



TOWN COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES

**THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 2024 – 6:00 PM
PIERSON TOWN HALL**

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1. Call meeting to order

Mayor Samuel G.S. Bennett called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM and asked Town Clerk Yvonne Braddock to take the roll call.

2. Roll call

PRESENT:

- Mayor Samuel G.S. Bennett
- Vice Mayor Robert Greenlund
- Councilmember Sergia Cardenas
- Councilmember Linnie Richardson
- Councilmember Brandy Peterson

Volusia Sheriff Deputy Carvajal was in attendance for a portion of the meeting.

3. Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance

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

4. NEW BUSINESS

a. Resolution 2024-07 – FY 2024-2025 Tentative Millage Rate

Vice Mayor Robert Greenlund asked Deputy Clerk Ryan Smith for the difference in revenue between the current millage rate and the rollback rate. Councilmember Brandy Peterson read the rollback rate from her notes. Mr. Smith stated it was approximately \$27,000.00 less revenue with the rollback rate and reminded the Council they were already at a deficit for the upcoming year.

Councilmember Brandy Peterson felt that using the rollback rate would only put the Town into a further deficit. Mayor Bennett said the Town was doing well financially and felt the rollback rate would help the residents of the Town.

Deputy Clerk Ryan Smith explained that the Resolutions had been prepared for the roll call votes from the previous budget meeting on September 5, 2024. These resolutions were for the proposed millage rate and budgets. Mr. Smith said that he had spoken to Town Attorney Christian Waugh and clarified that reading the title of the Resolution into the record was adequate.

47 **Councilmember Linnie Richardson read the title of Resolution 2024-07 and made the**
48 **motion to adopt the Resolution; seconded by Councilmember Brandy Peterson. Motion**
49 **carries on a roll call vote 5-0.**

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51 b. Resolution 2024-08 – FY 2024-2025 Tentative General Fund Budget

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53 Mayor Samuel Bennett read the title of Resolution 2024-08.

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55 **Councilmember Brandy Peterson made the motion to adopt Resolution 2024-08;**
56 **seconded by Vice Mayor Robert Greenlund. Motion carries on a roll call vote 5-0.**

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58 c. Resolution 2024-09 – FY 2024-2025 Tentative Water Fund Budget

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60 Mayor Samuel Bennett read the title of Resolution 2024-09.

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62 **Vice Mayor Robert Greenlund made the motion to adopt Resolution 2024-09; seconded**
63 **by Councilmember Linnie Richardson. Motion carries on a roll call vote 5-0.**

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65 d. TRIM/millage rate discussion

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67 Councilmember Linnie Richardson said she understood that it would be kind to give taxpayers
68 a break but was concerned that the Town’s expenditures had increased. Vice Mayor Robert
69 Greenlund said he was fine with staying at the current millage rate of 5.2439 mills.
70 Councilmember Brandy Peterson concurred. Councilmember Sergia Cardenas noted that the
71 Council did not raise the millage rate and felt it had “done a good deed” by keeping the millage
72 rate the same instead of increasing it.

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74 Mayor Samuel Bennett read the title of Resolution 2024-10.

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76 **Vice Mayor Robert Greenlund made the motion to adopt Resolution 2024-10; seconded**
77 **by Councilmember Linnie Richardson. Motion carries on a roll call vote 4-1 with Mayor**
78 **Samuel Bennett casting the dissenting vote.**

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80 e. General Fund budget discussion

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82 Deputy Clerk Ryan Smith said the only change to the General Fund budget from the previous
83 meeting was the increase to the Volusia Sheriff’s Office contract of approximately 4%.

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85 f. Water Fund budget discussion

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87 Deputy Clerk Ryan Smith stated that there were no changes from the previous meeting to the
88 Water Fund budget.

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90 g. Resolution 2024-10 – FY 2024-2025 Final Millage Rate

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92 This Resolution was passed after the millage rate discussion in item 5d.

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h. Resolution 2024-11 – FY 2024-2025 Final General Fund Budget

Mayor Samuel Bennett read the title of Resolution 2024-11.

Vice Mayor Robert Greenlund made the motion to adopt Resolution 2024-11; seconded by Councilmember Linnie Richardson. Motion carries on a roll call vote 5-0.

i. Resolution 2024-12 – FY 2024-2025 Final Water Fund Budget

Mayor Samuel Bennett read the title of Resolution 2024-12.

Vice Mayor Robert Greenlund made the motion to adopt Resolution 2024-12; seconded by Councilmember Brandy Peterson. Motion carries on a roll call vote 5-0.

5. ADJOURNED

Hearing no further business, meeting adjourned at 6:22 PM.

Minutes prepared by:

Minutes approved by:

Ryan Smith, Deputy Town Clerk

Samuel G.S. Bennett, Mayor