



TOWN COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

**TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 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 Planner Mark Karet and Town Foreman Louis Longo. Town Attorney Christian Waugh was excused absent.

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. None

5. NEW BUSINESS

Mayor Bennett spoke on the purpose of emergency resolution 2022-13 declaring a State of Emergency for the Town of Pierson for Hurricane Ian and that the Town Attorney advised this should be voted on at the beginning of the Council meeting.

Vice Mayor Robert Greenlund made the motion to approve Emergency Resolution 2022-13; seconded by Councilmember Gray Leonhard. All agreed, motion carries on roll call vote 4 -0.

Mayor Bennett asked Mr. Brad Blais to give updates on the Water and Wastewater projects. Mr. Waugh informed the Mayor that, since this is just an informational item, Mr. Blais can give the updates even though it is not an agenda item.

Mr. Blais informed the Council on the progress of the projects and that some delays are being encountered due to shipment issues for the control panels. A schedule given by the contractor indicates delivery between November and December with estimated final completion by January or February 2023.

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For the Sanitary Sewer system, surveyors are working, looking to have final plans/cost estimates by spring, looking to begin project by summer 2023.

a. FBH Community Lease Agreement -Mayor Samuel G.S. Bennett

Mayor Bennett spoke on the item and asked for it to be tabled as he would like Mr. Waugh to be present when the Council considers the Lease agreement.

Vice Mayor Robert Greenlund made the motion to table the item; seconded by Councilmember Gray Leonhard. All agreed, motion carries.

b. Quotes for Termite Treatments at the New Town Center from Pioneer Pest Services, Inc and PURCOR -Mayor Samuel G.S. Bennett

Discussion ensued about the quotes for Termite treatments received from Pioneer Pest Services and PURCOR. The areas to be treated include the Cafeteria and the Admin Building. Mrs. Spelorzi felt that there may be an error with one of the vendors' quotes and the Council decided to table the item until Mrs. Spelorzi can contact the vendor for clarification.

Vice Mayor Robert Greenlund made the motion to table the item until clarification can be obtained; seconded by Councilmember Gray Leonhard. All agreed, motion carries.

c. Quotes for removal & exclusion of bats at the Rodeo/Arena -Mayor Samuel G.S. Bennett

The Council had requested a second quote and Mrs. Spelorzi stated that none were received. Consensus to table.

Councilmember Gray Leonhard made the motion to table the item; seconded by Councilmember Sergia Cardenas. All agreed, motion carries.

d. Quote from Chinchor Electric on light replacements at Chipper Jones Park - Mayor Samuel G.S. Bennett

Mayor Bennett spoke on the item and advised that no quote has been received, but he will bring this item back as soon as he has more information.

e. Vandalism at the New Town Center -Mayor Samuel G.S. Bennett

Mayor Bennett spoke on vandalism at the New Town Center and that the VCSO did an extensive investigation. An arrest was made of five (5) juveniles. Mayor Bennett stated that the Town Attorney advised he check if the Council wants to file charges. Discussion ensued.

Councilmember Gray Leonhard made the motion to prosecute the five (5) juveniles for the vandalism at the New Town Center; seconded by Councilmember Sergia Cardenas. All agreed, motion carries.

92 f. Public Works Chevrolet Truck - Mayor Samuel G.S. Bennett

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94 Mayor Bennett spoke on a quote for a transmission rebuild. Discussion ensued.

95

96 **Councilmember Gray Leonhard made the motion to approve the quote from Limitless**

97 **Repair Services in the amount of \$3,175.50; seconded by Vice Mayor Robert Greenlund.**

98 **All agreed, motion carries.**

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100 g. Update of New Equipment at Water Tower - Mayor Samuel G.S. Bennett

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102 Mayor Bennett spoke about the new equipment that has been installed from Verizon and stated

103 that there is a safety concern pertaining to emission from the new 5G equipment and Mayor

104 Bennett suggested tabling the item until Mr. Waugh can be present.

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106 **Vice Mayor Robert Greenlund made the motion to table the item until clarification can**

107 **be obtained; seconded by Councilmember Gray Leonhard. All agreed, motion carries.**

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109 h. Quotes on Mowers - Mayor Samuel G.S. Bennett

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111 i. Purchase of New Zero-Turn Mowers for Public Works- Councilman Gray

112 Leonhard

113 Item 5. h and i were discussed as one item. Discussion ensued about all the quotes, gas versus

114 diesel and needing a trailer.

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116 **Vice Mayor Robert Greenlund made the motion to purchase the Kubota ZD1211-60**

117 **Diesel for \$14,545.95 from Crystal Tractor and Equipment; seconded by**

118 **Councilmember Gray Leonhard. All agreed, motion carries.**

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120 Discussion ensued that parts are not available for the Town's existing Dixie mower.

