

The regular meeting of the Peru Town Board was held on Monday, **September 23, 2024** at the Peru Town Hall. Those present were Mr. Craig Randall, Supervisor; Councilman; Mr. Kregg Bruno, Councilman; Mr. James Douglass, Councilman; Mr. Eric Duquette, Councilman; Mr. Mel Irwin, Councilman; Mrs. Judy Akey, Deputy Town Clerk. Also present was Mr. Courtney Tetrault, Water/Sewer Superintendent; Mr. Michael Farrell, Highway Superintendent; Mr. T’chaka Sikelianos, Dog Control Officer; Mr. Robert Guynup, Planning and Zoning Officer; and Pamela Barber, Confidential Secretary to the Board and Deputy Town Clerk. Mrs. Dianne Miller, Town Clerk, Mr. Matt Favro, Town Attorney and Mrs. Kristin Marino, Recreation Director were excused.

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

Motion by Mr. Bruno seconded; by Mr. Irwin, to accept the minutes from the September 9, 2024 Public Hearing.

Ayes 5 Nays 0

Motion Carried

Motion by Mr. Duquette; seconded by Mr. Bruno, to accept the minutes from the September 9, 2024 Regular Meeting.

Ayes 5 Nays 0

Motion Carried

Community Input

None

DISCUSSION: Highway Culvert Project Presentation by Engineering Ventures

Mr. Mark DeCrescente and Mr. Peter Gibbs of Engineering Ventures gave a power point presentation on the some of the collapsing culverts and the sink holes in Peru. They complimented Mr. Farrell for being pro-active in trying to find a long term plan. They explained that the culverts currently with this issue is due to the velocity of the water flow, sediment from the flow, erosion of the stone around and under the culvert as well as the deteriorating culvert itself. The Army Corp. of Engineers and the DEC require that the culverts be wider than the existing culverts, not interfere with the wetlands and are made from pre-casted cement sections that would last a hundred years. They had a map with all the culverts in town and Mr. Farrell rated them from one to ten. Several were rated an eight and would need immediate work. The new way of replacing culverts should not cause complete road shutdowns and could be done in a short period of time due to the way they are constructed.

RESOLUTION/DISCUSSION: Approval to Hire Daniel Spada to Perform Wetland Delineation for the Lyons Rd. and Fuller Rd. Culvert Projects.

RESOLUTION NUMBER: 24.09.23-1

A RESOLUTION ACCEPTING THE PROPOSAL OF DANIEL M. SPADA, ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTANT FOR THE LYONS AND FULLER ROADS CULVERT PROJECT FOR WETLAND DELINEATION SERVICES.

MOTION: Mr. Douglass SECOND: Mr. Bruno

WHEREAS, the Town Board has deemed it necessary for the Town of Peru to hire Daniel M. Spada, Environment Consultant for the Lyons and Fuller Roads Culvert Projects for Wetland Delineation Services.

WHEREAS, the Town Board has decided that the proposal of Daniel M. Spada to determine locations that have the potential to be classified as State and/or federal wetlands along those portions of Lyons and Fuller Rds.; **NOW THEREFORE, BE IT**

RESOLVED, that the Town of Peru accepts the proposal of Daniel M. Spada, Environmental Consultant Services for a Wetland Delineation Services at a cost not to exceed Three Thousand Seven Hundred Fifty and No Cents (\$3,750.00).

BE IT RESOLVED, that this Resolution shall take effect immediately.

Roll Call:		<u>YES</u>	<u>NO</u>
	Kregg Bruno	x	

	Eric Duquette	x	
	James Douglass	x	
	Mel Irwin	x	
	Craig Randall	x	

Carried:
5 Ayes 0 Noes

RESOLUTION/DISCUSSION: Acceptance of Casella Long Term Residuals Management Contract

Mr. Favro has looked over the contract and approved it.
Mr. Bruno asked if Grassland can take the sludge. Mr. Tetrault stated not if there is too much sediment. The town removes sludge twice a year at about 40 ton at a time.

RESOLUTION NUMBER: 24.09.23-2

A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE TOWN’S BIOSOLIDS (SLUDGE) REMOVAL AMENDMENT TO THE AGREEMENT WITH NEW ENGLAND WASTE SERVICES OF ME, INC. (DBA CASELLA ORGANICS) DATED SEPTEMBER 24, 2024 AND AUTHORIZING THE SUPERVISOR TO EXECUTE THE SAME.

MOTION: Mr. Bruno SECOND: Mr. Irwin

WHEREAS, the Town Board has the amendment to the agreement before it between the Town of Peru and NEWS of ME, Inc. for the removal of the Town’s Sewer Plant bio-solids (sludge).

WHEREAS, Customer will compensate Contractor at the rate of \$115.00 per wet ton of Residuals Removed and Beneficially reused at the Grasslands Facility.

WHEREAS, Customer will compensate Contractor at the rate of \$140.00 per wet ton of Residuals Removed and disposed of at the Franklin County Landfill.

