

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
OF THE CITY OF PERU, NEBRASKA ON THE 15th DAY of SEPTEMBER 2026 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 15th day of SEPTEMBER 2026, at 6:00 P.M. (Or as soon thereafter as possible), for a Regular Meeting. This meeting was open to the public with 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), and the Community Bulletin Board.

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

Agenda Item 1 – Roll Call

At 6:00pm a roll call was taken, and the following was recorded for attendance.

PRESENT – Mayor Theresa Westfall; Councilmembers Brent Brown, and Josh Whisler.

ABSENT – Councilmembers Rachel Brown, and Julia Perry

A quorum was declared pursuant to Neb. Rev. Stat. 17-105.

Agenda Item 2 – Recognition of Visitors:

Mayor Theresa Westfall 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 – Consent Agenda

A. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

(i.) Approval of Minutes from the August 18, 2026, Regular Meeting

(ii.) Approval of Minutes from the August 19, 2026, Special Meeting

B. APPROVAL: Ratification of Building Permit # 26-008 for Northridge Church.

C. APPROVAL: Application of Pat Wheeler to join the Peru Rescue Squad

D. RESOLUTION NO. 2026-10: A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING CHIEF ELECTED OFFICIAL TO SIGN AN APPLICATION FOR CDBG FUNDS.

E. RESOLUTION NO. 2026-11: A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PERU, NEBRASKA, AUTHORIZING THE TRANSFER, AND INVESTMENT OF CERTAIN MUNICIPAL FUNDS THROUGH THE NEBRASKA PUBLIC AGENCY INVESTMENT TRUST.

There was no discussion.

Councilmember B. Brown moved to approve the consent agenda. J. Whisler seconded the motion.

On this roll call vote, the vote was as follows:

R. Brown – ABESNT, J. Whisler – AYE, J. Perry – ABSENT, B. Brown – AYE, T. Westfall – AYE.
On this vote, the AYES are 3, the NAYS are 0. with 2 marked ABSENT. Motion Carried.

Agenda Item 4 – Reports from City and Community Organizations

F. CITY REPORTS:

(i.) Water Report: Mayor Westfall stated that a copy of the water report was available in the City Clerk's office during business hours.

(ii.) Mayor's Report: Mayor Theresa Westfall gave the Mayor's Report.

She reported that she requested the closeout of SLFRF Award (ARPA funds) pending no further requests. She hoped to have it closed out by next month there should be no more need for annual reporting.

She reported that she will finalize the lagoon and berm FEMA/NEMA paperwork that week. She also reported that the water line project had moved from NEMA to FEMA for approval.

She reported that she appointed Sam Ackerman to the open full-time Maintenance Technician position.

She reported that the city heard back from the State Auditor about the inquiry made earlier in the year, there won't be a formal letter, but they recommend ensuring the city does not pay state sales tax on purchases, having policies for credit card usage/authorized users, rebate usage/tracking and mileage logs. In the past few months, policies on these concerns have been implemented.

She reported that the clerk was completing a review of funds that had not been transferred from the current fiscal year for split payments. This will be reviewed by the finance committee.

(iii.) Clerk's Report: City Clerk/Treasurer Dennis Kirkpatrick gave the Clerk's Report.

(1.) Financial Reports, August 2026

He reported that highway allocation funds had been released by the state due to submission of the city's financial statement audit. He stated that those funds had been received from the state already,

He reported that the field work for the FY 2025-2026 audit will begin in early 2027. He stated that he anticipated the audit would be complete before the state deadline.

He reported that he was working on documenting funds that had been paid out of the general account that were for specific departments.

He reported that he would attend the League of Nebraska Municipalities Annual Conference that next week.

G. COMMISSION AND COMMITTEE REPORTS:

(i.) Parks and Recreation Commission: Commission Chair Nick Novak gave the Parks and Recreation Commission report.

He reported that the installation of the playground was 3/4ths complete. He stated that they hoped to have it completed later that week. He also stated that he intends to have a ribbon cutting for the new playground.

He reported that the Dan Cotton Softball Tournament would take place on October 10th.

He reported that the commission is looking forward to the winter fundraising drive.

(ii.) Finance Committee: Mayor Theresa Westfall gave the Finance Committee Report.

She reported that the committee reviewed the monthly financial statements and account balances.

She reported that the property tax credit had not yet been submitted.

She reported that work had been done to submit invoices and cleared checks to NEMA for the berm removal and lagoon repair. This was to get the FEMA/NEMA reimbursements and get the projects closed out. She reported that the remaining open projects are being worked on.

She reported that the finance committee had met with the accountant at the end of August to work on the budget for the budget hearing.

(iii.) Water and Sewer Committee: Mayor Theresa Westfall gave the Water and Sewer Committee Report.

