

CITY OF PERU COMMON COUNCIL MINUTES

PERU CITY HALL, COUNCIL CHAMBERS

PERU, INDIANA

August 7, 2023

5:45 Special Meeting

Mayor Hewitt called the special meeting to order at 5:45 pm. This meeting was to discuss an additional appropriation from the ARP fund for equipment for the golf course. The Clerk-Treasurer explained to the council that after the advertisement of the meeting time, the golf course decided that they didn't require the additional funds and have decided to withdraw the request.

Mayor Hewitt adjourned the special meeting at 6:00pm

Mayor Hewitt called the regularly scheduled meeting of the Common Council to order at 6:00 pm on August 7, 2023. The following members were present: Steve Anderson, Tom Gustin, Mark Ramsey, Peter Sahaidachny, Kathleen Plothow and Betsy Wolfe.

Others present were Mayor Hewitt, City Clerk/Treasurer Kurt Krauskopf, City Attorney Dustin Kern, Utility Superintendent Josh Chance, Scott Miller from Baker Tilley, department heads and other interested persons and members of the community.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE - led by Pete Sahaidachny

INVOCATION – led by Pastor Brent Wedding

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

READING & CORRECTING JOURNAL - of minutes of the Regular Meeting on July 10, 2023

Councilperson Wolfe moved, seconded by Councilperson Russell, to suspend the rules and to adopt the minutes as presented.

Roll Call: 7 Ayes 0 Nays

MOTION CARRIED

Communications:

Wolfe: Nothing to Report.

Ramsey: Reported on the Animal Control Department. They currently have 6 dogs. Scratching Post Cat Rescue has moved into their new building.

Russell: Reported on the Civic Center and advised that Josh Yoder is a new board member there. The Aviation Open House was a success. The charity they are supporting this year is the CCFI.

Sahaidachny: A Pickleball tournament will take place on 8/23. Two police officer were promoted to full-time status at the latest Board of Works Meeting

Gustin: Reported that there are recycling bins at the recycling center on Logansport Road.

Plotow: Stated all her committees will be addressed later in the council meeting.

Anderson: Nothing to report

OLD BUSINESS

NONE

NEW BUSINESS



**RESOLUTION # 16-2023
ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION
CITY OF PERU, MIAMI COUNTY, INDIANA**

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,

WHEREAS, the Peru City Council adopted Ordinance# 6-2021 to establish the American Rescue Plan Fund according to regulations provided by the United States Treasury and the Indiana State Board of Accounts; and,

WHEREAS, the United States Treasury revised certain regulations in their final rule, to allow the first \$10 Million of the grant received to be considered under the revenue replacement category; and,

WHEREAS, the revenue replacement category can be spent on any legal government expense except for pension payment and debt service; therefore, the Council considers this appropriation to be concurrent with the plan contemplated in the ordinance;

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 ARP Fund 2406 and for the purposes specified, and subject to laws governing the same:

Fund Name: ARP Fund 2406	AMOUNT REQUESTED
Machine, Equipment, Vehicles, Furniture (451)	\$ 16,000.00
Total	\$ 16,000.00

Golf Course Superintendent Gary Clark addressed the council and stated that they are no longer in need of additional funds. They were able to locate the needed equipment for the original amount that had been appropriated.

Councilperson Wolfe moved, seconded by Councilperson Plothow, to remove Resolution 16-2023 from the agenda.

Motion carried with a vote of 7 ayes, 0 nays.

MOTION CARRIED

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ORDINANCE # 18 - 2023

Councilperson Wolfe moved, seconded by Councilperson Russell, to consider Ordinance 18-2023

Motion carried with a vote of 7 ayes, 0 nays.

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND ORDINANCE #27-2016

WHEREAS, the City of Peru has caused public notice to be placed in the Peru Tribune.

WHEREAS, Section 96.01 of the City of Peru Code of Ordinances shall be amended to reflect necessary changes.

WHEREAS, Section 96.01 of the City of Peru Code of Ordinances shall be amended to reflect:

(A) - All city parks, which include Maconaquah Park, Davis Park, West City Park, **Davis Park, Shilling Park, and ~~Miamisport~~ Miamisfort**, and any parks acquired after the effective date of this section shall be closed from **~~10:00 p.m. until 5:00 a.m.~~ one hour (1) after sunset until one hour (1) before daylight**, with the exception of city sanctioned events. The Peru Skate Park **and Pickleball Courts** shall be closed from 11:00 p.m. until 5:00 a.m. with the exception of city sanctioned events. Exceptions may also be granted by the Peru Parks Board.

