

CITY OF PERU REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING AUGUST 24, 2026

Th A regular meeting of the Peru City Council was called to order by Mayor Ken Kolowski in the Peru City Council Chambers on Monday, August 24, 2026, at 7:02 p.m.

City Clerk Jamey Mertel called the roll with Aldermen Ballard, Tieman, Payton, Sapienza, O'Sadnick, Lukosus and Moreno present. Alderman Edgcomb absent. Mayor Kolowski present.

PUBLIC COMMENT

PRESENTATION

Illinois Valley Senior League Baseball team manager, Jim Hermes thanked all of the cities along with Bob Ghighi. Mr. Hermes talked about the experience in central state and how well the team bonded.

Mr. Bo Windy talked about how this is the first team from the area to attend the Little League World Series, how central states in Peru started, and how it will continue. Mr. Windy stated the local media needs to better promote the tournament and let residents know it's in town.

Mayor Jeff Grove and Mayor Jason Curren thanked everyone involved-coaches, parents and the other cities.

Mr. Hermes introduced all the players.

MINUTES/FINANCIAL REPORTS/ACTIVITY REPORTS

Mayor Kolowski presented the Regular Minutes of August 10, 2026, Treasurer's Report for July 2026, and City Clerk's Report of Cash Received for July 2026. Alderman Payton made a motion the minutes be received and placed on file. Alderman Moreno seconded the motion; motion carried.

FINANCE AND SAFETY COMMITTEE

Alderman Sapienza presented the following disbursements for payment on August 25, 2026:

<u>FUND NAME</u>	<u>TOTAL EXPENSES</u>
General Fund	712,644.79
Electric Fund	2,458,117.69
Water Sewer Fund	746,241.48
Airport Fund	<u>501.68</u>
Total	\$3,917,505.64

Alderman Sapienza made a motion the disbursements be received, placed on file and bills paid in the usual manner. Alderman Tieman seconded the motion. Clerk Mertel called the roll with Aldermen Ballard, Tieman, Payton, Sapienza, O'Sadnick, Lukosus and Moreno voting aye. Alderman Edgcomb absent. Motion carried.

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PUBLIC SERVICES COMMITTEE

Alderman Tieman made a motion to approve seeking applications for police officer. Alderman O'Sadnick seconded the motion. Clerk Mertel called the roll with Aldermen Ballard, Tieman, Payton, Sapienza, O'Sadnick, Lukosus and Moreno voting aye. Alderman Edgcomb absent. Motion carried.

Alderman Tieman made a motion to approve purchase of 2027 Ford Utility Interceptor for \$46,271.83 less possible trades. Alderman O'Sadnick seconded the motion. Clerk Mertel called the roll with Aldermen Ballard, Tieman, Payton, Sapienza, O'Sadnick, Lukosus and Moreno voting aye. Alderman Edgcomb absent. Motion carried.

Mayor Kolowski asked to table or withdraw the following motions concerning sidewalks at Washington Park and McKinley Park. Alderman Payton asked the projects be put off until next year noting the prices are public and is no longer urgent to do. Mayor Kolowski noted that prices will be higher and that they come in less now. Alderman Payton reported that prices have been published and not fair to a Peru business. Adam Thorson, Director of Parks, Recreation and Special Events took responsibility and stated he tried to stay with a Peru business. Mayor Kolowski stated it's not fair to move money from one budget to the next. Alderman Payton reported the well needs to be fixed over sidewalks.

Mayor Kolowski discussed three options to pay for the well and sidewalks:

- Surplus from last year
- Cash in CD
- Amend budget

Alderman Payton questioned if the council was going to approve a no bid contract for over \$100,000.

Alderman Tieman made a motion to table the proposal from Ladzinski Cement Finishing for the continuation of Washington Park sidewalk in the amount of \$33,269. Alderman O'Sadnick seconded the motion. Clerk Mertel called the roll with Aldermen Ballard, Tieman, Payton, Sapienza, O'Sadnick, Lukosus and Moreno voting aye. Alderman Edgcomb absent. Motion carried.

