



# THE ULTIMATE GUIDE TO WHAT'S HAPPENING IN PERU



August 2018 / Volume 3







## MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR

As your Mayor, I am fortunate to have such a great workforce. In this year's message from the Mayor, I would like to recognize the hard-working employees in the City of

Peru. Running this city with a 50-million-dollar budget is not an easy task. As with any business or government, you are only as good as your employees. You must recognize the vast amount of moving parts that go into making our great city. It's a blend of departments, committees, business and organizations working together to achieve a common goal: a safe, thriving, happy community that we can all be proud of. And of course, at the heart of this goal are our people – our citizens, our staff, our business owners and our neighbors.

Every day as we interact with one another it is easy to remember that we are all working towards one common goal, the betterment of Peru. I will explain the pieces and parts, City of Peru Government working for you.

Our public works department is responsible for managing our water, sewer, streets and parks. Our electric department installs and maintains the equipment to deliver reasonably priced reliable electricity. Our police department patrols our neighborhoods, responds to emergency calls, arrests violators and investigates crime to ensure we are safe in our community. Our fire department responds to calls for fires, crashes, chemical spills, rescues and emergency medical services. Our municipal building staff perform a variety of services and operations including the city clerk's office

in charge of utility billing and collections, building and zoning reviews, approving or recommending modifications for building in our ever-changing community expansion, engineering, planning, preparing and implementing our road, water and sewer projects, human resources, negotiating contracts and monitoring the ever-changing world of health insurance. The finance department prepares and manages our 50-million-dollar budget, provides financial forecasts for the future and well-being for the City of Peru and its residents for years to come. Our City of Peru elected officials, and board members volunteer their time and energy representing constituents and the city. All those mentioned above are, in short, the people who maintain and improve the systems and services vital to the community's health, safety and well-being.

The dedication displayed in these departments and boards, as well as the interaction with one another towards one common goal, to make Peru a great place to Live, Work, Shop and Dine. Observe the town as an outsider and see the residents making improvements to their homes, the business owners expanding their operations, the new and newly remodeled schools, our improved recreation and parks, our fantastic library, the neighborhoods, and Peru as a whole, you will see Pride in our community.

I am proud to say we are all working, both independently and together, to keep our city strong and flourishing. I am very proud to be your mayor and to be a part of a city that works together to accomplish this common goal. Peru Pride!

Thank You  
Mayor Scott J. Harl

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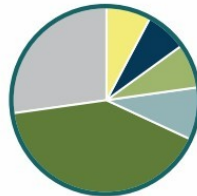
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# ALEX KASZYNSKI

## A Veteran of World War II and the Peru Electric Department

As he looked down at his hands, Alex Kaszynski reminisced. Those hands carried army gear during World War II, played a Hammond Electric Organ at the portable roller rink on the west end of Peru, dug ditches for the Peru Water Department and post holes for the Peru Electric Department, held the hands of his wife and carried his three children.

One of eight children, Kaszynski was born at St. Mary's Hospital in LaSalle and grew up in Peru. "I've been here all my life," he said, except for the years he served in the war. Wearing his Purple Heart hat, Kaszynski recalled, "It wasn't easy. I was one of six brothers in World War II. They cleaned our house out."

After completing basic training in Texas, he returned to Peru for a brief 10-day furlough before being shipped out to the Pacific. "It was February 17th, 1945 at 10:30 a.m.," said Kaszynski of the day he suffered serious leg injuries caused by bomb shrapnel in Luzon, Philippines.

He was evacuated by airplane to the small island of Leyte to recuperate at an army hospital. Kaszynski was unable to walk for nearly six months. Once he recovered, he returned to his original unit and continued his service until he was discharged from the army at the age of twenty-three. Kaszynski and all five of his brothers returned home safely from the war, fulfilling his father's greatest wish.

"It took a while to get adjusted to civilian life," said Kaszynski. Upon returning home, he played a Hammond Electric Organ at the portable roller rink which was located at the west end of Peru. "I play by ear," he said. "I never read a note I my life, but I could sure play." When the roller rink moved to Michigan City, Indiana, Kaszynski went along and continued playing the organ for a summer. While the owner wanted him to stay, Kaszynski told him "I'm looking for my future."

As it would turn out, his future was back in Peru where he received a city job as a laborer, married his wife and together they raised their three children.

"I was hired through the water department and stayed there for quite a while," said Kaszynski. He explained the process for digging water line trenches was done using picks, shovels and bars. "At that time, there were no backhoes," he said. "It was all by hand."

Eventually, Kaszynski moved to the electric department and literally learned the trade from the ground up. "There were about four of us in the electric department. Three guys would be climbing the poles and I



would be the guy tying on their material," Kaszynski said of the pulley system used to transfer tools and materials up and down the poles.

Like digging trenches for water lines, post holes were also dug using shovels and iron bars, fighting through dirt, rock and sometimes frost to reach the depth needed to set the pole. "It made a man out of me – three post holes was a day's work," said Kaszynski. "I learned the trade – you learned everything. After a while, we started putting spurs on and learned how to climb poles. We learned about electricity and how to respect the high voltage."

