

COMMITTEE OF A WHOLE MEETING JUNE 22, 2026

A Committee Of A Whole meeting was called to order by Mayor Ken Kolowski in the Peru City Council Chambers on Monday, June 22, 2026, at 3:30 p.m.

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

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

MINUTES

Mayor Kolowski presented the Committee of A Whole Minutes of June 15, 2026. Alderman Payton made a motion that the minutes be received and placed on file. Alderman O'Sadnick seconded the motion. Motion carried.

PRESENTATION

Ben Klene PE, BHMGE Engineers presented a Water Street Substation Asset Analysis with recommendation of moving the substation to higher ground. Moving the location to the other side of the tracks on Brewster Street or up the hill at 1st and West Street are options.

Alderman O'Sadnick questioned moving the substation still in flood plain.

Alderman Sapienza inquired about property at Pine Street-2 miles away.

Electric Operations Manager Kevin Minnick noted that much of the work could be done in-house.

COMMITTEE DISCUSSION

PUBLIC WORKS (IT, Water & Sewer, TEST, Airport, Buildings and Grounds, Streets & Alleys, Electric, Engineering)

IT

None

WATER & SEWER

Eric Carls, Director of Engineering and Zoning reported on massive amounts of debris within the Interceptor Sewer cleaning project. Mr. Carls reported on 6 weeks' of cleaning with approximate cost of \$225,000 to finish. Committee recommended completion with formal approval at the next regular meeting.

TEST

Reported that Well #9 building is down and foundation and floor is poured.

AIRPORT

Eric Carls, Director of Engineering and Zoning reported repaving information has been sent to IDOT, waiting on bid letting.

BUILDINGS & GROUNDS

None

STREETS & ALLEYS

PSM/Fire Chief Jeff King reported he is looking to replace a laborer who is retiring and asked for approval to seek applicants at the next regular meeting.

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ELECTRIC

Kevin Minnick, Electric Operations Manager, reported the City of Peru has been selected for a “CVR” Study through IMEA.

Mr. Minnick reported the Electric Department helped out Rantoul with storm damage.

ENGINEERING

Eric Carls, Director of Engineering and Zoning, reported on the following:

- Schimmer looking at the former Bill Walsh property for standalone Hyundai dealership
 - Need to address drainage issues in area
- General Fund Street Program
 - Less streets within program due to less funding and increased costs
- ITEP Pedestrian Bridge
 - Waiting on final start date

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

None

OLD BUSINESS

Discussed who was responsible for maintaining Baker Lake. PSM Jeff King is responsible for maintaining the grass, restrooms and plowing the path. Adam Thorsen, Director of Parks, Recreation and Special Events is responsible for recreation and special events and Eric Carls, Director of Engineering and Zoning is responsible for lake maintenance.

NEW BUSINESS

Reported that Country Kids Produce would like to put signs up.

PUBLIC SERVICES COMMITTEE (Code Enforcement, Police, Fire, Landfill, Cemetery, Parks & Recreation)

CODE ENFORCEMENT

None

POLICE

None

FIRE

PSM/Fire Chief King reported on meeting with grant writer for SAFER Grant.

LANDFILL

None

CEMETERY

Clerk Mertel initiated a discussion regarding quote in the amount of \$79,316.00 for 156 8x8 radiused companion niches (2 walls) for the cemetery. Clerk Mertel asked for formal approval at the next regular meeting.

PARKS & RECREATION

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Adam Thorson, Director of Parks, Recreation and Special Events, reported the city will need to make a decision on the July 3rd fireworks due to the rising river.

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

None

FINANCE COMMITTEE (Finance, Human Resources)

FINANCE

Finance Officer Tracy Mitchell reported her department is still working on implementing payroll.

HUMAN RESOURCES

None

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

Mayor Kolowski reported signup is open for the upcoming IML Conference on September 17-19, 2026.

OLD BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

Clerk Mertel presented a communication from Donna Aleksy of Peru Elementary School District 124 PTA requesting permission to hold a family picnic at Baker Lake on Thursday, August 20th at 4:30 p.m.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

CLOSED SESSION

None

ADJOURNMENT

Alderman Payton made a motion that the meeting be adjourned. Alderman Edgcomb seconded the motion and motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 5:11 p.m.