

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

THURSDAY, JUNE 17, 2025 – 6:30 P.M. PIERSON TOWN CENTER

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1. Call meeting to order

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Mayor Gray Leonhard called the meeting to order at 6:32 P.M. and asked Town Clerk Yvonne Braddock to take the roll call.

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2. Roll call

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PRESENT:

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Mayor Gray Leonhard Vice Mayor Robert Greenlund Councilmember Jimmy Anderson Councilmember Linnie Richardson Councilmember Brandy Peterson

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Volusia County Sheriff and Deputy Clerk Ryan Smith were not in attendance.

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3. Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance

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Councilmember Linnie Richardson gave the invocation, which was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

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4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES -Mayor Gray Leonhard

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a. Regular Meeting June 3, 2025 b. Workshop Meeting June 3, 2025

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

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Council Member Linnie Richardson made a motion to approve the above listed minutes as written; seconded by Vice Mayor Robert Greenlund. All agreed, motion carries.

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5. NEW BUSINESS

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a. Traffic safety team update Lester Pulley

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45 46 Lester Pulley 363 N. Pine Street Mr. Pulley started with he spoke with Mrs. Beatrice Abrahams about Pierson kids are walking to school when Pierson has a no walk zone for 2 miles. Mrs. Abrahams has scheduled an assessment, and Lester Pulley will get the results at the next meeting. Lester Pulley stated it was a 40-minute meeting and Volusia County complained about the heavy trucks damaging the roads and they have 9 FHP troopers that monitor this for several counties and at this time Volusia County does not enforce the weight limit on the roads. Speeding complaints are the biggest topic in area. Next Meeting is July 3, 2025. Mayor Gray Leonhard thanked Lester Pulley for volunteering to do this, and all the Town Council thanked him.

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b. Northwest Volusia Little League – Kelsey Waters

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Lindsey Link was representing the league because Kelsey Waters was out of town, she than started discussing the poles that they are going to replace and that they got new light fixtures for the poles. They have bucket trucks, electricians and contractors who have volunteered to take on this project. Lindsey stated that the new fall season will be starting in August, and they need to get rolling with the light poles. Council member Brandy Peterson asked if the lights were donated as well and Lindsey responded that they have a lot of sponsors who helped a lot and that Little League will pay about \$2,000 dollars. Lindsey Link asked if the public works employees are dragging the fields because they don't want the same situation as last year. Council member Brandy Peterson and Mayor Gray Leonhard responded that they are doing it 1 time a week. Council member Linnie Richardson asked if the town could be liable if something happened with the lights. Town Attorney Scott Simpson asked her to look at 5c on the agenda he has field agreements, volunteer agreements and contractor agreements. Vice Mayor Robert Greenlund stated that we must protect the town and Town attorney Scott Simpson said always and that we are not signing their agreement and that there are procedures that must be followed. Council member Brandy Peterson stated that she advised the little league to set the date and price to bring to council. Town attorney Scott Simpson stated that the agreement could be more detailed or less detailed if it is the town council's decision and staff can work with him to get the contract ready for the next meeting. Mayor Gray Leonhard asked the council what's your ideas Lindsey Link stated we are just waiting for this to get the poles installed. Town attorney asked how long it will take to get it installed and Lindsey Link stated a few days it will move quickly. Council Member Linnie Richardson asked if we should table and do a workshop. Town attorney Scott Simpson said that you can direct staff and myself to work on this and modify both agreements. Lindsey Link asked so we will have a workshop to get the agreement together and then bring it to the next meeting. Council member Brandy Peterson asked what length of time the council wanted. Council member Linnie Richardson stated she wants the contract to state that the council can cancel at any time. Mayor Gray Leonhard stated that a lot could change in 15 years and if not, there would be no problem with renewing the agreement. Council Member Linnie Richardson asked why it can't be annually. Vice Mayor Greenlund said 15 years is too long. Town Planner Mark Karet said what about 5 years with an extension. Council member Linnie Richardson said that both parties can terminate at any time. Mayor Gray Leonhard said 5 years is good for him. Vice Mayor Robert Greenlund said that we have a good relationship with the little league, and he hopes it continues. Council member Jimmy Anderson states this is for the kids and not the parents. Lindsey Link stated this was a great year. Mayor Gray Leonhard stated that he wants to direct Scott Simpson to make the changes and bring it to the nest meeting on July 1, 2025. Town attorney Scott Simpson stated different ways the contract can be one on one or a threeway agreement. Council member Brandy Peterson stated we need the warranties for the lights. Town attorney stated so agreement for 5 years and Council member Linnie Richardson and right to terminate at any time and put on next agenda. Lindsey link also stated that they repaired the fences at a cost of \$3,000 dollars. Resident Lester Pulley asked about the volunteer form, and he is not an employee. Town attorney said he would have to fill out a volunteer form, Town Clerk Yvonne Braddock handed one to Lester Pulley.

