



TOWN COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

TUESDAY, JUNE 14, 2022 – 7:00 PM
PIERSON TOWN HALL

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1. Call meeting to order

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

2. Roll call

PRESENT:

- Mayor Samuel G.S. Bennett
- Vice Mayor Robert Greenlund
- Councilmember Sergia Cardenas
- Councilmember Gray Leonhard

Also present were Town Attorney Christian Waugh and Town Planner Mark Karet as well as representatives from the VCSO.

3. Invocation and pledge of allegiance

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

4. Approval of Minutes – Mayor Samuel Bennett

- a. Regular Meeting May 24, 2022

Mayor Bennett asked if there were any additions and deletions if not he would entertain a motion.

Vice Mayor Robert Greenlund made the motion to approve the above listed minutes; seconded by Councilmember Gray Leonhard. All agreed; motion carries.

5. NEW BUSINESS

Mayor Bennett asked that item 5. e. be moved to the top of New Business. All agreed. See discussion under 5. e.

- a. **ORDINANCE NO. 2022-07** **First Reading**
AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF
PIERSON, FLORIDA, PROPOSING AMENDMENTS TO THE PIERSON
ORDINANCE REGARDING THE REGULATION OF ALCOHOLIC
BEVERAGES WITHIN THE TOWN FOUND IN CHAPTER 4 OF THE

47 TOWN CODE; AMENDING THE HOURS ALCOHOL IS PERMITTED TO
48 BE SOLD WITHIN THE TOWN; REPEALING ALL LAWS OR PARTS OF
49 LAWS IN CONFLICT HEREWITH; AND PROVIDING FOR
50 CODIFICATION, SEVERABILITY, AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE.
51

52 Town Attorney Waugh read the title into record. Discussion ensued that this is the first
53 reading.
54

55 **Vice Mayor Robert Greenlund made the motion to approve Ordinance 2022-07 on First**
56 **Reading; seconded by Councilmember Gray Leonhard. All agreed; motion carries on**
57 **roll call vote 3-1 with Chair Bennett casting the dissenting vote.**
58

59 **b. ORDINANCE NO. 2022-08 First Reading**
60 **AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF PIERSON, FLORIDA,**
61 **PROPOSING AMENDMENTS TO THE UNIFIED LAND DEVELOPMENT**
62 **REGULATIONS OF THE TOWN OF PIERSON CREATING STANDARDS**
63 **FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF EVENT CENTERS IN THE A-1**
64 **AGRICULTURAL ZONING CLASSIFICATION; PROVIDING FOR**
65 **SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR CODIFICATION AND PROVIDING**
66 **FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**
67

68 Town Attorney Waugh read the title into record. Mr. Karet spoke on the ordinance and what
69 brought about these suggestions.
70

71 Resident and Planning and Zoning Vice Chair Linnie Richardson stated that she experienced
72 an enclosed special event near her residence recently and feels that she made a mistake in
73 voting in favor of this ordinance and that she is now opposed to it.
74

75 Resident and P&Z Chair Paul Martel spoke on the ordinance and that the Planning and Zoning
76 Commission had given this ordinance a lot of thought and did their due diligence.
77

78 Discussion ensued about special exception fees and that once the use has been established and
79 the permit issued, the organizer does not have to keep coming back.
80

81 Mr. Karet explained some of the uses in zoning districts as being primary use permit (allowed
82 all the time in that district without special requirements) versus special exceptions (uses that
83 are allowed under certain circumstances). Mr. Karet stated that the P&Z can added special
84 conditions on a case by case basis.
85

86 Vice Mayor Greenlund is not in favor of telling people what they can and cannot do on their
87 own property in regards to special events, but has a problem with folks discharging large
88 amounts of ammunition and feels that something needs to be done about that. Mr. Karet stated
89 that restrictions in regards to fire arms can be added.
90

91 Resident Paul Barnhard suggests requiring special event insurance.
92

93 Discussion ensued to send the draft ordinance back to the P&Z to look into the firearms

94 restriction and the need for special event insurance.

