

RESOLUTION TO NAME STATE ROUTE 34B BRIDGE AFTER PETER WHEELER

RESOLUTION 24-

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The following Resolution was duly presented for consideration by the Town Board:

WHEREAS, Peter Wheeler was born into slavery in New Jersey in 1789, and

WHEREAS, Peter Wheeler, at the age of eleven, was separated from his family, sold to Gideon Morehouse, and moved to Ludlowville, NY, and

WHEREAS, Peter Wheeler suffered brutal treatment at the hands of Gideon Morehouse who held him in bondage, and

WHEREAS, the property where Peter Wheeler was held in slavery was adjacent to the NYS Route 34B bridge over Salmon Creek, and

WHEREAS, Peter Wheeler found support and aid from abolitionist neighbors in Ludlowville, including Thomas and Henry Ludlow, two of the brothers for whom the hamlet is named, and

WHEREAS, with the assistance of the daughter of Gideon Morehouse, the man holding him in slavery in Ludlowville, Peter Wheeler escaped from the bonds of slavery, and went on to live as a free-man, and

WHEREAS, on November 20, 2019, the Lansing Town Board passed a resolution, condemning Lansing's history of enslaving people, honoring Peter Wheeler and authorizing a plaque recognizing Peter Wheeler to be placed in Ludlowville Park, and

WHEREAS, on August 28, 2020, William G. Pomeroy Foundation awarded the Town of Lansing a grant for a historic marker about Peter Wheeler at Ludlowville Park, and

WHEREAS, a dedication ceremony was held on June 19, 2021, for the new NYS Historic Roadside marker commemorating Peter Wheeler, and

WHEREAS, at the August 1, 2022, ribbon cutting ceremony to open the NYS Route 34B bridge, NYS DOT Commissioner Dominguez mentioned that the bridge needs a name, and

WHEREAS, the only responses to Commissioner Dominguez's suggestion were requests to name the bridge for Peter Wheeler, and

WHEREAS, upon request of the Lansing Historical Association by the Lansing Town Board to suggest a name for the bridge, none was sent forward, and

WHEREAS, upon a review and discussion of the matter, the Town Board of the Town of Lansing has hereby RESOLVED as follows:

1. The Town of Lansing supports the naming of the NYS Route 34B bridge after Peter Wheeler, and
2. That a copy of this resolution be sent to Governor Kathy Hochul, Senator Lea Webb and Assemblymember Dr. Anna Kelles.

The question of the adoption of such proposed Resolution was duly motioned by Councilperson _____, duly seconded by Councilperson _____, and put to a roll call vote with the following results:

Councilperson Judy Drake –	Councilperson Laurie Hemmings –
Councilperson Christine Montague –	Councilperson Joseph Wetmore –
Supervisor Ruth Groff –	

Accordingly, the foregoing Resolution was approved, carried, and duly adopted on April 17, 2024.