She reported that Traci Riehle, Deputy Clerk and Sam Ackerman, Maintenance Technician both passed the Lagoon Wastewater training and are now certified Lagoon Operators.

She reported that the water meter audit had continued since last meeting. She reported that there are approximately 45 accounts remaining to complete the audit, but she believed that the city has resolved any accounts that had errors in the readings. Once completed, the city will bring the overall findings to the council. New policies are in place for move in/out and new meter installations to reduce the risk of incorrect reads/multipliers in the future.

(iv.) Streets and Alleys Committee. None for this meeting.

H. REPORTS FROM OTHER ORGANIZATIONS: None for this meeting.

Agenda Item 5 – Old Business

I. APPROVAL OF CLAIMS:

- (i.) Ratification of Claims already paid pursuant to Resolution No. 2018-01.
- (ii.) Claims still needing approval.

There was no discussion.

Councilmember B. Brown moved to approve the claims. J. Whisler seconded the motion.

On this roll call vote, the vote was as follows:

B. Brown – AYE, J. Perry – ABSENT, J. Whisler – AYE, R. Brown – ABSENT, T. Westfall – AYE.

On this vote, the AYES are 3, the NAYS are 0, with 2 marked ABSENT. Motion Carried.

Agenda Item 6 – New Business

J. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION: Downtown Food Truck Friday's Initiative.

There was discussion about the initiative and the information given to council. There was no further discussion, no action was taken.

K. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION: Parking Issues on 6th Street Agenda Item Request.

There was discussion about ongoing parking issues on 6th Street, specifically addressing requests for designated handicap or restricted resident parking in front of a residential property due to high volumes of street parking making access difficult for disabled residents. There was discussion about the legality, feasibility, and enforcement of designated resident or handicap parking on public municipal property. There was discussion about improving driver awareness, including installing official handicap signage and painting the curb blue. Further discussion addressed law enforcement jurisdiction, statutory authority regarding municipal sign placement, and the enforceability of municipal parking designations on public streets. There was no further discussion, no action was taken.

L. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION: Bids for the Repair of North-End Streets

There was discussion regarding the bids that were received. There was also discussion regarding the timeline for completion of the project. There was no further discussion.

Councilmember B. Brown moved to accept the bid from Rulo Transportation for the repair of the North-End Streets. J. Whisler seconded the motion.

On this roll call vote, the vote was as follows:

R. Brown – ABSENT, J. Whisler – AYE, J. Perry – ABSENT, B. Brown – AYE, T. Westfall – AYE.

On this vote, the AYES are 3, the NAYS are 0, with 2 marked ABSENT. Motion Carried.

M. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE APPROVAL: Quote from Dinges Quality Carpentry for the Installation of Pillers Outside City Hall.

There was discussion about the previous quote from Dinges regarding the repair of the pillars outside of City Hall. There was discussion about the work to be performed. There was no further discussion.

Councilmember J. Whisler moved to approve the item 6M. "Quote from Dinges Quality Carpentry for the Installation of Pillers Outside City Hall." B. Brown seconded the motion.

On this roll call vote, the vote was as follows:

B. Brown – AYE, J. Perry – ABSENT, J. Whisler – AYE, R. Brown – ABSENT, T. Westfall – AYE.

On this vote, the AYES are 3, the NAYS are 0, with 2 marked ABSENT. Motion Carried.

N. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION: Contract with Action Technology Services, Inc. for Managed IT Services.

There was discussion about the two quoted prices provided and the contractual details. There was no further discussion.

Councilmember J. Whisler moved to approve the “User-Based” pricing quotation and contract for Managed IT Services from Action Technology Services, Inc. B. Brown seconded the motion.

On this roll call vote, the vote was as follows:

J. Perry – ABSENT, R. Brown – ABSENT, B. Brown – AYE, J. Whisler – AYE, T. Westfall – AYE.

On this vote, the AYES are 3, the NAYS are 0, with 2 marked ABSENT. Motion Carried.

O. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION: Quote from Action Technology Services, Inc. for the purchase, and installation of upgraded server and networking technology at City Hall.

There was discussion regarding the quoted prices, and the timeline for installation. There was no further discussion.

Councilmember B. Brown moved to approve item 6O. “Quote from Action Technology Services, Inc. for the purchase, and installation of upgraded server and networking technology at City Hall.” J. Whisler seconded the motion.

On this roll call vote, the vote was as follows:

J. Whisler – AYE, B. Brown – AYE, J. Perry – ABSENT, R. Brown – ABSENT, T. Westfall – AYE.

On this vote, the AYES are 3, the NAYS are 0, with 2 marked ABSENT. Motion Carried.

P. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE APPROVAL: Issuance of Building Permits for 604 and 608 5th Street.

There was discussion regarding the sale of the property and the previous abatement status of the buildings. There was no further discussion.