95

96 Mr. Waugh cautioned that the Town cannot prohibit firearms on private property and the
97 verbiage has to be carefully thought out. Vice Mayor Greenlund stated that he is aware and in
98 favor of the 2nd amendment right, but is opposed to massive discharging of firearms and that
99 there should be a time frame on when firearms can be discharged.

100

101 **Councilmember Gray Leonhard made the motion to send Ordinance 2022-08 back to**
102 **the P&Z for revisions pertaining to firearms and special event insurance; seconded by**
103 **Councilmember Sergia Cardenas. All agreed; motion carries.**

104

105 c. **RESOLUTION NO. 2022-01**

106 A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF PIERSON,
107 FLORIDA, ADOPTING THE CURRENT CODIFICATION OF THE TOWN
108 CODE; PROVIDING LEAVE FOR SUBSEQUENT AMENDMENT; AND
109 PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

110

111 Mr. Waugh read the resolution into record and explained the need and process. Discussion
112 ensued.

113

114 **Vice Mayor Robert Greenlund made the motion to approve Resolution 2022-01;**
115 **seconded by Councilmember Sergia Cardenas. All agreed; motion carries on roll call**
116 **vote 4-0.**

117

118 e. Weston & Gregory LLC Audit for FYE 09/30/2021 – James “Jim” Ashby

119

120 Mr. Jim Ashby with Weston and Gregory spoke on the audit for Fiscal Year ending 9/30/2021.
121 Mr. Ashby stated that there were no issues during the audit process and touched on the
122 following:

- 123 • Pages 1 and 2 – Financial statements and professional audit opinion
- 124 • Page 9 – Water and Government fund balance sheet/ assets and liabilities
- 125 • Page 10 – statement of activities, income and expenses for Water and Government
- 126 funds
- 127 • Pages 11 – 14, accounting breakout of Government fund
- 128 • Pages 15 – 16, accounting breakout of Water fund

129 Mr. Ashby stated that expenses decreased and revenues increased.

130 **Vice Mayor Robert Greenlund made the motion to approve the audit report; seconded**
131 **by Councilmember Sergia Cardenas. All agreed; motion carries.**

132 f. Museum at New Town Center – Mayor Samuel G.S. Bennett

133

134 Mayor Bennett spoke on the item and that he has been approached by people wanting to
135 donate (historic) items to the Town. Mayor Bennett felt that there is ample room at the New
136 Town Center to establish a Museum and to also advertise, once established, where folks can
137 donate.

138 Discussion ensued about using volunteers and Mr. Waugh suggested possibly directing a staff
139 member by resolution to be point of contact and to delegate authority as needed to pursue the
140 project.

141

142 Vice Mayor Greenlund recommended creating a Council and Councilmember Leonhard
143 agrees.

144

145 Mayor Bennett suggested the Council think of names for a list of potential committee
146 members to create a museum at the New Town center and asked Mr. Waugh to draft a
147 resolution.

148

149 **Vice Mayor Robert Greenlund made the motion to authorize the Council to draft a list**
150 **of names for potential committee members to create a museum at the New Town center**
151 **and for Mr. Waugh to draft a resolution giving direction to the current staff; seconded**
152 **by Councilmember Gray Leonhard. All agreed; motion carries.**

153

g. Pierson and Lake Helen Night – Mayor Samuel G.S. Bennett

154

155 Mayor Bennet spoke on having an event on 8/13/22 at 7 pm. Discussion ensued about a
156 possible location and selling tickets for \$7.00 each.

157

158 h. Library at New Town Center - Mayor Samuel G.S. Bennett

159

160 Mayor Bennett spoke on the progress.

161

162 i. Historic Town Hall and Jail - Mayor Samuel G.S. Bennett

163

164 Mayor Bennett spoke on the historic jail at the old Town Center and suggested making it a
165 historic place. Discussion ensued on contacting the Historical Society for potential grant
166 funds.

