



TOWN COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

TUESDAY, JANUARY 26, 2021 - 7:00 P.M.
PIERSON TOWN HALL

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1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

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10 Mayor Samuel G.S. Bennett called the meeting to order at 7:02 PM and asked Town Clerk
11 Carmen Spelorzi to call roll.

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2. ROLL CALL

14

15

PRESENT:

16

Mayor Samuel G.S. Bennett

17

Vice Mayor Robert Greenlund

18

Councilmember James Peterson

19

Councilmember Thomas R. Larrivee

20

Councilmember Sergia Cardenas

21

22

Also present were Town Attorney Christian Waugh, Town Planner Mark Karet and Deputy
23 Clerk Carrie Ward. Volusia County Sheriff's office representatives were not present.

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3. Invocation and pledge of allegiance

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Mayor Samuel G.S. Bennett gave the invocation, which was followed by the Pledge of
28 Allegiance.

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4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – Mayor Samuel Bennett

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32

a. Regular Meeting – January 12, 2021

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Mayor Samuel G.S. Bennett entertained a motion for approval if there are no deletions or
35 additions.

36

37

**Councilmember Tom Larrivee made the motion to approve the minutes as written;
38 seconded by Vice Mayor Robert Greenlund. All agreed; motion carries.**

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5. NEW BUSINESS

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42

a. RFP Solid Waste & Recycling Services results and recommendation from 43 workshop -Mayor Samuel G.S. Bennett

44

Mayor Bennett recapped the discussions from the preceding workshop and that a
45 recommendation was made to go with WCA's proposal, selecting option 1 for once a week
46 garbage and recycling pickup at \$17.40 per month, not put it on the tax roll and to terminate
47 without cause.

48

49 Town Attorney Waugh suggested the Council authorize him to work on finalizing the contract
50 with the selected company and to add that verbiage to the motion.

51

52 **Vice Mayor Robert Greenlund made the motion to choose option 1 with WCA for once**
53 **a week garbage and recycling pickup at \$17.40 per month, and not put it on the tax roll**
54 **as well as authorizing the Town Attorney to finalize the contract with WCA; seconded**
55 **by Councilmember Tom Larrivee. Motion carries on roll-call vote 4-1 with**
56 **Councilmember Cardenas casting the dissenting vote.**

57

58 Councilmember Cardenas specified that she agrees with selecting WCA and all the terms
59 except the part about putting it on the tax roll.

60

61 b. Water & Sewer Availability on US HWY 17-Mayor Samuel G.S. Bennett

62 Town Attorney Waugh explained that the Mayor will be speaking on this matter as an
63 individual and not in the capacity of Mayor. For that reason the gavel has been passed to Vice
64 Mayor Greenlund.

65 Resident Mr. Samuel Bennett explained the subject matter and how it came about. Mr. Bennett
66 inquired if the Council would permit Mr. Karet to speak on the water and sewer availability
67 on US Hwy 17.

68 Mr. Karet spoke on:

- 69 • gaps in the infrastructure
- 70 • No sanitary sewer system yet, but one is planned
- 71 • School is connected to wastewater treatment plant it owns south of Airport
- 72 • Plan for sanitary sewer system would be to purchase the County's WWTP
- 73 • New school connected to 4" sanitary sewer force main
- 74 • CDBG funds may assist with future growth

75 Discussion ensued about

- 76 • the timeline for when a water/wastewater infrastructure can be established in this area
- 77 • ordinance that requires water hookup when it's available
- 78 • water hookup being fairly close but need sufficient fire flow

79 Deanne Bennett, 615 Braddock Rd, inquired is there is a fire protection issue at the new school
80 and Mr. Karet elaborated on how sufficient pressure can be achieved. He also spoke on the
81 Town's funded water treatment facility and that a conceptual design is needed to give an
82 accurate response pertaining to water availability in the area of US Hwy 1.

83 Hearing no further questions or discussion Vice Mayor Greenlund turned the gavel back over
84 to Mayor Bennett.

85 c. Biometric Estimate for repairs at Well# 2 per DOH on-site inspection
86 requirement -Mayor Samuel G.S. Bennett

87

88 Mayor Bennett spoke on the proposal from Biometrics for \$2,645.00.

89

90 **Vice Mayor Robert Greenlund made the motion to approve the Biometric Estimate for**

91 **repairs at Well #2 in the amount of \$2,645.00; seconded by Councilmember Tom**
92 **Larrivee. All agreed; motion carries.**

93

94 d. Communication on use of old Pierson Elementary- Kim Hutcherson, Principal
95 at New Pierson Elementary; sponsored by Councilman Thomas Larrivee.

96

97 Mayor Bennett read the title and asked Kim Hutcherson, Principal at the new Pierson
98 Elementary School to address the Council.

99

100 Mrs. Hutcherson brought up the following points for consideration:

101

102 • Council needs to convey their intent on either disconnecting from or keeping the old
103 Elementary school site on Volusia County’s wastewater plant as Schoolboard needs
104 to be informed.

