

COMMITTEE OF A WHOLE MEETING OCTOBER 13, 2025

A Committee Of A Whole meeting was called to order by Mayor Ken Kolowski in the Peru City Council Chambers on Monday, October 13, 2025, at 3:30 p.m.

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

PUBLIC COMMENT

MINUTES

Mayor Kolowski presented the Committee of A Whole Minutes of September 15, 2025. Alderman Payton made a motion that the minutes be received and placed on file. Alderman Lukosus seconded the motion; motion carried.

PRESENTATION

None

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

Alderman Lukosus reported on a conversation with Enterprise Rent-A-Car about leasing city vehicles. PSM/Fire Chief King stated they discussed this about a year ago and the program didn't really apply to us. Alderman Lukosus stated he will call the representative and set up a time for the rep to come.

IT

Reported on questions about IVRD server and disappointment with the IT Department's lack of response and solutions to situations that arise.

WATER & SEWER

None

TEST

None

AIRPORT

Eric Carls, Director of Engineering and Zoning reported on 95/5 5% to city approximately \$65,000

Mr. Carls reported TIPS meeting was not very productive as state and federal funding is in flux.

BUILDINGS & GROUNDS

None

STREETS & ALLEYS

None

ELECTRIC

Mr. Carls reported the bucket truck addition quote is in and asked for formal approval at next regular meeting.

ENGINEERING

Mr. Carls provided an update on the following projects:

- 2025 General Fund Street Program

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- Underway, noted contractor is not doing a good job and it is being documented. Other communities are also having problems with management
- PASER Update
 - Costs are going up and need direction on how much to spend on roads.
- Plank Road Phase I
 - Complete by end-of-month
- Area 2 Phase 1 Sewer Separation (Near St. Valentine's Church)
- Baker's Lake Path Replacement
 - Construction started; completion expected late November, early December
- Well #8 Rehab
 - Pumping at a level lower than expected
- Interceptor Sewer Cleaning
- Dalzell Water Main
 - Still working/should be able to move forward soon. Dalzell is grateful and excited for competition
- 138kv Substation Mass Grading
 - Need to address budgeting for special projects like this. Uninformed people on social media are attacking staff workers without knowledge of the situation. Staff needs direction on how to handle developer inquiries. Council gave directions to Eric and Scott to continue working on helping the city grow. We may need a bond issue for phase one.
- ITEP Shared Use Path
 - Tentative Start Date May 2026
- EAKAS Water Main
 - In final stages of documentation-should start soon
- North Trunk Sewer
 - Massive project-30ft in depth
- Sports Complex
 - Feasibility study delivery date in next couple weeks. Initial impact to community is very positive
- Design/2026 Construction Projects
 - Main Street Water Main
 - \$750,000
 - NW Water Main Phase II
 - \$1 million
 - Area 2 Phase 2 Sewer Separation
 - \$2.4 million
 - 2026 Street Program
 - \$600,000-\$800,000
 - Plank Road Phase II
 - \$2.1 million
 - N. 31st Roadway Improvements
 - \$2.1 million
 - Potential IDOT EDP Grant 50/50 cost sharing
 - Slough Bridge – BAAD Grant
 - Grant has been submitted

OLD BUSINESS

Alderman Lukosus reported that Inman Electric did test on hydro and everything went well.

Mayor Kolowski reported that audio (within security cameras) has been turned off at city hall.

PSM/Fire Chief Jeff King reported the auction brought in over \$25,000.

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NEW BUSINESS

Mayor Kolowski reported that payroll software is delayed until spring and that Finance Officer Tracy Mitchell has requested money back from Tyler Technologies.

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

CODE ENFORCEMENT

None

POLICE

Police Chief Sarah Raymond reported that the Village of Cherry is looking for a used squad car and asked for approval to begin process of selling an old squad to them. Council agreed.

FIRE

None

LANDFILL

None

CEMETERY

None

PARKS & RECREATION

Adam Thorson, Director of Parks, Recreation and Special Events reported on the following:

- Discussed fence bid in the amount of \$30,000 from Illinois Valley Fence and Pool-\$5,000 over budget and asked for formal approval at the next regular meeting.
- 4 of 6 ninja challenge courses have been completed; remaining courses to be installed in next couple of weeks.
- Halloween Trick or Treat is October 31st. Clerk Mertel stated he will be sending out a CodeRED beforehand.
- Blues in the Park went well with a great turnout.

Alderman Edcomb made a motion to approve change order for Washington Park OSLAD from Illinois Valley Fence and Pool Inc. for \$16,000 for chiller privacy fence. Alderman Payton seconded the motion. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

None

FINANCE COMMITTEE (*Finance, Human Resources*)

FINANCE

None

HUMAN RESOURCES

Human Resources Director Kim Reese reported on the following:

- 2026 health insurance premiums are up 5.6% for 2026.
- Harassment training will begin soon. Looking at a new program that will cost \$17 per employee

OLD BUSINESS

Corporate Counsel Scott Schweickert initiated a discussion regarding proposal for sale and redevelopment of 2130 4th Street and request submission of alternative proposals. Corporate Counsel Scott Schweickert reported Babs Brew is ready to proceed with purchase of lot. Public hearing for proposal for alternate bids will be posted for November 3rd.

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Alderman Moreno asked when hotel/motel tax will be available partial 2027. Finance Officer Tracy Mitchell reported that revenues are coming in under projections. Corporate Counsel Scott Schweickert suggested an audit.

NEW BUSINESS

None

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

CLOSED SESSION

Alderman Payton made a motion to go into closed session to discuss meetings where the purchase or lease of real property for the use of the public body is considered, including meetings held for the purpose of discussing whether a particular parcel should be acquired; meetings where setting of the price for sale or lease of real estate owned by the public body is being considered; and meetings held 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. Alderman Sapienza seconded the motion. Clerk Mertel called the roll with Aldermen Ballard, Tieman, Payton, Edgcomb, Sapienza, O'Sadnick, Lukosus and Moreno voting aye, motion carried.

Closed session began at 5:48 p.m. and ended at 6:10 p.m.

Alderman Sapienza made a motion to re-open the meeting. Alderman Payton seconded the motion. Clerk Mertel called the roll with Alderman Ballard, Tieman, Payton, Edgcomb, Sapienza, O'Sadnick, Lukosus and Moreno present. Mayor Kolowski present.

ADJOURNMENT

Alderman Lukosus made a motion that the meeting be adjourned. Alderman O'Sadnick seconded the motion and motion carried.

Meeting adjourned 6:11 p.m.