WHEREAS, Demurrage. Contractor may impose demurrage charges at One Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$150.00) per hour when loading and departure at the Plant exceeds forty (40) minutes. In the event Customer cancels pick-up upon Contractor’s arrival or while in route, a minimum four (4) hour demurrage charge will be applied.

RESOLVED, said proposed agreement is approved and the Supervisor be and hereby is authorized to execute said agreement, **AND**,

BE IT RESOLVED that this Resolution shall take effect immediately.

Roll Call:		<u>YES</u>	<u>NO</u>
	Kregg Bruno	x	
	James Douglass	x	
	Eric Duquette	x	
	Mel Irwin	x	
	Craig Randall	x	

Carried: 5 Ayes 0 Noes

RESOLUTION NUMBER: 24.09.23-3

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE TRANSFER OF MONIES FROM THE STORM DRAIN RESERVES FUND TO THE HIGHWAY H-33 CULVERT PROJECTS FUND TO COVER THE INTERIM CONTRACTUAL NEEDS.

MOTION: Mr. Douglass SECOND: Mr. Bruno

WHEREAS, In order to meet the financial needs for the management of **the Highway Accounts** funds need to be transferred from the **Storm Drain Reserves Fund** for the payment of the culvert projects billing.

RESOLVED, That the Town Board has authorized the transfer in the total amount of **\$25,496.05** to cover the current cost of the project contract billing from Highway Storm Drain Reserves.

RESOLVED, that this Resolution shall take effect immediately.

Roll Call:		<u>YES</u>	<u>NO</u>
	Kregg Bruno	x	
	James Douglass	x	
	Eric Duquette	x	
	Mel Irwin	x	
	Craig Randall	x	

Carried: 5 Ayes 0 Noes

DISCUSSION/MOTION: Interim Uniform Reimbursement for Highway Department

Mr. Farrell wants to set up a certain allotment of \$200.00 for his six employees until the end of this year. There has been an ongoing issue with the current contracted company (Unifirst) for never getting the correct size and length of pants for the employees. This allotment will allow each individual to get the correct fit and also save the Town money. Mr. Favro checked to make sure that we have just cause to back out of the contract.

Motion by Mr. Bruno seconded; by Mr. Duquette to accept the interim uniform reimbursement for the Highway Department. **Ayes 5 Noes 0**

Other Business

Ms. Barber acquired information on funding of the highway culvert projects. The cost will be over a 30 year period in the approximate amount of \$4,892,680. Funding these projects will be determined by the timing of the project start period. Suggestion of BANS be issued to start the projects until all projects are ready to go out for bid. When everything is in place the BANS will turn into Bonds and we are looking at a start date sometime in 2025.

Ms. Barber stated the problem lies with where we would be getting the funds to currently cover the cost until we get the BAN or BONDS. The Highway Dept. is being strapped with the cost of the current culvert problems. Mr. Randall replied that the Board would get together to figure this out.

Mr. Guynup mentioned that the Lake Champlain - Lake George Regional Planning Board would be scheduling a meeting to get possible funding. Mr. Guynup is asking for a committee to get together to update the Comprehensive Plan for the Town. The plan has not been updated since 2013. The plan should be done before updating the new Planning and Zoning law.

DISCUSSION: Public Comments on Agenda Items Only

Mr. John Roberts asked if the Fuller Road project is currently in the detour. Mr. Gibbs said no, it is at the opposite end near Remillard Farm.

Mrs. Langlois asked why the agenda was changed and had another item listed that was not online and why the public weren't informed before the meeting started. Mr. Randall said that sometimes an item of importance needs to be added to the agenda that has come in at the last minute and there is no time to put it online.

Mr. Roberts also asked why the Executive Session was put on the agenda when there was no Executive Session. Ms. Barber tried to answer but was cut off by Mr. Roberts as he said he was addressing the Board. Mr. Randall answered that sometimes it is needed. It is more convenient to have on the agenda in case it is needed.

RESOLUTION NUMBER: 2024.09.23-4

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

MOTION: Mr. Douglass SECOND: Mr. Bruno

WHEREAS, the Town Board has reviewed and audited the following claims, bills and invoices for services rendered and goods provided to the Town in September 2024:

From Town of Peru Vouchers for September 2024; #202401264 through and including #202401342

Abstract dated: 9/19/2024.

For the dollar amount totaling: \$294,241.01; of that, \$15,585.13 was wired, credit cards and prepaid; and \$278,655.88 is remaining to be paid for September.

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>
	Kregg Bruno	x	
	James Douglass	x	
	Eric Duquette	x	
	Mel Irwin	x	
	Craig Randall	x	

Carried: 5 Ayes 0 Noes

MOTION: by Mr. Douglass seconded by Mr. Bruno to adjourn the regular meeting at 7:05PM.

Carried: 5 Ayes 0 Noes