

CITY OF PERU REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MAY 18, 2026

A regular meeting of the Peru City Council was called to order by Mayor Ken Kolowski in the Peru City Council Chambers on Monday, May 18, 2026, at 7:00 p.m.

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

PRESENTATION

Police Chief Sarah Raymond swore-in newly appointed Sergeant Bill Sommer and provided a background on Sgt. Sommer. Chief Raymond reported started working part-time in Peru in 2020, and became full-time in 2022. Before that, he worked with police forces in Tonica, Spring Valley, and Putnam County dating back to 1996. Sommer retired from the Spring Valley PD in 2019. Chief Raymond also stated that Sgt. Sommer is excited to come to work everyday, calling him a “unicorn” when it comes to being an officer.

PUBLIC COMMENT

MINUTES/FINANCIAL REPORTS/ACTIVITY REPORTS

Mayor Kolowski presented the Regular Minutes of May 4, 2026 and the Peru Volunteer Ambulance Service Inc. Activity Summary for April 2026. Alderman Sapienza made a motion the minutes be received and placed on file. Alderman Edgcomb seconded the motion; motion carried.

FINANCE AND SAFETY COMMITTEE

Alderman Sapienza presented the following disbursements for payment on May 20, 2026:

<u>FUND NAME</u>	<u>TOTAL EXPENSES</u>
General Fund	\$586,060.72
Utility Fund	251,749.83
Electric Fund	1,615,908.29
Water Sewer Fund	488,551.10
Airport Fund	<u>15,052.43</u>
Total	\$2,957,322.37

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, Edgcomb, Sapienza, O’Sadnick, and Moreno voting aye. Aldermen Payton and Lukosus absent. Motion carried.

PUBLIC SERVICES COMMITTEE

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE

CITY OF PERU REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MAY 18, 2026

Alderman Moreno made a motion to approve a proposal from Herman Brothers Fisheries for lake improvements at Baker Lake in the amount of \$14,944.09. Alderman Sapienza seconded the motion. Clerk Mertel called the roll with Aldermen Ballard, Tieman, Edgcomb, Sapienza, O'Sadnick, and Moreno voting aye. Aldermen Payton and Lukosus absent. Motion carried.'

Alderman Moreno made a motion to approve fuel storage modifications and upgrades for Plank Road with Illinois Oil Marketing for \$233,543.01. Alderman Sapienza seconded the motion. Clerk Mertel called the roll with Aldermen Ballard, Tieman, Edgcomb, Sapienza, O'Sadnick, and Moreno voting aye. Aldermen Payton and Lukosus absent. Motion carried.

Alderman Ballard made a motion to approve ESRI GIS license for \$11,600.00. Alderman Sapienza seconded the motion. Clerk Mertel called the roll with Aldermen Ballard, Tieman, Edgcomb, Sapienza, O'Sadnick, and Moreno voting aye. Aldermen Payton and Lukosus absent. Motion carried.

Alderman Ballard made a motion to approve proposal from T&R Electric, in the amount of \$21,500.00, for repair of power transformer. Alderman Moreno seconded the motion. Clerk Mertel called the roll with Aldermen Ballard, Tieman, Edgcomb, Sapienza, O'Sadnick, and Moreno voting aye. Aldermen Payton and Lukosus absent. Motion carried.

Alderman Ballard made a motion to approve proposal from T&R Electric, in the amount of \$10,129.00, for repair of pole top transformers. Alderman Sapienza seconded the motion. Clerk Mertel called the roll with Aldermen Ballard, Tieman, Edgcomb, Sapienza, O'Sadnick, and Moreno voting aye. Aldermen Payton and Lukosus absent. Motion carried.

Alderman Moreno made a motion to approve the purchase of roofing installation services for the Jet building using GAF materials with CentiMark Corporation for \$27,747.00. Alderman Sapienza seconded the motion. Clerk Mertel called the roll with Aldermen Ballard, Tieman, Edgcomb, Sapienza, O'Sadnick, and Moreno voting aye. Aldermen Payton and Lukosus absent. Motion carried.