167

168 **Vice Mayor Robert Greenlund made the motion to contact the Historical Society for**
169 **potential grant monies; seconded by Councilmember Gray Leonhard. All agreed;**
170 **motion carries.**

171

j. Action needed on pursing with the Volusia Sheriff's Office and other cities an
172 initiative on Opioids Crisis - Mayor Samuel G.S. Bennett

173

174 Mayor Bennett spoke on the opioid crises and that all Cities are participating in an initiative
175 with the Volusia County Sheriff's office. Discussion ensued that somebody needs to volunteer
176 to participate in those meetings.

177

178 Audience members asked questions and shared some suggestions on who to include in this
179 initiative.

180

Councilmember Gray Leonhard made the motion to join with the VSCO and other cities
181 **to join the Opioid Crisis initiative; seconded by Vice Mayor Robert Greenlund. All**
182 **agreed; motion carries**

183 k. River to Sea TPO FY 2022/23 Funding Agreement and Invoice- Mayor Samuel
184 G.S. Bennett

185
186 Mayor Bennett read the title.

187
188 **Councilmember Gray Leonhard made the motion to continue to pay dues with River to**
189 **Sea TPO; seconded by Councilmember Sergia Cardenas. All agreed; motion carries.**

190 A brief discussion ensued about who represents the Town and what their function is.

191 l. Needed Repair on W Hagstrom Rd – Gray Leonhard, Councilman

192
193 Councilmember Gray Leonhard stated that he and the Town Foreman went around Town and
194 noted areas in need of repair.

195
196 Discussion ensued that in the past such repairs were made by Volusia County Road and
197 Bridge.

198
199 Mayor Bennett stated that due the more positive financial standing of the Town some repairs
200 can by undertaken again and that he will contact the County.

201
202 Vice Mayor Greenlund spoke on two different culverts and discussion ensued if they need to
203 be replaced or repaired.

204
205 m. Need to replace Culvert on North Rd – Gray Leonhard, Councilman

206
207 Discussion item 5. m is included in 5 l

208 n. Need to clean out/ open culvert at E 3rd Avenue – Gray Leonhard, Councilman

209
210 Councilmember Leonhard spoke on the culvert being filled in and that it needs to be opened
211 up to divert water to pond.

212
213 Vice Mayor Greenlund suggested adding this culvert to the list for County Road and Bridge
214 to look at. Mayor Bennett agreed.

215
216 o. Request for a qualified inspection of concrete raceway/ bridge under W
217 Washington Avenue – Gray Leonhard, Councilman

218
219 Councilmember Leonhard stated that some of the materials in that location is sliding down
220 the bank into the water creating holes. This area needs to be inspected. Mayor Bennett will
221 add this to the County Road and Bridge list as well.

222
223 p. Scheduling demolition of old Glider Club House – Gray Leonhard, Councilman

224
225 Councilmember Leonhard inquired if there is a consensus to demolish the Club house.
226 Discussion ensued about who should take the lead, who could demolish it, a timeframe and
227 what the process entails.

228 q. Update on Glider removals and relocations – Gray Leonhard, Councilman

229

230 Councilmember Leonhard updated the Council on the glider relocation and discussion ensued
231 about a fee schedule.

232

233 Mayor Bennett asked to place reviewing the fee schedules as an agenda item and to have the
234 committee meet in a workshop setting.

235

236 r. Discuss possible improvements to Pierson Municipal Airport – Gray Leonhard,
237 Councilman

238

239 Commissioner Leonhard commented on the many improvements that can and need to be done
240 and that he has spoken with Flagler County Airport Director. Commission Leonhard asked
241 about a consensus on getting improvements started.

