

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF
PERU, NEBRASKA ON THE 18th OF SEPTEMBER 2023 AT 6:00 P.M.**

The Mayor and Council of the City of Peru, Nemaha County, Nebraska, were called to meet at City Hall at 614 5th Street, Peru, Nebraska 68421, on the 18st of September 2023, at 6:00 P.M., for a Regular Council Meeting, open to the general public, advance notice of said regular meeting, the designated method of giving notice, including the agenda for said meeting, or the availability thereof was posted at: Peru City Hall, Western National Bank (Bank of Peru), Peru Post Office, and Casey's General Store.

Mayor Dave Pease called the meeting to order and informed the public of the location of the Nebraska Open Meetings Act.

Agenda Item 1 – Roll Call

Present at 6:00 p.m.: Mayor Dave Pease, and Councilmembers Cate Wyckoff, Marty Peregoy, Quintin Kieler, and Theresa Westfall. Upon roll call by the City Clerk, a quorum was declared.

Agenda Item 2 – Recognition of Visitors

Mayor Dave Pease informed the public that a copy of City Resolution #2017-02 Pertaining to Conduct Rules for City Council Meetings may be requested from the City Clerk.

Agenda Item 3 – Public Hearing

A public hearing was held to obtain public comment on the 1-&-6 Year Plan for street improvements in the City of Peru. Councilmember T. Westfall explained to all present that there have been no revisions made since the Streets Committee met and made changes to it last month. A resident inquired as to how changes would be made if priorities needed to be shifted, specifically if 5th Street becomes worse after wintertime. Discussion was held and the process of changing the 1-&-6 Year Plan was explained. With no further inquiries, and no opposition after allowing time for questions and public comment, Councilmember M. Peregoy moved to close the public hearing, seconded by Councilmember T. Westfall. Upon roll call vote: 4 AYES, 0 NAYS. The following voted AYE: Marty Peregoy, Quentin Kieler, Cate Wyckoff, and Theresa Westfall. The following voted NAY: None. Motion: Carried

Agenda Item 4 – Consent Agenda

A.) Approval of Minutes

- (i.) Approval of Minutes from August 21st, 2023 Regular Meeting
- (ii.) Approval of Minutes from August 21st, 2023 Budget Workshop

B.) Approval of Claims- This item was removed from the consent agenda at the request of M. Peregoy.

C.) JEO:

(i.) Approval of JEO Pay Application No. 11 for the 2021 Water System Improvement Project

Mayor D. Pease presented the Consent Agenda. Councilmember Q. Kieler made motion to approve the Consent Agenda, items A. (Approval of Minutes) and C. (Approval of JEO Pay Application No. 11). The motion was seconded by Councilmember T. Westfall. Upon roll call vote: 4 AYES, 0 NAYS. The following voted AYE: Marty Peregoy, Quentin Kieler, Cate Wyckoff, and Theresa Westfall. The following voted NAY: None. Motion: Carried

B.) Approval of Claims- the following claims were presented to the Council by the City Clerk, reviewed, and approved for payment:

Regular Claims:

JEO (Flood / Water Associated)- \$111,966.70
Kinetic/Windstream (Internet / Utility) - \$509.74
OPPD (Gen / Utility) - \$3,557.39
Black Hills Energy (Gen / Utility) - \$135.04
Personnel Payroll for check deposited 8/31 (Gen / Accounting) - \$6,185.24
Personnel Payroll for check deposited 9/15 (Gen / Accounting) - \$5,889.69
Xpress Bill Pay (Gen / Water Bill Processing) - \$102.74
Access Systems (Gen) - \$173.36
American Recycling & Sanitation (Gen / Utility) - \$2,735.00
AT&T (Gen/ Fire) - \$47.94
Auburn Auto (Gen)- \$724.13
Auburn Board of Public Works (Gen / Water Associated) - \$5,797.17
Black Hills Energy (Gen / Fire) - \$76.47
Bound Tree (Gen/ Fire) - \$790.97
EAKS Office Solutions (Gen) - \$41.29
Feld Fire, Inc. (Fire) - \$10,628.16
Frontier Cooperative (Gen) - \$117.50
Grainger (Gen / Maint) - \$839.40
Hawkins, Inc (Gen / Maint) - \$1,317.19
Heather Pemberton, CPA (Gen/ Accounting) - \$757.40
Nebraska Public Health Env. Lab (Gen) - \$267.00
One Call Concepts (Gen / Maint) - \$43.08
Pitney Bowes (Gen) - \$750.51
Quick Med Claims (Fire/ Res) - \$27.37
Raka Rentals (Gen / Water Associated) - \$1,101.28
Uline (Gen / Maint) - \$184.63
Verizon Wireless (Gen / Water Associated) - \$80.02
WesTech Engineering (Gen / Water Associated) - \$15,340.00
Westrum Leak Detection, Inc. (Gen / Water Associated) - \$1,400.00

Councilmember Q. Kieler made motion to approve Item B - Payment of claims. The motion was seconded by Councilmember T. Westfall. Upon roll call vote: Ayes, 0 Nays. The following voted AYE: Marty Peregoy, Quentin Kieler, Cate Wyckoff, and Theresa Westfall. The following voted NAY: None. Motion: Carried

Agenda Item 5 – Payment of Private Contractor Claims

E.) Marty Peregoy- Grant Coordinator Duties

Independent Contractor M. Peregoy for grant coordinator duties, submitted a claim for the amount of \$953.25.

