



47 **Councilmember Linnie Richardson made the motion to approve Resolution 2024-14;**  
48 **seconded by Vice Mayor Robert Greenlund. Motion carries on a roll call vote 4-0.**

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50 a. Welcome to Pierson signs at Chipper Jones Park – Linnie R. Richardson –  
51 Councilwoman

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53 Councilmember Linnie Richardson said the wooden “Welcome to Pierson” sign had rotted  
54 and needed to be taken down. Councilmember Richardson said the large Chipper Jones sign  
55 was dirty and needed to be cleaned. Vice Mayor Greenlund said the contact would be Cecil  
56 Ward at Don Bell Signs.

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58 b. Trees on Short Street discussion and action – Linnie R. Richardson –  
59 Councilwoman

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61 Councilmember Linnie Richardson said this item could be tabled until after the storm.

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63 **Councilmember Linnie Richardson made the motion to table this item; seconded by**  
64 **Vice Mayor Robert Greenlund. All agreed; motion carries.**

65

66 c. **PUBLIC HEARING** **1<sup>st</sup> READING**

67

68 **ORDINANCE 2024-15**

69

70 **AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN OF PIERSON, FLORIDA, PROPOSING**  
71 **AMENDMENTS TO THE UNIFIED LAND DEVELOPMENT REGULATIONS OF**  
72 **THE TOWN OF PIERSON REVISING STANDARDS FOR TREE PROTECTION TO**  
73 **MEET THE MINIMUM STANDARDS REQUIRED BY VOLUSIA COUNTY;**  
74 **PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR CODIFICATION AND**  
75 **PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**

76

77 Councilmember Linnie Richardson asked Town Planner Mark Karet to discuss the changes.  
78 Mr. Karet explained that in the late 1980s, Volusia County created the Environmental Natural  
79 Resources Advisory Committee through a charter referendum which gave the county the  
80 ability to adopt minimum environmental standards and regulations in all its cities. Mr. Karet  
81 said this committee went dormant until approximately 2022 when it was reinstated. Mr. Karet  
82 explained that as part of the process, the committee was trying to determine if cities within  
83 the county were using minimum standards.

84

85 Mr. Karet briefly read through the amendments and explained standards for specimen trees,  
86 historic trees, and the percentage of trees required to be preserved for various properties.

87

88 Resident Gray Leonhard asked about removing trees on a piece of property. Mr. Karet  
89 explained that a certain number of trees must be retained, but that trees could be re-planted to  
90 meet the requirements.

91

92 Resident Rick Davis asked which County Ordinance established the tree standards. Mr. Karet  
93 said the minimum standards were in two different locations: chapter 50 of the County’s LDC  
94 and the charter.

95

96 **End of Public Hearing**

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98 Vice Mayor Greenlund questioned why the Town had to adopt these standards and said it was  
99 only adding more regulations. Councilmember Linnie Richardson and Vice Mayor Greenlund  
100 asked if adopting the minimum standards was a requirement. Mr. Karet said it was required;  
101 he explained that if the Town adopted the standards, it would have the authority to apply and  
102 regulate them. Otherwise, the County would be able to enforce the standards. Mr. Karet  
103 recommended the ordinance be adopted so that the Town could control the regulation of the  
104 tree standards.

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106 **Vice Mayor Robert Greenlund made the motion to approve Ordinance 2024-15 on its**  
107 **first reading; seconded by Councilmember Linnie Richardson. Motion carries on a roll**  
108 **call vote 4-0.**

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110 **d. PUBLIC HEARING**

**2<sup>nd</sup> READING**

111

112 **ORDINANCE 2024-16**

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114 **AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN OF PIERSON, FLORIDA, ADDING A SECTION**  
115 **TO THE CODE OF ORDINANCES REGARDING TRESPASS WARNINGS ON**  
116 **PUBLIC PROPERTY AND OTHER PROPERTY GENERALLY OPEN TO THE**  
117 **PUBLIC.**

118

119 Resident Gray Leonhard asked if the ordinance allowed the Town to press charges if a person  
120 trespassed onto Town property. Councilmember Brandy Peterson clarified it would allow  
121 people to be trespassed from the Town’s properties.

