



TOWN COUNCIL SPECIAL EMERGENCY MEETING MINUTES

**TUESDAY, JULY 2, 2024 – 4:00 PM
PIERSON TOWN HALL**

5

6

7

1. Call meeting to order

8

9 This special meeting was called by Councilwomen Linnie R. Richardson and Brandy
10 Peterson. Mayor Samuel G.S. Bennett called the meeting to order at 4:00 PM and asked Town
11 Clerk Yvonne Braddock to take the roll call.

12

13

2. Roll call

14

15

PRESENT:

16

Mayor Samuel G.S. Bennett

17

Vice Mayor Robert Greenlund

18

Councilmember Sergia Cardenas

19

Councilmember Linnie Richardson

20

Councilmember Brandy Peterson

21

22

Also present were Deputy Clerk Ryan Smith, Todd Bush of Zev Cohen & Associates, and
23 Jason Salatto of Zev Cohen & Associates.

24

25

3. Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance

26

27

Mayor Bennett gave the invocation which was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

28

29

4. NEW BUSINESS

30

31

- a. Emergency Meeting Regarding Water Tower and 4th of July Fireworks
discussion and action

32

33

34

Todd Bush of Zev Cohen & Associates spoke about the current upgrades being performed at
35 the water tower. Mr. Bush presented two written reports he prepared for Council which
36 explained that the contractor, USG Water, had ordered an altitude valve of an incorrect
37 length. The report also highlighted four additional gate valves which needed to be replaced
38 but had not been included in the original planned upgrades. Mr. Bush's recommendation
39 was to upgrade these gate valves while the tower was currently drained for the scheduled
40 upgrades.

41

42

Mr. Bush presented quotes for the gate valves, as well as the additional labor of removing
43 and installing the valves by USG Water.

44

45

46

Mayor Bennett asked Mr. Bush if the existing Kennedy gate valves in the tower could be
refurbished or refinished at a potential cost savings versus new valves. Mr. Bush said he

47 would find out and report back the following day.

48

49 Councilmember Brandy Peterson said the extra money should be spent if it would bring the
50 tower up to date.

51

52 Town Clerk Yvonne Braddock said the Fire Marshal was concerned about the water tower
53 currently being empty in case of an emergency with the Town's fireworks display on the 4th
54 of July. Mr. Bush stated that the new wells at Chipper Jones Park had camlock fittings
55 installed and could be used by the Fire Department in the event of a fire.

56

57 Mr. Bush stated that new valves would potentially take three weeks to procure and that most
58 are shipped from Texas.

59

60 Mayor Bennett suggested getting an answer regarding the rebuilding of the existing valves
61 and re-visiting the topic at an upcoming meeting if the existing valves could not be used.

62

63 Vice Mayor Greenlund suggested that the Council approve the new valves contingent on
64 whether the existing valves could be reworked or repaired.

65

66 Mayor Bennett said he wanted to use top quality valves and asked if the quotes obtained
67 were for American-made parts. Town Clerk Yvonne Braddock confirmed that the valves on
68 the quotes were Mueller brand, which are headquartered and manufactured in the United
69 States.

70

71 **Vice Mayor Robert Greenlund made the motion to approve two quotes: one in the**
72 **amount of \$11,347.58 from STAline for three 10" and one 8" gate valves, and one in**
73 **the amount of \$15,933.00 from USG Water for the labor to remove and install the**
74 **valves, contingent on whether the existing valves could be refurbished; seconded by**
75 **Councilmember Linnie Richardson. All agreed; motion carries.**

76

77 Councilmember Linnie Richardson said there is a serious issue when draining the water
78 tower because there is nowhere for 250,000 gallons of water to go. Councilmember
79 Richardson said water flowed under the railroad and resulted in phone calls from the railway
80 company CSX.

81

82 Vice Mayor Greenlund asked if the fire hydrants should have been opened and the water
83 drained through the system, rather than being dumped at the tower site. Mayor Bennett said
84 the system was designed to work but the tower was drained rapidly which caused the issue.

85

86 Councilmember Brandy Peterson asked Council about closing the Town's office for Friday,
87 July 5, 2024 in observance of the Independence Day holiday.

88

89 Deputy Clerk Ryan Smith briefly reviewed the food concession pricing for the July 4th event
90 and gave an update on purchasing burgers from Sam's Club.

91

92 Vice Mayor Greenlund asked if other municipalities were closed on Friday, July 5. Town
93 Clerk Yvonne Braddock and Deputy Clerk Ryan Smith provided a list of various county and
94 city closures.

95

96 **Councilmember Brandy Peterson made the motion to close the Town of Pierson office**
97 **on Friday, July 5, 2024; seconded by Councilmember Sergia Cardenas. All agreed;**
98 **motion carries.**

99

100 **5. ADJOURNED**

101

102 **Hearing no further business, meeting adjourned at 5:06 PM.**

103

104 Minutes prepared by:

Minutes approved by:

105

106

107

108 _____
Ryan Smith, Deputy Town Clerk

Samuel G.S. Bennett, Mayor