



# TOWN COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

**TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 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; Town Planner Mark Karet and representatives from the Volusia County Sheriff's office.

**3. Invocation and pledge of allegiance**

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

**4. Approval of Minutes – Mayor Samuel Bennett**

- |                                  |                |
|----------------------------------|----------------|
| a. Regular Meeting               | July 26, 2022  |
| b. Workshop- Water Bills & Liens | July 26, 2022  |
| c. Workshop- Budget              | July 26, 2022  |
| d. Special Meeting- Budget       | July 26, 2022  |
| e. Regular Meeting               | August 9, 2022 |

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

**5. NEW BUSINESS**

**a. PRESENTATION**

Years of Service Recognition by Eryn Russell of the Florida League of Cities to: Mayor Samuel G.S. Bennett

Mayor Bennett introduce Eryn Russell of the Florida League of Cities who gave a brief history on FLOC and read a resolution commending Mayor Bennett for 35 years of service.

47                   **b. RESOLUTION NO. 2022-02**  
48                   A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF PIERSON,  
49                   FLORIDA, DIRECTING THAT A TOWN OF PIERSON MUSEUM BE  
50                   CREATED; AUTHORIZING THE FORMATION OF A COMMITTEE OF  
51                   THREE TOWN COUNCIL MEMBERS FOR THE TOWN OF PIERSON  
52                   MUSEUM; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE

53 Mayor Bennett read the title and Mr. Waugh elaborated on its contents and purpose.

54

55 **Vice Mayor Robert Greenlund made the motion to approve Resolution 2022-02;**  
56 **seconded by Councilmember Gray Leonhard. All agreed, motion carries on roll call vote**  
57 **4 -0.**

58                   **c. RESOLUTION NO. 2022-06**  
59                   A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF PIERSON,  
60                   FLORIDA HONORING THE LATE HER MAJESTY QUEEN ELIZABETH  
61                   II OF ENGLAND, UNITED KINGDOM

62 Mayor Bennett asked Mr. Waugh to read the resolution.

63

64 **Councilmember Gray Leonhard made the motion to approve Resolution 2022-06 on**  
65 **Second Reading; seconded by Councilmember Sergia Cardenas. All agreed, motion**  
66 **carries on roll call vote 4 -0.**

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68 Additional item: Mayor Bennett asked for Resolution 2022-07 to be added to the agenda. The  
69 resolution was inadvertently omitted, but should be read, as it is the anniversary of September  
70 11<sup>th</sup>.

71

72 Mr. Waugh read the resolution into record.

73

74 **Vice Mayor Robert Greenlund made the motion to approve Resolution 2022-07;**  
75 **seconded by Councilmember Gray Leonhard. All agreed, motion carries on roll call vote**  
76 **4 -0.**

77                   d. Quote for Termite Treatments at the New Town Center from Pioneer Pest  
78 Services, Inc. -Mayor Samuel G.S. Bennett

79 Mayor Bennett asked Mrs. Spelorzi to explain what the proposal includes. Mrs. Spelorzi stated  
80 that the treatments are for the old cafeteria and the administrative building. Annual renewals  
81 are available for a charge starting September 2023.

82 Discussion ensued that Tim Gardner with Purcor was in the audience and that his company  
83 also provides Termite Treatment. Mr. Gardner stated that he appreciates the opportunity to  
84 provide a quote and that he can send it to the Town Clerk within a few days. All agreed. Mrs.  
85 Spelorzi will but both quotes on the 9/27/22 Council meeting.

86                   e. Quote for removal & exclusion of bats at the Rodeo/Arena from PURCOR -  
87 Mayor Samuel G.S. Bennett

88

89 Mayor Bennett asked Mr. Gardner to speak on his proposal for \$7,950 for addressing the bat  
90 infestation at the Rodeo/Arena. Mr. Gardener elaborated on his proposal.

91

92 Discussion ensued to get a second quote and to make this an agenda item for the next Council  
93 meeting.

94

95 f. Surveillance Cameras for Town Properties -Mayor Samuel G.S. Bennett

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97 Mayor Bennett spoke on the item and the Town Planner explained the quote from Web Watch  
98 Dogs surveillance camera systems. Councilmember Gray Leonhard inquired if the T-Mobile  
99 grant can be used and Mr. Karet explained that this are two separate things. Mayor Bennett  
100 suggested funding those cameras out of the general fund, since it has become more urgent due  
101 to the incident at the Water plant. The total cost for surveillance equipment at the Water plant  
102 and the water tower is \$10,548.00.

103

104 Discussion ensued that due to the urgency of this matter, no other quotes need to be obtained  
105 and to have the company start the install on 9/19/22. The money will come out of the Water  
106 fund.

