



# City of Peru



David R. Bartley  
City Clerk

P.O. Box 299 • 1901 Fourth Street • Peru, IL 61354-0299  
815-223-0061 • fax: 815-223-9489      www.peru.il.us      dbartley@peru.il.us

## PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

DATE OF MEETING:                      Monday, March 31, 2025                      TIME: 3:30 PM

PLACE OF MEETING:                      Peru Municipal Building  
1901 4th Street, Peru, IL 61354

ROLL CALL: Chairman, Aldermen Lukosus, Sapienza, Ballard and Moreno present.

### MINUTES

Alderman Lukosus made a motion to approve the Public Works Committee Minutes of March 3, 2025. Alderman Ballard seconded the motion; motion carried.

### PRESENTATION

Mr. Rafeal Blanco of CL Real Estate addressed the committee regarding basement flooding concerns at 315 5<sup>th</sup> Street. Mr. Blanco reported that his property had not had water prior to the Rte. 6 project and asked the city for assistance. Mr. Blanco reported that agreed upon sealing of the underground tunnel was not done properly therefore resulting in the flooding. Eric Carls, Director of Engineering and Zoning reported the project had been planned for many years and in permitting with IDOT, the city was told existing tunnels would need to be abandoned. Mr. Carls stated that there was a large coordination effort between the city, Chamlin and Associates and Carus Chemical dating back to 2022. Mr. Carls stated that within those talks, it was identified to Carus Chemical there was an issue with the sanitary service line under the tunnel and the need to install some type of sump pit system to manage the water, or onsite drainage. Mr. Carls reported on extensive research using dye tables to identify where the leakage was coming from. Mr. Carls reported on constructing a wall at the right-of-way line but was asked to move it and fill the tunnel per CL Real Estate's request. Mr. Carls stated that water back up was to be expected due to lack of path of the water to go. Mr. Carls reported the storm system under Carus Chemical is on private property and contains old drain tiles. Mr. Blanco requested the walls be closer to the foundation and when he spoke to the contractors, they told him the walls were not put up and doesn't believe the scope of the agreed upon work was executed further, asking for assistance from the city in correcting the problem. Mr. Carls stated his team keeps detailed notes and daily diaries and that he could have the team along with Eric Zborowski, Engineering Tech, Adam Ossola of Chamlin and Associates and Water Department Foreman, Justin Nambo present to the committee on the work performed. Mr. Blanco stated he has documentation as well. The committee agreed to bring the city team along with CL Real Estate back to discuss further.

### PUBLIC COMMENT

None

## IT REPORT

IT Director Stephen Rounds reported fiber installation is going well.

## WATER & SEWER

PSM/Fire Chief Jeff King reported that IV Excavating repaired a sewer line at 6<sup>th</sup> Street and Schuyler Street. PSM/Fire Chief reported that due to the depth of the collapse, IV Excavating was needed to repair the fix.

Eric Carls, Director of Engineering and Zoning reported on a portion of Prospect Street between Rte. 6 and 5<sup>th</sup> Street needed to be repaired due to a collapsed sewer. Mr. Carls stated he instructed Advanced Asphalt to mill and resurface the portion of road as they were working on the Rte. 6 project.

## T.E.S.T.

Chris Perra, President of TEST, Inc., reported a skimmer fell into the tank and cost \$7,000 to repair.

Mr. Perra reported on replacement of blower at the WWTP. Mr. Perra reported the blower is 20 years old and runs 24/365. Mr. Perra stated that one blower failed last week and cost \$20,000 to replace. Mr. Perra noted a much larger blower was replaced at the EWWTP with the cost of \$50,000.

## AIRPORT

None

## BUILDING & GROUNDS

Alderman Lukosus made a motion to recommend the 2<sup>nd</sup> extension of the Landscape Maintenance contract with Specialty Landscaping. Eric Carls, Director of Engineering and Zoning reported an increase of \$7,000 but that a number of locations have been added.

## STREETS & ALLEYS

Alderman Moreno asked for an update on the street sweeper. PSM/Chief King reported we should have it back in service around April 20<sup>th</sup>.

## ELECTRIC

Kevin Minnick, Electric Operations Manager, reported on the following:

- Dragos –IT Director Stephen Rounds reported on the Dragos Operational Technology platform and quote received from Dragos in the amount of \$24,480. Mr. Rounds outlined the role of OT cybersecurity:
  - OT Cybersecurity: Protects operational technology systems from cyber threats.
  - Operational Technology (OT): Refers to hardware and software that detects or causes changes through direct monitoring and control of physical devices, processes, and events.
  - Importance: Ensures the safety and reliability of critical infrastructure
  - Threats: Includes malware, ransomware, and unauthorized access that can disrupt operations.
  - Regulations: Often guided by industry standards and regulations to ensure compliance and safety.
  - Collaboration: Requires cooperation between IT (Information Technology) and OT teams for effective security.
- Baker Tilly Grant
  - Funding available for small/rural utilities

- Present at future meeting
- Electric Service Rules/Requirements
  - Working with BHMG to create rules/requirement for people who wish to connect to our system
  - Would be published in code of ordinances and enforced
- Electric Operation System Capital Plan
  - Working with BHMG on developing a 5-year capital plan and prioritizing projects

#### ENGINEERING

Eric Carls, Director of Engineering and Zoning reported that IDOT is looking for concurrence for the bid for the ITEP Pedestrian Bridge project. Mr. Carls reported one bid was received for the project and it came in at approximately 6% above the engineering estimate. Mr. Carls recommended moving forward with the project. Committee concurred.

#### OLD BUSINESS

None

#### NEW BUSINESS

None

#### PUBLIC COMMENT

None

#### CLOSED SESSION

Alderman Lukosus made a motion to go into closed session to consider security procedures and the use of personnel and equipment to respond to an actual, a threatened, or a reasonably potential danger to the safety of employees, students, staff, the public or public property, and meetings for the discussion of minutes lawfully closed under the act either for the purposes of approval by the body of the minutes or semi-annual review of the minutes required by the act. Alderman Sapienza seconded the motion. Deputy Clerk Stephanie Piscia called the roll with Aldermen Lukosus, Sapienza, Ballard and Moreno voting aye; motion carried.

Closed session began at 4:13 p.m., ended at 4:45 p.m.

Alderman Sapienza made a motion to reopen the meeting. Alderman Lukosus seconded the motion. Deputy Clerk Stephanie Piscia called the roll with Aldermen Lukosus, Sapienza, Ballard and Moreno present.

#### ADJOURNMENT

Alderman Lukosus made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Alderman Sapienza seconded the motion; motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 4:46 p.m.