Councilmember C. Wyckoff motioned to approve the claim for Independent Contract labor, seconded by Councilmember Q. Kieler. Upon roll call vote: 3 AYES, 0 NAYS, 1 ABSTAINED. The following voted AYE: Quentin Kieler, Cate Wyckoff, Theresa Westfall. The following voted NAY: None. The following Councilmember Abstained: Marty Peregoy. Motion: Carried

Agenda Item 6 – Correspondence

F.) None for this meeting

Agenda Item 7 – Old Business

G.) Water report

Monthly water report submitted. Mayor D. Pease reports that there were some issues with waterline leakage this past month. The leak was able to be found quickly, and resolved. Additionally, a shared operator's agreement is currently being worked on with the Auburn Board of Public Works, and should be finalized by the end of September.

H.) Mayor's Report-

Mayor D. Pease provided updated information regarding the inquiry to the possible restoration of Bluff Road. The County will not be able to restore it until the issue of sewer contamination nearby has been resolved. Additionally, Mayor Pease announced that an employment offer for a new building inspector had been accepted, and they will be starting with the City next week, for one full day per week. Finally, the T-Mobile grant for playground equipment has been denied for the City, but the City is eligible to re-apply next year.

Agenda Item 8 – New Business

I.) Resident V. Sherman- Requesting Street Closure for annual Peru Trunk-or-Treat event

Discussion was held regarding the proposed annual Trunk-Or-Treat event, on Sunday, October 29th, from approximately 2:00pm-7:00pm. From The Market, to KJ Whitehorse's to be closed off. The timeframe includes set up and tear down, access to city hall will be needed for bathroom usage. Councilmember T. Westfall moves for approval of the street closure, Councilmember C. Wyckoff seconds. Upon roll call vote: 4 AYES, 0 NAYS. The following Council Members voted AYE: Marty Peregoy, Theresa Westfall, Quentin Kieler, and Cate Wyckoff. The following voted NAY: No one. Motion: Carried

J.) Fire/Rescue Chief B. Lottman- Final Approval to Order Ambulance as Part of ARPA Grant

Resident M. Decker presenting on behalf of B. Lottman regarding the ARPA grant. This grant was applied for, and the purchase already approved from a Council meeting in 2022. Discussion held. Councilmember T. Westfall moves for approval of the street closure, Councilmember C. Wyckoff seconds. Upon roll call vote: 4 AYES, 0 NAYS. The following Council Members voted AYE: Theresa Westfall, Quentin Kieler, Cate Wyckoff, and Marty Peregoy. The following voted NAY: No one. Motion: Carried

K.) PSC Representative S. Holmes Regarding Proposed Dog Park

Nemaha County Leadership class and PSC are collaborating to continue work on this project. An agreement has been made on a location, and a spot has been secured north of the ballfield. The ballpark fencing is no longer an option, as it has been torn down. Resident V. Sherman working alongside OPPD to drill holes for the fencing, and maintenance has gotten S. Holmes some approximate measurements. A suggestion was made to add 2x4 board around the inside of the fence for ease of upkeep and mowing.

L.) Report- Update from City Clerk and City Maintenance Director on Current City Projects

A discussion was held regarding office turnover, including announcing the departure of the City's general laborer, as the summer season comes to a close. Further, the date was announced for the upcoming project of painting the downtown area parking lines. The paint has arrived, and any volunteers are welcome. Tree limbs have begun to be cut down, and the City will continue to work on that.

M.) Report from CPA H. Pemberton Regarding Update on Audit Status

CPA H. Pemberton gave a report on City financials. With the City Deputy Clerk vacancy, and continued Peru office turnover, CPA Pemberton's new office staff has had to take on much of that work. In collaboration with the City Clerk's office, a claims cover form implemented. This help continue to ensure all financial transactions are properly recorded and documented for accounts payable. CPA Pemberton's office has very much helped investigate some of the numbers and tracing origins/approvals for the State Auditor's Office. Discussion was held regarding new applicants for City Deputy Clerk, and the need for having an accounting background.

N.) Councilmember M. Peregoy- Proposed Temporary Freeze on Non-Essential Spending

Discussion was held regarding Councilmember M. Peregoy's proposal to freeze non-essential spending until the Audit is completed. Mayor Pease and CPA Pemberton both reported that according to previous claims, nothing non-essential had been purchased. Council and mayor agreed that no unnecessary purchases were being made, and the Clerk's Office is able to decide. No action taken on this agenda item.