122

123 **End of Public Hearing**

124

125 **Councilmember Brandy Peterson made the motion to approve Ordinance 2024-16 on its**  
126 **second reading; seconded by Councilmember Linnie Richardson. Motion carries on a**  
127 **roll call vote 4-0.**

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129 e. RFP 2024-01 Water Operations scoring and review – Town Planner Mark  
130 Karet, Zev Cohen

131

132 Town Planner Mark Karet said a committee was formed to review and score the respondents  
133 to the Request for Proposal for a new Water Operator. Mr. Karet asked the Council if they  
134 would like to proceed with a contract for the highest-scoring vendor. Mr. Karet gave a brief  
135 overview of the respondents and explained the overall scores for each.

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137 Mr. Karet stated that U.S. Water and CWS are large, well-staffed companies with similar bids  
138 but that U.S. Water had built-in increases to their proposal.

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Mayor Bennett asked if CWS was used by the Town for repairs on Pecan Street; Deputy Clerk Ryan Smith stated that RCM Utilities is the company who completed the Pecan Street work. Mr. Smith noted that CWS maintained the wastewater treatment plant at the local schools.

Councilmember Linnie Richardson inquired about Certified Backflow Services. Mr. Karet said that Certified Backflow Services and Biometric both appeared to have limited staffing which raised concerns about their availability.

Mayor Bennett stated that he would support the recommendation by the committee.

Mr. Karet stated that he would work with the Town Attorney and Clerk’s office to negotiate a contract with CWS, potentially for a 3-year term.

Mayor Bennett inquired about RCM Utilities and R & K Environmental. Deputy Clerk Ryan Smith said that RCM Utilities did not perform operator services, and R & K Environmental chose not to place a bid.

**Councilmember Linnie Richardson made the motion for Town Attorney Christian Waugh, Town Planner Mark Karet, and the Clerk’s Office to negotiate a contract with CWS; seconded by Councilmember Brandy Peterson. All agreed; motion carries.**

f. Hurricane supply relief – Linnie R. Richardson – Councilwoman

Councilmember Richardson said she originally put this item on the agenda to discuss donating the Town’s remaining bottled water and soda to hurricane relief efforts by resident Kristine Wake, but she felt it might be best to wait until after Hurricane Milton had passed to ensure the supplies were not needed in Town.

g. Lead Service Line DEP requirement discussion and action – Deputy Clerk Ryan Smith

Deputy Clerk Ryan Smith explained the new Lead and Copper Rule Revisions by Florida Department of Environmental Protection which require all community public water systems to submit a Lead Service Line Inventory. Mr. Smith said this spreadsheet needed to be completed and submitted to the State by October 16, 2024. The Health Department stated that the Town would receive an EPA violation for a missing or late report with no exceptions.

Vice Mayor Greenlund said that Town Clerk Yvonne Braddock called him and advised him of the requirements. Vice Mayor Greenlund instructed Public Works to begin working on the inventory.

Mayor Bennett highlighted that the Town’s water system is relatively new and does not contain lead lines.

h. Landscaping at Town Center – Mayor Samuel G.S. Bennett

186 Mayor Bennett asked the Council to consider using larger river rocks rather than the  
187 previously approved crushed rock in the flower beds at the Town Center. Mayor Bennett felt  
188 this would be more aesthetically pleasing. Councilmember Linnie Richardson asked if there  
189 was a large price difference. Mayor Bennett said he spoke with Mike Jones of Tri-Town Ace  
190 Hardware and stated the Town could receive a price break.

