

The regular meeting of the Peru Town Board was held on Monday **March 13, 2023**, at the Peru Town Hall. Those present were Mr. Brandy McDonald, Supervisor; Mr. Melvin Irwin, Councilman; Mr. Richard Barber, Councilman; Mr. Kregg Bruno, Councilman and Mrs. Judy Akey, Deputy Town Clerk. Also present were Mr. Courtney Tetrault, Water/Sewer Superintendent; Mr. Michael Farrell, Highway Superintendent; Mr. Bob Guynup, Zoning Officer; Ms. Pam Barber, Confidential Secretary to the Board; Mr. Matthew Favro, Town Attorney; Mr. T'Chaka Sikeleanos, Dog Control Officer and Mrs. Kristin Marino, Interim Recreation Director. Mr. James Douglass, Councilman was excused and Dianne Miller, Town Clerk was also excused.

The meeting was called to order at 6:00PM by Mr. McDonald, with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Motion by Mr. Bruno; seconded by Mr. Irwin to include the reports from the following departments into the official record of tonight's meeting. (Water/Sewer/Valcour; Highway; Town Clerk; Dog Control; Youth Department; Code/Zoning; Supervisor's Report; Court; Website; JCEO and Banking Reports. Youth report unavailable at this time.

Ayes 4 Nays 0

Motion Carried

Motion by Mr. Barber; seconded by Mr. Bruno to approve the minutes from the February 27th meeting.

Ayes 4 Nays 0

Motion Carried

Community Input

Robert Annis came forward to address the issue about two mailboxes that were hit down on his road during the snowstorm on March 1st by the snowplow. He wasn't so much concerned about the cost of the replacement of the mailboxes but that when he called the highway garage the gentleman was told they would check into it and he didn't get a call back. He then called Mr. McDonald and emailed him and still no answer. Mr. Annis felt he was being ignored. Mr. McDonald replied that he always returns calls and that the email might have gone to spam and he always has his phone with him, of which the other Board members collaborated that fact. Mr. McDonald apologized for the confusion and he would check his spam and offered Mr. Annis to look with him.

Mr. Farrell did say that they were shorthanded and it was a new driver on that route. The snowstorm that day was so heavy that the plow might not have knocked the boxes down but the weight of the snow when pushed by the plow might have done it, which also happened to his mailbox.

Mr. Annis thanked the Board for letting him vent and their attention to this matter.

RESOLUTION/ DISCUSSION: To Accept Peru Town Court Internal Audit for 2023

RESOLUTION NUMBER: 23.13.03-1

A RESOLUTION ACCEPTING THE RESULTS OF INTERNAL CONTROL AUDIT FOR PROCEDURES AND RECORDKEEPING FOR THE TOWN OF PERU TOWN COURT.

MOTION: Mr. Richard Barber SECOND: Mr. Kregg Bruno

WHEREAS, the Town Board has before it the report of Internal Audit for the Peru Town Court conducted by Councilman Richard Barber, Jr. on March 13, 2023, and

WHEREAS, the Town Board agrees with the overall findings of this report of audit;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, that the Town of Peru Board approves and accepts the Internal Controls Audit of the Town of Peru Town Court with the record of this audit to be included in the official record of this Board Meeting,

AND, BE IT

RESOLVED, that this Resolution shall take effect immediately.

Roll Call:		<u>YES</u>	<u>NO</u>
	Richard Barber Jr.	X	
	Kregg Bruno	X	
Excused	James Douglass		
	Mel Irwin	X	
	Brandy McDonald	X	

Carried: 4 AYES

RESOLUTION/DISCUSSION: To Set Date for Recreation Director Interviews Special Meeting for March 23, 2023

RESOLUTION NUMBER: 23.13.03-2

A RESOLUTION TO SET A SPECIAL MEETING DATE FOR MARCH 23, 2023, AT 5:15 PM FOR THE PURPOSE OF CONDUCTING RECREATION DIRECTOR POSITION INTERVIEWS.