107

108 **Vice Mayor Robert Greenlund made the motion to approve Web Watch Dogs to install**  
109 **surveillance systems as the Water Plant, the Wells and Water Tower for a total cost of**  
110 **\$10,548.00; seconded by Councilmember Sergia Cardenas. All agreed, motion carries.**

111

112 Commissioner Gray Leonhard asked for more clarification on the T-Mobile grant funds. Mr.  
113 Karet stated that the funds are being applied for and that the Town needs to wait for the next  
114 cycle. Commissioner Leonhard requested this to be an item on the next Council meeting  
115 agenda, as he felt that it wasn't moving forward fast enough.

116

117 g. Scarecrow Competition consideration -Mayor Samuel G.S. Bennett

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119 Mayor Bennett spoke on the item and invited Ms. Debby Somers and her husband to elaborate.

120

121 Ms. Somers stated that they are Pierson residents and local business owners. The Somers are  
122 proposing a scarecrow event using the fence line at Center Street to have folks and businesses  
123 register to make scarecrows to be displayed on the fence line. This can also be made into a  
124 competition with prize winnings provided by Somers Home Group.

125

126 Discussion ensued and the Council agrees to allow the use of the fence and have event  
127 information displayed at Town Hall.

128

129 **Vice Mayor Robert Greenlund made the motion to allow the use of the fence line at**  
130 **Center Street for the Scarecrow competition from 10/1/22 to 10/31/22; seconded by**  
131 **Councilmember Gray Leonhard. All agreed, motion carries.**

132

133 h. Renewal of the FY 2022/2023 Animal Sheltering Services Contract –  
134 Agreement for Services between Halifax Humane Society, Inc. and the Town  
135 of Pierson - Mayor Samuel G.S. Bennett

136

137 Mayor Bennett read the title and Mrs. Spelorzi elaborated on the renewal and that it includes  
138 additional aspects and most of the cost for services have increased.

139

140 **Vice Mayor Robert Greenlund made the motion to approve the renewal of the FY**  
141 **2022/2023 Animal Sheltering Services Contract; seconded by Councilmember Gray**  
142 **Leonhard. All agreed, motion carries.**

143

144 i. FRDAP Grants for Chipper Jones & Palmetto Ave Parks selection of  
145 playground equipment - Mayor Samuel G.S. Bennett

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147 Mayor Bennett read the title and referenced the discussions from a recent FRDAP grants  
148 workshop. Mrs. Spelorzi stated that Miracle Recreation updated the date of their proposal and  
149 the cost remained the same at \$26,580.00. Discussion ensued about the different proposals  
150 and that Game Time's quote went up considerably once they provided their installation cost.

151

152 Discussion ensued.

153

154 **Vice Mayor Robert Greenlund made the motion to approve the proposal from Miracle**  
155 **Recreation in the amount of \$26,580.00; seconded by Councilmember Gray Leonhard.**  
156 **All agreed, motion carries.**

157

158 j. Quote for Airport Fire Extinguishers & Cabinets- Councilman Gray Leonhard

159 Mayor Bennett asked Councilmember Gray Leonhard to speak on this item. Councilmember  
160 Leonhard explained the reason for this quote and that the cost to recharge those two  
161 extinguishers and purchase cabinets for them is around \$800.

162 Discussion ensued and the Council doesn't feel that this is a necessary expense at this time as  
163 these are just additional extinguishers.

164 k. Construction on Town Property - Councilman Gray Leonhard

165 Councilmember Gray Leonhard asked for this to be tabled until the next regular Council  
166 meeting.

167 **Vice Mayor Robert Greenlund made the motion to table the item on construction on**  
168 **Town Property until next Council meeting; seconded by Councilmember Sergia**  
169 **Cardenas. All agreed, motion carries.**

170

171 l. Fencing on Rodeo Grounds - Councilman Gray Leonhard

172 Mayor Bennett asked Councilmember Gray Leonhard to speak on this item. Councilmember  
173 Leonhard elaborated on the dilapidated condition of the fence and that he got a quote in the  
174 amount of \$17,679.00 from Better Fence Company to remove/replace and haul away the  
175 existing chain link fencing. Another location would require replacement and removal of wood  
176 fencing and that quote is for \$7,855.00.