242

243 Mayor Bennett suggested discussing this with the Airport committee.

244

245 Mrs. Spelorzi stated that she scheduled a workshop for June 23, 22 at 2 pm with the Airport
246 Committee, followed by the FRDAP grants meeting.

247

248 s. Updates by Mayor - Mayor Samuel G.S. Bennett

249

250 Mayor Bennett asked for Volunteers for the 4th of July festivities.

251

252 Mayor Bennett gave an update that he and two Public works staff attended a meeting at the
253 Volusia County EOC about the upcoming Hurricane season. Mayor Bennett spoke on what
254 was discussed during the meeting and that he would get brochures/literature to hand out to
255 residents if requested. Discussion ensued where the shelters were located in Pierson in the
256 past and the Pierson is a Point of Distribution area.

257

258 t. Sunshine Law & Public Records Laws – Christian Waugh, Town Attorney

259

260 Mr. Waugh clarified the Sunshine law as follows

- 261 • Point is to allow the Public to be aware of meetings when two or more
262 Councilmembers are in attendance to discuss Town business. Meetings/workshops
263 have to be noticed ahead to time
264 • Violations of Sunshine law can happen very easily and can have devastating
265 consequences

266 Mr. Waugh gave suggestions to the Council to avoid the pitfalls of the Sunshine law and that
267 he is available to answer questions about this law at any time.

268 u. Update of Town projects from Town Attorney – Town Attorney Christian
269 Waugh

270

271 Mr. Waugh updated the Council that a letter was sent to a utility company who caused
272 considerable damage to the Hagstrom Rd. ROW while performing work. Mr. Waugh will
273 update the Council when he receives feedback from the Company.
274

275 v. Update of Town projects from Town Planner – Town Planner Mark Karet, Zev
276

277 Mr. Karet spoke on

- 278 • Was onsite 6/2/22 and met with several individuals
- 279 • Will be back 6/16/22
- 280 • Kick off meeting for Waste water plant design on 6/6/22 with Mead Hunt, survey
281 crews will be on site
- 282 • Design status report expected within three (3) months,
- 283 • Spoke on the next steps and timelines
- 284 • Well certification has been received

285 **6. OLD BUSINESS**

286
287
288 None

289 **7. OTHER BUSINESS**

290 a. Council and staff reports
291

292
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294 Town Attorney Waugh had no additional comments.
295

296 Vice Mayor Greenlund

- 297 • Asked about sponsorships for the 4th of July festivities
- 298 • Asked about status of letters that are supposed to go to businesses having too much
299 signage coverage on their store windows.
- 300 • Asked about status for mowing services of certain areas in Town, Mayor will get with
301 Mr. Bates

302
303 Councilmember Sergia Cardenas shared an event for June 16 through June 18/22 where
304 Doctors will be giving free medical and mental health services at a local Catholic Church.
305

306 Gray Leonhard

- 307 • suggested removing hazardous playground equipment from Washington Park
- 308 • inquired about a Mobile Home on Hagstrom Rd where some questionable
309 construction is happening. Building inspector to look at it

310
311 Mrs. Spelorzi spoke on

- 312 • EOC Hurricane Season overview flyer from Volusia County.
- 313 • Volusia County District 1 forum

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

315
316

317 Mrs. Linnie Richardson, Richardson Lane inquired about the process of currently serving on
318 a Town Board and looking to run for a seat. Mr. Waugh explained that a resignation has to be
319 submitted prior to qualifying for the seat.

320

321 Mr. Dale Barnhart asked the Town Attorney to verify his statement about the resignation
322 process as he feels that there is an exception. Mr. Waugh will look into it further.

323

324 **9. ADJOURNED**

325

326 Mayor Bennett read upcoming meeting dates/times and thanked all in attendance.

327

328 **Hearing no further business, meeting adjourned at 9:03 PM.**

329

330 Minutes prepared by:

Minutes approved by:

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339 _____
Carmen Spelorzi, Town Clerk

Samuel G.S. Bennett, Mayor