

TOWN OF PERU SELECT BOARD MEETING MINUTES, MARCH 18, 2024

SELECT BOARD PRESENT: Gail Belyea (note-taker), Arthur Clifford, Jason Dolloff, Kathryn Lawrence, Patrick Houghton.

FINANCE COMMITTEE PRESENT: Joe Kerr, Don Roach.

OTHERS PRESENT: Kingston Brown, Andy Freeman, Brad Hutchings.

Patrick moved, Katie seconded, to approve the meeting minutes of February 26, 2024. The vote was 3 in favor, and 2 abstentions due to their absence on February 26.

Arthur moved, Katie seconded, to approve the meeting minutes of March 11, 2024. The vote was 4 in favor, and one abstention due to absence on March 11.

ELECTED AND APPOINTED OFFICIALS/COMMITTEE REPORTS

Arthur motioned, Gail seconded, to appoint Kingston Brown as interim Licensed Plumbing Inspector, starting immediately. He will be sworn in ASAP. Vote was 5-0.

Road Commissioner, in response to citizen complaints about muddy roads, said he rode all Peru's dirt roads today; he says they're all fine for emergency vehicle use.

Today the road department placed safety cones at all Demerritt cemetery lanes coming off Route 108, to limit traffic entering the cemetery.

The town 10-wheeler, truck #44, was taken apart today, to repair leaking seal on the right rear. Brake pads were soaked with oil.

When asked, Brad replied that FEMA paperwork begins tomorrow, March 19, for the December 18, 2023, wind and rainstorm. FEMA paperwork for May 5, 2023, wind and rainstorm is about one-half completed, he reported.

Brad submitted his written resignation, effective June 30, 2024.

The board notified Brad that the rented heater for the temporary structure will be returned soon. Arthur motioned, Jason seconded, to remove the heater by April 5, 2024. Vote 5-0.

The board questioned when the road department will submit their work logs for February and March, because they have been requested several times. Brad said he will bring them.

The board questioned the necessity for eight hours overtime for each road department employee on payroll Warrant #19.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Andy Freeman repeated his request to the board to purchase two basketball back stops, hoops, and poles for the town playground. Arthur motioned, Jason seconded, to approve this purchase, not to exceed \$4500 (money to be drawn from the town recreation account). Vote was 5-0. Arthur will contact Dick's Sporting Goods regarding a discount for the town.

Peru will participate in the River Valley Community Clean-Up Day on April 20, Earth Day. Andy is involved in this effort and would like to see school-aged children involved, too.

Tami Vradenburgh rescinded her interest in the vacant board secretary position. The board will interview another applicant on Monday, March 25, 2024. The position will be advertised and posted again, also.

The board worked on the FY 24-25 budget:

Article #7: Katie moved, Jason seconded, to approve. Vote was 4-1. Arthur abstained, as he is a Peru firefighter. Pat moved, Jason seconded, to recommend. Vote was 4-1.

Article #8: Pat moved to approve; Jason seconded. Vote was 4-1. Pat moved, Katie seconded, to recommend. Vote was 4-1.

Article #14: Gail moved, Katie seconded, to approve. Vote was 5-0. Pat moved, Katie seconded, to recommend.

Article #15: Katie moved, Arthur seconded, to approve with changes. Vote was 5-0. Katie moved, Arthur seconded, to recommend. Vote was 5-0.

Article #16: Katie moved, Jason seconded, to approve. Vote was 5-0. Pat moved, Arthur seconded, to recommend.

Article #17: Arthur moved, Katie seconded, to approve. Vote was 5-0. Katie moved, Jason seconded, to recommend. Vote was 5-0.

Article #18: Katie moved, Pat seconded, to approve. Vote was 5-0. Arthur moved, Pat seconded, to recommend. Vote was 5-0.

Article #19: Arthur moved, Jason seconded to approve. Vote was 5-0. Pat moved, Arthur seconded to recommend. Vote was 5-0.

Article #20: Katie moved, Jason seconded, to approve. Arthur moved, Jason seconded, to recommend. Vote was 5-0.

Article #21: Arthur moved, Jason seconded, to approve. Vote was 5-0. Katie moved, Arthur seconded, to recommend. Vote was 5-0.

Article #22: Arthur moved, Jason seconded, to approve with changes. Vote was 5-0. Arthur moved, Katie seconded, to recommend. Vote was 5-0.

Article #23: Pat moved, Jason seconded, to approve. Vote was 5-0. Pat moved, Jason seconded, to recommend. Vote was 5-0.

Article #24: Board will consider later.

Article #25; Katie moved, Gail seconded, to approve. Vote was 5-0. Katie moved, Arthur seconded, to recommend. Vote was 5-0.