REPORT OF CITY ATTORNEY/ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

Corporate Counsel Scott Schweickert presented a proposed ordinance entitled:

ORDINANCE NO. 7039

AN ORDINANCE APPROVING AND AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF AN AGREEMENT FOR USE OF RIGHT-OF-WAY BETWEEN THE CITY OF PERU AND MCC NETWORK SERVICES, LLC d/b/a CONXXUS (FTTH – South of Shooting Park Road & West of Route 251)

Alderman Sapienza 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, Edgcomb, Sapienza, O'Sadnick, and Moreno voting aye. Aldermen Payton and Lukosus absent. Motion carried.

Corporate Counsel Scott Schweickert presented a proposed ordinance entitled:

ORDINANCE NO. 7040

AN ORDINANCE GRANTING AN ADMINISTRATIVE VARIANCE AS SOUGHT BY PETER STEFENEL, JR. CONCERNING PROPERTY LOCATED AT 1860 PIKE STREET, PERU, ILLINOIS.

CITY OF PERU REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MAY 18, 2026

Alderman Tieman 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, Edgcomb, Sapienza, O'Sadnick, and Moreno voting aye. Aldermen Payton and Lukosus absent. Motion carried.

Corporate Counsel Scott Schweickert presented a proposed ordinance entitled:

ORDINANCE NO. 7041

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF PERU, LASALLE AND BUREAU COUNTIES, ILLINOIS, PROVIDING FOR THE ISSUANCE OF NOT TO EXCEED \$35,000,000 GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS, IN ONE OR MORE SERIES, ON A TAXABLE OR TAX-EXEMPT BASIS, PROVIDING THE DETAILS OF SUCH BONDS AND FOR A LEVY OF TAXES SUFFICIENT TO PAY THE PRINCIPAL OF AND INTEREST ON SUCH BONDS, AND RELATED MATTERS.

Alderman O'Sadnick 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.

PROCLAMATIONS

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Alderman O'Sadnick made a motion to acknowledge withdrawal of Petition of Travis & Adriaan Harvey concerning property commonly known as 1103 4th Street, Peru. 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.

NEW BUSINESS

PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS

Clerk Mertel presented a communication from Stone Jug Barbeque requesting permission to close Schuyler Street between 3rd and 4th Street on Sunday, July 12th from 11am-8pm for the annual Shrimp-Boil event. Alderman Sapienza made a motion the communication be received, placed on file and permission granted. Alderman O'Sadnick seconded the motion. Motion carried.

MAYOR'S NOTES

Mayor Kolowski commended all who worked to make the TBM Avenger and Salute to Veterans event successful.

Alderman Tieman reported the IL Valley Pistol Shrimp home opener is May 27th.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Resident John Caresio addressed the council inquiring if any further consideration had been given to allow golf carts in the city. Mayor Kolowski stated that after doing his own research, talking to the rest of the council and other golf cart friendly communities, that Peru is "Just not set up for this kind of transportation". He says it's not a good fit right now.

CITY OF PERU REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MAY 18, 2026

Mr. Caresio says allowing golf carts would mean revenue for the city with very little effort. He says other towns like Dixon and Pontiac are bigger than Peru and haven't had any safety issues with golf carts driven around town. Mr. Caresio wondered aloud if the council's opposition was some other reason besides safety concerns. Mr. Caresio asked why summer kids are riding around on lawnmowers and carts that are not street legal so questioned if the decision to not allow golf carts is really due to safety. Mayor Kolowski asked what the measurement of success would be. Mr. Caresio stated he would like to see summer help transport lawnmowers and carts on a trailer. Mayor Kolowski stated it is the consensus of the people he talked with to not approve golf carts on the streets in the city.

CLOSED SESSION

ADJOURNMENT

Alderman Tieman made a motion that the meeting be adjourned. Alderman Sapienza seconded the motion and motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 7:28 p.m.