Councilmember B. Brown moved to approve item 6P. “Issuance of Building Permits for 604 and 608 5th Street.” J. Whisler seconded the motion.

On this roll call vote, the vote was as follows:

B. Brown – AYE, J. Perry – ABSENT, R. Brown – ABSENT, J. Whisler – AYE, T. Westfall – AYE.

On this vote, the AYES are 3, the NAYS are 0, with 2 marked ABSENT. Motion Carried.

Agenda Item 7 – Adjournment

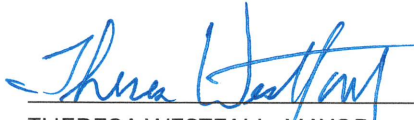
The meeting adjourned on the same day at 6:27pm CT.

APPROVED CLAIMS:

The following claims were presented to the City Council by the City Clerk/Treasurer and were subsequently reviewed, and approved for payment:

City of Peru		September 2026 Claims	
Claims Already Paid / On Autopay			
Vendor	Dept.	Description	Balance
Auburn BPW	Water	City Water Usage	\$11,863.81
Black Hills Energy	Gen, Fire/Res	Gas Service & Service Guard	\$150.36
Kinetic	Gen, Wtr, City & Rural	Internet and Phone Services	\$631.96
OPPD	Gen	Electric Utilities on City Properties & St. Lights	\$2,351.93
Payroll 08/31	Gen	Payroll including payroll tax deposit	\$10,478.44
Payroll 09/15	Gen	Payroll including payroll tax deposit	\$10,459.45
Pitney Bowes Purchase Power	Gen	Finance Charges from Previous Statement	\$12.52
Quick Med Claims	Rescue	Ground Trips/Revenue	\$66.54
Sinclair	Gen	Fleet Fuel	\$1,561.35
xpress-BillPay	Water, Sewer	Billing Services	\$165.28
Regular Claims			
Access Systems Leasing	Gen	Copier Lease Agreement	\$209.00
American Recycling and Sanitation, Inc.	Sanitation, Gen	Regular Residential Services, City Hall	\$2,660.00
Arban Excavation	Water	Replacement of Water Valves	\$22,750.00
Auburn Board of Public Works	Water, Sewer	Verizon Service, Emergent Sewer Repair	\$1,035.64
Auburn Design Shop	Gen, Water, Sewer, Streets, P&R	Maintenance Tees and Hoodie	\$159.00
Bound Tree Medical, LLC	Rescue	Medical Supplies	\$68.58
City of Nebraska City	City & Rural Fire	Used PPV and Nozzle	\$350.00
CNH Industrial Account	Gen, Water, Sewer, Streets, P&R	New Holland Skidsteer Lease	\$10,148.14
Emergency Apparatus Maintenance, Inc.	City Fire	Maintenance on Engine #731	\$835.47
FeldFire	City and Rural Fire	Rubber Firefighting Boot	\$271.95
First National Bank of Omaha	Gen	City Credit Card Purchases for DK and TW	\$1,703.10
Gilbert Services, Inc.	Gen, Park Maint.	Purchase and Mounting of Mower Tires	\$658.96
gWorks	Gen, Water, Sewer	gWorks Implementation and Onboarding	\$5,000.00
Harms, Sarah	Gen	Cleaning Services	\$300.00
Heather Pemberton, CPA	Gen	Accounting Services	\$695.00
Hydro Optimization and Automation Solutions, Inc.	Water	Communication Failure Service Ticket	\$3,113.55
Less Mess, LLC.	Water	Cutting Down Tree by Water Tower	\$1,600.00
Miller Farrell	Gen, Streets, Wtr, Swr, City & Rural Fire, Rescue, P&R	City and PVFD Property & Liability Insurance Premiums	\$7,895.50
Missouri Employers Mutual	Gen, Streets, Wtr, Swr, City & Rural Fire, Rescue	City and PVFD Workers Comp. Premium + Add. Charges	\$3,971.25
Municipal Supply, Inc.	Water	Water Line, Plumbing, and Meter Supplies	\$2,239.28
NAPA Autoparts	Gen	PTEX Seal Tapes	\$23.85
Nemaha Valley Observer	Streets, Gen	FEMA Str. Bid Notices, July 21 Minutes, 1&6 Hearing Notice	\$423.60
One Call Concepts, Inc.	Water, Sewer	August 2026 Locates	\$16.75
Pitney Bowes Global Financial Services, LLC.	Gen	Postage Machine Lease	\$215.55
Sack Lumber	Gen	Key Cutting	\$4.00
Verizon Wireless	Gen	Maintenance Tablet	\$20.02
		Claims Already Paid / On Autopay	\$37,741.64
		Regular Claims	\$66,368.19
		Total	\$104,109.83

HEREBY ATTESTED AND ACKNOWLEDGED:


THERESA WESTFALL, MAYOR




DENNIS KIRKPATRICK, CITY CLERK