Article #26: Katie moved, Arthur seconded, to recommend. Vote was 5-0. Katie moved, Arthur seconded, to recommend. Vote was 5-0.

Article #27: Pat moved, Jason seconded, to approve. Vote was 5-0. Gail moved, Jason seconded, to make no recommendation. Vote was 5-0.

Article #28: Gail moved, Jason seconded, to approve. Vote was 5-0. Gail moved, Jason seconded, to make no recommendation. Vote was 5-0.

Article #29: Gail moved, Jason seconded, to approve. Vote was 5-0. Gail moved, Jason seconded, to make no recommendation. Vote was 5-0.

Article #30: Gail moved, Jason seconded, to approve. Vote was 5-0. Gail moved, Jason seconded, to make no recommendation. Vote was 5-0.

Article #31: Gail moved, Jason seconded, to approve. Vote was 5-0. Gail moved, Jason seconded, to make no recommendation. Vote was 5-0.

Article #32: Gail moved, Jason seconded, to approve. Vote was 5-0. Gail moved, Jason seconded, to make no recommendation. Vote was 5-0.

Article #33: Pat moved, Katie seconded, to approve with change. Vote was 5-0. Arthur moved, Katie seconded, to recommend.

Article #34: Katie moved, Arthur seconded, to approve. Vote was 5-0. Katie moved, Jason seconded, to recommend. Vote was 5-0.

Article #35: Katie moved, Arthur seconded, to approve. Vote was 5-0. Arthur moved, Gail seconded, to make no recommendation. Vote was 5-0.

Article #36: Pat moved, Katie seconded, to approve. Vote was 5-0. Gail moved, Pat seconded, to recommend. The vote was 5-0 to recommend.

Article #37: Gail moved, Jason seconded, to approve with change. Vote was 3-2. Gail moved, Arthur seconded, to recommend. Vote was 3-2.

Article #38: Katie moved, Gail seconded, to approve. Vote was 5-0. Arthur moved, Katie seconded, to recommend. Vote was 5-0.

Article #39: Katie moved, Arthur seconded, to approve. Vote was 5-0. Gail moved, Pat seconded, to recommend. Vote was 5-0.

Article #40: Tabled.

NEW BUSINESS:

The board will offer the date of Thursday, April 4, 2024, at 6:00 p.m. to M.D.O.T. for a traffic movement permit public meeting (regarding Community Quik Stop's new building).

Trident public risk solutions forms will be completed by the town clerk, with the board's sincere thanks.

Homestead exemption was approved for Anne Fuchs and Carl Fuchs, by vote of 5-0.

Board approved payroll warrant #19 for \$10,795.84, by 3-2 vote, Gail and Katie opposed.

Board approved accounts payable warrant #29 for \$34,741.29, by 5-0 vote.

ROUNDTABLE:

Tabled decision on fire station visit date.

Arthur will check with the planning board regarding progress on solar ordinance.

The finance committee will meet on Wednesday, March 20, 2024, at 6:00 p.m.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

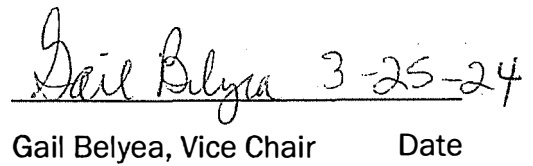
Arthur motioned, Jason seconded, to enter at 10:05 p.m. All in favor.

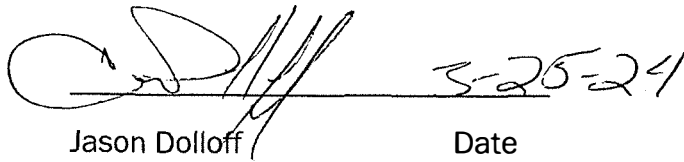
Arthur motioned, Jason seconded, to exit at 10:06 p.m. All in favor.

ADJOURN:

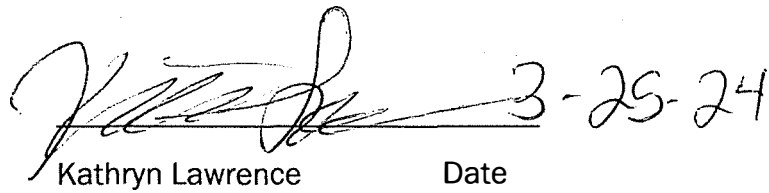
Pat motioned, Jason seconded, to adjourn at 10:07 p.m. All in favor.


Arthur Clifford, Chair Date


Gail Belyea, Vice Chair Date


Jason Dolloff Date

Patrick Houghton Date


Kathryn Lawrence Date