He would ultimately pass that knowledge onto his son, Kye Kaszynski, who began working for the city during his summer vacations from high school. "I would teach him the trade little by little," said Kaszynski. "I've seen a lot of people come and go, but him and I stuck it out. Kye is in charge of everything now with the electric department."

Kaszynski recalled the electrical advancements he's witnessed over the years, from digging post holes by hand to the introduction of city's first bucket truck to the opening of the Hydro Electric Plant at Starved Rock Dam. "Nothing stays the same," he said.

Retired since 1987, Kaszynski relishes the many years he was able to enjoy with his wife who passed away in 2016. And these days, he is happiest spending time with his children, grandchildren and his cat, Lucky. Once in a while, he even breaks out the tonette flute, harmonica or button accordion to play some of his favorite polka music.

As for the electric department, Kaszynski continues to observe and discuss progress with his son, Kye, who is now the general foreman. "I'm oudated," he said. "but I left them in good hands."





## SERGEANT JASON BROKAW

**Not to be forgotten!**

This past year, we saw family, friends and fellow law enforcement and emergency services personnel gather to pay their final respects to Peru Police Sergeant Jason Brokaw who passed away on August 8, 2017 following a courageous battle with a medical condition.

Sergeant Brokaw began his career at the Granville Police Department followed by tenures at the Bureau County Sheriff's Department and the Spring Valley Police Department. He joined the Peru Police Department in 2008 where he was soon promoted to a leadership position as patrol sergeant.

Throughout his career, Jason performed his duties admirably. His common-sense approach and his genuine respect for others served him, his community and all of us very well.

The men and women of the Peru Police Department extend their utmost appreciation to the law enforcement and emergency services who participated in the funeral services and to the many citizens along the procession route that displayed the highest respect to Jason and his family. Words cannot express how much it meant to all of us and the Brokaw family.

**Following, we share comments spoken by  
Peru Police Chief Doug Bernabei at the memorial  
service for Sergeant Brokaw:**

Good morning everyone. I stand before you today with a heavy heart. It is never easy to say goodbye to someone who meant so much too so many people. But this much is clear as we do say

goodbye, we have lost a family man, a son, a brother, a friend, a colleague, a very talented police officer and an avid motorcycle rider. We have lost a true cubs fan and a dedicated public servant – again, we have lost a good man.

Because of my individual faith, I believe Jason Brokaw lives on. And I hope you do as well. He may not live on in this world as we know it, but he lives on in the deeds he performed, in our thoughts and in our feelings, and the memories of him that we all hold dear.

So, I say to all of you, please cherish that special relationship you had with Jason. Yes, he may have affected us all in different ways, but I know that his impact was and is very special to each of us. Over the past eighteen months and then especially over the past week I have spent much time reflecting back on my own relationship with Jason both that personal and professional relationship.

When I did, I remembered years ago first hearing reports about a new Bureau County deputy sheriff who was out protecting the people of his county. I remembered hearing about his well-earned reputation in the local law enforcement community. I recalled his reputation for being a hard worker, for wanting every case, every arrest he made to be better than the last one. I remembered when I first asked Jason to join us at the Spring Valley Police Department. I remember when he said yes. I recalled how after he came to SVPD that we all learned very quickly how lucky we were to get him as one of ours.

**CONTINUED ON PG 5**



# ELECTRIC DEPARTMENT & PUBLIC WORKS PROJECTS

The City of Peru Electric Department and Public Works Department are never at a loss of projects to work on. Here are just a few that took place within last year:

## Electric Department:

- Replaced sixty damaged or rotten wood power poles.
- Installed new 45' steel poles, LED lighting and new underground wiring on Commerce Drive.
- Installed overhead flashing stop lights at the Plank Road and Commerce Drive intersection.
- Put \$267,00 in upgrades at two of the city substations to help minimize power outages, including electronic relays, hot line tag and more.
- Installed new LED lighting in city's downtown parking lots and lighting for the new splash pad.
- Rebuild of Unit 1 at the Hydro Plant at Starved Rock.
- Built a new 3-phase high-line north on Plank Road to the new Northern White Sands facility.
- Completed all work to the Northern Partners Coop located on the west side of town.
- Set a new 2000 KVH transformer at LP High School and acquired the right to supply the rest of LP High School's electricity needs. Previously, half was taken care of by City of Peru and the other half was handled by Ameren.
- Started the new AMI Metering System (Advanced Metering Infrastructure). The goal of AMI is to provide utility companies with real time data about power consumption.
- Installed new lights at the Washington Park Senior League Diamond.



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## Public Works Department:

- Repaired more than sixty water main breaks.
- Chipped more than 340 piles of branches.
- Serviced and maintained more than sixty miles of road with pothole repairs, leaf pick up, street sweeping and snow plowing.
- Installed water service lines at the new splash pad.
- Continued the project of replacing of the city's street signs.
- Performed routine repair and maintenance of city sewers, catch basins, manholes and lift stations.
- Performed upkeep on city buildings, grounds and parks.
- Prepared the city baseball and softball field diamonds.
- Maintained the cemetery grounds and provided grave preparation for cemetery burials.
- Performed semi-annual flushing of the city's 500+ fire hydrants.



