



# TOWN COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES

**WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 30, 2024 – 5:00 PM  
PIERSON TOWN CENTER**

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## **1. Call meeting to order**

Mayor Samuel G.S. Bennett called the meeting to order at 5:05 PM and asked Town Clerk Yvonne Braddock to take the roll call.

## **2. Roll call**

PRESENT:

Mayor Samuel G.S. Bennett  
Vice Mayor Robert Greenlund  
Councilmember Sergia Cardenas  
Councilmember Linnie Richardson  
Councilmember Brandy Peterson

Also present were Deputy Clerk Ryan Smith, Utility Clerk Marci Nichols, and Public Works employees Louis Longo, Dustin Childers, and Chris Nichols.

## **3. Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance**

Mayor Bennett gave the invocation, which was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

## **4. NEW BUSINESS**

**Vice Mayor Robert Greenlund made the motion to declare agenda item 4a an emergency item; seconded by Councilmember Linnie Richardson. All agreed; motion carries.**

- a. Tractor repair or replacement discussion and action – Vice Mayor Robert Greenlund

Vice Mayor Robert Greenlund said the Town’s current tractor was inoperable and would be approximately \$15,000.00 at a minimum to repair. Vice Mayor Greenlund said that both the clutch and transmission needed replacement, and that the tractor would have to be broken in two to repair it. Vice Mayor Greenlund said he and Councilmember Linnie Richardson called the special meeting because the tractor is a necessity and he did not feel it could wait for two weeks until the regular Council Meeting.

Vice Mayor Greenlund said he felt the Town should purchase a new tractor considering the age and the substantial price of repairs on the current tractor. Vice Mayor Greenlund received a quote from Ag-Pro in Hastings for a John Deere. The quote was for a 4-wheel drive 60-horsepower John Deere which is compatible with the grappler and bucket that the Town

47 currently owns. Vice Mayor Greenlund stated the tractor and loader was \$54,440.00. Ag-Pro  
48 told the Vice Mayor that the cheapest option would be to purchase the tractor at the state price  
49 for municipalities and pay cash for it. Vice Mayor Greenlund asked Ag-Pro if there were  
50 financing options available; John Deere is offering 60-month financing at a 5.85% interest  
51 rate, while Ag-Pro is offering 60-month financing at 0% interest. Vice Mayor Greenlund said  
52 he had not yet received a quote for the state price. Vice Mayor Greenlund felt the Ag-Pro  
53 financing option was the best for the Town.

54

55 Vice Mayor Greenlund presented a second quote obtained by Councilmember Linnie  
56 Richardson from Crystal Tractor for a Kubota tractor. The 4-wheel drive Kubota tractor with  
57 a loader was quoted at \$50,180.00 which includes a discount and a mower attachment.  
58 Councilmember Richardson said the Town did not need a mower which would reduce the  
59 price by \$3,651.00. Councilmember Richardson said it was 1.99% interest for 60-month  
60 financing. Deputy Clerk Ryan Smith clarified that it was 0.99% interest for 60 months and  
61 1.99% for 72 months.

62

63 Councilmember Richardson said she would like to give her opinion and stated that she had  
64 used the implements sold by Kubota. Councilmember Richardson said she felt that the quality  
65 was not as good as a John Deere. Vice Mayor Greenlund said he personally felt the John  
66 Deere was a better tractor.

67

68 Deputy Clerk Ryan Smith asked if Ag-Pro was offering 0% interest financing on the state  
69 price. Vice Mayor Greenlund said the 0% financing was only available on the Ag-Pro price.

70

71 Mayor Samuel Bennett asked if the tractor in question was large enough to support a wing  
72 mower. Vice Mayor Greenlund said this tractor was only 60-horsepower and a wing mower  
73 would probably require a 90-horsepower tractor. Mayor Bennett felt that a larger tractor with  
74 a wing mower would be beneficial for maintaining the ditches and reduce the mowing time at  
75 the airport. Mayor Bennett said he would like to repair the current tractor so that the Town  
76 would have two tractors.

77

78 Councilmember Richardson felt a 90-horsepower tractor might be too large for day-to-day  
79 use. Mayor Bennett asked Public Works for their input on a larger tractor. Foreman Louis  
80 Longo said he felt it would help with the ditch maintenance and the airport but that it would  
81 be impractical for mowing right-of-ways and streets.

82

83 Vice Mayor Greenlund asked Ag-Pro about trading in the current tractor. Ag-Pro said it could  
84 be sold as-is.

85

86 Resident Kelly Green asked if there was any extended warranty available on the new  
87 equipment. Vice Mayor Greenlund said he did not have information about a warranty.

88

89 Vice Mayor Greenlund reiterated that he felt the Town should take advantage of the 0%  
90 interest financing.

91

92 Mayor Bennett asked if the Town should obtain a quote on a larger tractor. Public Works  
93 employee Dustin Childers noted that the larger tractors often do not have loaders on the front  
94 which Public Works would need.

95

96 **Vice Mayor Robert Greenlund made the motion to approve the purchase of a John**  
97 **Deere tractor from Ag-Pro in the amount of \$54,639.99 with 0% interest for 60 months;**  
98 **seconded by Councilmember Linnie Richardson. All agreed; motion carries.**

99

100 Mayor Bennett asked the Council what should be done with the existing tractor.  
101 Councilmember Linnie Richardson said it could be in excess of \$15,000.00 to repair it.  
102 Councilmember Brandy Peterson noted that the tractor was almost 20 years old and she felt  
103 it could be sold for a down-payment on the new tractor. Vice Mayor Greenlund said he did  
104 not want to keep equipment that is “going to nickel and dime us to death” as the Town has  
105 done in the past.

106

107 Resident Denise Colflesh asked if the existing tractor could be used as a down payment for  
108 the new tractor. Foreman Louis Longo said he thought the Town was required to auction off  
109 equipment. Vice Mayor Greenlund said the tractor would be considered a trade-in.

110

111 **Vice Mayor Greenlund made the motion to use the existing tractor as a trade-in on the**  
112 **new tractor, if allowed; seconded by Councilmember Linnie Richardson. All agreed;**  
113 **motion carries.**

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115 **5. ADJOURNED**

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117 **Hearing no further business, meeting adjourned at 5:37 PM.**

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119 Minutes prepared by:

Minutes approved by:

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Ryan Smith, Deputy Town Clerk

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Gray Leonhard, Mayor