191

192 i. Updates by Mayor Samuel G.S. Bennett

193

194 Mayor Bennett advised that the Town was under a State of Emergency. Mayor Bennett said  
195 Public Works had checked the water tower, generators, chainsaws, and other equipment to  
196 ensure they were in working order and ready for the storm. Mayor Bennett noted that multiple  
197 loads of sand had been delivered for residents to fill sandbags.

198

199 Mayor Bennett asked Town Clerk Yvonne Braddock for an update regarding a  
200 communication to DOT about trimming trees along US Highway 17. Ms. Braddock stated  
201 that DOT had added it to a list.

202

203 j. Updates on Town Projects from Town Attorney Christian Waugh

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205 Town Attorney Christian Waugh was absent.

206

207 k. Updates on Town Projects from Town Planner Mark Karet

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209 Mr. Karet said he would be available at the Town Center on October 17, 2024 to meet with  
210 residents regarding their land use and zoning questions.

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## 212 **6. OLD BUSINESS**

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214 There was none at this time.

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## 216 **7. OTHER BUSINESS (Council and Staff Reports)**

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218 Vice Mayor Robert Greenlund said he had contacted Public Works foreman Louis Longo to  
219 ensure that fuel had been purchased for chainsaws, trucks, equipment, and generators in  
220 preparation for the hurricane. Vice Mayor Greenlund said he hoped everyone made it safely  
221 through the storm.

222

223 Councilmember Linnie Richardson had two items:

224

225 • Councilmember Linnie Richardson spoke to Kalen Ruth of KR Land Development,  
226 Charles Gay of M & B Tree Service, and Billy Schmidt of Will Do Concrete regarding  
227 debris clean-up after the storm. All three businesses confirmed they were on standby.

228

229 • Councilmember Linnie Richardson contacted Volusia County Chair Jeff Brower and  
230 Volusia County Emergency Management regarding a shelter at Taylor Middle-High  
231 School. Councilmember Richardson said that the County and School Board did not  
232 intend to open Taylor Middle-High School as a shelter, but that buses would be

233 available at the Town Center on Wednesday morning at 9:00 A.M. to bus residents to  
234 a shelter at DeLand High School. Deputy Carvajal of Volusia Sheriff's Office said  
235 that schools were only opened as shelters if they had adequate infrastructure to support  
236 it, such as generators.

237

238 • Councilmember Linnie Richardson asked if Public Works should report to work on  
239 Wednesday, October 9, 2024. Vice Mayor Greenlund said he thought Public Works  
240 should work until noon.

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## 242 **8. GOOD AND WELFARE (Public Participation)**

243

244 Resident Gray Leonhard stated that multiple culverts around town were blocked and needed  
245 to be addressed. The Council discussed culverts in various locations. Mr. Leonhard suggested  
246 that the Town could identify which culverts were not functioning properly after the hurricane  
247 passed so that the culverts could be serviced and returned to working order.

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## 249 **9. PIERSON EVENTS**

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251 Mayor Bennett read a list of upcoming events in and around Pierson:

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- 253 • Legacy Fall Harvest Fest – Saturday, October 23, 2024 @ 10:00 A.M.
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- 255 • Pierson Saddle Club Buckle Series #1 Barrels & Poles – Saturday, October 19, 2024  
256 @ 11:00 A.M.
- 257
- 258 • Pierson Vendor Market – Saturday, October 19, 2024 @ 9:00 A.M. to 2:00 P.M.
- 259
- 260 • Fall Jamboree at Barberville Pioneer Settlement – November 2 & 3, 2024 @ 9:00  
261 A.M. to 5:00 P.M.

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## 263 **10. ADJOURNED**

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265 Mayor Bennett said he prayed for the safety and wellbeing of all people in the path of  
266 Hurricane Milton.

267

268 **Hearing no further business, meeting adjourned at 8:05 PM.**

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270 Minutes prepared by:

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Minutes approved by:

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Ryan Smith, Deputy Town Clerk

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Samuel G.S. Bennett, Mayor