Alderman Tieman made a motion to table the proposal from Ladzinski Cement Finishing for Washington Park ice skating rink in the amount of \$23,625. Alderman O'Sadnick seconded the motion. Clerk Mertel called the roll with Aldermen Ballard, Tieman, Payton, Sapienza, O'Sadnick, Lukosus and Moreno voting aye. Alderman Edgcomb absent. Motion carried.

Alderman Tieman made a motion to table the proposal from Ladzinski Cement Finishing for Washington Park Splash Pad playground curbing in the amount of \$17,970. Alderman O'Sadnick seconded the motion. Clerk Mertel called the roll with Aldermen Ballard, Tieman, Payton, Sapienza, O'Sadnick, Lukosus and Moreno voting aye. Alderman Edgcomb absent. Motion carried.

Alderman Tieman made a motion to withdraw the proposal from Ladzinski Cement Finishing, in the amount of \$36,034, for sidewalk work at McKinley Park. Alderman O'Sadnick seconded the motion. Clerk Mertel called the roll with Aldermen Ballard, Tieman, Payton, Sapienza, O'Sadnick, Lukosus and Moreno voting aye. Alderman Edgcomb absent. Motion carried.

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE

Alderman Ballard made a motion to approve change orders 1-3 for the Well #9 project in the amount of \$216,224.00. Alderman Lukosus seconded the motion. Mayor Kolowski asked Finance Officer Tracy

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Mitchell for her recommendation on how to pay for the well. Ms. Mitchell responded that the well cost could be paid for by infrastructure fund, reserve fund or TIF fund. Clerk Mertel called the roll with Aldermen Ballard, Tieman, Payton, Sapienza, O'Sadnick, Lukosus and Moreno voting aye. Alderman Edgcomb absent. Motion carried.

Alderman Sapienza made a motion to award the Main Street Water Main Improvements to SKI Sealcoating & Maintenance in the amount of \$776,949.02. Alderman Lukosus seconded the motion. Eric Carls, Director of Engineering and Zoning, reported the bid is well below estimates. Clerk Mertel called the roll with Aldermen Ballard, Tieman, Payton, Sapienza, O'Sadnick, Lukosus and Moreno voting aye. Alderman Edgcomb absent. Motion carried.

Alderman Moreno made a motion to approve invoice from Metro-AG Inc., in the amount of \$17,500, to transport sludge from the east wastewater treatment plant to the west wastewater treatment plant. Alderman Lukosus seconded the motion. Chris Perra, President of T.E.S.T. explained why this needed to be done and other problems could occur if not done. Clerk Mertel called the roll with Aldermen Ballard, Tieman, Payton, Sapienza, O'Sadnick, Lukosus and Moreno voting aye. Alderman Edgcomb absent. Motion carried.

Alderman Lukosus made a motion to approve invoice from Shearer Tree Service, in the amount of \$10,080, for tree removal at 604 Church Street. Alderman Moreno seconded the motion. PSM/Fire Chief Jeff King reported the tree is 5ft round and dangerously close to the power lines. Clerk Mertel called the roll with Aldermen Ballard, Tieman, Payton, Sapienza, O'Sadnick, Lukosus and Moreno voting aye. Alderman Edgcomb absent. Motion carried.

REPORT OF CITY ATTORNEY/ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

Corporate Counsel Scott Schweickert presented a proposed ordinance entitled:

ORDINANCE NO. 7055

AN ORDINANCE TO PROPOSE THE APPROVAL OF A BUSINESS DISTRICT REDEVELOPMENT PLAN AND ESTABLISH A DATE FOR A PUBLIC HEARING FOR THE PERU BUSINESS DISTRICT NO. 1

Alderman Payton made a motion the ordinance be adopted as written and read. Alderman Lukosus seconded the motion. Clerk Mertel called the roll with Aldermen Ballard, Tieman, Payton, Sapienza, O'Sadnick, Lukosus and Moreno voting aye. Alderman Edgcomb absent. Motion carried.