# BUILDING & ZONING

## Re-structuring the Building Department

The City of Peru Building Department has had some significant changes in 2017 and more to come in 2018. The Building Department has been integrated into the "Engineering & Zoning Department", overseen by City Engineer Eric Carls. Tyler Dobrich was hired as city building inspector in September of 2017, a position which was previously held by Public Services Manager and Fire Chief, Jeff King. Due to significant rises in building permits and commercial construction over the last few years, it was necessary to expand the department and have more focus on the permitting and plan approval process. In addition to the departments restructuring, the city will begin updating its family of adopted building codes, including codes such as: the International Building Code, Property Maintenance Code, Residential Code, and Fire Code to name a few.

## New Face

Tyler Dobrich is a 2012 graduate of St. Bede Academy and a 2016 graduate of Illinois State University, with a Bachelor's Degree in Construction Management. Tyler has already completed training in Plan Reviews and will continue to attend trainings to stay up-to-date with the latest national code revisions. Tyler is looking forward to helping improve the department and the City of Peru. The City of Peru is very excited to have Mr. Dobrich as part of our team.

## New Codes

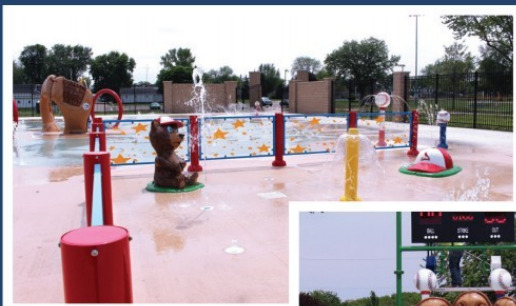
The City of Peru adopted the 2003 International Building Code in January of 2006 and currently is in the process of updating to the 2018 family of building codes. Prior to implementing the code



updates the city is planning to host a series of public outreach meetings to educate the citizens and local contractors.

The city is also a member of the International Code Council, who develops "codes and standards used in the design, build and compliance process to construct safe, sustainable, affordable and resilient structures in the built environment." As a member, the city can purchase the codes and modify them as needed prior to adopting them through an ordinance. If a municipality were to develop their own codes and standards, it would be very costly and time consuming. Adopting the ICC's International Building Codes also offers uniformity with surrounding towns and boosts growth.

# SPLASH PARK PROGRESS UPDATE



The City of Peru celebrated the grand opening of Splash Field at Washington Park on June 25th and fans of all ages have been enjoying the baseball-themed splash park ever since! The new park at the old site of Washington School will be home to one of the largest splash pads in the Midwest. Residents will be able to reserve one of the four shelters within the splash field gates for summer parties or picnics.



In the spring of 2018, the city agreed to work with a local non-for-profit organization to bring a regulation size outdoor hockey rink to east side of the park. The rink will turn a seasonal park into a year-round attraction. In the summer months, the rink will be home to a number of activities, such as basketball, roller hockey and pickleball. In the winter months, the rink will be utilized for ice hockey, skating, and family skate nights. The City of Peru is proud of the two unique community attractions being constructed for a 2018 opening.



## SERGEANT JASON BROKAW *Continued*

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After moving over to Peru, I again sought out Jason. I did so because I knew he would be a person I could always count on. I did so because I knew the type of man he was. I did so because he was good.

Jason was initially reluctant to make another career move, but finally I wore him down and in 2008, he joined the PPD. As I knew, in short order he shined, became at least in my view a rising star, and quickly moved into a leadership position as a police sergeant. He no doubt made an indelible mark on all of us at PPD.

For all those in law enforcement who knew Jason, I know that we also saw something special in his wit, his dry, some would say different sense of humor and really his outlook on the life. So, I say Jason's entire law enforcement family – from Granville to all of Bureau County and all points in between and to those of us who worked with Jason at the Peru Police Department – please, be happy today. It is okay to be happy today because we can celebrate the fact that we knew Jason and he knew us. Remember how lucky we were to be part of his life and he part of ours. When we do so, we will be happy and count our blessings.

To Jason's family and to those closest to him. I say treasure your life with Jason. Treasure the good and loving things about him. Also, accept and understand any struggles that may have come along his journey, which as we all know is just a natural part of this thing we all call life. Deb, Barb, George, to his brother Eric, his grandma Marion and to the others that were so close to Jason, please accept all of our deepest sympathies for your loss. Please know though that because of Jason, we are all better people and we know you all are as well. Thank you for sharing him with us.

To Jason's children, Hayleigh and Cal. I simply can't do justice in sharing with the two of you what you meant to your dad, so I will not even try. What I will do though is simply tell you this. Your

dad loved you very much. He worried about you and he wanted simply the best for you. But I think you already knew that. Kids, treasure your memories. Treasure the relationship that you had with your dad. They are yours to hold onto and to cherish. Always remember that only the two of you are lucky enough to have called Jason Brokaw "dad."

