



TOWN COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

**TUESDAY, JANUARY 23, 2024 – 6:30 PM
PIERSON TOWN HALL**

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1. Call meeting to order.

Mayor Samuel G.S. Bennett called the meeting to order at 6:33 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 representatives from the Volusia County Sheriff's office. Town Planner Mark Karet and Town Attorney Christian Waugh was present.

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 – January 23, 2024

Mayor Bennett read the title and asked if there were any additions and/or deletions, if not he would entertain a motion for approval.

Councilmember Linnie Richardson made the motion to approve the above listed minutes as written; seconded by Councilmember Brandy Peterson. All agreed, motion carries.

5. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Jim Ashby of Weston & Gregory

Jim Ashby began by stating this was audit that ended September 30, 2023. Discussed packet given to Council and Audit results.

46 **Councilwoman Linnie R. Richardson made the motion to approve the Audit from**
47 **September 30, 2023, from Weston and Gregory.; seconded by Vice Mayor Robert**
48 **Greenlund. All agreed, motion carries.**

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b. City Streets Mayor Samuel G.S. Bennett

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53 Mayor Samuel Bennett stated the cars parked on 2nd street and corner of Fountain Drive are
54 making it very difficult for people to see oncoming traffic. He then proposed we ne to put no
55 parking signs and open the view for traffic. Officer Carbajal stated that there is no stop sign
56 there. Resident Gray Leonard asked if they would still be parking on sidewalk because they
57 are breaking it all up, Mayor Samuel Bennett Responded with no.

58

59 Resident Mary Kay Hansen stated that this same thing is happening on North RD and County
60 RD 3.

61

62 **Vice Mayor Robert Greenlund made the motion to proceed with signage for 2nd Street**
63 **and Fountain Dr and North Rd and County RD 3.; seconded by Councilmember Linnie**
64 **Richardson. All agreed, motion carries.**

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c. Airport Storage Fees – Councilwoman Linnie Richardson

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68 Councilwoman Linnie Richardson stated that as of today we charge between \$33.00 and
69 \$36.00 a month for tie downs and hangers, and we also pay \$3,000.00 a year in airport
70 insurance. Councilwoman Linnie Richardson then state that she spoke with a Mr. Maxwell
71 from Quincy Municipal Airport about our fees, and he advised her to at least double the fees.
72 Councilwoman Linnie Richardson then suggested we charge \$75.00 for tie downs and
73 \$165.00 for hangers per month effective March 1, 2024.

74

75 **Councilwoman Linnie Richardson made a motion to increase tie down fees to \$75.00 a**
76 **month and hanger fees to \$165.00 a month.; seconded by Councilmember Sergia**
77 **Cardenas. All agreed, motion carries.**

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79 A brief recess was called for an issue with agenda.

80 Meeting back in session.

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d. Mobile vendors food/crafts – Mayor Samuel G.S. Bennett

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84 Mayor Samuel Bennett had discussed this with Kim, and she has volunteered to propose to
85 council that once a month, the third Saturday of the month from 9 am to 1 pm at New Town
86 Center we allow artist and vendors to come in and sell their items. Kim stated it would be
87 \$20.00 for one spot and \$30.00 for two spots and food trucks would be charged \$50.00.
88 Councilwoman Brandy Peterson asked if this would affect our insurance and Town Attorney
89 Christian Waugh stated that it would not. Kim then asked if she could put it on social media
90 and that she would collect the money and then that Monday turn it in to the Town.

91

92 **Vice Mayor Robert Greenlund made the motion to approve vendors once a month at**
93 **New Town Center.; seconded by Councilmember Sergia Cardenas. All agreed, motion**
94 **carries.**

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96 e. Surety Bank taking over Town Hall 106 N. Center Street – Mayor Samuel G.S.
97 Bennett

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99 Mayor Samuel Bennett opened with a discussion and asked Town Attorney Christian Waugh
100 to speak. Christian Waugh stated that he spoke with Surety Banks attorney and felt that he
101 was trying to feel us out. Councilwoman Linnie Richardson stated that cost to maintain
102 building and updates and then asked about appraisal. Mayor Bennett stated it came in under
103 \$200,000.00. Vice Mayor Robert Greenlund stated that this is a very valuable piece of
104 property, and it is worth a lot more now. Councilwoman Brandy Peterson stated what
105 information was on property Appraiser website. The Vice Mayor stated to keep renting it and
106 the handle all the maintenance and utilities. Mayor then stated that Town attorney Christian
107 Waugh and Himself will work on this because we need to keep bank in Pierson.

- 108
109 f. Fence around New Town Center – Brandy Peterson

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111 Councilwoman Brandy Peterson started with the New Town Center should look inviting and
112 with the fence it looks like a jail. She also stated that what if we rent to other vendors who
113 will be required to close the gates. Councilwoman Linnie Richardson stated it is her opinion
114 that we take down North and West side fencing.

