



TOWN COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

**TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 2025 – 6:30 P.M.
PIERSON TOWN CENTER**

1. Call meeting to order

Mayor Gray Leonhard called the meeting to order at 6:30 P.M. and asked Town Clerk Yvonne Braddock to take the roll call.

2. Roll call

PRESENT:

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

Deputy Clerk Ryan Smith and the Volusia County Sheriff were also in attendance. Council member Jimmy Anderson was absent.

3. Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance

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

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – Mayor Gray Leonhard

a. Regular Meeting minutes November 4, 2025

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

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.

5. NEW BUSINESS

a. Volusia County Sheriff Contract – Town Attorney Scott Simpson

Town Attorney Scott Simpson started off by apologizing for not reading that Sheriff office could not make contract retroactive. He continued with contract is pretty much as we discussed prior with the exception of taking out us of facility and it's a one-year contract with intentions of going back to regular contract as of next year. He proceeded with saying we don't know what is going

37 to happen with the Property tax amendment and everything could go to pot. We can now use next
38 year to find an available option or find out you don't need it at all. Mayor Gray Leonhard asked a
39 question about the cost of 150,000 and Scott explained the highlighted copy is old contract and
40 the one on top is the final copy. Council member Brandy Peterson stated she is still where she
41 was before and asked, "We will still have 911 emergency. Town Attorney Scott Simpson stated
42 that you will only have 911 for emergencies but there is no law on time frame. Town Attorney
43 Scott Simpson continued with the MSTU fund is for unincorporated Volusia County and not for
44 incorporated Volusia County or municipalities. We are in a unique situation that needs to be
45 investigated. Council member Brandy Peterson but they do get some money from our 1500
46 residents. Mayor Gray Leonhard states other cities have patrol officers, but they don't have to
47 pay the contract because they already have a police force. Council Member Linnie Richardson
48 agrees with the mayor and why do they get services for free. Town Attorney Scott Simpson says
49 Oakhill, Debary, Deltona and us all pay for patrol services. They all contract to have someone
50 here. We are paying them to patrol the Town limits. Town Planner Mark Karet states he lives in
51 Daytona and sees police vehicles, but they are usually drug force related I don't see them pulling
52 anyone over. Council member Brandy Peterson asks can we still talk to the county about putting
53 it on the taxes, Scott says the county levy unincorporated areas but yes, we can talk to them
54 about coming up with a solution. Council member Linnie Richardson states she is highly
55 disappointed. Vice Mayor Robert Greenlund states that unless something drastically changes it's
56 just not going to be sustainable. Council member Brandy Peterson asks if we can continue
57 without a contract. Council member Linnie Richardson asks will our town laws be enforced,
58 Town attorney Scott Simpson states the enforce state law. Council member Linnie Richardson so
59 they can't enforce noise ordinance. Town Attorney Scott Simpson replies with noise ordinances
60 are hard to enforce because of the decibel reading. Vice Mayor Robert Greenlund says that he
61 understands that you are disgruntled but we need to agree to the contract and work on finding
62 another solution because I think we will regret it if we do not sign this contract. Mayor Gray
63 Leonhard agrees with the Vice Mayor and ask if schedule will be random, Town attorney Scott
64 Simpson states that is at the discretion of the sheriff office. Town Planner Mark Karet asks if we
65 can see how this plays out and maybe we won't even need patrol services. If we don't sign, then
66 you will have no patrol service and only 911 for emergencies and you won't know when they
67 will show up. Town attorney states it will not jeopardize the sheriff budget. With the property tax
68 issue coming, no one will be able to afford to run their own police force. Deputy Clerk Ryan
69 Smith states Volusia County has never had an issue like this and if Pierson doesn't pay, they have
70 never given us an answer on how they fund this we had the meeting with the County and the
71 Sheriff's office no one from finance, sheriff office or attorney. Pierson is the red headed stepchild
72 we have the highest agriculture population not a lot of growth. Town Attorney Scott Simpson
73 you are paying for an officer to patrol the Town limits and receive a monthly report, and they
74 will respond to 911 calls if you don't agree. Council member Linnie Richardson but our laws and
75 ordinances like the noise ordinance will not be enforced either way. Council Member Brandy
76 Peterson other than come to our meeting what do the really do. Resident Rick Davis stated you

77 have discussed this for forty minutes; you were to decide if you approve or disapprove the
78 contract. Council explained they can only discuss this stuff at a meeting and resident Rick Davis
79 just turned and stormed out. Town attorney Scott Simpson states you need to approve for one
80 year and then demand and push county to come up with a solution. Discussion ensued about
81 property taxes going away. Town Planner Mark Karet says that he goes to several city meetings,
82 and no one knows what is going to happen.

83 Mayor Gray Leonhard asked the audience if they had anything that they wanted to say. Mayor
84 Gray Leonhard said he would entertain a motion.