To everyone here today, family and friends alike I think we all probably would know that Jason had his faith tested during his life. Jason's faith was surely tested having lost the father he never knew and to losing his sister Brooke whom Jason was sure to protect as she grew more into her own adult life. All of us can have our faith tested. That is okay. That is normal; but please make no mistake about something, Jason Brokaw drew each of us in for a reason.

Jason Brokaw was awesome – for a reason. Jason made us laugh – sometimes, he even made us cringe – for a reason. He always made us welcome – for a reason. In my faith, I believe that God wanted it that way – for a reason. If so, it is fair then to ask, "Then why do bad things happen to good people?" That is a difficult question to answer. I pray the answers are because: Good people bring us closer to our Lord. Good people gather many friends. Good people impact lives and because I believe good people carry through on God's plan!

Jason Brokaw can now help all of us to live on in our own lives. I have no doubt he will guide and protect us from above. Thank you all for being part of Jason's life and letting him be part of yours. God bless Jason Brokaw and God bless all of us!

Thank you!  
Chief Douglas P. Bernabei  
Peru Police Department





## In Memorium

# 'HE WAS DEFINITELY A FRIEND TO THE CITY OF PERU'

## 'Navy Bob' Ankiewicz dead at 72

Tom Collins, Ben Hohenstatt May 1, 2018

Reprinted with permission of the News Tribune

They called him Navy Bob for his many years of service to Uncle Sam. And if you've ever been to a veterans event in Peru, there's a good chance he put it together.

Former Peru city alderman, businessman and longtime veterans advocate Robert J. Ankiewicz Sr. died Monday at his daughter's home in Morris. He was 72.

"When you think of Bob you think of family, country, community," said Dave Potthoff, a Peru alderman and longtime friend. "Those are the things he exemplified.

"Bob was a joke a minute, and he was a fun guy to be around. Bob enjoyed life."

Ankiewicz was remembered as Mr. Everything in Peru. He was a successful businessman who owned the former Ankiewicz Deli & Dairy, a longtime servant of the people on the Peru City Council (1999-2013), and noted veterans activist who assembled the Pearl Harbor parade, among many other events.

Tributes poured in Monday from all corners of Peru, beginning at the Peru City Council meeting, during which a moment of silence was observed.

"This morning we lost one of our own," said Peru alderman Dave Waldorf, a friend and admirer.

"When I first became an alderman, he took me under his wing. He showed me what to do, and sometimes what not to do. But it was always educational, and he taught me a lot, and I will miss him.

"He was my friend, he was our friend, and he was definitely a friend to the city of Peru."

Ankiewicz retired from the U.S. Navy in 1999 after a 33-year career, including a distinguished career as a recruiter.

Among the most successful candidates he identified was Sue Whitman, a Piety Hill native who in 2015 was promoted to fleet master chief of the U.S. Pacific Fleet. She became the senior enlisted female in the U.S. Navy.

"He was genuine and he cared for sailors and families even while he was active and he continued on in his retirement," said Whitman, now retired from the service.

"I considered him a friend, a mentor and a brother."

There were few civic efforts to which Ankiewicz did not at some point dedicate his time. Ankiewicz served with many civic and service groups including Peru American Legion Post 375 and the Peru Veterans Memorial Group, of which he had been commander, as well as

the Peru Ambulance Board, which he chaired. He was a school board member and an active parishioner at St. Joseph Church, Peru.

Jack Landgraf, a Peru resident and longtime friend, worked closely with Ankiewicz on the Peru Citizens Service Organization of which Ankiewicz was past president. Ankiewicz always threw himself tirelessly into any community project to which he was attached, but had a special love for veterans.

"He spent a lot of time at the veterans home and made sure they had gifts at Christmastime and recruited guys to help pass them out," Landgraf said. "He was blessed, but he got what he gave. The community was good to him and he was good to the community. He believed in paying it forward."

Mueller Funeral Home, Peru, is handling arrangements for Ankiewicz.

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# PERU IN REVIEW

City projects are just like many home improvement projects in that some give your home a visible facelift, while others are necessary to keep everything in good working order and running smoothly. Below are just a few of the infrastructure projects the city has been working on.

## INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS

### SEWER SEPARATION

Work on the multi-year IEPA mandated sewer separation project continued on Peoria Street from Fourth Street to Eighth Street in 2017. This year's construction area is from Rt. 6 to Third Street on Putnam Street, Third Street from Putnam Street to Grant Street, and Second Street from Putnam Street to West Street.

### EAST WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT CLARIFIER IMPROVEMENTS

An IEPA required project, both of the city's fifty+ year-old clarifiers (which clean sewage) will be replaced by the end of the calendar year. The lifespan of a clarifier is normally around the fifty-year mark.

