

## TOWN OF PERU SELECT BOARD MEETING MINUTES OF MAY 20, 2024

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

**SELECT BOARD ABSENT:** Jason Dolloff.

**FINANCE COMMITTEE PRESENT:** Lynda Hebert, Joe Kerr, Don Roach.

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Fire chief Dan Carrier, Karen Lark, Norman Miele.

Patrick motioned, Katie seconded, to accept the meeting minutes of May 13, 2024, as written. 3-0 in favor. Arthur abstained due to his absence on May 13.

### **ELECTED AND APPOINTED OFFICIALS/COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

Fire chief Carrier reported that the fire department completed basic pumper class on Saturday, May 11. Fire danger has lowered recently. Complete sets of ordered fire gear should arrive here in June; and he has decided to remain with the Scott's brand. The new fire truck will return to Northeast in Auburn for work on two computers that are not syncing. The tanker will require all new tires (\$800+); current tires are 18 years old. Pat asked if any trees behind the central fire station had been cut recently, and Dan said no, they weren't.

### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

- Gail motioned, Katie seconded, to purchase two HopAttend time clocks and five RFID cards (zero monthly fees). Vote 3-1, Pat opposed.
- Gail motioned, Arthur seconded, to continue the search for a part-time board secretary. All in favor. Arthur will contact the recent interviewee.
- Playground swings are up, except for one that Katie is still repairing. Painting will proceed when Andy Freeman is available.
- Arthur motioned, Katie seconded, to buy a new tire swing for the playground. All in favor.
- Arthur motioned, Gail seconded, to buy two 60-inch in-ground Ignite basketball hoops from Dick's Sporting Goods, at \$899.00 Each. All in favor.
- The board reviewed the first three pages of the draft solar ordinance and made several changes.

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

- Arthur motioned, Katie seconded, to approve homestead exemptions for Samuel Doyon, 1078 Auburn Road, for 2024; and for Brenda Olson, 285 Auburn Road, for 2025. All in favor.
- Arthur motioned, Patrick seconded, to appoint the following election workers for the June 11 referendum voting: Gail Belyea, Sarah Merrill, Tim Placey, Pam Rowley, and Earle Wingate. All in favor.
- Katie motioned, Arthur seconded, to begin cleaning of veterans' stones by As Remembered LLC, in the lower half of Deshon Cemetery beginning in early June 2024. The vote was 3-1, Gail opposed. The finance chair said he thinks there is not as much money in the veterans' stones account as the board believes; he said it appears the balances have not been held over every year.
- The board signed the Oxford County Assessor's Return.

- Arthur motioned, Pat seconded, to sign a grant request from the Peru ATV club to an outside entity, asking for \$51,418.00 for trail maintenance and development. This would involve High Street to Hammond Hill Road to Thurston's farm area. All in favor.
- The board signed the 2024 Peru Certified Ratio Declaration.

**ROUNDTABLE/REMINDERS:**

- Discussion about the necessity of the board obtaining updated electrical and plumbing estimates for the new town garage, for securing a bank loan.
- Pat mentioned a pine tree on Brown Hill that appears to have been hit often by a snowplow over the winter; perhaps it should be cut down.

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:**

Gail motioned, Patrick seconded, to enter public participation at 8:03 p.m. All in favor.

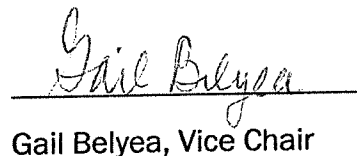
- Karen Lark reminded the board chair about writing a letter to the road commissioner regarding brush and sand on her property. She stated the road commissioner told her he will take care of ditching on Old Valley Road; she said if ditching isn't done there, water will run downhill onto her land.
- Don mentioned that the efficiency of a solar farm is 20-25%.
- Norman asked why the Worthley Pond fire station's overnight light is so blindingly bright. Don responded that CMP would do an on-site visit on June 3. Norman asked about raises next fiscal year for the road department. He said the new culvert by his driveway won't hold the water coming down the hill on Burbank Road, and he's sick of buying gravel. He asked if a permit is necessary for a lean-to on a trailer. Arthur said he will research this.

Gail motioned, Katie seconded, to exit public participation at 8:28 p.m. All in favor.


**ADJOURN:**


Arthur motioned, Patrick seconded, to adjourn at 8:30 p.m. All in favor.

  
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 Arthur Clifford, Chair                      Date

  
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 Gail Belyea, Vice Chair                      Date

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

  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Patrick Houghton                              Date

  
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 Kathryn Lawrence                              Date

## TOWN OF PERU SELECT BOARD AGENDA, MAY 20, 2024.

Flag salute.

Approve May 13, 2024, meeting minutes.

### ELECTED AND APPOINTED OFFICIALS/COMMITTEE REPORTS:

#### UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- A. Time Clock.
- B. Secretary Vacancy.
- C. Playground Updates/Swings, Painting.
- D. Home Depot Basketball Hoops.
- E. Draft Solar Ordinance.

#### NEW BUSINESS:

- A. Homestead Exemptions: Samuel Doyon, 1078 Auburn Road; Brenda Olson, 285 Auburn Road.
- B. Election Worker Annual Appointments: Gail Belyea, Sarah Merrill, Tim Placey, Pam Rowley, and Earle Wingate.
- C. Proposal from As Remembered, LLC: Cleaning of Veterans' Stones in Deshon Cemetery, East Peru.
- D. Oxford County Assessor's Return for Signature.
- E. ATV Club Grant Paperwork Needing Signature.
- F. 2024 Peru Certified Ratio Declaration.

#### ROUNDTABLE/REMINDERS:

- A. Cemeteries walk-arounds tentative date June 22.
- B. Absentee ballots for June 11 referendum are available.
- C. LD1 was repealed by the State on April 9, 2024.
- D. Town clerk requested Von Plumbing and Clif Thurston for updated estimates for the new town garage.
- E. May 22, 6:00 p.m., Peru town office: select board and planning board workshop on draft solar ordinance.
- F. May 28, 6:00 p.m., Dirigo High School Cafeteria, RSU 56 School Budget Hearing/Validation Meeting.
- G. May 30, 6:00 p.m., Peru town office, Public Informational Meeting on Traffic Movement Permit for Community Quik Stop.
- H. June 11, 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m., Peru town office, Referendum Voting on FY 24-25 Town Budget.

The Town of Peru Ordinance "Open to the Public" sessions enacted by the townspeople on January 13, 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 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 town secretary.