85
86 **Vice Mayor Robert Greenlund is making a motion to approve sheriff contracts for one year:**
87 **seconded by Council member Brandy Peterson. All agreed, roll call vote taken, motion**
88 **carries.**

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90 b. Condemning Property in Pierson – Mayor Gray Leonhard
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92 Mayor Gray Leonhard ask for council to table this item until he gets some more information.
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94 **Vice Mayor Robert Greenlund made a motion to approve tabling 5b condemning property**
95 **in Pierson; seconded by Council Member Linnie Richardson. All agreed, motion carries.**
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97 c. Delinquent no re-rental airport – Council member Linnie Richardson
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99 Thank you, mayor, Ryan can you help me with this, Deputy Clerk Ryan Smith we had someone
100 from eagle sport come in to under his name of Pat Anderson try to pay for a tie down for 2 days at
101 5 dollars a day and argued with Marci that it says that at the airport. He is with eagle sport and
102 owes the town 800.00. Council member Linnie Richardson states we have to do something. Mayor
103 Gray Leonhard states he associated with eagle sport and Emery Riddle. Council member Linnie
104 Richardson asks Deputy clerk Ryan Smith was he an officer with Eagle sport, Ryan responds with
105 yes. Town attorney Scott Simpson states you need a policy in place, Mayor Gray Leonhard states
106 we have no airport policies but maybe we need some and add for a security deposit and first and
107 last months rent, we had a gentlemen that removed his plane from airport and damaged the filed
108 and we had to fix it at our cost. Town attorney Scott Simpson states if RFP does not work out then
109 you need a policy for airport, and if RFP works out whoever is running it will have an operational
110 manual. Council member Brandy Peterson maybe we should wait until after RFP.
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112 d. Driveway to new well and old well- Mayor Gray Leonhard
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114 We need to throw something down because new well gets muddy and chlorine truck may have
115 problems and entering airport to get to old well is very wet also. Vice mayor Robert Greenlund
116 says we should probably get quotes for millings and discussion ensued as who to call Rick large
117 and Ronnie Council.
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120 e. Sidewalk Quote Town Center – Council member Brady Peterson

I got a quote from right on concrete to fix sidewalk in front of town center and quote is for \$ 1100.00. Discussion ensued and Vice Mayor Robert Greenlund agrees we need to get it fixed prior to the Christmas celebration.

Mayor Gray Leonhard asked the audience if they had anything that they wanted to say. Mayor Gray Leonhard said he would entertain a motion.

Council Member Brandy Peterson made a motion to approve quote from right on concrete for \$ 1100.00 to fix sidewalk at town center and motion was seconded by Council Member Linnie Richardson. All agreed, motion carries.

f. Traffic Safety Team Meeting – Lester Pulley

The fatalities are slightly down; pedestrians are at 40% trouble with kids and US Highway 17 in Orange City. Sun rail is doing well. 750 kilo watts in not considered a motor vehicle and should not be on the streets we need to ask legislation to do something about it and that's all I have.

6. OTHER BUSINESS (Mayor, Council and Staff Reports)

Mayor Gray Leonhard starts off he received a letter that Duke Energy will be decreasing electric bills by 44.00 dollars. Council Member Linnie Richardson states it pertains to the hurricanes. Mayor Gray Leonhard states I see that one of the lights on the tower is working. Vice Mayor Robert Greenlund states we need to do something about North Road; discussion ensued and determined that dirt then lime rock, and sod would slow it down. Mayor Gray Leonhard states he will do a work order for our guys to take care of North Road. Council Member Linnie Richardson had nothing, Council member Brandy Peterson brings up quote to adding plugs, lights under walkways and cafeteria lights 8,500 dollars. And we can't wait until next meeting because we are getting close to the Christmas celebration. Discussion ensued. Council member Brandy Peterson states we need to use some money to make some money. Mayor Gray Leonhard agrees that they need to be fixed.

Vice Mayor Robert Greenlund made a motion to approve quote at \$8,500.00 to replace lights and add plugs to outside of town center. Motion was seconded by Brandy Peterson. All agreed, motion carries.

Council Member Brandy Peterson brings up Culvert on EAST Washington Ave and Deputy Ryan Smith states that the school board requested drawings and scope plan and agreed to proceed, and it will be getting done during Christmas break and we will have to detour residents to Blake Street. Town Planner states he has nothing but wish everyone a Happy Thanksgiving to all. Town Planner Mark Karet starts with he will be here Thursday to meet with resident to discuss their zoning and land development questions, and Mayor asks Mark if he has a update from Todd about water system. Town Clerk Yvonne Braddock explains email she received from Pierson Wildcat Cheerleading and that they want to see if they can use a building on campus because the park where they practice is super wet. Discussion ensued and council has no problem with them using a building as long as they have insurance and children get waiver signed.

166 **7. GOOD AND WELFARE (Public Participation)**
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169 Resident Robin Green asks if we have an update on the sewer system. Town Planner Mark Karet
170 states they are working with state for final sign off and will be coming back with projected cost
171 and environmental in two weeks. Resid Lester Pully the Methodist church will be having a bazaar
172 this Saturday selling their crafts and bake goods.
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174 **Mayor Gray Leonhard read off the events happening around town and heard no further**
175 **business meeting adjourned at 8:02 P.M.**
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180 Minutes prepared by:
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 Yvonne Braddock, Town Clerk

Minutes approved by:

Gray Leonhard, Mayor