MOTION: Mr. Kregg Bruno SECOND: Mr. Mel Irwin

WHEREAS, the Town Board requested that a Special Meeting be called for the purpose of conducting Recreation Director Interviews, and

WHEREAS, the Town Board will go into executive session immediately to perform the interview process with a full Town Board present.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, that the Town of Peru Board will hold this Special Meeting on the 23rd of March, 2023 at 5:15 pm.

AND, BE IT

RESOLVED, that this Resolution shall take effect immediately.

Roll Call:		<u>YES</u>	<u>NO</u>
	Richard Barber Jr.	X	
	Kregg Bruno	X	
Excused	James Douglass		
	Mel Irwin	X	
	Brandy McDonald	X	

Carried: 4 AYES

RESOLUTION/DISCUSSION: For the Acceptance of Revised Letter of Engagement for Sewer Project Single Audit Telling & Hillman, PC.

RESOLUTION NUMBER: 23.13.03-3

A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE REVISED SINGLE SOURCE AUDIT ENGAGEMENT LETTER FROM TELLING AND HILLMAN, PC AND AUTHORIZING THE SUPERVISOR TO EXECUTE THE SAME.

MOTION: Mr. Kregg Bruno SECOND: Mr. Mel Irwin

WHEREAS, the Town Board has the Single Source Audit Engagement Letter from Telling and Hillman, PC before it

WHEREAS, due to the Sewer Upgrade Project completion taking much longer than anticipated, Telling and Hillman, PC has requested a revised, not to exceed amount for payment of \$20,000.00(Twenty Thousand dollars) **NOW THEREFORE, BE IT**

RESOLVED, said revised letter of engagement is accepted and the Supervisor be and hereby is authorized to execute an agreement between Telling and Hillman PC and the Town of Peru;

AND, BE IT

RESOLVED, that this Resolution shall take effect immediately.

Roll Call:		<u>YES</u>	<u>NO</u>
	Richard Barber Jr.	X	
	Kregg Bruno	X	
Excused	James Douglass		
	Mel Irwin	X	
	Brandy McDonald	X	

Carried: 4 AYES

Discussion: Other Business

Mrs. Akey mentioned that the State AUD Report (Annual Financial Report) was almost finished and that the CPA would look it over on Friday and the report would be filed next week before the due date.

Mr. Favro asked that the insurance certificate for the Peru Youth Football Certificate holder be changed to "Town of Peru", not Lapham's Mills Park. He also wanted to know if there was a charge to the participant and if so, how much and what the fees cover. There should not be a profit involved. If there is, we would have to charge the \$50.00 Community Facilities fee. He asked Ms. Barber to check into that.

Mr. Irwin mentioned that he would like to get a few more sponsors to get the windows finished on the Heyworth Mason Park Building. Mr. McDonald suggested maybe he could set up a go fund me page on Facebook to help raise these funds.

Mr. Bruno said that he and Mr. Douglass attended the Peru Library Community Event. The event included an informative discussion from our Highway Superintendent, Mike Farrell and his Deputy Tyler Jarvis, on how the new salt brine system works and the savings to the Town and the eco system. A great job was done by them and was well received by the public.

Mr. Guynup mentioned that he was called out by Fire Control for an explosion on River Rd. He proceeded directly to the event from his house. Does he apply for comp time? Mr. Tetrault mentioned that the Town Handbook says that salaried employees do not get comp time. Mr. Tetrault said he uses his comp time within the two-week pay period. Mr. McDonald said that Mr. Guynup should clock in first and out when done, that way he would be covered by the Town insurance and the Town would be covered as well. Whatever time used would go under the regular hours for that pay period.

Mr. Guynup also said that he had two quotes and was waiting for a third quote on the removal of asbestos and demolition of the Dale Bradley house on School St.

Mrs. Marino informed the Board that the basketball season is winding down and that they rescheduled a couple of games due to cancellation from weather. Summer sports sign ups would be on the Youth Rec Desk by the end of the month or beginning of April.