115
116 **Vice Mayor Robert Greenlund made a motion to table this until next meeting so that he**
117 **can review the fence.; seconded by Councilwoman Sergia Cardenas. All agreed, motion**
118 **carries.**

- 119
120 g. New tenant at Airport – Olin Cannon

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122 I have someone who would like to place a portable hanger at east end of runway to house his
123 fabric plane. It will be a tarp with 4 wooden posts. So, I am here to get your blessing. Town
124 Planner Mark Karet stated he would need to get a permit. Vice Mayor Robert Greenlund stated
125 it will not be in the way, not on the street, covers his fabric plan and we charge him \$165.00.

126
127 **Vice Mayor Robert Greenlund made a motion to approve hanger at east end of Airport**
128 **if he gets a permit and pays \$165.00.; seconded by Councilwoman Sergia Cardenas. All**
129 **agreed, motion carries.**

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131 h. Fence around New Town Center and Advertisements – Sue Elliott

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133 Sue Elliott stated she agreed with getting rid of Fences on North and West side but to leave
134 some so businesses can hang signs of their businesses. Mayor Samuel Bennett asked what
135 type of signs and Sue Elliott stated that was not determined yet. Town Planner Mark Karet
136 stated that advertising can only be done on Commercial or Industrial Property and this
137 property is zoned agricultural. He also stated it would have to be approved by FDOT and in
138 his opinion would not be approved. Councilwoman Linnie Richardson asked Town Planner

139 Mark Karet if that means signs on fence now should be removed, Mark Karet replied yes,
140 they should be taken down.

141

142 Mayor Samuel G.S. Bennett asked Town Planner Mark Karet if we could put these signs up
143 at old Town hall 106 N Center Street? Twon Planner replied to you could probably get that
144 approved by FDOT because it is Commercial Zoned.

145

146 i. Notary Fees – Linnie R. Richardson

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148 Councilwoman Linnie R. Richardson stated we only charge a dollar per signature and that we
149 need to increase this amount.

150

151 **Councilwoman Linnie Richardson made a motion to approve notary rate increase to**
152 **five dollars per single signature and ten dollars and up all others.; seconded by**
153 **Councilmember Sergia Cardenas. All agreed, motion carries.**

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155 j. Taylor Middle High School Donation for prom

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157 No motion was carried and moved to the next agenda item.

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159 k. Mud sink for kitchen New Town Center

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161 **Councilwoman Brandy Peterson made a motion to approve purchase of mud sink for**
162 **69.00 and faucet for 59.00.; seconded by Vice Mayor Robert Greenlund. All agreed,**
163 **motion carries.**

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165 l. Surety bank/Truist credit card – Brandy Peterson

166

167 Councilwoman Brandy requested that Carmen be removed from account and that Town clerk
168 and Deputy clerk get a card. Ryan Smith will do research into other card companies for the
169 better deal. Brandy Peterson also requested that we get access to Surety Bank to do business.

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171

172 **Councilwoman Brandy Peterson made a motion to get Yvonne Braddock and Ryan**
173 **Smith a credit card and to grant us access to Town of Pierson Bank account with Surety**
174 **Bank.; seconded by Councilwoman Sergia Cardenas. All agreed, motion carries.**

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176 m. Cleaning od New Town Center Quotes – Brandy Peterson

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178 Grime Stoppers \$875.00 and Current cleaning lady Marilou Vargas \$1,000.00 a month.

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180 **Councilwoman Brandy Peterson made a motion to hire Grime Stoppers to clean New**
181 **Town Center and Community Center at \$875.00.; seconded by Councilwoman Linnie**
182 **R. Richardson. All agreed, motion carries.**

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6. OLD BUSINESS

7. OTHER BUSINESS

n. Updates from Mayor Samuel G.S. Bennett

I have no updates currently.

o. Updates from Town attorney Christian Waugh

I have no updates currently.

p. Updates from Town Planner Mark Karet

Water plant, scope of work current vendor out for bid. I will be in the office on February 1, 2024, to meet with residents. Site plan going to Planning commission for venue in Pierson. The sewer is 60% complete.

Updates Vice Mayor Robert Greenlund ballfields in bad shape and parents are pulling their children out of little league. Need to kill the entire field and re sod the field. Give me a week to work on this.

Updates Councilwoman Sergia Cardenas – I have nothing currently.

Updates Linnie Richardson -Ditches on Hagstrom with 4-wheeler tracks all through them, they could hit a water line.

Updates Councilwoman Brandy Peterson- I have nothing currently.

Updates Town Clerk Braddock had no additional comments, but Marci has something to say, Duke Energy is working on light polls as we speak.

6. GOOD AND WELFARE (public participation)

Resident Gray Leonard streetlights are out on Frederick Street and second.

Volusia County Sheriff office Officer Darcy fern growers need to start marking their batteries on top so the machine that views them can be identified. Also, we need to work on fern regulations and the stealing of ferns from other farms. She also stated that the fern growers need to post No Trespassing signs.

7. ADJOURNED

232 **Hearing no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:45 PM.**

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234 Minutes prepared by:

Minutes approved by:

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Yvonne Braddock, Town Clerk

Samuel G.S. Bennett, Mayor

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