

A regular meeting of the Peru City Council was called to order by Mayor Ken Kolowski in the Peru City Council Chambers on Monday, February 9, 2026, at 7:00 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.

PRESENTATION

Mr. Neal Patel, managing partner for SSG Hotels, LLC of Lafayette, IN discussed potential for sports complex and for a public-private partnership. Mr. Patel stated that SSG partnered with Kokomo, Indiana and opened a sports complex in Champion Park in 2021 and two years later direct visitor spending climbed 17% from \$107 million to \$181 million. Mr. Patel noted that SSG, which runs 28 hotels, profited nicely from serving the Kokomo complex. Mr. Patel said they're interested to learn more about Peru's proposed sports complex.

Eric Calrs, Director of Engineering and Zoning stated we're looking to really create a destination point and be transformational.

Mayor Kolowski asked if there is potential for a conference center -- a need area, he said, for the Illinois Valley. Mr. Patel acknowledged that, too, is a possibility.

Mr. Michael Murphy, Community Development Director with CONXXUS discussed interest in constructing a new fiber network in Peru.

PUBLIC COMMENT

MINUTES/FINANCIAL REPORTS/ACTIVITY REPORTS

Mayor Kolowski presented the Regular Minutes of January 26, 2026. Alderman Payton made a motion the minutes be received and placed on file. Alderman Tieman seconded the motion; motion carried.

FINANCE AND SAFETY COMMITTEE

Alderman Sapienza presented the following disbursements for payment on February 11, 2026:

<u>FUND NAME</u>	<u>TOTAL EXPENSES</u>
General Fund	\$450,184.40
Insurance Fund	157,177.36
Garbage Fund	81,148.69
TIF Funds	383,464.97
Utility Fund	596,886.07
Airport Fund	<u>1,112.80</u>
Total	\$1,669,974.29

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.

Alderman Ballard made a motion to approve airport liability insurance renewal quote of \$15,325.00 (3-year fixed premium) from Ace Property and Casualty Insurance Company through Dimond Bros Insurance. 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.

PUBLIC SERVICES COMMITTEE

Mayor Kolowski commended the fire department for their efforts during house fire earlier in the day.

Adam Thorson, Director of Parks, Recreation and Special Events reported the ice rink days of operation are winding down and will keep everyone updated if it needs closure.

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE

Alderman Tieman made a motion to approve proposal from Marco for printing/copier lease and supplies, in the amount of \$2,149.00 per month for 5 years. 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.

Alderman Moreno made a motion to approve proposal from Great Lakes Water Resources Group in the amount of \$105,052.00 for Well #5 emergency work. Alderman Sapienza 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 Sapienza made a motion to approve 10 distribution transformer repairs for \$10,428.00 with T&R Electric. 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.

Alderman Lukosus made a motion to approve grant negotiation and initiation fees not to exceed \$25,000- and \$1500-month grant administration fees for an estimated 18-month duration of project with Baker & Tilley. 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.

REPORT OF CITY ATTORNEY/ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

Corporate Counsel Scott Schweickert presented the minutes of the February 4, 2026, Planning/Zoning Commission hearing on petition of Gustavo Rodriguez concerning property located at 2302 1st Street in the City of Peru. Alderman O'Sadnick made a motion the minutes be received, placed on file and concur with the recommendation. Alderman Sapienza seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Corporate Counsel Scott Schweickert presented a proposed ordinance entitled:

ORDINANCE NO. 7016

AN ORDINANCE GRANTING CERTAIN RELIEF UNDER THE ZONING ORDINANCE AS SOUGHT BY THE PETITION OF GUSTAVO RODRIGUEZ CONCERNING PROPERTY LOCATED AT 2302 1ST STREET IN THE CITY OF PERU

Alderman O'Sadnick made a motion the ordinance be adopted as written and read. Alderman Sapienza 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. 7017

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 6942, ENTITLED: "AN ORDINANCE FIXING WAGES FOR EMPLOYEES OF THE CITY OF PERU, ILLINOIS COMMENCING APRIL 27, 2025 AND ENDING APRIL 25, 2026"

Alderman Payton made a motion the ordinance be adopted as written and read. 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.

Corporate Counsel Scott Schweickert presented a proposed ordinance entitled:

ORDINANCE NO. 7018

A SPECIAL ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CEDING OF 2026 PRIVATE ACTIVITY BONDING AUTHORITY TO THE UPPER ILLINOIS RIVER VALLEY DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (UIRVDA)

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. 7019

AN ORDINANCE APPROVING AND AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF AN INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT BY AND BETWEEN THE CITY OF PERU, LA SALLE-PERU HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT #120, DIMMICK COMMUNITY CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL DISTRICT #175, THE COUNTY OF LA SALLE, ILLINOIS VALLEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT #513, PERU TOWNSHIP, DIMMICK TOWNSHIP, AND PERU LIBRARY DISTRICT (PERU MIDWEST INDUSTRIAL NEXUS TIF DISTRICT)

Alderman Tieman made a motion the ordinance be adopted as written and read. Alderman Ballard 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. 7020

AN ORDINANCE APPROVING AND AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF A PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT AND ANNUAL ADMINISTRATION OF PERU BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT NO. 1 BY AND BETWEEN THE CITY OF PERU, LASALLE COUNTY, ILLINOIS AND JACOB & KLEIN, LTD. AND THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT GROUP, LTD.

Alderman Sapienza made a motion the ordinance be adopted as written and read. Alderman Payton 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. 7021

AN ORDINANCE DECLARING A CERTAIN ELECTRIC DEPARTMENT TRUCK AS SURPLUS PROPERTY AND AUTHORIZING THE SALE THEREOF

Alderman Lukosus made a motion the ordinance 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.

Corporate Counsel Scott Schweickert presented a proposed ordinance entitled:

ORDINANCE NO. 7022

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 114 – UTILITIES, SECTION 114-290. – BILLING, OF THE CITY OF PERU CODE OF ORDINANCES

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.

PROCLAMATIONS

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

Alderman Payton made a motion to appoint Jamey Mertel to the Fireman's Pension Board. 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.

PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS

Clerk Mertel presented a communication from the City of Peru seeking annexation and zoning for certain territory consisting of a 100± acre parcel generally located north of May Road near the Interstate 80 overpass. Alderman Tieman made a motion the communication be received, placed on file and permission granted. Alderman Ballard seconded the motion. Motion carried.

MAYOR'S NOTES

PUBLIC COMMENT

Peru Resident John Caresio asked the city to look into allowing golf carts in the city and suggested trying golf carts for a year to see if it works in Peru. Mr. Caresio stated it hasn't posed any issues in places like Oglesby and Spring Valley.

Mayor Kolowski stated the city will have to take a 'deep dive' into the proposal and expressed ongoing concerns with other non-traditional modes of transportation like electric bikes and scooters.

Mr. Caresio argued golf carts are safer and better regulated than e-bikes and scooters.

Mr. Bill Migliorini spoke on snow removal at the Illinois Valley Regional Airport and asked for the center strip to be painted.

CLOSED SESSION

ADJOURNMENT

Alderman Lukosus made a motion that the meeting be adjourned. Alderman Tieman seconded the motion and motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 8:13 p.m.