121

122 j. Construction on Town Property - Councilman Gray Leonhard

123 Councilmember Gray Leonhard inquired if building permits need to be pulled for construction

124 of Town property. Mayor Bennett stated that this would be a question for Mr. Waugh.

125 **Councilmember Gray Leonhard made the motion to table the item until Town Attorney**

126 **Waugh can be present; seconded by Councilmember Sergia Cardenas. All agreed,**

127 **motion carries.**

128 k. Fencing on Rodeo Grounds (Perimeter & Cross Fence) - Councilman Gray

129 Leonhard

130 Councilmember Leonhard spoke on the dilapidated condition of fences at the rodeo grounds

131 and stated that he met with a construction company to replace all the fencing for \$17,400.

132 Discussion ensued about the sections that absolutely need to be replaced. Some audience

133 members gave their input.

134 **Vice Mayor Robert Greenlund made the motion to approve the quote from Southern**
135 **Sons, LLC for \$17,400; seconded by Councilmember Sergia Cardenas. All agreed,**
136 **motion carries.**

137

138 l. Status of T-Mobile Grant - Councilman Gray Leonhard

139 Councilmember Leonhard inquired about the status of the T-Mobile Grant. Town Planner
140 Mark Karet stated that the quote would need to be redone as the Town recently added new
141 cameras at the Water Tower and the wells.

142 Mrs. Spelorzi suggested adding cameras at Palmetto Ave Park and North Rd/Lake Pierson
143 Park as new playground equipment will be installed at these locations. Councilmember
144 Leonhard is in favor and Mr. Karet will have a representative create a revised quote.

145 m. Parking at Chipper Jones Park; Playground parking at West Side of Community
146 Center - Councilman Gray Leonhard

147 Councilmember Leonhard spoke on the need to be ADA compliant and to have ADA parking.
148 Discussion ensued about having ADA parking by the restrooms.

149 Some audience members expressed interest in creating a dog park.

150 n. Electrical Hazard at NE Corner of Rodeo Grounds Perimeter Fencing and
151 Exterior Electrical Outlets- Councilman Gray Leonhard

152 Councilmember Gray Leonhard spoke on an electrical hazard with the panel boxes not having
153 proper covers. All in consensus to have Mrs. Spelorzi call Hough Electric to do the work.

154 **Councilmember Gray Leonhard made the motion to contact Hough Electric to do the**
155 **repairs for the electrical panels; seconded by Councilmember Sergia Cardenas. All**
156 **agreed, motion carries.**

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158 o. Updates by Mayor - Mayor Samuel G.S. Bennett

159 Mayor Bennett spoke on

- 160
- 161 • PW doing prep work for Hurricane Ian
 - 162 • Advice received from FRWA in regards to the Water Tower
 - 163 • Get generator in case of loss of power – Discussion about generators ensued, Mrs.
164 Spelorzi get quotes for a new one.

165 Audience members spoke on being in favor of getting a generator and inquired about other
166 items/equipment that might need to be upgraded.

167

168 p. Update of Town projects from Town Attorney – Town Attorney Christian
169 Waugh

170 Town Attorney not present

171

172 q. Update of Town projects from Town Planner – Town Planner Mark Karet, Zev
173 Cohen & Associates

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175 Mr. Karet spoke on

- 176 • Being on site 10/6 at 9 am

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178 **6. OLD BUSINESS**

179 None

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181 **7. OTHER BUSINESS**

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183 a. Council and staff reports

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185 Councilmember Gray Leonhard had no additional comments.

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187 Councilmember Sergia Cardenas spoke on sandbags and shelters. Mrs. Spelorzi also
188 elaborated on that.

189

190 Vice Mayor Greenlund spoke about a crew being available from M&B Tree service and that
191 the north side of the school lot is a disgrace since no maintenance has been done. Mrs. Spelorzi
192 to call.

193

194 Mrs. Spelorzi advised of

- 195 • A Thank you note from Taylor High
- 196 • Lions Club Rodeo information
- 197 • Homecoming Parade attendance.

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199 **8. GOOD AND WELFARE (public participation)**

200

201 Mrs. Sue Elliott spoke on

- 202 • Participation in Scarecrow event
- 203 • Funky water – discussion ensued, Mayor will contact Mr. Hanna
- 204 • Contractor for Duke Energy is mapping the are to place boxes for free internet

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206 **9. ADJOURNED**

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

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210 **Hearing no further business, meeting adjourned at 9:04 PM.**

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212 Minutes prepared by:

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Carmen Spelorzi, Town Clerk

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Minutes approved by:

Samuel G.S. Bennett, Mayor