

COMMITTEE OF A WHOLE MEETING MARCH 3, 2026

A Committee Of A Whole meeting was called to order by Mayor Ken Kolowski in the Peru City Council Chambers on Monday, March 3, 2026, at 3:35 p.m.

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

PUBLIC COMMENT

MINUTES

Mayor Kolowski presented the Committee of A Whole Minutes of February 16, 2026. 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)*

IT

None

WATER & SEWER

Eric Carls, Director of Engineering and Zoning discussed proposal from Baker Tilly for water and sewer cost of service and rate study. Mr. Carls reported the cost of the study is \$60,500 and asked for formal approval at the next regular meeting. Mr. Carls stated the study should be completed by August.

TEST

None

AIRPORT

Eric Carls, Director of Engineering and Zoning reported that bids are in for striping and waiting on state approval.

Mayor Kolowski suggested raising hangar rental \$50 per month with a 2% increase per year thereafter.

BUILDINGS & GROUNDS

None

STREETS & ALLEYS

Eric Carls, Director of Engineering and Zoning asked the council, with the curb and gutter installation complete on Plank Road, about increasing the speed limit from Midtown Road to near the Electric and Public Works building to 40 mph. Straw pole suggested 45 mph. Alderman Lukosus asked for formal approval to be added to the agenda at the next regular meeting.

PSM/Fire Chief Jeff King reported the street sweeper may be out if temperatures continue to rise.

ELECTRIC

Electric Operations Manager Kevin Minnick reported on the status of 34.5kv system extension.

Mr. Minnick reported the expansion by Eakas should be completed this weekend and crews are work on lines to the hospital.

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ENGINEERING

Eric Carls, Director of Engineering and Zoning, reported that Johnson Seed is looking to build by Eiten Ag and needs the city to build apron/culvert as incentive. Mr. Carls asked for formal approval at next meeting.

Mr. Carls reported on the annual trade show in May and looking to order banners soon.

Alderman Payton asked who to call when small businesses are looking for direction on Downtown TIF.

OLD BUSINESS

Alderman Lukosus inquired on bond for electric. Alderman Payton stated he will have a conversation with Finance Officer Tracy Mitchell.

NEW BUSINESS

Mayor Kolowski reported the following:

- Meet with new general manager of GAF
- Kevin is withing with GAF for a roof on Water Street
- Looking at basketball courts for 28th Street Park

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

CODE ENFORCEMENT

Police Chief Sarah Raymond asked for code enforcement issues to be directed through her instead of directly at CSO Blake Frund.

POLICE

None

FIRE

Alderman Edgcomb reported it is still the goal to hire an additional two engineers, and comparing with other towns. Alderman Edgcomb also reported on discussion of different scenarios with fire medics.

LANDFILL

None

CEMETERY

None

PARKS & RECREATION

Alderman Tieman made a motion to approve annual field fertilization plan from Advanced Turf Solutions in the amount of \$18,527.80. Alderman Edgcomb seconded the motion. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

Mayor Kolowski reported the new Baker Lake sign is complete (by donation) and would like to have a similar one done in the same color at Washington Park.

Mayor Kolowski reported on letter from the IL Valley YMCA.

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Mayor Kolowski reported on the Veterans Banner Program.

FINANCE COMMITTEE (*Finance, Human Resources*)

FINANCE

Alderman Payton along with Mayor Kolowski reported on the following:

- Cutting OT on
- Summer workers
- Looking at revenues
 - Cemetery
 - Hotel/motel tax
 - Gaming

HUMAN RESOURCES

Human Resources Director Kim Reese reported on the following:

- Health Insurance Cooperative
 - IPBC loss ratio is high with \$60,000 to balance the CO-OP.
- Deferred Compensation Plan
 - Nationwide has not been active, looking at someone local
- Summer Employees
 - Need direction on how to proceed

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

CLOSED SESSION

Alderman Edgcomb made a motion to go into closed session to discuss 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. Alderman Sapienza seconded the motion. Clerk Mertel called the roll with Aldermen Ballard, Tieman, Payton, Edgcomb, Sapienza, Lukosus, and Moreno voting aye. Alderman O'Sadnick absent. Motion carried.

Closed session began at 5:22 p.m. and ended at 5:38 p.m.

Alderman Edgcomb made a motion to reopen the meeting. Alderman Sapienza seconded the motion. Aldermen Ballard, Tieman, Payton, Edgcomb, Sapienza, Lukosus, and Moreno present. Alderman O'Sadnick absent. Mayor Kolowski present.

ADJOURNMENT

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

Meeting adjourned 5:39 p.m.