

**CITY OF PERU COMMON COUNCIL MINUTES**

**PERU CITY HALL, COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

**PERU, INDIANA**

**May 1, 2023**

**5:45**

A special meeting was held prior to the scheduled council meeting to conduct public hearings on three items.

Ordinance 12, 2023 was presented to amend Ordinance 10, 2019 concerning changes in fees related to law enforcement records requests.

A public hearing was held concerning amending schedule of rates and charges for services provided by the municipal electric utility of Peru IN.

A public hearing was held on an appropriation from Public Safety LOIT to use as matching funds for a USDA grant for two new police vehicles.

Meeting was adjourned at 6:21 pm.

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Mayor Hewitt called the regularly scheduled meeting of the Common Council to order at 6:21 pm on May 1, 2023. The following members were present: Steve Anderson, Tom Gustin, Mark Ramsey, Pat Russell, Peter Sahaidachny, Betsy Wolfe, and Kathleen Plothow.

Others present were Mayor Hewitt, City Clerk/Treasurer Kurt Krauskopf, City Attorney Dustin Kern, department heads and other interested persons and members of the community.

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**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** - led by Patricia Russell  
Wedding

**INVOCATION** – led by Pastor Brent

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**ROLL CALL** – Anderson, Gustin, Plothow, Ramsey, Russell, Sahaidachny, and Wolfe were all present.

**READING & CORRECTING JOURNAL** - of minutes of Regular Meeting on April 3, 2023

Councilperson Wolfe moved, seconded by Councilperson Russell, to adopt the minutes.

Roll Call: 7 Ayes 0 Nays

**MOTION CARRIED**

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Communications:

Wolfe: Nothing to report.

Ramsey: Reported on the Animal Control Department and the work being done by the Parks Department on a new 5-year plan.

Plothow: Nothing to report.

Anderson: Nothing to report.

Sahaidachny: Reported on business conducted by the Board of Works and the county council.

Russell: Reported on the Civic Center and the open house and fly in to be conducted at the airport on July 29. Also referenced the summer concerts happening this summer in Peru.

Gustin: The 911 agency is fully staffed.

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**OLD BUSINESS**

**ORDINANCE 6, 2023**

**AN AMMENDED ORDINANCE REPEALING ORDINANCE 3, 2016, AND INSERTING IN IT'S PLACE A NEW SCHEDULE OF RATES AND CHARGES FOR SERVICE PROVIDED BY THE MUNICIPAL ELECTRIC UTILITY OF PERU INDIANA**

It was moved by Councilperson Sahaidachny, seconded by Councilperson Plothow, to consider Ordinance 6, 2023. Motion carried.

Josh Chance from the Peru Utilities stated the need for the updated electric rates. Expenses have been exceeding income for an extended period, and the Utilities have done all they can to reduce expenses. Repairs are now becoming necessary, and an increase in revenue is unfortunately the only solution.

After questions from the audience, it was moved by Councilperson Sahaidachny, seconded by Councilperson Gustin, to adopt Ordinance 6, 2023. Motion carried with 7 ayes, 0 nays.

**MOTION CARRIED**

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Councilperson Wolfe moved to amend the agenda and entertain a nomination for a vacancy on the Cable Committee due to the resignation of Glenn Russell at the April 3, 2023, meeting. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Councilperson Wolfe nominated Josh Yoder to serve on the Cable Committee. It was seconded. There being no other candidates, nominations were closed, and Josh Yoder was elected unanimously to serve on the Cable Committee.

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**NEW BUSINESS**

**ORDINANCE 12, 2023**

**AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND ORDINANCE 10, 2019 TO REFLECT CHANGES IN FEES RELATED TO LAW ENFORCEMENT RECORDS**

Councilperson Wolfe moved, seconded by Councilperson Ramsey, moved to consider Ordinance 12, 2023. Motion carried. Chief Sofianos addressed the changes being proposed to Ordinance 10, 2019. The changes dealt with the costs of obtaining copies of video recordings. Previously the cost was one hundred fifty dollars (\$150.00). The new costs will be:

- A: 0-30 minutes \$50.00
- B: 30-60 minutes \$ 100
- C: over 60 minutes \$150
- D: Processing fee for all requests \$4.00

Councilperson Wolfe moved, seconded by Councilperson Anderson, to adopt Ordinance 12-2023. Motion passed with a vote of 7 ayes, 0 nays.

**MOTION CARRIED**

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**RESOLUTION 11, 2023**

Councilperson Russell moved, seconded by Councilperson Wolfe, to consider Resolution 11, 2023. Motion carried.

**WHEREAS**, it has been determined that it is now necessary to appropriate more money than was originally appropriated in the annual budget for 2023; and,

**Sec. 1.** Be it ordained by the Peru City Council that for the expenses of the taxing unit the following additional sums of money are hereby appropriated out of the Public Safety LOIT Fund 2440 and for the purposes specified, and subject to laws governing the same:

Fund Name: Public Safety LOIT Fund 2440	AMOUNT REQUESTED
Machine, Equipment, Vehicles, Furniture (451)	\$ 50,000.00
Total	\$ 50,000.00

Chief Sofianos explained that the city has an opportunity to receive a grant of approximately \$50,000 to help pay for the cost of two new police vehicles. The City's match is \$50,000. We have been fortunate to have received this grant in the past few years, but the competition is increasing. He is hopeful that we will continue to receive this governmental funding.

