

TOWN OF PERU SELECT BOARD MEETING MINUTES, JUNE 10, 2024

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

OTHERS PRESENT: Kingston Brown, Dan Carrier, David Errington Sr., Lynda Hebert, Karen Lark, Tammi Lyons, Tyler McDonald, Don Roach.

Arthur motioned, Patrick seconded, to approve meeting minutes of May 20, 2024. All in favor.

EXECUTIVE SESSION PURSUANT TO 1 M.R.S.A. s.s. 405(6)(A), PERSONNEL MATTER.

Arthur motioned, Gail seconded, to enter executive session at 6:03 p.m. All in favor. Arthur motioned, Gail seconded, to exit executive session at 6:10 p.m. All in favor. Outcome: the Town will retain the services of the current Licensed Plumbing Inspector, and the interim LPI on a back-up basis.

EXECUTIVE SESSION PURSUANT TO 1 M.R.S.A. s.s. 405(6)(A), PERSONNEL MATTER.

Arthur motioned, Patrick seconded, to enter executive session at 6:12 p.m. The vote was 4-1, Jason abstained. Arthur motioned, Jason seconded, to exit executive session at 6:26 p.m. All in favor. Outcome: Apology offered and accepted.

ELECTED AND APPOINTED OFFICIALS/COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Fire chief Carrier said Engine 12 is still at North East in Auburn. After 5.5 hours of download, electronics are still unrepaired. The mechanics are good, truck is inspected.

Dan is doing end-of-fiscal-year invoices/cost recovery. He inquired of the board if the town engages a collections agency (question for town clerk). He is still trying to collect a \$5200 bill from a 2023 car crash. In the two years since cost recovery efforts began, Peru fire has collected about \$4000. Dan plans to train up to six volunteers on cost recovery billing.

OSHA/BLS standards were last updated in 1986, and now there are 22 pages of updates suggesting mandatory items like cancer screening, basic physicals, medical tests, clean and dirty separate rooms for gear, clothing, etc., and OSHA wants updates done within two years.

Peru fire department will submit to a voluntary BLS inspection on August 13, 2024.

Dan asked why CMP is being contacted by citizen Don Roach, who responded that he has contacted CMP with the select board's authority. Dan asked him to work with him regarding the streetlights; the board chair said we can all work together. On June 3, a CMP representative came to the town office in response to concerns about lights and while there, cut some trees near wires.

Worthley Pond fire station pole light: perhaps put an arm to turn the spotlight away from the road. Dan said this is the same light installed in 2017. Central fire station spotlight will be repositioned.

Finance Committee chair Don Roach presented a handout to the board regarding the Veterans' Stones warrant articles since 2016-17. Some note "hold balance", others don't, which raises questions regarding the amount of money in the account.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

New time clocks have arrived. Thanks to the town clerk for using Amazon points to get them for free! The personnel policy will need to be updated regarding time clocks. New basketball hoops for the playgrounds have arrived, too, and will need culverts to act as sauna tubes in securing them in the ground.

The Vice Chair spoke with Dave Wallace concerning the \$3,254.98 shortfall in payment for his services in siding the building at 85 Peru Center Road. He accepted the \$26,695.02 available now for roofing the building, and he understands the board is waiting to learn if the town's insurance company will cover the remainder for siding. Jason motioned, Arthur seconded, to find the money in the budget to pay Mr. Wallace before June 30. All in favor.

Patrick motioned to table work on draft solar ordinance until next meeting, Jason seconded. Vote 3-2 to table, Gail and Katie opposed. Katie will research Canton's draft ordinance.

Katie motioned, Pat seconded, not to spend more than \$11,000 on cleaning veterans' stones this year, until we are certain how much money is in that account. Vote 4-1, Gail opposed.

Arthur will contact Todd Piper about removing the unhealthy shrubs on the town office lawn.

NEW BUSINESS:

CWT contract for erecting the new town garage was reviewed by the board, signed by Chair.

Gail motioned, Jason seconded, that the 22-23 Town Report be dedicated to the 2023 recipients of the Spirit of America award, the Gammon Family Farm. All in favor.

No movement on a committee to update the Town's comprehensive plan, circa 2005.

Brief discussion held on a request by Linda Tompkins for assistance with feral cats. She will attend next week's meeting.

Jason informed the board of his impending resignation. He will be moving to Rumford with his new wife Erica.

ROUNDTABLE/REMINDERS:

Arthur will contact the Andover town office regarding sharing a town manager with Peru, as Andover begins searching.

A Summerfest on August 4 was discussed. Katie will keep the board updated.

The board declined the offer of an RRFB from Tim Soucie at MDOT. Vice Chair will contact.

The cemetery walk-arounds on June 22 will begin at 10 a.m., weather permitting.

The Board discussed professionalism briefly: communicate by phone or email to your board mates as soon as you know you're unable to attend a board meeting. Shoes are required at all meetings.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

Arthur motioned, Jason seconded, to enter public participation at 8:51 p.m. All in favor.

Karen Lark asked the Chair if he had addressed the "dumpy place" on Route 108. He said he had. She said there are no trash barrels in Demerritt Cemetery. What happened to perpetual care when the Town took over that cemetery? The board will consider buying trash cans in the 24-25 fiscal year budget.

Don Roach asked if the road commissioner's last paycheck has been resolved, regarding the money source in the current budget. No. He asked if Brad has 120 hours of comp time.

Don said the town office front lawn needs work/loam.

Lynda Hebert: Greenwoods Road camper needs to be addressed.

Tyler McDonald: Asked about Stagecoach Road animals; three cows were in the road again. Board responded that the State is involved in that situation and can mandate what animal owners have to do with their animals: water, food, fencing, sanitation.

Arthur motioned, Jason seconded, to exit public participation at 9:08 p.m. All in favor.

NEW BUSINESS PART II:

Arthur motioned, Patrick seconded, to accept accounts payable warrant #25 for \$321,281.68. Vote 3-2, Gail and Katie opposed.

Arthur motioned, Patrick seconded, to accept payroll warrant #25 for \$12,235.50. All in favor.

Patrick motioned, Arthur seconded, to accept payroll warrant #24 for \$9,667.84.

Patrick motioned, Arthur seconded, to accept accounts payable warrant #24 for \$6,270.55.

ADJOURN: Arthur motioned, Pat seconded, to adjourn at 9:52 p.m. All in favor.



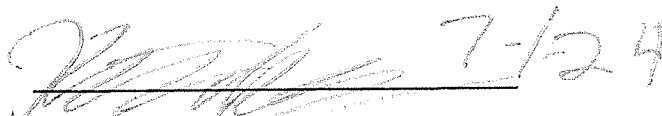
Arthur Clifford, Chair Date



Gail Belyea, Vice Chair Date

Jason Dolloff Date

Patrick Houghton Date



Kathryn Lawrence Date