177 Resident Brandy Peterson would like to provide a quote through her fencing business and the  
178 Council agreed.

179 **Vice Mayor Robert Greenlund made the motion to table the item until next Council**  
180 **meeting; seconded by Councilmember Sergia Cardenas. All agreed, motion carries.**

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m. Chipper Jones Park - Councilman Gray Leonhard

183 Councilmember Gray Leonhard spoke on the following safety concerns:

- 184 • Trash – Mrs. Spelorzi advised it was removed today
- 185 • Fence concerns (discussed in item 5 L)
- 186 • Exposed electrical panels and outlets
- 187 • Wells and vegetation need attention
- 188 • Trash cans need attention
- 189 • Possible saddle club items need to be removed
- 190 • Bleachers sitting on dirt need weeding
- 191 • Dugouts support posts are starting to rot
- 192 • Slope Mowing, is Mr. Bates doing it. Vice Mayor Gray Leonhard will contact Mr.  
193 Bates
- 194 • Cleanup around PW work barn, trash and weeds, crews to address this situation
- 195 • Paving on Hagstrom Rd, do we have a date as it is in really bad shape. Mayor Bennett  
196 elaborated on standing water and getting ditches cleaned. VC Road and Bridge has  
197 been onsite to look into resurfacing. VC has issues getting asphalt.

198 Town Attorney Waugh called a point of order as items were being discussed that did not  
199 pertain to Chipper Jones Park. Councilmember Leonhard stated that items 5. m, n and o blend  
200 together.

- 201 • Process of condemning and removing of uninhabitable mobile home

202 Mrs. Linnie Richardson inquired about the home on W. Hagstrom and Mrs. Spelorzi advised  
203 that it is being taken care of with the Chief Building Official. Mr. Waugh does not feel  
204 comfortable with discussing items that might implicate people without proper notification on  
205 the Council agenda, as this does not give the concerned parties the opportunity to attend the  
206 meeting to speak on their own behalf. In order to have proper discussion, the agenda title has  
207 to indicate what is being addressed.

208 Councilmember Leonhard stated that he has a copy of that list available for anybody who  
209 would like one.

210 n. New Town Center - Councilman Gray Leonhard

211 Discussed under 5 m

- 212 o. Discussion on maintenance work/ upkeep of town streets - Councilman Gray  
213 Leonhard

214 Discussed under 5 m

215 p. Updates by Mayor - Mayor Samuel G.S. Bennett

216 Mayor Bennett spoke on lighting on baseball fields and one pole needing to be removed. Will  
217 have quote by next meeting. Crews are also making process on the New Town center.

218 q. Update of Town projects from Town Attorney – Town Attorney Christian  
219 Waugh

220 Mr. Waugh stated that he was directed to end nuisances at 457 Western Ave and spoke on the  
221 procedure and what has been done. It is now in the hands of the judge to get an injunction to  
222 abate the nuisances. Mrs. Whidden assisted with her affidavit.

223 Mayor Bennett heard that Mr. O’Quinn sold his business. Discussion ensued.

224 r. Update of Town projects from Town Planner – Town Planner Mark Karet, Zev  
225 Cohen & Associates

226

227 Mr. Karet spoke on

- 228 • Being onsite 9/1/22 and again 9/15/22
- 229 • New Owner of B&B to come in on 9/15/22
- 230 • Water plant CDBG – procuring materials and getting product approvals
- 231 • Wastewater plant – coming up on the design, surveyors are on site

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## 233 **6. OLD BUSINESS**

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235 None

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## 237 **7. OTHER BUSINESS**

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239 a. Council and staff reports

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241 Councilmembers Sergia Cardenas and Gray Leonhard, as well as Mr. Waugh had no  
242 additional comments.

243

244 Vice Mayor Greenlund asked now that the playground equipment has been chosen what are  
245 the next steps in regards for the FRDAP funds. Mrs. Spelorzi explained that the vendor is  
246 aware of the project timeframe, but she will contact them again.

247

248 Mrs. Spelorzi advised of a letter by Duke Energy about upcoming tree trimming. Discussion  
249 ensued about power outages.

250

## 251 **8. GOOD AND WELFARE (public participation)**

252

253 Mr. Paul Martel, 506 N. Pine Street spoke on

- 254 • South end coming into Town, Marquee flag caught in tree
- 255 • Circle K signage still out there
- 256 • Grants can be done by Town employees, applications seem to be simple to navigate.  
257 Mrs. Spelorzi to send email to Council members

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Ms. Melody Sowell-McDonald, 392 Turner Rd

- Suggested having duct work cleaned at the new Town Center
- Agrees with Commissioner Leonhard’s list and feels that PW staff should not be used to do work at the Town Center but rather focus on keeping Town Parks etc in order

Ms. Linnie Richardson, 270 Richardson Lane, inquired about the procedure for adding a new meter box on nonresidential farm buildings that are bona fide agricultural. She read from a Florida Code about permit requirements. Mr. Waugh and Mrs. Spelorzi spoke on the matter. Mr. Waugh will look into it.

Mr. John Rogers, 420 Hwy 17, and owner of Pratts Towing service wanted to introduce himself and announce his willingness to work with the Town.

**9. ADJOURNED**

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

**Hearing no further business, meeting adjourned at 9:12 PM.**

Minutes prepared by:

Minutes approved by:

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Carmen Spelorzi, Town Clerk

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Samuel G.S. Bennett, Mayor