It was moved by Councilperson Wolfe, seconded by Councilperson Ramsey, to adopt Resolution 11, 2023. Motion carried with a vote of 7 ayes, 0 nays.

**MOTION CARRIED**

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**RESOLUTION 10-2023**

Councilperson Wolfe moved, seconded by Councilperson Russell, to consider Resolution 10, 2023. Motion carried.

**A RESOLUTION OF THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PERU, INDIANA APPROVING CERTAIN MATTERS IN CONNECTION WITH THE AMENDMENT OF AN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AREA AND PLAN**

**WHEREAS**, the Miami County Economic Development Authority (the "Authority"), as the successor to the Grissom Redevelopment Authority, was created as an "Authority" pursuant to Indiana Code 36-7-14.5-12.5, and pursuant to Ordinance No. 6-19-06 of the Miami County Commissioners and Ordinance No. 27, 2005 by the Common Council of the City of Peru, Indiana (the "City"), and the Authority has been granted the powers of the redevelopment commission of the City; and

**WHEREAS**, the Authority, pursuant to Indiana Code 36-7-14.5-12.5, and pursuant to the procedures provided in Indiana Code 36-7-14, as amended (the "Act"), on April 12, 2023, adopted its Resolution No. 4-12-23 (the "Declaratory Resolution") in which the Authority declared its intent to expand the existing City of Peru Consolidated Economic Development Area (the "Economic Development Area") and revise the economic development plan related thereto (the "Plan") for the Economic Development Area; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Peru Planning Commission, on April 25, 2023, approved and adopted a resolution (the "Plan Commission Order") determining that the Declaratory Resolution and the Plan conform to the plan of development for the City of Peru and approving the Declaratory Resolution and the Plan.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Common Council of the City of Peru, Indiana, as follows:

1. Pursuant to Section 16(a) and (b) of the Act, the Common Council of the City (the "Council") determines that the Declaratory Resolution and the Plan for the Economic Development Area, as set forth in the Declaratory Resolution, in all respects, conform to the plan of development for the City, and approves in all respects, the Declaratory Resolution, the Plan for the Economic Development Area and the Plan Commission Order.

2. The Council hereby approves the determination that the area considered for the expansion of the Economic Development Area, as set forth in the Declaratory Resolution, is an "Economic Development Area" pursuant to Indiana Code 36-7-14-41.

3. This Resolution shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage by the Council and approval by the mayor as required by law.

Jim Tidd with MCEDA explained the reasoning behind adding two additional TIF districts in the City of Peru. One was the old Plant 2 from Schneider Electric and the other was the old N&W Dormitory on Smith Street. Both facilities have had interest from investors willing to improve them and bring them to the tax rolls with an increased value. The two areas had already been approved by the MCEDA board and the Peru Planning Commission.

Councilperson Wolfe moved, seconded by Councilperson Anderson, to adopt Resolution 10, 2023. Motion carried with a vote of 7 ayes, 0 nays.

**MOTION CARRIED**

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Jim Tidd with MCEDA updated the council on two projects that were awarded grants from the state of Indiana under their READI grant program. The first one dealt with the area on West Second Street in front of the new YMCA. This will allow widening and repaving Forest Street heading south from West Main Street, installing a traffic signal at that intersection, and straightening the 90 degree turns in front of the YMCA. We have received a grant in the amount of \$2.75 million to complete the first phase which should start this year.

The second READI grant is for installation of infrastructure in the proposed Broadway Landing development on the west side of North Broadway. This will allow for the construction of water and sewer lines, and an access road to encourage future development. It will require a \$1 million dollar match from CEDIT to obtain the \$1 Million-dollar READI grant from the state. Mr. Tidd will be back prior to the June meeting for public input and a vote on the allocation.

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Garry Clark, Golf Course Superintendent, spoke on the need to replace the irrigation system at the golf course. The system is over 30 years old and requires constant repairs. When repairs are needed, he must turn off the water and drain the system. This also eliminates water sources for the rest of Maconaquah Park, adversely affecting other outings at playgrounds, shelters, and restrooms. Representatives from

SiteOne Landscape, Brett Boone and Steve Rebhan, were in attendance and stated that a replacement system would be approximately \$700,000. Rounds of golf would not be affected, as they would work on one hole at a time and disruption would be minimal. Warranty on the new system is approximately 50 years, and financing is available. Installation would not take place until later in 2024 due to a backlog of jobs. The council expressed support for the project. Further discussion with golf course employees will take place.

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**ADJOURNMENT:**

There being nothing further, Councilperson Gustin moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Councilperson Plothow. Motion carried.

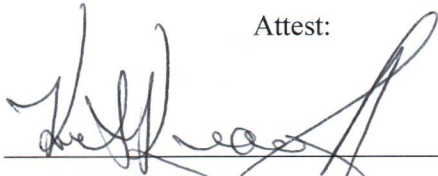
**MEETING ADJOURNED**



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Myles Hewitt, Council  
President  
Mayor of Peru, Indiana

Attest:



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Kurt Krauskopf, City Clerk Treasurer  
City of Peru, Indiana