O.) Resident S. Wyckoff- Regarding City Maintenance Shop

Maintenance Director P. Wemhoff provided an update that the location for the proposed maintenance offices may be moved. It may be more cost effective to renovate East area shop, which is smaller than the main maintenance shop. Councilmember T. Westfall reported that she would like to see additional funds allocated to the maintenance department for supplies and equipment for the upcoming fiscal year. The previously proposed new maintenance vehicle may be able to be deducted from the Street budget, additional research will be necessary.

P.) Resolution No. 2023-10: To Consider Approval and Adoption of the City of Peru, NE, One- & Six Year Plan for Street Improvements

After the public hearing, no changes were proposed. With no further discussion to be had, Councilmember M. Perego motions for a vote to approve the proposed resolution, seconded by Councilmember T. Westfall. Upon roll call vote: 4 AYES, 0 NAYS. The following Council Members voted AYE: Theresa Westfall, Quentin Kieler, Cate Wyckoff, and Marty Perego. The following voted NAY: No one. Motion: Carried

Q.) Resolution No. 2023-11 for consideration of approval of the sale of personal property owned by the City of Peru: LaserJet Pro M402n with extra toner cartridge.

Councilmember M. Perego motions for a vote to approve the proposed resolution, seconded by Councilmember Q. Kieler. Upon roll call vote: 4 AYES, 0 NAYS. The following Council Members voted AYE: Quentin Kieler, Cate Wyckoff, Marty Perego, and Theresa Westfall. The following voted NAY: No one. Motion: Carried

R.) No. 2023-12 for consideration of approval of the sale of personal property owned by the City of Peru: Police Service-Six .357 Magnum.

Transport to be arranged by Councilmember T. Westfall, in collaboration with Hunter's Headquarters in Auburn. Councilmember M. Perego motions for a vote to approve the proposed resolution, seconded by Councilmember C. Wyckoff. Upon roll call vote: 4 AYES, 0 NAYS. The following Council Members voted AYE: Marty Perego, Quentin Kieler, Cate Wyckoff, and Theresa Westfall. The following voted NAY: No one. Motion: Carried

S.) No. 2023-13 for consideration of approval of the sale of personal property owned by the City of Peru: Eastfield Model 915 Smith and Wesson 12GA, 3 inch Chamber shotgun.

Councilmember T. Westfall motions for a vote to approve the proposed resolution, seconded by Councilmember Q. Kieler. Upon roll call vote: 4 AYES, 0 NAYS. The following Council Members voted AYE: Quentin Kieler, Marty Perego, Theresa Westfall, and Cate Wyckoff. The following voted NAY: No one. Motion: Carried

T.) No. 2023-14 for consideration of approval of the sale of personal property owned by the City of Peru: Coca Cola Scoreboard.



Councilmember C. Wyckoff motions for a vote to approve the proposed resolution, seconded by Councilmember Q. Kieler. Upon roll call vote: 4 AYES, 0 NAYS. The following Council Members voted AYE: Quentin Kieler, Cate Wyckoff, Marty Peregoy, and Theresa Westfall. The following voted NAY: No one. Motion: Carried

U.) Proposed Ordinance No. 2023-11, AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING SUSPENSION OF RULES FIXING COMPENSATION OF THE OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE CITY OF PERU; TO PROVIDE FOR THE REPEAL OF ALL PRIOR ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT HEREWITH; ORDERING THE PUBLICATION OF THE ORDINANCE IN PAMPHLET FORM; AND TO PROVIDE THE EFFECTIVE DATE HEREOF. The mayor announced the proposed ordinance was in order. Council Member Q. Kieler moved that these proceedings be kept in a separate and distinct volume known as the “Ordinance Record of the City of Peru” and that said volume be made part of these proceedings as though it were spread at large herein, which motion was seconded by council member T. Westfall. Upon Roll call vote: 4 AYES, 0 NAYS. The following Council Member voted AYE: M. Peregoy, Q. Kieler, C. Wyckoff, and T. Westfall. The following voted NAY: No one. Motion: Carried. Council Member T. Westfall introduced the proposed Ordinance and moved that the statutory rule requiring reading on three different days be suspended. Council Member Q. Kieler seconded the motion to suspend the rules. Upon Roll call vote: 4 AYES, 0 NAYS. The following Council Member voted AYE: M. Peregoy, Q. Kieler, C. Wyckoff, and T. Westfall. The following voted NAY: No one. Motion: Carried. The motion to suspend the rules was adopted by the Council and the statutory rule was declared suspended for consideration of said ordinance. Council member T. Westfall read Ordinance No. 2023-11 and moved for final passage for the ordinance, which motion was seconded by Council Member C. Wyckoff. Upon roll call vote: 2 AYES, 2 NAYS. The following Council Members voted AYE: Quentin Kieler and Theresa Westfall. The following voted NAY: Cate Wyckoff and Marty Peregoy. Mayor D. Pease as tie-breaker: AYE. Motion: Carried. The Mayor declared that said Ordinance No. 2023-11 be approved on its first and final reading and its title agreed to.

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned on the same day at 9:02p.m.

HEREBY ATTESTED AND ACKNOWLEDGED:



Dave Pease, Mayor



City Clerk