Corporate Counsel Scott Schweickert presented a proposed ordinance entitled:

ORDINANCE NO. 7056

AN ORDINANCE DECLARING CERTAIN POLICE VEHICLES AS SURPLUS PROPERTY AND AUTHORIZING THE DISPOSITION THEREOF

Alderman Tieman made a motion the ordinance be adopted as written and read. Alderman O'Sadnick seconded the motion. Clerk Mertel called the roll with Aldermen Ballard, Tieman, Payton, Sapienza, O'Sadnick, Lukosus and Moreno voting aye. Alderman Edgcomb absent. Motion carried.

Corporate Counsel Scott Schweickert presented a proposed resolution entitled:

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RESOLUTION NO. 2026-09

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF A LETTER OF AGREEMENT AND “LEARN TO PLAY” PROGRAM RINK AFFILIATION AGREEMENT WITH CHICAGO BLACKHAWK HOCKEY TEAM, INC.

Alderman Tieman made a motion the resolution be adopted as written and read. Alderman Moreno seconded the motion. Clerk Mertel called the roll with Aldermen Ballard, Tieman, Payton, Sapienza, O’Sadnick, Lukosus and Moreno voting aye. Alderman Edgcomb absent. Motion carried.

PROCLAMATIONS

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

PSM/Fire Chief Jeff King reiterated the importance of not blowing grass clippings onto the streets. PSM/Chief King stated he's never seen it so bad when it comes to grass clippings on roads. PSM/Chief King says city crews are constantly cleaning catch basins, trying to keep up, but they don't have the staff to do it every day all across the city. PSM/Chief King stated the amount of people violating the city ordinance with grass clippings is “ridiculous” and warned you'll likely get a visit from the city if you continue to leave debris on a city street. Alderman O'Sadnick urged anyone who sees a clogged catch basin on their block to grab a broom and shovel and clean it themselves, instead of complaining about it to the city.

PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS

Clerk Mertel presented a petition from Andy Washeleski seeking variances for the property located at 1528 Pulaski Street. Alderman Ballard made a motion the petition be received, placed on file and referred to the Planning/Zoning Commission for review and recommendation. Alderman Tieman seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Clerk Mertel presented a communication from Rick Pyszka requesting permission to close 26th Street from 728 to 803 on August 29th for a neighborhood block party. Alderman Tieman made a motion the communication be received, placed on file, and permission granted. Alderman Ballard seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Clerk Mertel presented a communication from LaSalle Peru High School requesting permission to host the 2026 LP Homecoming Parade on Thursday, September 24th at 4pm. Alderman Payton made a motion the communication be received, placed on file, and permission granted. Alderman Tieman seconded the motion. Motion carried.

MAYOR’S NOTES

Mayor Kolowski reported the inaugural National Night Out was a success.

Alderman Tieman congratulated the IV Baseball Senior League team on their bid to the World Series Baseball Tournament and noted the team will be recognized at the next regular meeting.

Alderman Moreno thanked Lt. Doug Bernabei for his service and congratulated him on his retirement.

PUBLIC COMMENT

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CLOSED SESSION

Alderman Ballard made a motion to go into closed session to discuss the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance or dismissal of specific employees of the public body or legal counsel for the public body, including hearing testimony on a complaint lodged against an employee or legal counsel for the public body to determine its validity, and litigation “when an action against, affecting or on behalf of the particular public body has been filed and is pending before a court or administrative tribunal, or when the public body finds that an action is probable or imminent in which case the basis for the finding shall be recorded and entered into the minutes of the closed meeting. Alderman O’Sadnick seconded the motion. Clerk Mertel called the roll with Aldermen Ballard, Tieman, Payton, Sapienza, O’Sadnick, Lukosus and Moreno voting aye. Alderman Edgcomb absent. Motion carried.

Closed session began at 8:12 p.m. and ended at 8:55 p.m.

Alderman Tieman made a motion to reopen the meeting. Alderman Ballard seconded the motion. Clerk Mertel called the roll with Aldermen Ballard, Tieman, Payton, Sapienza, O’Sadnick, Lukosus and Moreno present. Alderman Edgcomb absent. Mayor Kolowski present.

ADJOURNMENT

Alderman Moreno made a motion that the meeting be adjourned. Alderman Tieman seconded the motion and motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 8:56 p.m.