

COMMITTEE OF A WHOLE MEETING NOVEMBER 10, 2025

A Committee Of A Whole meeting was called to order by Mayor Ken Kolowski in the Peru City Council Chambers on Monday, November 10, 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 October 27, 2025. Alderman Payton made a motion that the minutes be received and placed on file. Alderman Lukosus seconded the motion. Motion carried.

PRESENTATION

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

IT

IT Director Stephen Rounds reported that he is working on a solution to streamline FOIA requests.

WATER & SEWER

PSM/Fire Chief Jeff King reported there were three water main breaks on Monday and trying to figure out what caused them.

TEST

Chris Perrra, President of T.E.S.T. reported on the change from air valves to electric valve actuators.

AIRPORT

None

BUILDINGS & GROUNDS

Committee discussed an invoice from Communications Works in the amount of \$54,530.30 for relocation of antennas at the Peoria Street water tower. PSM/Chief King reported he is going to research.

Eric Carls, Director of Engineering and Zoning, initiated a discussion regarding building permit application processes and submittal requirements. Mr. Carls reported his office is having difficulty with some commercial locations. Mr. Carls reported on creating a checklist to help process permits. Mr. Carls also reported on a stop work order will is issued on a specific property.

Corporate Counsel Scott Schweickert reported the sale of 2130 4th Street has been completed.

STREETS & ALLEYS

Mr. Carls reported that Shooting Park Road shoulder improvements at the intersection of Sycamore Street should be under \$10,000.

ELECTRIC

None

ENGINEERING

Mr. Carls provided an update on the following projects:

- Area 2 Phase 1

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- Working through punch list
- Baker Lake Shared Use Path
 - 1/3 of the way complete
 - Too many trespassers
- 138kv Project
 - Pond is dug, improving shore erosion
- ITEP Project
 - Start date late May 2026
- North Trunk Sewer
 - Project starting as soon as EPA approves

OLD BUSINESS

Alderman Moreno inquired on water rates stating that with expected large expenditures, the current rates cannot support the mandates. Finance Officer Tracy Mitchell is looking at May 1st to separate utility fund.

NEW BUSINESS

PSM/Chief King initiated a discussion regarding the purchase of a used 3 ton truck (2016 International 7400) from Renegade Motors LLC in the amount of \$60,523.00 and asked for formal approval at the next regular meeting.

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

CODE ENFORCEMENT

Mayor Kolowski reported that Gary Poole started working at the trailer court and is helping get it cleaned up.

POLICE

None.

FIRE

None

LANDFILL

None

CEMETERY completed

None

PARKS & RECREATION

Adam Thorson, Director of Parks, Recreation and Special Events reported the ice rink chillers were installed with an opening date to be determined.

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

Mayor Kolowski initiated a discussion regarding new sign for Baker Lake and possibly financed through the Baker Trust.

FINANCE COMMITTEE (*Finance, Human Resources*)

FINANCE

None

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HUMAN RESOURCES

None

OLD BUSINESS

Mayor Kolowski stated that the BDD (Business Development District) is not something he wishes to move forward with at this time. Mayor Kolowski noted revenues are flat.

Treasurer Jackson Powell stated to raise all sales tax over BDD.

Alderman Sapienza reported that most BDD money comes from outside the city and stated raising taxes or utilities is the only other way. Alderman Sapienza also noted the entire council, except for the Mayor is in favor.

Alderman Edgcomb reported the BDD would free up funds for other areas that need attention.

Alderman Payton asked where else would the money come from, questioning raising rates on residents?

Alderman Lukosus stated the council is in favor of the BDD so it's not a simple no.

Eric Carls, Director of Engineering and Zoning stated that Peru is fortunate to have a built-in base, with many positives with BDD. Mr. Carls stated that being responsible to the citizens of Peru is a choice tax versus direct tax.

Alderman Moreno asked the Mayor what would be his plan for financing projects in the future.

Mayor Kolowski stated the City is not ready for the BDD.

Alderman Payton stated your (Mayor Kolowski) options are raise taxes or cut services.

Alderman Sapienza stated our (City) tax rate is lower than most.

Alderman Edgcomb asked (Mayor Kolowski) if he talked to other mayors.

Alderman Moreno stated the City needs to have a plan for budgeting.

Alderman Sapienza stated that things just do not happen.

Alderman Payton asked to have a vote on next regular agenda.

Mayor Kolowski asked where the City will get the money for the \$40,000 study.

Alderman Payton stated he thinks we can find the money and will discuss with Finance Officer Mitchell.

NEW BUSINESS

Clerk Mertel initiated a discussion regarding 2026 Municipal Calendars. All were in agreement for approval.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

CLOSED SESSION

None

ADJOURNMENT

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Alderman Sapienza made a motion that the meeting be adjourned. Alderman Lukosus seconded the motion and motion carried.

Meeting adjourned 5:30 p.m.