

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF
PERU, NEBRASKA ON THE 19th OF AUGUST 2024 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 19th of August 2024, 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 Quentin Kieler, Theresa Westfall, Katy Novak, and Brent Brown. Upon roll call by the City Clerk, a quorum was declared pursuant to Neb. Rev. Stat. 17-105.

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, and read aloud by Councilmember T. Westfall.

Agenda Item 3 – Public Hearing

None for this meeting

Agenda Item 4 – Consent Agenda

A.) Approval of Minutes

(i.) Approval of Minutes from July 15th, 2024 Regular Meeting

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

Regular Claims:

JEO (Wtr/Swr) - \$232.50 // Black Hills Energy (Gen / Utility) - \$131.42 // Kinetic/Windstream (Internet / Utility) - \$861.73 // OPPD (Gen / Utility) - \$2103.02 // Personnel Payroll for check deposited 7/31 (Gen / Acct) - \$10,368.56 // Personnel Payroll for check deposited 8/15 (Gen / Acct) - \$9,999.97 // Payroll taxes for 7/31 and 8/15 (Gen / Acct) - \$5,547.45 // Quick Med Claims (Res) - \$490.39 // Xpress Bill Pay (Wtr/Swr) - \$101.41 // Access Systems (Gen) - \$173.36 // American Recycling & Sanitation (Wtr/Swr) - \$2,570.00 // Auburn Auto Center (Gen/Maint) - \$1,478.08 // Auburn Board of Public Works (Wtr/Swr) - \$14,912.90 // Auburn Newspaper (Gen) - \$140.67 // Bohl Plumbing & Heating (Gen) - \$2,813.00 // Bound Tree (Fire/Res) - \$744.45 // Brent Lottman (Fire/Res) - \$23.42 // Casey's Business Mastercard (Gen) - \$987.25 // Chase NYC (Debt Svc) - \$27,454.50 // Commercial Recreational Specialist

(Gen/Main) \$2,610.00 // Cornhusker Press (Gen) - \$81.15 // Feld Fire, Inc. (Fire/Res) - \$2,567.50 // First National Bank Omaha (Gen) - \$1,375.88 // First Wireless, Inc. (Fire/Res) - \$501.20 // Grainger (Gen/Maint) - \$1,742.01 // Heather Pemberton, CPA (Gen/ Acct) - \$620.00 // League of Nebraska Utilities (Wtr/Swr) - \$1,067.00 // Miller Ferrell Insurance Agency (Gen) - \$11,639.00 // NAPA Auto Parts (Gen) - \$235.69 // Nebraska Public Health Env. Lab (Wtr/Swr) - \$267.00 // Nebraska State Volunteer Firefighter Assoc (Fir/Res) - \$625.00 // One Call Concepts (Wtr/Swr) - \$14.32 // SENDD (Gen) - \$15,000.00 // State Fire Marshal Training Division (Fir/Rec) - \$50.00 // Tori Schuetz (Gen) - \$31.16 // Zech Construction (Gen) - \$1,000.00 // Zech Construction (Wtr/Swr) - \$200.00 // Small Claims- Microsoft, Adobe, etc. (Gen) - \$31.99

C.) Approval of Monthly Treasurer's Report.

D.) Approval of new Bobcat Lease with Hamilton Equipment Company, for the total amount of \$9,216.00, annually, for 5 years.

E.) Approval for resident J. Coatney's appointment to the Parks and Recreation Commission, replacing resident D. Cotton. Acceptance of resident A. Allgood's resignation from the Parks and Recreation Commission.

F.) Approval of resident S. Hassler's request on behalf of the Peru Community Impact Group, for the closure of 5th Street from the intersection of 5th and Main Street to 5th and California Street, on Sunday, October 27th, from 2:00pm to 6:30pm, for the annual Trunk-Or-Treat Event.

G.) Approval of City Resolution No. 2024-11, regarding the Nebraska Department of Transportation's annual certification of program compliance.

H.) Approval of payment to the Southeast Nebraska Development District (SEND) for lead and asbestos inspections, totaling the amount of fifteen-thousand dollars (\$15,000.00), to be paid from the FEMA account, to be reimbursed by FEMA/NEMA within 60 days.

