

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF
PERU, NEBRASKA ON THE 16th OF OCTOBER 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 16th of October 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 Quintin Kieler and Theresa Westfall. 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.

Agenda Item 3 – Public Hearing

A public hearing was held to obtain public comment on the modification of an existing CDBG grant for The Market, LLC, local grocery store. No resident questions were asked in relation to the modification of the previously approved grant. With no further comments, Councilmember T. Westfall moved to close the public hearing, seconded by Councilmember Q. Kieler. Upon roll call vote: 3 AYES, 0 NAYS. The following voted AYE: Quentin Kieler, Theresa Westfall, and Mayor Pease. The following voted NAY: None. Motion: Carried

Agenda Item 4 – Consent Agenda

A.) Approval of Minutes

- (i.) Approval of Minutes from September 18th, 2023 Regular Meeting
- (ii.) Approval of Minutes from September 18th, 2023 Budget Hearing
- (iii.) Approval of Minutes from September 19th, 2023 Special 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 (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

C.) Acceptance of Councilmember M. Peregoy's resignation from the Peru City Council

D.) Acceptance of Councilmember C. Wyckoff's resignation from the Peru City Council

E.) Approval of City Staff & Council Annual Gathering for Saturday, December 9th, 2023

F.) Approval of Updated City Staff Handbook/Benefits, to be effective Jan 1st, 2024.

(i.) This item was removed from the agenda by the City Clerk prior to the Council meeting

G.) JEO: Approval of JEO Pay Application No. 12 for the 2021 Water System Improvement Project

(i.) Approval in the amount of \$56,453.00. This pay application covers water main and building installations.

Mayor D. Pease presented the Consent Agenda. Councilmember T. Westfall made motion to approve the Consent Agenda, without the previously removed agenda item (F.) The motion was seconded by Councilmember Q. Kieler. Upon roll call vote: 3 AYES, 0 NAYS. The following voted AYE: Theresa Westfall, Quentin Kieler, and Mayor Dave Pease. The following voted NAY: None. Motion: Carried

Agenda Item 5 – Correspondence

H.) None for this meeting

Agenda Item 6 – Old Business

I.) Water report

Monthly water report submitted. Mayor D. Pease reports that issues with the waterline are continuing to be worked out, and it is hoped that water from Auburn will be in Peru by early November.

J.) Mayor's Report-

Mayor D. Pease thanked all volunteers involved for the painted lines project for the downtown area, and reports that work is continuing to be done to finalize the waterline contract with the Auburn Board of Public Works.

Agenda Item 7 – New Business

K.) Report from Building Inspector D. Hibler

Peru Building Inspector D. Hibler introduced himself to the Council and reported that 16 building permits have been processed and paid for, 4 of which have been completed, inspected the completion, and signed off on. D. Hibler also made recommendations to the Council on changes to the building permit fee schedule as well as requirements for permits. Councilmember T. Westfall requested that the proposed recommendations be turned into a resolution by the City Attorney and the City Clerk for approval at the next Council meeting.

L.) Report from the City Clerk

Peru City Clerk T. Schuetz provided a report of projects completed by the City since last meeting, and upcoming Halloween/Fall events. A soft cost analysis was completed regarding City personnel turnover, and the City Clerk and Mayor are all looking into options to fill the permanent grant coordinator vacancy.

M.) Resident- Janet Hope Regarding Creation of Parks and Recreation Committee

Resident would like to create a City Parks and Recreation committee. Discussion held. How finances would be handled as far as claims go would need to be discussed with City CPA H. Pemberton. The creation of this committee to be included on next month's agenda.

N.) Motion for Consideration by Council- City Maintenance Director- Purchase of New Backhoe

The City is in need of a new backhoe, as new parts for the old backhoe the City currently has are unable to be found. The rental price for a current one is \$5,000/month. Maintenance Director P. Wemhoff reports that with the new waterline coming in, a new backhoe would be more useful to the City rather than the previously approved UTV. City Clerk to have a discussion with City CPA regarding this, item postponed to November.


O.) Ordinance 2023-13: First Reading

Proposed Ordinance No. 2023-13 was presented for consideration on First reading. The Mayor announced that the proposed Ordinance was in order. Council Member T. Westfall 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 the same as though it were spread at large herein, which motion was seconded by Council Member Q. Kieler. Upon roll call vote: 3 AYES and 0 NAYs. The following members voted “AYE”: T. Westfall, Q. Kieler, and Mayor Dave Pease. The following voted “NAY”: No one. Motion: Carried. Council Member T. Westfall introduced the proposed ordinance as Ordinance No. 2023-13 entitled: AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF PERU, NEMAHA COUNTY, NEBRASKA, TO AMEND THE ORIGINAL CHAPTER 31 OF THE MUNICIPAL CODE OF THE CITY OF PERU, NEBRASKA, CODE OF ORDINANCES BY ADDING AN ADDITIONAL SECTION WHICH SHALL BE ENTITLED “31.14 CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER”; PROVIDING FOR THE APPOINTMENT; TERMS; POWERS; AND DUTIES OF A CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER; REPEALING ALL ORDINANCES OR PARTS THEREOF IN CONFLICT HEREWITH; MAKING VARIOUS FINDINGS AND PROVISION RELATED TO THE SUBJECT MATTER HEREIN; ORDERING THE PUBLICATION OR POSTING OF THE ORDINANCE; AND SETTING AN EFFECTIVE DATE. Having read Ordinance No. 2023-13, Council member T. Westfall moved for its approval on first reading and its title agreed to, which motion was seconded by Council member Q. Kieler. Upon roll call vote: 3 AYES and 0 NAYs. The following Council Members voted “AYE” T. Westfall, Q. Kieler, and Mayor Dave Pease. Motion: Carried.


ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned on the same day at 6:55p.m.

HEREBY ATTESTED AND ACKNOWLEDGED:



Dave Pease, Mayor



City Clerk

