

PERU SELECTBOARD AUGUST 5, 2024, MEETING MINUTES.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Gail Belyea (note-taker), Arthur Clifford, Kathryn Lawrence, Raquel Welch-Day.

OTHERS PRESENT: Dan Carrier, Matt Dyke, Lynda Hebert, Karen Lark, Tyler McDonald, Don Roach. Gary Child was present for a time.

Raquel motioned, Katie seconded, to approve the July 22, 2024, board minutes. Vote was 3 in favor, 1 abstention (Arthur, due to absence on July 22).

Raquel motioned, Arthur seconded, to approve the July 29, 2024, board minutes. Vote was 3 in favor, 1 abstention (Katie, due to absence on July 29).

Raquel motioned, Arthur seconded, to delay the executive session to the bottom of the meeting agenda. All in favor.

ELECTED AND APPOINTED OFFICIALS/COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- Road commissioner Tyler McDonald said the road department has finished ditching High Street. He plans to begin ditching Gammon Road tomorrow; he has hay already. This is the last week the rental excavator is here.
- The Dickvale bridge project will take 75% of the grant dollars.
- Tyler contacted Todd Piper about mowing the leach field area near the historical society building; Todd would charge the town \$300.00 for the first mowing, and \$200.00 for each subsequent mowing. Katie volunteered to complete this mowing for the remainder of summer 2024, and her offer was accepted by the board.
- There was discussion between the road commissioner and property owner Gary Child about removing a rhododendron bush on Gary's lawn at the corner of Dickvale and Ridge Roads. Gary has already trimmed the bush and said it's outside of the road right-of-way; Gary asked Tyler to wait another week to settle this issue, since he will be away on vacation during that time. Tyler received two written complaints that the bush (and a tree) limit visibility at that corner.
- Tyler reviewed ditches and culverts on Old Valley Road on July 30 with Gail Belyea, Arthur Clifford, Kim and Wendy Henderson, Karen Lark, and Todd Vienneau. He said he intends to talk with Chris Henderson about putting fill in that area.
- Richie Jones is working with Ryan Child to cut and chip brush.

Fire chief Dan Carrier stated that Peru fire department spent seven hours at a structure fire last week in Hartford; also they went to two car fires. He said he needs to replace the 24-foot extension ladder (\$1672) and a hose nozzle lost at a structure fire (\$675). He asked the board if he should initiate an insurance claim, but the board is reluctant to do so. The Board requested that Dan get quotes for the ladder and nozzle replacements and present them soon.

- Don Roach, finance committee chair, asked if Arthur has talked with the town clerk about beginning budget balances. Yes, but he has no complete answers to share yet.
- Don said CMP will install a light on the pole at the memorial green.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

The board will honor Clint Delano with the presentation of the Boston Post Cane on August 24, 2024, at 1:00 p.m. Location to be determined.

Arthur motioned, Katie seconded, to appoint Kingston Brown as Licensed Plumbing Inspector for the town. All in favor. Arthur will contact him.

September 4, 2024, is the date for the tax commitment.

The new town garage's cement floor was poured on August 2. The trusses arrived August 5. Builder Clif Thurston intends to start within two weeks; he will coordinate with the plumber and the electrician. The board needs to choose the color for the roof.

Raquel motioned, Arthur seconded, to accept payroll warrant #3 for \$9,510.45. The vote was 3-1, Gail abstained.

Arthur motioned, Raquel seconded, to accept accounts payable #3 for \$224,848.47. The vote was 3-1, Gail abstained.

Arthur gave a copy of the town's ordinance addressing changing Wiken Road from a private road to a town road, and Tyler added that he had talked about this with a resident of Wiken Road.

There is a deficit of \$7,247.50 in the veterans' stones budget account. The board discussed how to address this, with no decision made. Arthur said he would talk to the town clerk.

ROUNDTABLE/REMINDERS:

Raquel motioned, Arthur seconded, for the selectboard to meet biweekly. Vote was 3-1, Gail opposed.

The board discussed the secretary's duties.

Arthur will contact ACO Eric Giroux about paying for two animal shelters: McKennel's and Responsible Pet Care.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

Arthur motioned, Raquel seconded, to enter public participation at 7:36 p.m. All in favor.

Karen Lark asked if homestead exemptions must be renewed each year. No.

Don said the board should publicize the town's new basketball hoops at the playground and ask Andy Freeman to pose with them. He thinks if Peru is invited to sit on Andover's town manager search committee, that representative should have a list of "wants" from Peru. Arthur said he'll talk with Andover selectperson Justin Thacker.

Lynda Hebert thinks a straw poll on hiring a town manager is a great idea.

Arthur motioned, Raquel seconded, to exit public participation at 7:50 p.m. All in favor.

Arthur motioned, Raquel seconded, to enter executive session pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. s.s. 405(6)(A), personnel matter, at 7:50 p.m. All in favor.

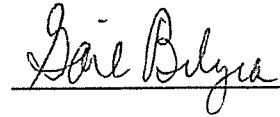
Arthur motioned, Raquel seconded, to exit executive session pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. s.s. 405 (6)(A), personnel matter, at 8:11 p.m. All in favor.


The matter was unresolved and will be addressed again in the near future.

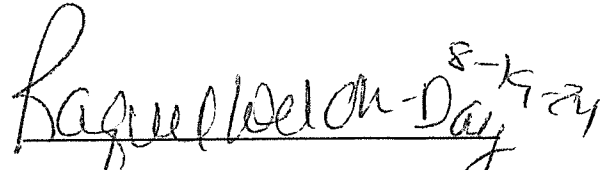
ADJOURN:

Arthur motioned, Raquel seconded, to adjourn at 8:15 p.m. All in favor.


Arthur Clifford, Chair 8-19-24
Date


Gail Belyea, Vice Chair 8-19-2024
Date


Kathryn Lawrence 8-19-24


Raquel Welch-Day 8-19-24