105 • Partner with the Town to possibly offer community services at the old Elementary
106 School site, like Library Food Pantry and medical services

107

108 Mayor Bennett is in favor of asking to extend the deadline to disconnect from the County’s
109 wastewater plant and would like to have a meeting with the pertinent County and/or
110 Schoolboard representatives to discuss this and other relating matters. Mayor Bennett will
111 create a letter to submit his requests in writing.

112

113 Discussion ensued about

- 114 • traffic impact a food pantry at the old Elementary School could have
- 115 • incorporate local church(es) into any food pantry discussions.

116

117 e. Complaint regarding lighting issue at 808 Hagstrom Road – Resident Linnie
118 Richardson

119

120 Mayor Bennett invited Linnie Richardson from 217 Richardson Lane to speak on this matter.
121 Mrs. Richardson stated that she first made this complaint back in November 2019 and that
122 she feels the situation has not been addressed and it is causing her health to be affected.

123

124 Town Attorney Waugh read LDR section 3.2.10 which speaks on the process of how to legally
125 receive and process complaints and that currently the Town of Pierson’s staffing does not
126 allow for proper execution of that process. Mr. Waugh continued that staff, on several
127 occasions, has recommended amending the LDR to address this deficiency, but that those
128 recommendations did not pass. Mr. Waugh stated that not addressing this issue can make the
129 Town’s code enforcement actions vulnerable to being challenged by a respondent in Court.

130

131 The Council is in agreement that this matter needs to be resolved so that the Town can properly
132 respond to complaints. It has been deferred back to the planning commission.

133

134 f. State of Emergency Florida / Town of Pierson - Mayor Samuel G.S. Bennett

135 **Councilmember Tom Larrivee made the motion to extend the State of Emergency for**
136 **the Town of Pierson for an additional seven (7) days; seconded by Vice Mayor Robert**
137 **Greenlund. All agreed; motion carries.**

138 g. Updates by Mayor - Mayor Samuel G.S. Bennett

139 Mayor Bennett spoke on:

- 140 • Getting extension pertaining to sewer connectivity with VC Public Schools
- 141 • New fencing at Community Center by PW
- 142 • Biometrics work on wells
- 143 • Talk with Bank Manager at Surety to open an account for CDBG monies
- 144 • Gas Station update
- 145 • New homes being built
- 146 • COVID update and how it affects Pierson

147

148 h. Update of Town projects from Town Attorney – Town Attorney Christian
149 Waugh

150 Town Attorney Waugh stated that he has no additional business but informed the Council
151 about the arrival of his baby daughter in July.

152 i. Update of Town projects from Town Planner – Town Planner Mark Karet, Zev
153 Cohen & Associates

154

- 155 • P&Z meeting 1/19/21
- 156 • Onsite 2/4/21
- 157 • Working with Town Attorney on contract with Mead Hunt
- 158 • Braddock projects being reviewed by VC Growth Management
- 159 • Applications to FDOT have been submitted

160

161 Mayor Bennett spoke about signage notifying folks about businesses in Town being in
162 production and informed the Council that the owner of Big Dog signs requested to put up a
163 temporary banner along his fence to alert residents of the location of this business.

164

165 Discussion ensued about banners causing visual obstruction and that the Councilmembers will
166 go see for themselves.

167

168 **6. OLD BUSINESS**

169 None

170 **7. OTHER BUSINESS**

171

172 Vice Mayor Greenlund, Councilmembers Tom Larrivee and James Peterson, the Town
173 Attorney and the Town Clerk had no additional comments.

174

175 Councilmember Cardenas inquired about the tablets for PW meter reading staff and Mrs.
176 Spelorzi stated that they have not been issued yet.

177

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

179

180 Mr. Paul Martel, 506 N. Pine Street asked about a timeframe for the Town Hall to relocate to
181 the New Town Center and if Surety would take over the current Town Hall.

182

183 Mayor Bennett spoke on his plans of having a grand celebration when all is in order, possibly
184 around March or April, but that COVID precautions have to be considered.

185

186 Mayor Bennett also mentioned that Surety has expressed interested of taking over the old
187 Town Hall.

188

189 Mrs. Linnie Richardson asked about the Modular home on Echo Street and Mrs. Spelorzi
190 indicated that it complied with the 2017 Florida Building code for Modular homes as
191 confirmed by the Building Official with Universal Engineering Services. Mr. Karet explained
192 the legal aspect and discussion ensued about the definition of a modular home and creating
193 esthetic standards for single family homes, which then have to be also met by modular homes.

194

195 Mayor Bennett asked if the Pastor Dean of Barberville can have a meeting in the Community
196 Center on February 2, 2021. All in consensus.

197 **9. ADJOURNED**

198 **Hearing no further business, meeting adjourned at 8:30 PM.**

199 Minutes prepared by:

Minutes approved by:

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201

202

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204 _____
Carmen Spelorzi, Town Clerk

Mayor Samuel G.S. Bennett