

## TOWN OF PERU SELECT BOARD MEETING MINUTES OF JULY 22, 2024

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

**BOARD ABSENT:** Arthur Clifford.

Gail motioned, Raquel seconded, to table the July 15, 2024, board meeting minutes until the next meeting. All in favor.

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

Fire Chief Dan Carrier said Peru had five fire calls on July 16, and 81 calls so far in 2024. Engine #12's computer has been sent for refurbishing; it needs reprogramming of nodes. August 13 is the date for the fire department's voluntary audit from Bureau of Labor Services. Dan is looking for a permanent and convenient water supply for his trucks, possibly at Worthley Pond or the mill pond on Main Street, because the fire department is running out of places to get water.

Road Commissioner Tyler McDonald supplied pictures of work done recently on Burbank Road and Cummings Brook bridge. He is working on FEMA for December 2023, putting information on two thumb drives so it won't get lost. The rented excavator came July 15, and he has been using it on Tower Road. The road department is installing culverts. Stan Waliek is adjusting the Kubota to accept the recently purchased flail mower; it should be ready to use by week's end. Future work: a day of ditching on Burbank Road, then to High Street to repair a wash-out, then to Ridge Road by John Wilson/Jason McPherson residences to repair ditches there. August 19 work should begin on the Dickvale bridge. There was discussion with Tyler about ditching needed on Old Valley Road near Karen Lark's residence, to reduce the water she said flows into her field. The board agreed with Tyler to include an executive session on the July 29 agenda, regarding a personnel issue.

Finance Committee Chair Don Roach asked if the RFP for a new town auditor has been posted. It has. No responses as of today. Don reminded the board it needs to review recent insurance information from the town clerk.

### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

Raquel reported that West Quoddy Concrete has installed the re-bar at the new town garage floor. Concrete should be poured on August 2, for the floor and for a pad for propane tanks.

Raquel motioned, Katie seconded, to accept the change made to Page One of the draft Solar Ordinance. All in favor. The board signed a certification of the revised Town of Peru Solar Systems Ordinance.

Gail motioned, Katie seconded, to table the re-appointment of LPI David Errington Sr. until the next meeting. All in favor.

Gail motioned, Katie seconded, to table reconsidering a vote requiring a department head wanting to spend a specific dollar amount to bring the request before the board. Motion failed 2-1, Katie and Raquel opposed and Gail in favor.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Raquel motioned, Gail seconded, to re-appoint Ernest Placey to Peru Planning Board. All in favor.

Raquel motioned, Gail seconded, to appoint Colleen Bernard to the Peru Cemetery Committee. All in favor.

Raquel motioned, Gail seconded, to appoint Dan Bernard to the Peru Cemetery Committee. All in favor.

The board took no action on setting the tax commitment date with the assessing agent.

Raquel motioned, Katie seconded, to approve Warrant #2 Accounts Payable for \$121,866.82. All in favor.

Raquel motioned, Katie seconded, to approve Warrant #2 Payroll for \$9,293.79. All in favor.

Gail shared a July 13 cemetery committee walk-through summary.

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:**

Gail motioned, Raquel seconded to enter public participation at 7:53 p.m. All in favor.

Karen asked when the FEMA deadlines for storm reimbursements are. Raquel will research.

Katie and Gail agreed to meet with Karen at her property on July 25 at 10 a.m. to view the need for ditching on Old Valley Road.

Karen asked if there is an update on the abandoned houses in town. There is not.

Tyler would like to buy a used excavator with FEMA dollars.

Don mentioned that the sides of the town office need to be cleaned.

Gail motioned, Raquel seconded, to exit public participation at 8:08 p.m. All in favor.

**ADJOURN:**

Raquel motioned, Katie seconded, to adjourn at 8:10 p.m. All in favor.

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Arthur Clifford, Chair                      Date

*Gail Belyea 8-5-24*  
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Gail Belyea, Vice Chair                      Date

*Kathryn Lawrence 8/5/24*  
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Kathryn Lawrence                      Date

*Raquel Welch-Day*  
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Raquel Welch-Day                      Date