### MCKINLEY PARK CONCESSION STAND

Fans and softball players were treated to a new concession stand at McKinley Park, which opened this spring.

### GROUND STORAGE TANK PAINTING

The interior and exterior painting of the ground storage tank on North Peoria Street was completed.

### MAUSOLEUM REHABILITATION

The very first major renovation to the eighty+ year old structure included: roof repairs, extensive marble work, stained glass window rehab, installation of new electrical equipment and a new ventilation system to provide better climate control – which will help deter future moisture-related problems.

### MFT PROGRAM

This annual program focuses on road improvements, including resurfacing and curb and gutter work. Last year's project included



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Marquette Road and Pulaski Street. While work in 2018 includes: Rock Street north of Shooting Park Road and Plum Street north of Sunset Drive.

### PLANK ROAD/COMMERCE DRIVE

Commerce Drive, a one-way westbound roadway, opened in fall 2017. This new drive, along with the realignment of May Road and improvements to Plank Road, were designed to address traffic congestion in the area. Because the project was part of a development agreement between Northern White Sand, OmniTRAX, and the city, it was completed at no cost to the city.

### MARATHON GAS DEMO

The vacant gas station was demolished to make room for a new downtown parking lot.

### EPA MANDATED SEWER SYSTEM MAPPING

This IEPA-mandated project included the mapping of the entire sewer system to both water treatment plants. Every manhole cover in the city was opened in order to complete the inventory of more than 4,600 pipes and structures.

### GENERAL FUND STREET PROGRAM

Annually, this program includes street improvement projects in all four wards and consists of various curb and gutter improvements, sidewalk removals and replacements and resurfacing of roads.

### SPLASH PAD PARK

Site work, infrastructure, building, sidewalk, fencing, and equipment installation have been underway since the groundbreaking in the spring of 2017. The baseball-themed splash pad opened in the summer of 2018.

### ST. JOHN'S STORM SEWER IMPROVEMENTS

Installation of storm sewer in St. John's subdivision on Crescent Drive and Manor Lane, along with the cul-de-sacs in both areas. The water main will also be replaced along Crescent Drive.

### NORTH PEORIA STREET WATER MAIN IMPROVEMENTS

The main feeder line will be replaced beginning at the Y-intersection at Plank Road and North Peoria Street continuing to just north of Wenzel Road. Construction is scheduled for the fall of 2018.



**Fast Fact:**

The city collects 4% of the overall property tax bill. In other words, the city's share of every property tax dollar spent is 4¢.

**Property Tax Breakdown**

City of Peru • 0.04

All Remaining Taxing Bodies • 0.96

**Fast Fact**

Moody's Investor Service upgraded the city of Peru's general obligation unlimited tax (GOULT) rating to Aa3 from A1, affecting \$10.6 million in outstanding debt. The upgrade to Aa3 reflects the city's healthy financial position supported by the financial flexibility derived from its home-rule status. Also incorporated is the city's modestly-sized tax base with an average demographic profile and manageable debt burden. The city's pension burden is elevated, but contribution practices are solid while fixed costs remain relatively low.

**DEBT**

Total debt payments in FY19 are budgeted to be \$2,787,316 with \$2,428,123 in principal payments and the remaining \$359,193 in interest payments.

Want to know what Fiscal Year 2019 holds? Find copies of the Financial Budget online at [peru.il.us](http://peru.il.us)

## PERU EVENTS



[peru.il.us](http://peru.il.us) 12



# BUDGET BRIEFING

Each year, the city's financial budget is prepared by the city finance officer and city staff. The city has two major funds – the General Fund and the Utility Fund. These two major funds, along with a few of the minor funds, are outlined below.

## GENERAL FUND

The city's General Fund is essential to provide basic services to citizens and is primarily generated from "use" taxes.

### Fast Fact:

The city's General Fund revenues are primarily generated from "use" taxes, including sales tax and home rule sales tax. Combined, these two use taxes account for 68% of the city's projected fiscal year 2019 revenue.

### Where does the money come from?

The city's major "use" taxes are sales tax and home rule sales tax with the remaining revenues coming from the city's share of the State of Illinois Income Tax, a 4% franchise fee on electrical sales and various small revenues categorized as other income.

### Where does the money go?

Budgeted expenditures for the General Fund are split between nine main areas.

Two of those main areas include:

#### Infrastructure

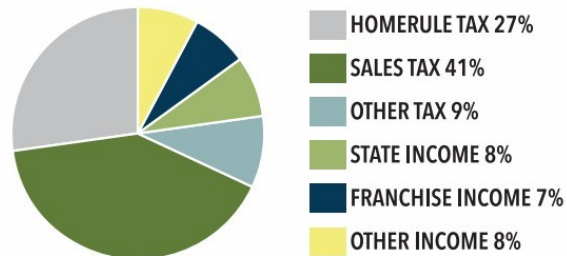
Some of the major General Fund Infrastructure projects for fiscal year 2018 included the Baseball Themed Splash Pad and the Cemetery Mausoleum Rehabilitation. Fiscal year 2019 projects include: the Street Resurfacing Program and replacement of the Fire Department Roof.

