:

a. Minutes of the June 19, 2023, Selectboard Meeting:

- ***Gail made a motion to approve the Minutes of the June 19, 2023, Select Board Meeting. Arthur seconded the motion. All in favor.***

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

a. Road Commissioner, Brad Hutchings

- No flooding or damage to town roads from recent rainstorms.
- All culverts have been washed out/opened up and all problem culverts have been fixed.
- General discussion was had regarding delivery dates (July 1 for Chevy and end of July/early August for Freightliner) and set up of new trucks.

b. Fire Chief, Dan Carrier Jr

- Annual hose testing was completed last week, still awaiting final report. While some pieces of hose may need replacing, there will be no cost due to having gotten free hose from Windham Fire Department last summer.
- Fire Department has received Stephen King grant, which will go toward purchase of portable pump. No news as yet about FEMA or gear grants.
- New firetruck is still at Northeast, waiting for new shelf to come in and be installed. Dirigo Wireless is going down Thursday to put radio in.
- Dan shared with Board members a copy of ledger for Mexico Fire Department. He found the layout of ledgers in Mexico much more clear, would like to see similar for his ledger with the fire department.

c. Building Committee:

- Concrete forms for new garage are currently being set and footings are to be done Wednesday. Upcoming holiday may cause delay with walls. Derrick is meeting with concrete guys tomorrow to coordinate schedules for plumbing work.
- Engineer and architect are meeting tomorrow, so hopefully will have stamp by end of week and then can order materials.
- Cliff Thurston requested that the Select Board not make major decisions regarding contractors, etc., without first discussing with the Building Committee as a group.
- At this point, Building Committee meetings will continue to be as needed.

3. Action Items:

- a. ***Gail made a motion to appoint Earle Wingate III to the Planning Board for a term of 3 years. Arthur seconded the motion. All in favor.***

- b. Gail made a motion to appoint John Witherell to NORSW Board. Arthur seconded the motion. All in favor.**
- c. Gail made a motion to put ads in the newspaper for ACO and Health Officer, as well as for volunteers for Rec, Cemetery, and Ordinance committees. Arthur seconded the motion. All in favor.**

4. Incoming Correspondence:

- a. General discussion was had regarding Steve Salley's response to contract. Board requested that secretary inform Steve that his response was received and is being reviewed. Further discussion tabled, in order to allow time for Board members to review RFP, initial contract, and final contract.

5. Select Board Business:

a. New Business:

- School Board: General discussion was had regarding Deb's memo which stated the Board can appoint someone for the vacant School Board appointment. The Board requested that secretary reach out to Julie Carlow and Joy Bradbury to see if either of them would accept appointment.
- CEO position: Randy Thurston has requested to not be reappointed as CEO. General discussion was had. Clay Barry is interested, though would need to complete trainings and certifications. In the interim, secretary will reach out to Kingston Brown to see if he would be willing to help out on a temporary basis.
- USDA grant/financing: General discussion was had regarding the application for the Town of Peru to obtain federal funding assistance in the amount of \$50,000 for the purpose of rebuilding town garage from the USDA, Rural Development. Brad and Deb are working together to complete the paperwork for said grant and possible USDA loan at 3.7% interest.
- Solar farm inquiries: General discussion was had regarding implementing a *solar panel moratorium ordinance*, with plan to have *solar energy ordinance* placed on June 2024 ballot. Further discussion tabled pending more research.

b. Old Business:

- Pat has bush-hogged Pleasant Street and Green Woods Road landfills, as well as the area across from Central Fire Station. As well, dead trees along Demerritt Cemetery and old soccer equipment from the field have been removed. General discussion was had.
- General discussion was had regarding increased insurance premium and due date(s), and necessity for special town meeting to approve funds for the difference.
- Discussion regarding Summerfest tabled until all Board members present.
- General discussion was had regarding possibility of holding a workshop to update personnel policy, as well as to further delineate job responsibilities between Select Board and Clerk offices.

6. Warrant #26, 06/26/2023:

- a. Payroll Warrant #26 in the amount of \$11,063.24.
  - **Arthur made a motion to approve Payroll Warrant #26 in the amount of \$11,063.24. Patrick seconded the motion. All in favor.**
- b. Accounts Payable Warrant #26 in the amount of \$94,632.95.
  - **Arthur made a motion to approve Accounts Payable Warrant #26 in the amount of \$94,632.95. Patrick seconded the motion. All in favor.**

7. Public Participation:

a. **Gail made a motion to go into Public Participation at 8:32 p.m. Arthur seconded the motion. All in favor.**

- Discussions surrounded lettering bids for new trucks, security cameras at town office, and Select Board's willingness to involve themselves in community improvement projects.

b. **Arthur made a motion to come out of Public Participation at 8:56 p.m. Gail seconded the motion. All in favor.**

8. Adjournment:

a. **Arthur made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:56 p.m. Patrick 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.

**NOTE: There will be no Select Board meeting July 3, 2023, in observation of Independence Day.**

**Select Board Meeting**

**Monday, July 10, 2023, at 6:00 p.m.**

Gail Belyea 7-17-23  
 Gail Belyea Date  
 Chair

(ABSENT 06/26/2023)

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Kathryn Lawrence Date  
 Vice Chair

Arthur Clifford 7-17-23  
 Arthur Clifford Date

(ABSENT 06/26/2023)

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Jason Dolloff Date

Patrick Houghton 7/17/23  
 Patrick Houghton Date