



## **TOWN COUNCIL MEETING SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES**

**TUESDAY, JANUARY 15 – 3:00 P.M.  
PIERSON TOWN CENTER**

### **1. Call meeting to order**

Mayor Gray Leonhard called the meeting to order at 3:00 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 Jimmy Anderson  
Councilmember Linnie Richardson  
Councilmember Brandy Peterson

Deputy Clerk Ryan Smith was also in attendance.

### **3. Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance**

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

### **4. NEW BUSINESS**

#### **a. Solid waste contract and Discussion**

Deputy Clerk Ryan Smith explained to the council that we are adding solid waste to the tax bill and has discussed this with FCC Environmental who does all the county trash for Volusia County and if we follow the county contract that we can piggyback it and they can serve our residents here in Pierson. Right now, everyone pays for their own trash. GFL only serves 300 houses in Pierson. Scott and I both reviewed the contract and nothing jumped out to us. GFL contract ends March first and with all our issues with them they may not want to renew with us. If we put it out for RFP it could turn out to be very expensive for residents. Yvonne and I met with FCC environmental, and they said they already cherry pick around Pierson for the unincorporated residents would not be a problem. So, to get this process started we needed council to approve us by signing a letter of intent with FCC and allowing staff and our town attorney to work with them. Council member Linnie Richardson has a question about dumpsters for commercial businesses. Deputy Clerk Ryan Smith stated this will only be for residential accounts. Discussion ensued about the expiration date

40 with GFL Environmental, and bills were paid until the 31<sup>st</sup> of March. That's an interesting  
41 question, maybe they will pick up by March 31, 2026, and by us sometime to set up service with  
42 FCC. Council member Brandy Peterson has a question about paying trash for the year. So, the  
43 first time they will be billed for one year and 10 months. The County pays FCC monthly so the  
44 town will have to borrow money from our reserves to pay for this until it goes on to the tax bill  
45 and then reimburse the reserves. We are talking about \$200,000.00 we will need to use, which is  
46 the easiest way to do it. Council member Brandy Peterson reply's with so we will pay for the first  
47 year and the get it back when it goes on the tax roll. During the trim stuff we talked to Chris Rowe,  
48 and this is how it was explained to us so we will be paying for it monthly. Discussion ensued.  
49 Council member Linnie Richardson as if the property is not taxed, Deputy Clerk Ryan Smith stated  
50 it is an assessment added to the tax bill so, even if you are a veteran and pay no taxes you will get  
51 charged the assessment. This also would work for agriculture exemption they would still receive  
52 an assessment for the 299.00. Deputy Clerk Ryan Smith explained we will have to provide trash  
53 cans for residents that do not have trash service right now. The GFL contract states the cans are  
54 the towns and will still with those residents. Council member Linnie Richardson asked how much  
55 the cans cost, about 50.00 so, about 15,000.00. Vice Mayor asked doesn't trash company provide  
56 a trash can. Deputy Clerk Ryan Smith stated we must follow Volusia County's contract. Charles  
57 from FCC introduced Mike and explained that they can handle the town's needs for solid waste  
58 service. Mayor Gray Leonhard asked if they had extra trash would they pick it up. Mike answered  
59 yes sir we would pick it up. Council member linnie Richardson asked about a bulk pick up and  
60 Mike responded we would collect on same day as your trash. Only thing we can't pick up is like a  
61 refrigerator or tires. Mike stated that you would have to call for a refrigerator or tires. Charles  
62 explained that's why Volusia County liked this contract if it's out there, we will pick it up. A  
63 resident has a question from audience on Vannote Road. I am paid up with GFL, and I have  
64 problems with them. I am paid up with them. So, they will pick it up until then. Mayor Gray  
65 Leonhard stated they are all paid up. Deputy Clerk Ryan Smith stated they will have to pick it up  
66 or they will have to refund the residents. Price wishes are about the same. Resident stated he just  
67 wanted his trash to be picked up. Charles states we will pick up everything this is part of the  
68 contract. I was told by Town Attorney Scott Simpson that we need to pass an ordinance, but since  
69 1990's we have had an ordinance for this already. I printed a copy for all you to see it and read it.  
70 Deputy Clerk Ryan Smith reads the ordinance. Charles asked about commercials because they do  
71 the Volusia County schools and could easily do that. They also have a facility contract so we may  
72 need to piggyback that on as well for Town Dumpsters. Vice Mayor Robert Greenlund asked if  
73 town roll off is GFL, yes that is correct. Vice Mayor Greenlund brought up that if the fernery has  
74 a commercial dumpster before they didn't require them to have residential trash pickup. Charles  
75 from FCC states that you will be piggybacking the county contract and that is not how their  
76 contract is written. Discussion ensued. Deputy Clerk Ryan Smith started to discuss Ernie Peterson  
77 who used to work for the Property Appraiser and for agricultural property you can request an  
78 exemption from Volusia County and Charles responded that is correct. Mayor Gray Leonhard  
79 asked if they have over 10 acres and Vice Mayor Greenlund stated that the point I am trying to  
80 make. We have big dumpsters in Pierson. Charles explains how they would have to get exemption  
81 from the county and then we will not pick up their trash. Council member Linnie Richardson  
82 believes this is positive and she hopes it will clean up some of the dumping and trash being dumped  
83 elsewhere. Deputy Clerk Ryan Smith states that we are never going to find a trash hauler for the  
84 small number of residents that we have so it's going to be whether everyone has or no one has it.  
85 Your other option is an RFP and it could be like Lake Helen, the cost is way hire to make it worth

86 it to get solid waste service from a provider. Council member Linnie Richardson stated that all the  
87 problems we have had with GFL and resident complaints GFL will probably be going to double  
88 their amounts. Charles explains that if you put an RFP out, we wouldn't apply. Council member  
89 Jimmy Anderson asked if they do Emporia because he is having an issue with his church and  
90 having the parsonage trash picked up. Charles asked if someone lived there and Jimmy confirmed  
91 that someone lives in it. Charles stated that the church will have to contact the county and they  
92 will look it up quickly. Council member Brandy Peterson asked if we need to make a motion for  
93 staff to direct staff. Deputy Clerk Ryan Smith stated that motion needs to direct the staff to work  
94 with FCC towards a contract that can be brought back to the council for approval. Vice Mayor  
95 Robert Greenlund asked a question if people look at their tax bill and realize that the trash that's  
96 thrown everywhere and that they are paying for trash service. Discussion ensued. Charles  
97 explained that they have exceptions for handicap, but you must provide proof and not have a family  
98 member that could walk it to the curb. Charles explained if you go with us, it will be seamless for  
99 us. Mayor Gray Leonhard explained trash pick up on Shell Harbor and the neighbor is another  
100 service. Deputy Ryan Smith explained that most cities are doing an assessment of the tax bill every  
101 year for the residents. If anyone gets mad, where will they move that it's not like that.  
102

103 **Council Member Linnie Richardson made a motion for staff to explore and negotiate a**  
104 **contract with FCC for solid waste services; seconded by Council member Jimmy Anderson.**  
105 **All agreed, motion carries.**  
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108 Mayor Gray thanked them for coming to the meeting.  
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110 **Mayor Gray Leonhard asked audience and council if they had anything else and with**  
111 **hearing no further business meeting adjourned at 3:38 P.M.**  
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113

114 Minutes prepared by:

Minutes approved by:

115  
116  
117  
118 Yvonne Braddock, Town Clerk

Gray Leonhard, Mayor