c. Opening Driveway from Chipper Jones and railroad – Mayor Gray Leonhard

Gray started with that if we opened that up it could be beneficial to the gate at ballfields being closed. The council stated that it is really wet there. Council member Brandy Peterson stated that it would interfere with saddle club and the rodeo. Mayor Gray Leonhard stated that the highway entrance is too dangerous. Council member Jimmy Anderson and Lindsey Link stated that they have been using the road along the railroad, and it's been working well, and they have been posting signs directing people to go.

6. OLD BUSINESS

Mayor Gray Leonhard asked the council if they have any old business to discuss. Council member Jimmy Anderson stated that he advised the public works department that the roof on bathroom is not leaking and can wait until the mowing season is over. Council Member Linnie Richardson stated we need to schedule Sheriff contract workshop to discuss an offer to send to sheriff office. The council discussed a date to set the workshop and agreed on June 24, 2025, at 1 PM.

7. OTHER BUSINESS (Mayor, Council and staff reports)

Mayor Gray Leonhard stated that he contacted Jill Marcum about the echo grant, and he would like the Town clerk and Deputy clerk to attend training in December. He also stated that she would like an impromptu meeting in the office. Council member Linnie Richardson said that Deputy Clerk Ryan Smith has already taken the class and Town Planner Mark Karet stated they just have updated forms.

The council started to discuss the Workshop for the Sherriff office again and a discussion ensued.

Mayor Gray Leonhard stated he has been giving addresses to the town clerk for residents that have trash in front of their homes. Vice Mayor Robert Greenlund stated he doesn't believe in code enforcement, but we have some homes in town that are in disarray. Council member Jimmy Anderson said that there are dead trees on county road 3 and that the county needs to take them down. The council stated that a resident on the county road has a dead pine tree, and it hangs over the road, and they need to remove it. Council member Linnie Richardson stated could we be liable as a town for the tree. Town Attorney Scott Simpson stated we could. The Vice Mayor said he would get the address to the town clerk, and she could send them a letter.

Council member Linnie Richardson stated that she made an executive decision and contacted the Astor radio station to advertise the 4th of July celebration and offered them both a free meal at the 4th of July celebration. The council all agreed to that. Council Member Linnie

Richardson asked about trees on stated road and Town Clerk Yvonne Braddock stated she hasn't received anything from Charlie Suber.

Council Member Brandy Peterson stated she had a few items, first the ditches need to be sprayed, and council member Jimmy Anderson stated some of those ditches are County. Council member Brandy Peterson stated that our ditches need sprayed and weed wacked. Next council member Brandy Peterson asked about contracts for emergency crews during a hurricane and Town Attorney Scott Simpson stated that the town can piggyback the Volusia County contracts for hurricane clean up. He also stated that they can create a proposal offer out it would help with reimbursement from Fema. The last thing is do we have more posters to hang in Deleon Springs. The town clerk stated she could print more. Council member Brandy Peterson also asked if they spread grass seed where they fenced off at Chipper Jones Park. Council member Jimmy Anderson stated they were waiting for thew rain to start but since it started, we will get grass seed to spread.

Town Planner Mark Karet started with that he met with Mead and Hunt, and the wastewater system is 90% and he told Town Attorney Scott Simpson that we need to redo the letters because we are now going behind the businesses. We also need to get a quote from CWS to run the wastewater plant. He also stated he will be here Thursday to meet with residents to discuss their planning needs and that we have a heavy Planning and Zoning meeting.

Mayor Gray Leonhard said I have one more thing and we need to get working on a proposal for the airport. He then asked the Town Clerk Yvonne Braddock if she had anything and she stated just a few things. First the auction people will be here next week to take pictures and Deputy Clerk Ryan Smith spoke with Chris Nichols to combine all the items he can in one space. Mosquito Control will be setting traps for mosquitoes to check prior to the 4th of July. Town Clerk Yvonne Braddock stated she placed an ad in paper for 4th of July celebration and that we will be at the new wells tomorrow for hopefully the last walkthrough with the health department.

They Mayor read off next meetings and the events for the town of Pierson.

Hearing no further business, meeting adjourned at 7:46 P.M.

Minutes prepared by:	Minutes approved by:
windees prepared by.	windles approved by.
Yvonne Braddock, Town Clerk	Gray Leonhard, Mayor