Mr. Farrell told the Board that both the Cook Rd. and Westcott Rd. culverts are deteriorating. Mr. Farrell said that on the Cook Rd. situation, Engineering Ventures and he feels that hiring Atlantic Testing to do bore testing would be the best option to know what is beneath the culverts to get the best price and design for the concrete structure that is needed. Both areas are protected waterways and Army Corp. of Engineers will have to approve the plans for both locations. They would have to put up a temporary bridge on Westcott first, then a culvert would go in. Both project costs will be a lot and the decision where the money is coming from will have to be decided by the Board soon. If he was forced to use CHIPS money, it would eat up all paving funds.

Mr. Farrell also mentioned that he and his Deputy went to Albany for their annual trip on the meeting for CHIPS money for Clinton County, Essex and Franklin Counties. He was glad that the Town got 20% more than last year but at the same time the cost of tar and salt is 45% more now.

Ms. Barber said that a letter from the Clinton County Treasurer's Office was received to inform the Town that they will be paying more for the postage in mailing of the taxes out in 2024. When it comes budget time this increase will have to be included.

Ms. Barber mentioned that a Notice of Warrant was sent to the Town by the NYS Unemployment Office. She wanted to head off any rumblings by a resident that works at the Clinton County Treasurer's Office as was done the first time this situation arose. She was told that the warrants are sent out automatically. The Town is not supposed to be charged for an elected official and was done in error in the amount of \$4,318.62. This is the second time that she has had to rectify the situation. She has already notified them, and the Town will be receiving a credit to the Town's account.

Ms. Barber said that someone was looking at the A/C cooling unit for the Town Hall and was pricing mini splits and a possible drop ceiling in the main area which would help save in heating and air conditioning expenses. This will be advertised for a request for a design/build bid.

Motion by Mr. Bruno; seconded by Mr. Barber to put up this project for bid quotes for the mini splits and 8 heads and a separate quote for the drop ceiling. The bids will be opened on 4/10/2023 at 10AM. **Ayes 4 Nays 0** **Motion Carried**

Mr. McDonald mentioned that the runoff in some of driveways is causing some problems and that the highway department is doing the best that they can to alleviate the situation.

Mr. McDonald added to the information on the mailbox issue that even though the heavy snow can be a problem, residents should make sure that their mailboxes should be at 45” so the plows can go under them. Sometimes it is so difficult for the plow drivers to see when there are whiteout conditions.

Discussion: Public Comments on Agenda Items Only
None

RESOLUTION/DISCUSSION: Pay Bills – March 13, 2023

RESOLUTION NUMBER: 23.13.03-4

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE POST-AUDIT PAYMENT OF CERTAIN CLAIMS, BILLS AND INVOICES OF THE TOWN

MOTION: Mr. Kregg Bruno SECOND: Mr. Mel Irwin

WHEREAS, the Town Board has reviewed and audited the following claims, bills and invoices for services rendered and goods provided to the Town on March 13, 2023:

From Town of Peru Vouchers in September 2022; #202300251 through and including #202300329,

Abstract dated March 13, 2023

For the dollar amount totaling: \$224,018.59, of that, \$16,546.33 was wired, credit cards and prepaid; and \$207,427.26 is remaining to be paid and

WHEREAS, the Town Board finds said claims, bills and invoices to be acceptable in form and reasonable in amount;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, that payment of the aforementioned claims, bills and invoices is approved and the Supervisor be and hereby is authorized to make such payment; and be it further

RESOLVED, that this Resolution shall take effect immediately.

Roll Call:		<u>YES</u>	<u>NO</u>
	Richard Barber, Jr.	X	
	Kregg Bruno	X	
Excused	James Douglass		
	Mel Irwin	X	
	Brandy McDonald	X	

Carried: 4 Ayes

Motion: Adjourn to Executive Session
No Executive Session

Motion: Adjourn Meeting

Motion by Mr. Barber; seconded by Mr. Bruno to adjourn the meeting at 6:47PM
Ayes 4 Nays 0 **Motion Carried**

_____ *Supervisor* _____ *Councilman*

_____ *Councilman* _____ *Councilman*