Mayor Dave Pease presented the Consent Agenda. Resident S. Hassler clarified his requested agenda item (Item "F"), that no intersections would need blocked off for the event, just the street area. Street closure permit shall reflect that. Councilmember Q. Kieler made motion to approve the Consent Agenda. The motion was seconded by Councilmember K. Novak. Upon roll call vote for approval of consent agenda: 4 AYES, 0 NAYS. The following voted AYE: K. Novak, Q. Kieler, T. Westfall, and B. Brown. The following voted NAY: None. Motion: Carried

Agenda Item 5 – Correspondence

I.) None for this meeting

Agenda Item 6 – Old Business

J.) Water report

Monthly water report submitted.

K.) Mayor's Report

Mayor Pease reported that the upcoming annual Budget Workshop will take place on Monday, August 26th, 2024, at 6:00pm, here at City Hall. This is an annual meeting with the City CPA to discuss items needed for upcoming budget approval and process. Mayor Pease additionally reported that the current City Clerk has accepted a role with another jurisdiction, the hiring process has begun. The City is also looking for a new part-time general laborer, inquiries can be made at Peru City Hall.

L.) Report from City Clerk T. Schuetz

City Clerk reports that a proper transition plan for the new City Clerk will be in place, that will assure a smooth transition. City Clerk T. Schuetz additionally reported the upcoming dates of required budgetary hearings, August 26th being the Budget Workshop, September 16th being the Budget Hearing, and September 17th being the regular City Council Meeting, with approval of the annual budget.

Agenda Item 7 – New Business

M.) Resident S. Hassler's agenda item request regarding the Peru Trailhead bathrooms.

Councilmember T. Westfall stated that the Peru Parks and Recreation Commission intends to meet with the NRD team in conjunction with the Steamboat Trace Association to further discuss possible options for the bathrooms for next year, along with possible updates to the Trail Depot Building. Resident S. Hassler requested to be notified of the meeting date, once it is set. No action taken on item.

N.) Resident S. Hassler's agenda item request regarding the maintenance of City-owned lots.

Resident S. Hassler stated concerns regarding the measurement of resident-owned lawns, in comparison to the upkeep of City-owned lots. City Building Inspector D. Hibler, stated that the City has had great success in achieving compliance, with approximately seventy-one (71) total overgrown lawn notices being sent out this season, with only three (3) fines being issued. Councilmember K. Novak also emphasized the success rate, and reminded resident S. Hassler that until the July 2024 City Council meeting, the City Maintenance staff were awaiting the arrival of a new lawn mower. No action taken.

O.) Discussion regarding the City of Peru's existing trash sanitation services through American Recycling and Sanitation and updates they have recently had. Possible action includes: City utilities stopping billing for trash services, City utilities setting different trash services rates based on resident factors.

The City Clerk stated that American Recycling and Sanitation that currently contracts with the City of Peru, would like to begin to have multi-unit dwellings and rental homes with multiple occupants have a commercial account with American Recycling and Sanitation. Additionally, it was discussed at the most recent Finance Committee meeting, that the City has been under-charging for sanitation services, creating a deficit to the City's sanitation budget. The City Clerk explained that the City has a few options on how they would be able address this issue.

Councilmember Q. Kieler asked if an informal rate study needed to be done, which the City Clerk stated that could be helpful to provide the City with the most information. Councilmember B. Brown commented that the Solid Waste Committee intends to meet to discuss this issue and some of the possible options. No action taken.

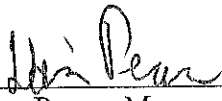
P.) Follow-up discussion from the July 2024 City Council meeting, regarding the Peru Fire Department's use of a storage structure, including location of use, condition of building, possible needed repairs, and project timeline.

Peru Fire Department Chief B. Lottman appeared in-person to follow up on this item. City Building Inspector D. Hibler and B. Lottman discussed the building's current location, condition, and movability. Councilmember K. Novak raised a concern that moving an existing storage structure is a temporary solution to the Peru Fire Department needing more storage and space to operate in, and she would like to see more permanent, long-term plans being developed. Discussion held. Councilmember Q. Kieler motioned to approve for the Peru Fire Department to move an existing storage structure to 401 Main Street, for temporary storage. The motion was seconded by Councilmember T. Westfall. Upon roll call vote for approval: 4 AYES, 0 NAYS. The following voted AYE: Q. Kieler, T. Westfall, B. Brown, and K. Novak. The following voted NAY: None. Motion: Carried

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned on the same day at 6:41p.m.

HEREBY ATTESTED AND ACKNOWLEDGED:



Dave Pease, Mayor



City Clerk