Additional infrastructure investments included the sidewalk and curb improvement program, remodeling and building improvements, commercial upgrades and property demos. Half of the home rule sales tax is also dedicated to the city's obligation in Parkside School's construction bond.

#### Payroll, Taxes, and Benefits

The city employs 69 full-time and 45 part-time personnel, along with approximately 43 seasonal part-time personnel. These employees

work in a variety of areas including police, fire, administrative, engineering and zoning, electric, and public works departments. The city recently welcomed a new police officer, code enforcement officer, and building inspector.



## UTILITY FUND

Three years ago, the Water and Sewer Fund and the Electric Light Fund were merged to create the Utility Fund, which allows for utility infrastructure upgrades.

### Where does the money come from?

Utility Fund revenues are driven by electricity, water and sewer sales. Other revenues make up less than 2% of the remaining income.

### Where does the money go?

The Utility Fund needs to fund all costs required to operate the water and sewer and electric utilities. The purchase of electricity is the largest Utility Fund expenditure, budgeted at 53% for Fiscal Year 2019. Infrastructure improvements, budgeted at 13%, are the next largest expenditure.

### Fast Fact:

**Q:** Why were the Water and Sewer Fund and the Electric Light Fund merged into the Utility Fund in FY17?

**A:** While separated, the Electric Light Fund had the needed cash flow to fund all of its projects while the Water and Sewer Fund had to let needed projects wait until funding was available. Combining these two funds into the Utility Fund allows better prioritization of utility infrastructure improvements which in turn provides better overall utilities for citizens.

CONTINUED ON PGS 11-12



# CITY OF PERU BOIL ORDERS

Generally speaking, a boil order is a public advisory to boil the tap water before drinking and other human consumption uses. Boil orders are precautionary measures issued to protect public health from the possible exposure to waterborne infectious agents.

The city's water system is regulated by the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA). IEPA requires public water systems to issue a boil order when the water pressure drops below 20 psi. The city notifies water consumers to boil all water used for drinking or culinary purposes for five minutes before consumption. Boiling water for five minutes kills bacteria so the water is safe to consume. The boil order remains in effect until tested samples demonstrate that the water is safe, or until IEPA-approved corrective action is taken.

Under most circumstances, these orders are just a precautionary measure following work on a water main. Boil orders usually impact a limited area (i.e. a particular street or subdivision). In these cases, paper notices are typically delivered to the affected properties. While most boil orders impact a small area, it is possible a boil order on a larger scale is required. When appropriate the City of Peru will notify local media outlets of the information and make notifications on the city website [atperu.il.us](http://atperu.il.us) and Facebook page at City of Peru, Illinois Offices. In extreme wide spread situation, the City of Peru Code Red system will be activated.

In some instances, the need for a boil order is known in advance due to planned maintenance. However, it is more common for a boil order to be unplanned because it is in response to a water main break.

Boil orders issued by the city apply only to City of Peru water users.

## GUIDELINES FOR RESIDENTIAL WATER USE DURING A BOIL WATER ORDER

During a boil water order, residential users of affected public water supplies should take the following measures to protect themselves from consuming potentially contaminated water: Bottled water should be used for drinking, cooking, washing fresh fruits/vegetables, hand washing and tooth brushing.

The affected tap water should be used for these purposes only after it has been brought to a rolling boil for five minutes.

The affected tap water may be used for washing dishes if a dishwashing machine is used. If dishes are hand washed, boiled or bottled water should be used. The affected tap water may be used if the clean dishes are immersed for at least one minute in a sink of water to which on full tablespoon of regular household bleach has been added. The affected tap water may be used for bathing and/or showering.

The affected tap water may be used for household cleaning. NOTE: If the tap water is cloudy and/or contains particles, bottled water should be used.

### FAQ:

#### DURING A BOIL ORDER CAN I USE MY TAP WATER FOR...

- **Drinking?** No
- **Ice Cubes?** No
- **Brushing teeth?** No
- **Baby's formula?** No
- **Washing fruit/vegetables?** No
- **Preparing food?** No
- **Coffee, tea, lemonade, etc.?** No
- **Laundry?** Yes
- **Watering grass or garden?** Yes

#### • **Washing Hands?**

It is recommended that you wash your hands using soap and either bottled water or pre-bottled water. An alcohol-based hand sanitizer may also be used.

#### • **Showers / Baths?**

The risk of bathing or showering in tap water is uncertain and so should be avoided, particularly by people with open wounds or who are immunocompromised. For those people who choose to shower or bathe in the tap water, minimize the time spent in the water and be sure to keep your eyes and mouth closed. Babies and young children should not bathe or shower in tap water because they often swallow some water accidentally.

#### • **Washing Dishes?**

No, it is recommended that you wash your dishes using soap and either bottled water or pre-boiled water (or an automatic dishwasher).

