



TOWN COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

**TUESDAY, November 24, 2020 - 7:00 P.M.
PIERSON TOWN HALL**

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1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

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10 Chairman Samuel G.S. Bennett called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM and asked Town Clerk
11 Carmen Spelorzi to call roll.

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2. ROLL CALL

14

15

PRESENT:

16

Mayor Samuel G.S. Bennett

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Vice Mayor Robert Greenlund

18

Councilmember James Peterson

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Councilmember Thomas R. Larrivee

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Councilmember Sergia Cardenas

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22

Also present were Town Attorney Christian Waugh; Town Planner Mark Karet, Deputy Clerk
23 Carrie Ward as well as representatives from the Volusia County Sheriff's office.

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3. Invocation and pledge of allegiance

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Councilmember James Peterson gave the invocation, which was followed by the Pledge of
28 Allegiance.

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4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – Chairman Samuel Bennett

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32

a. Regular Meeting - November 10, 2020

33

i. Final – Sine Die

34

ii. New Fiscal Year

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36

Chair Bennett entertained a motion for approval if there are no additional deletions or
37 additions.

38

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**Vice Mayor Robert Greenlund made the motion to approve the minutes with the
40 addition listed above; seconded by Councilmember James Peterson. All agreed; motion
41 carries.**

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5. NEW BUSINESS

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a. UBsync Tablet Reader by Softline Data Inc (Tabled from November 10, 2020) 46 – Town Clerk Carmen Spelorzi

47

Mayor Bennett read the title and asked Mrs. Spelorzi to speak on the item. Mrs. Spelorzi stated
48 that she and the Vice Mayor researched the benefits of this system and Vice Mayor Greenlund

49 explained how this system will save time and make water department functions much more
50 efficient as well as cut down on errors. Vice Mayor Greenlund recommended approval of
51 these tablet readers as presented. Discussion ensued about warranty and that this is included
52 with the tablets.

53 **Vice Mayor Robert Greenlund made the motion to approve the purchase of three (3)**
54 **UBsync tablet readers in the amount of \$505.00 with covers and software for \$360.00**
55 **per year; seconded by Councilmember James Peterson. All agreed; motion carries.**

56 b. Water Billing Adjustments: November 2020- Water Committee Chairman/
57 Vice Mayor Robert F. Greenlund

58 Mayor Bennett asked Vice Mayor Greenlund to comment and the Vice Mayor advised that
59 two (2) water adjustment were received and handled in-house per the water adjustment policy.

60 c. Renewal of Annual Scheduled Maintenance Agreement with Florida Detroit
61 Diesel for the two generators located at Town Hall and Well Pump – Mayor
62 Samuel G.S. Bennett

63 Mayor Bennett read the title and explained where the generators are being housed. Discussion
64 ensued that this is a renewable contract and that there is a slight increase in cost.

65 **Councilmember Tom Larrivee made the motion to approve the renewal of the Annual**
66 **scheduled maintenance agreement with Florida Detroit Diesel; seconded by**
67 **Councilmember James Peterson. All agreed; motion carries.**

68 d. Discussion on Council Committees - Mayor Samuel G.S. Bennett

69 Mayor Bennett asked for this to be tabled until the next regular Council Meeting.

70 **Vice Mayor Robert Greenlund made the motion to table this item until the next regular**
71 **Council meeting in two (2) weeks; seconded by Councilmember Tom Larrivee. All**
72 **agreed; motion carries.**

73 e. State of Emergency Florida / Town of Pierson - Mayor Samuel G.S. Bennett

74 Upon confirmation by Town Attorney Waugh that Florida is still in a State of Emergency,
75 Chair Bennett recommended continuing the State of Emergency for a period of seven (7) days.

76 **Vice Mayor Robert Greenlund made the motion to extend the State of Emergency for**
77 **the Town of Pierson for an additional seven (7) days; seconded by Councilmember**
78 **James Peterson. All agreed; motion carries.**

79 f. Updates by Chairman - Mayor Samuel G.S. Bennett

80 Mayor Bennett spoke on

- 81 • Heritage Heating and Air still working at Town Center
- 82 • Repair of damaged Fire Hydrant over the weekend on Shaw Lake Rd

83

84 g. Update of Town projects from Town Attorney – Town Attorney Christian
85 Waugh

86 Mr. Waugh had no new reports.

87 h. Update of Town projects from Town Planner – Town Planner Mark Karet, Zev
88 Cohen & Associates

89
90 Mr. Karet spoke on

- 91 • the P&Z meeting on 11/24/2020 to discuss a subdivision plat, LDR code amendment
- 92 and conservation element of Comp plan
- 93 • was onsite on 11/19
- 94 • will work on Business directory signs permit
- 95 • got results for water testing which have been submitted to Mead and Hunt

96
97 **6. OLD BUSINESS**

98 None

99 **7. OTHER BUSINESS**

100
101 Councilwoman Sergia Cardenas and the Town Attorney had no additional comments.