(B) - It shall be unlawful for any person to congregate or loiter in or about any city parks between **~~the hours of 10:00 p.m. and 5:00 a.m.~~ from one hour (1) after sunset until one hour (1) before daylight**, except by permit from the Peru Parks Board with the exception of Peru Skate Park **and Pickleball Court**, which will be 11:00 p.m. until 5:00 a.m.

(C) **Beginning on April 1st of each year and ending on September 30th each year, West City Park hours shall be in accordance with the baseball and softball leagues game schedules.**

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY ORDAINED BY THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PERU, INDIANA, That:

1. It is in the best interest of the City of Peru to amend Section 96.01 of the City of Peru Code of Ordinances.

2. To reflect the necessary amendments to Section 96.01 of the City of Peru Code of Ordinance Book, said Section shall read as follows:

(A) - All city parks, which include Maconaquah Park, Davis Park, West City Park, **Davis Park, Shilling Park, Miamisfort**, and any parks acquired after the effective date of this section shall be closed from one hour (1) after sunset until one hour (1) before daylight, with the exception of city sanctioned events. The Peru Skate Park **and Pickleball Courts** shall be closed from 11:00 p.m. until 5:00 a.m. with the exception of city sanctioned events.

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(B) - It shall be unlawful for any person to congregate or loiter in or about any city parks between the hours from one hour (1) after sunset until one hour (1) before daylight, except by permit from the Peru Parks Board with the exception of Peru Skate Park and Pickleball Court, which will be 11:00 p.m. until 5:00 a.m.

(C) Beginning on April 1st of each year and ending on September 30th each year, West City Park hours shall be in accordance with the baseball and softball leagues game schedules.

Councilperson Wolfe moved, seconded by Councilperson Plothow, to adopt Ordinance 18-2023 with corrections. Motion passed with a vote of 7 ayes, 0 nays.

MOTION CARRIED

ORDINANCE 19-2023

PERU SEWER SRF BOND ORDINANCE 2023

Councilperson Wolfe moved, seconded by Councilperson Anderson, to consider Ordinance 19-2023. Motion carried with a vote of 7 ayes, 0 nays.

An ordinance concerning the construction of improvements to the sewage works of the City of Peru, the issuance of revenue bonds to provide for the cost thereof, the collection, segregation and distribution of the revenues of said works, the safeguarding of the interests of the owners of said revenue bonds, other matters connected therewith, including the issuance of notes in anticipation of bonds, and repealing ordinances inconsistent herewith

Josh Chance, Superintendent of Peru Utilities addressed the council. The city is required to update the Wastewater Treatment Plant and the underground sewage piping. The cost of the total

project will be approximately \$150,000,000. The completion deadline is 2030. Failure to comply will result in fines of up to \$25,000 per day.

Scott Miller from Baker Tilley addressed the council. He stated the need for interim financing to get the project up and running. He hopes to have short-term funding of \$5-\$10 million in place by the end of October. We would then be able to get the long-term funding of \$45 million by next spring followed up the next year with additional funding of \$85 million. Ordinance 19 provides for an amount up to \$155 million and he believes that the amount should have a 10% contingency cushion built in. We would be eligible for a reduced interest rate from the state of approximately 2% on the first \$25 million of each year's funding. The balance would be at a higher rate but should be reduced due to the state's AAA credit rating.

This ordinance will come back to the council for adoption at the September meeting.

Communications:

Councilperson Plothow shared the proposal concerning a strategic plan for the City of Peru building department. After discussion and input from the audience, nothing definite was decided on.

Debi Wallick from the United Way addressed the council. She is retiring at the end of the year and introduced her successor, Morgan Gold. Debi is retiring after 22 years of service.

ADJOURNMENT:

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

MEETING ADJOURNED

Miles Hewitt, Council
President
Mayor of Peru, Indiana

Attest:

Kurt Krauskopf, City Clerk/Treasurer

City of Peru, Indiana