#### **After the boil water order is lifted or water service resumes, these precautionary measures should be followed:**

1. Flush the buildings water lines and clean faucet screens.
2. Purge the water-using fixtures and appliances of standing water and ice, such as refrigerator icemakers or coffee makers.

**Questions regarding a City of Peru boil order may be directed to 815-223-0061.**



## BUDGET BRIEFING – FISCAL YEAR 2018 *Continued*

Utility Fund capital improvement projects include:

### **Sewer Separation**

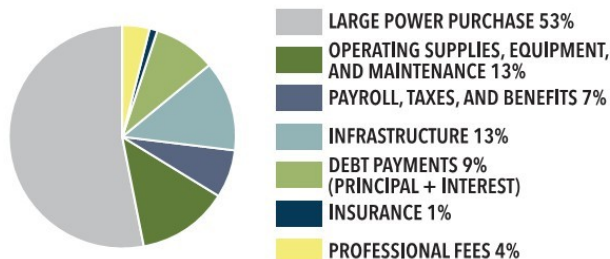
Annually, the largest infrastructure investment is the Environmental Protection Agency's mandated sewer separation project. The project is a twenty-year plan, concluding in 2029, that separates storm and sanitary sewers. The city has already invested \$12.5 million into the separation and has \$17.5 million remaining. Work last year encompassed Peoria Street from 8th Street to U.S. Rt. 6, while this year's project will focus on Putnam Street from U.S. Rt. 6 to Third Street, Third Street from Putnam to Grant, and Second Street from Putnam to West Street.

### **Waste Water Treatment Plant Clarifier**

Beginning in November of 2017, the project to replace two clarifiers located at the east wastewater treatment facility got underway. The Illinois Environmental Protection Agency mandated project should wrap up by year's end.

### **Electric Line Truck**

The additional line truck allows for the city's electric department to have two separate teams for responding to electrical needs. The electrical upgrades will lead to shorter analysis time, improved safety and less outages.



### **LANDFILL FUND (MINOR FUND)**

The city owned and operated a landfill south of the Illinois River. The landfill is now closed and continues to undergo closure procedures and incur costs associated with those procedures.

#### **Where does the money come from?**

The majority of landfill revenues are from monthly assessment charges.

#### **Where does the money go?**

The revenue is restricted to the purposes of closing the landfill, third party recycling, and yard waste contracts.

### **AIRPORT FUND**

The city owns a two-runway airport which serves local pilots, commercial businesses and emergency entities.

#### **Where does the money come from?**

The primary source of revenue are hangar rental and farm cash rent. The airport owns the grounds surrounding the facility and rents the area to local farmers.

#### **Where does the money go?**

While it is not a cash outflow, the largest expenditure for the airport is depreciation. Repairs and maintenance of the airport make up the majority of the remaining expenditures.

#### **Fast Fact:**

Large infrastructure projects for the airport are largely funded through the Department of Aeronautics at the State and Federal levels.

### **POLICE AND FIRE PENSION FUND**

The city and police and fire department pension fund members make contributions toward the Police and Fire Pension Fund.

#### **Where does the money come from?**

The majority of the revenue for the city's pension funds are from General Fund transfers. The remaining revenues are from property tax, member contributions and investment income.

#### **Where does the money go?**

Pension benefits and administrative fees are the primary expenditures of the pension funds.

#### **Fast Fact:**

Many local and state governments face the issue of Police and Fire Pension funding. The city is focused on contributing to both pensions and increasing fund ratios. In FY18, 100% of the city's property tax levy will be transferred toward the police and firefighters' pensions.

### **PROPERTY TAXES**

Property tax bills are inclusive of all taxing bodies related to the taxpayer's parcel. A common misconception is that a raise in the tax rate levied by the city is the percent increase to the total bill. An increase or decrease would be proportionate to the prior year rate of the respective taxing body.

#### **Fast Fact:**

Property taxes levied upon citizens are not used for the daily operational purposes of the city. The city funds daily operations, infrastructure improvements and debt retirement with "use" tax revenues including sales tax and home rule sales tax.





City of Peru  
1901 4th St, Peru, IL 61354

PRST STD  
ECRWSS  
U.S. POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
EDDM Retail