102
103 Vice Mayor Greenlund asked about the contract with the solid waste provider and what is
104 being done. Mr. Waugh stated that an RFP has gone out and explained the process of having
105 to create addenda due to some very good questions being asked by the respondents. The
106 revised deadline to submit the RFPs January 5th with deliberations and a decision to be made
107 by the Council on 1/12/21.

108
109 Councilmember James Peterson inquired about the “red tagging” of a yogurt store and Mrs.
110 Spelorzi explained the reason. Councilmember Peterson expressed his concern with this
111 process and suggested a phone call prior to a placing a red tag on the business.

112
113 Councilmember Peterson also inquired about the property on Vannote and Town Planner
114 Mark Karet stated that he just received the application and needs clarification. He will present
115 a report to the Council as soon as possible.

116
117 Councilmember Tom Larrivee spoke on the high-water table due to recent rain events and
118 how that can affect the Airport. Signs were made to prohibit vehicles from entering the Airport
119 to avoid them getting stuck.

120
121 Councilmember Larrivee spoke on the flags on the south-end of Town being obstructed by
122 trees.

123
124 Mrs. Spelorzi reminded everybody that Town Hall will be closed for the Thanksgiving
125 Holidays and that Santa will be at Town Hall on the first Saturday in December.

126
127 The VCSO spoke on:

- 128 • making sure a permit is requested for new venue business opening off US Hwy 17
- 129 • parking is better at schools, specialized units have assisted

130
131 Discussion ensued about the new business on Hwy 17 and that no permit was obtained and
132 that there has been a lack of communication by the owner to do a special event permit. Staff
133 to do a letter for zoning violation for use as a venue.

134

135 **8. GOOD AND WELFARE (public participation)**

136

137 Mr. Paul Martel, alternate CAC representative spoke on

- 138 • CAC meeting – adding additional funds for new Railroad crossing program at
139 Hagstrom Rd in Pierson

140

141 Mr. Nick Shepard stated that he and his wife Melissa are interested in opening a Yogurt shop.

142 Mr. Shepard explained that he grew up in Pierson and commented on some instances

143 throughout the years where he has received subpar customer service from the Town Clerk and

144 the hardship this has caused him. Mr. Shepard felt disenfranchised with the treatment he

145 received regarding opening this yogurt shop and cautioned the Council that this is not a good

146 representation for the Town.

147

148 Vice Mayor Greenlund stated that only the Council should have the authority to put up a

149 “stop-work” order.

150

151 Mrs. Spelorzi explained to the council that the stop work orders are being done in conjunction

152 with the Building Official services and that if somebody is doing work without a permit this

153 is the procedure. Mrs. Spelorzi stated that this meeting is not the proper venue to discuss this

154 matter and that she would speak with the Mayor in more detail. Mrs. Spelorzi informed the

155 Council that she only acts in the best interest of the Town and if anybody has a complaint

156 about her or how she is doing her work she would like to be informed about it.

157

158 Resident Antolin Benitez spoke on behalf of Mrs. Spelorzi stating that she guided him very

159 professionally through the renovation of a house that he owns, which allowed him to get it

160 remodeled and rented out in a timely fashion following all permitting rules and regulations.

161

162 The town planner was questioned on what can be done without a permit and he indicated that

163 he is not that familiar with the Florida Building Code but whatever work that could be done

164 without a permit in a commercial structure is limited from his recollection.

165

166 Mr. Waugh read section 3.2.6 *Authority to enter upon private property* of the LDR for the

167 record and advised the Town Clerk not to speak any further on this matter unless reporting to

168 the Town Council.

169

170 **9. ADJOURNED**

171

172 Mayor read announcements of upcoming meetings.

173

174 **Hearing no further business, meeting adjourned at 8:00 PM.**

175 Minutes prepared by:

Minutes approved by:

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177

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180 _____
Carmen Spelorzi, Town Clerk

Mayor Samuel G.S. Bennett