

TOWN OF PERU SELECT BOARD MEETING MINUTES, MAY 13, 2024

BOARD PRESENT: Gail Belyea (scribe), Jason Dolloff, Patrick Houghton, Kathryn Lawrence.

BOARD ABSENT: Arthur Clifford.

FINANCE COMMITTEE PRESENT: Lynda Hebert, Don Roach.

OTHERS PRESENT: Frann Bird, Donna Brackett, Michael Brackett, Jackie Child, David Davis, Michael Day, Raquel Welch-Day, Matt Dyke, Alan Elliott, Gary Estes, Kimberly Folsom, Sharon Gates, Roxanne Gorham, Cathy Hazelton, Bill Hine, Jan Hooley, Brad Hutchings, Tanya Jordan, Karen Lark, Kerry Merrill, Maria Merrill, Dennis Newton, Jane Newton, Mary Pulsifer, Louanne Thibodeau, Michael Thibodeau.

Flag salute.

Patrick motioned, Jason seconded, to approve minutes of May 6, 2024. All in favor.

ELECTED AND APPOINTED OFFICIALS/COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- Road commissioner Brad Hutchings prepped Brown Hill Road for a skim coat of paving, using FEMA money from the December 23 storm.
- He will pave 210 feet of Dolloff Street; skim coat will be applied on corner of Dolloff Street and North Main Street.
- May 2024 FEMA claim is 75% complete.
- Contents of the Conex box at the temporary shelter are partially moved. No electrical is moved yet.
- In response to Karen Lark, Brad stated that Sicotte Road is 16.5-foot wide; Old Valley Road is a four-rod county road. Karen said Old Valley Road is ditched to a certain point; needs a ditch to contain the water after that.
- Fire chief, town clerk/treasurer were not present.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- Katie motioned, Jason seconded, to accept CWT's bid for the new town garage for \$446,000.00, with a completion date of October 31, 2024. All in favor. Patrick offered to contact Clifton Thurston to tell him. Phelan Construction bid \$736,000.00.
- Jason motioned, Pat seconded, to table the time clock discussion. All in favor.
- Greg Freeman and Neil Sorensen accepted the 2024 Spirit of American award.
- Lyndzi Dolloff will hang the swings this week.
- Gail motioned, Jason seconded, to table secretary vacancy discussion. All in favor.
- The board will try to work on the draft solar ordinance at the May 20 board meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Dave Douglass of As Remembered, LLC, will be in Peru on May 15, 2024, to tour DeShon Cemetery regarding resuming cleaning veterans' headstones.

- Jackie Child declined to present her requested address to the board.
- Katie motioned, Gail seconded, to move the review of warrants #23, payroll and accounts payable, to the end of the regular agenda. All in favor.

ROUNDTABLE/REMINDERS:

- Cemeteries walk-around tentative date for June 22. More discussion next meeting.
- Bruce Cox plans to present an ATV club municipal grant application to the board for review and signatures.
- A letter regarding a Gammon Road junk yard was forwarded to the CEO.
- Katie shared that she has organized a group of people to work at the town ball field's infield over Memorial Day weekend.
- Katie will contact Cliff Thurston regarding updated bids for plumbing and electricity for the new town garage. It's believed the bids we have now may have been updated.
- The board's consensus is not to contact the town's insurance company regarding bonding for candidates for public office.
- Pat motioned, Jason seconded, to accept accounts payable warrant #23 for \$242,837.55. All in favor.
- Pat motioned, Gail seconded, to accept payroll warrant #23 for \$14,043.82. The vote was 3-1, Katie opposed.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

- Gail motioned, Jason seconded, to enter public participation at 6:58 p.m.
- Raquel asked for a re-reading of the vote on the market adjustment at the May 6, 2024, meeting. Raquel asked how many accounts for the new town garage – should have had two general ledgers and offset accounts.
- Jane Newton asked how to access board meeting minutes, since they aren't posted on the town web site currently. She can get copies at the town office or have them e-mailed to her.
- Karen Lark asked if the town still has an ordinance committee: no, it has been four or five years without one. The select board would have to write ordinances, if needed. She asked if the trailer with a very littered yard on Route 108 has been contacted. CEO is aware of the situation.
- Lynda: will \$264,000 and a loan of up to \$400,000 be enough to build the garage?
- Donna Brackett asked if the public could see the town garage ledgers.
- Louanne and Mike Thibodeau discussed having a town-wide informational meeting regarding market adjustment. Lynda agrees that the board should have been more forthcoming with information about it.
- There was other general discussion regarding market adjustment and revaluation.
- Gail motioned, Jason seconded, to exit public participation at 7:35 p.m. All in favor.

ADJOURN:

Gail motioned to adjourn, Pat seconded, at 7:36 p.m. All in favor.

Arthur Clifford, Chair Date

Gail Belyea 5-21-24
Gail Belyea, Vice Chair Date

Jason Dolloff Date

Patrick Houghton 5/20/24
Patrick Houghton Date

Kathryn Lawrence 5/20/24
Kathryn Lawrence Date