\*\*\*\*\*ECRWSS\*\*\*\*\*

Local  
Postal Customer

## YOUR A-Z GUIDE OF COMMUNITY CONTACT INFORMATION.

### PERU CITY PHONE NUMBERS

**Ambulance (emergency)**  
911

**Ambulance (non-emergency)**  
815-223-9111

**Building & Zoning Inspector**  
815-223-1148, ext. 4

**Cemetery Office**  
815-223-0061

**Chipping Service**  
815-223-2962

**Citizen Concerns**  
Call your Alderman

**City Clerk's Office**  
815-223-0061

**Community Service Officer**  
779-201-5434

**Electric Department**  
815-223-0044

**Electric Department**  
(non-emergency,  
answering machine)  
815-223-1852

**Electric Department**  
(out of power)  
815-223-0044

**Engineering Department**  
815-224-6020

**Fire Department**  
(non-emergency)  
815-224-2141

**Illinois Valley Regional Airport**  
815-223-2003

**Library**  
815-223-0229

**Mayor's Office**  
815-223-1148, ext. 3

**Police Department**  
(emergency)  
911

**Police Department**  
(non-emergency)  
815-223-2151

**Public Information**  
815-223-0061

**Recreation Director**  
815-681-8600

**Republic Services**  
(Garbage & Recycling Pickup)  
815-434-2035

**Schweickert & Ganassin**  
(Corporate Counsel)  
815-223-0177

**Street Light Outage**  
815-223-0044

**Street Maintenance**  
815-223-2962

**Public Works**  
815-223-2962

**Utility Customer Services**  
815-223-0061

**Water & Sewer Interruptions**  
815-223-2962

**Website**  
peru.il.us

### IMPORTANT COMMUNITY PHONE NUMBERS

**Alternatives for  
the Older Adults**  
800-798-0988

**Ameren**  
800-755-5000

**Driver's License Facility**  
815-223-4861

**Hygienic Institute**  
815-223-0196

**IVAC**  
815-223-0227

**JULIE**  
(Call before digging)  
800-892-0123

**LaSalle County Clerk's Office**  
815-434-8202

**LaSalle Post Office**  
(Airport Road)  
815-223-2635

**North Central Area Transit**  
(Bus Service)  
815-288-2117

**Peru High Rise**  
815-223-0545

**Peru Post Office**  
815-223-0320

**Peru Township Office**  
815-223-0746

**Social Security Office**  
855-245-0640

**Tri-County Opportunities**  
(Energy assistance)  
800-323-5434

### PERU CITY DEPARTMENT HEADS

**Electric Department**  
Jeff King & Kye Kaszynski  
815-223-0044 • [kyek@peru.il.us](mailto:kyek@peru.il.us)

**Public Works Jeff King**  
815-223-2962 • [psm@peru.il.us](mailto:psm@peru.il.us)

**Fire Department Chief Jeff King**  
815-224-2141 • [chiefking@peru.il.us](mailto:chiefking@peru.il.us)

**Police Department Chief**  
Doug Bernabei  
815-223-2151  
[chiefbernabei@perupolice.org](mailto:chiefbernabei@perupolice.org)

**Economic Development Director**  
Bob Vickrey  
815-224-6018  
[bobvickrey@peru.il.us](mailto:bobvickrey@peru.il.us)

**Building & Zoning Inspector**  
Tyler Dobrich  
815-223-1148, ext. 4  
[zoning@peru.il.us](mailto:zoning@peru.il.us)

**Finance Officer**  
Justin Miller, C.P.A.  
815-224-6022 • [jmiller@peru.il.us](mailto:jmiller@peru.il.us)

**City Engineer**  
Eric Carls, P.E.  
815-224-6020 • [ericcarls@peru.il.us](mailto:ericcarls@peru.il.us)

**Human Resources Manager**  
Kimberly Reese  
815-223-0061 • [kreese@peru.il.us](mailto:kreese@peru.il.us)



# WELCOME TO PERU

The City of Peru would like to welcome all the new businesses that recently settled in Peru. Just to name a few...

Aldi (expansion)  
 All Web Promotion  
 Arby's (renovation)  
 Ashley Home Store (Sherman's)  
 Bailey's Place  
 Bridgeview Veterinary Hospital  
 Chain, Link, and Gem Stone  
 Dairy Queen (renovation)  
 Double Diamond  
 Eakas (expansion)  
 Groovy Dog Records  
 Haier Ductless Midwest Training Center  
 Jean Arthur Salon  
 PH2 Juice Bar + More  
 Planet Fitness  
 Prokup Media  
 Simply Cracked  
 Spa Annabella  
 Speedway

Subway (Sapp Bros)  
 Tracy's Bistro  
 Walmart (Online Grocery)  
 W.H. Maze (addition)  
 Westclox Bru Coffee Café Co.

\*Please accept our sincerest apologies if we have inadvertently missed any new businesses from the above list.



## PLUG INTO PERU

There are multiple ways to keep connected, get information and interact with the City of Peru. Here are some great options to tap into what's happening:



Visit [peru.il.us](http://peru.il.us) to view agendas, code of ordinances, department information, economic development, and the latest resident news, including information on city services, events, programs and more.

Visit [perufiredepartment.com](http://perufiredepartment.com) to find Peru Fire Department information, photos, history, events and more.

Visit [peruems.com](http://peruems.com) for information on Peru Volunteer Ambulance Service, Inc. services, history, staff, and more.



### FIND US ON FACEBOOK

City of Peru  
[facebook.com/peru.illinois](https://facebook.com/peru.illinois)

Peru Police Department  
[facebook.com/Peru-Illinois-Police-Department-424609487648774/](https://facebook.com/Peru-Illinois-Police-Department-424609487648774/)

Peru Fire Department  
[facebook.com/perufire](https://facebook.com/perufire)

To contact us by phone, please reference the back cover of this magazine for a detailed list of city and community phone numbers.