



TOWN COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

**TUESDAY, MAY 12, 2015 – 7:00 PM
PIERSON TOWN HALL**

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1. Call meeting to order

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9 Chairman Samuel G.S. Bennett called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM and asked Town Clerk
10 Spelorzi to take the roll call.

11

12

2. Roll call

13

14

PRESENT:

15

Chairman Samuel G.S. Bennett

16

Vice Chairman James Peterson

17

Councilmember Herbert Bennett

18

Councilmember Robert Greenlund – Excused Absent

19

Councilmember Thomas R. Larrivee

20

Mayor James Sowell

21

22

Also present were Town Planner Jim Smith; Town Foreman Louis Longo, and representatives
23 from the Volusia County Sheriff's office.

24

25

3. Invocation and pledge of allegiance

26

27

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

28

29

4. Approval of Minutes – Chairman Samuel Bennett

30

31

- a. Council Meeting April 28, 2015

32

33

Chair Bennett read the date for the Minutes and asked if there are any changes/additions or
34 deletions and hearing none he entertained a motion for approval of the minutes listed above.

35

36

**Councilmember Tom Larrivee made the motion to approve the minutes listed above;
37 seconded by Vice Chair James Peterson. All agreed; motion carries.**

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39

5. NEW BUSINESS

40

41

- a. To consider applying for a new DEO grant available until June 17th 2015 to
42 use for a feasibility study for implementing component wastewater treatment
43 systems within the US HWY 17 overlay district – James Smith, Town
44 Planner

44

45 Chair Bennett read the item and turned it over to Mr. Smith who suggested the Town apply
46 for a grant to do a feasibility study for implementing component wastewater treatment systems
47 with the US 17 Overlay district. Mr. Smith offered to prepare and application if so directed or
48 to outsource that task. The deadline for submittal is June 17, 2015 and Mr. Smith estimates
49 the application cost to be between \$500 and \$800.

50

51 Discussion ensued exactly what a feasibility study entailed and the Council decided to move
52 forward.

53

54 **Councilmember Tom Larrivee made the motion to move forward and prepare the grant**
55 **application; seconded by Councilmember Herbert Bennett. All agreed; motion carries.**

56

57 b. Update on the 2015 application for project prioritization – Feasibility Study
58 for a Bicycle/ Pedestrian Project for Highway US 17 in Pierson (1 of 2) and
59 County Road 3 in Pierson (2 of 2) – James Smith, Town Planner

60

61 Chair Bennett read the item and turned it over to Mr. Smith who gave an update that the CR
62 3 application scored high on the TPO’s project list as did the Bicycle/Pedestrian project. He
63 further commented on possible costs and matching grant amounts for the two (2) applications
64 that were submitted. Mr. Smith asked that the Council reach out to County Commissioner Pat
65 Patterson to inform him of the Town’s intentions and to develop important partnerships. Mr.
66 Smith commented on the various funding and construction cycles.

67

68 Mayor Sowell stated that he attended a Mayors’ roundtable meeting and updated the Council
69 that the new school is right on schedule. The Mayor further suggested contacting a School
70 Board representative to speak at one of the Town Council meetings about the new school
71 project.

72

73 Councilmember Tom Larrivee inquired about a new rule about width requirements for new
74 and re-paved roads. Mr. Smith stated he would check into it.

75

76 Mr. Smith thanked everybody that has been assisting him with these grant applications for
77 their diligent work.

78

79 c. Discuss and request sponsorship for the 3rd Annual Wildcat 5K Run at Taylor
80 High School on September 26, 2015 – Josh Ebert and Jennifer Florida

81

82 Chair Bennett read the item and asked the Taylor High School representative to address the
83 Council. Josh Ebert with Taylor High School gave an update on the history of this event and
84 that the High School is again requesting sponsorship for their 3rd Annual 5K Run event. The
85 proceeds will benefit the school’s athletic programs. Mr. Ebert reiterated on how the Town of
86 Pierson has supported the event in the past and that he would like to request the same level of
87 sponsorship which included Police presence and monetary support in the amount of \$400.

88

89 Brief discussion ensued.

90

91 **Councilmember Herbert Bennett made the motion to approve sponsorship at \$400 as in**

92 **the prior year; seconded by Vice Chair James Peterson. All agreed; motion carries.**

93

94 Mr. Ebert thanked the Council for their continued support.

95

96 d. To Discuss, Review and set dates for interviews: RFQ for Legal Services
97 advertised and received by closing date of Monday, April 27, 2015 –

98 Chairman Samuel G.S. Bennett

99 Chair Bennett summarized the item and introduced Mr. Voss who's Company had submitted
100 a proposal. The Council agreed on holding interviews on Thursday, May 28, 2015 at 10:00
101 am.

102 e. To consider Solar Powered Flashing Beacon for those streets needing
103 attention – Chairman Samuel G.S. Bennett

104 Chair Bennett read the item and gave a history that due to some side and back streets being
105 obscure and possibly dangerous to oncoming traffic the Town may benefit from purchasing
106 solar powered flashing beacon. There would only be the initial cost to purchase the beacon
107 and due to solar power usage, no additional electric charges apply.

108 Discussion ensued about possibly requiring County approval depending on the location of the
109 beacon.

110 This was an informational item and no action was taken.

111 f. To consider solar powered flag pole kits for our flags as required by the
112 American Flag Code – Public Works Director/ Councilmember Herbert
113 Bennett

114
115 Chair Bennett read the item turned the item over to Councilmember Herbert Bennett who
116 stated that he has been informed that the Town might be in non-compliance with the American
117 Flag Code since the flag lights are not powered at night. Discussion ensued about the code
118 and that solar powered light kits would be needed.

119

120 Town Clerk Spelozzi stated that this came about due to citizen concerns.

121

122 The Council decided to table this item until a later time for further discussion.

123

124 **Councilmember Tom Larrivee made the motion to table the item for further discussion;**
125 **seconded by Vice Chair James Peterson. All agreed; motion carries.**

126

127 g. Review of the one year anniversary/ completion of probation of the Utility/
128 Water Clerk - Chairman Samuel G.S. Bennett

129

130 Chair Bennett read the item and discussion ensued. The Council is pleased with Ms. Ward's
131 performance and agreed to promote her to Deputy Clerk with a rate increase to \$11.30. This
132 promotion would assure that the Town is in compliance with record keeping laws should the
133 Town Clerk be out of the office.

134

135 **Councilmember Herbert Bennett made the motion to retain Carrie Ward and to**
136 **promote her to Deputy Clerk with an hourly rate of \$11.30; seconded by**
137 **Councilmember Herbert Bennett. All agreed; motion carries.**
138

139 **6. OLD BUSINESS**

- 140
141 a. Update regarding repair of Franklin and Cade – Public Works Director/
142 Councilmember Herbert Bennett
143

144 Chair Bennett read the item and turned it over to Councilmember Herbert Bennett who gave
145 an update of a meeting he had with a Volusia County representative. The cost for the project
146 is estimated at \$17,776 and that the CDBG funds that can be used for this project are \$ 54,885.
147 Of which \$50,814 is for the actual grant. This leaves a difference of \$13,705 and where do
148 we take this from?
149

150 It was suggested paving Braddock to Washington as well as Franklin and Cade at the same
151 time and discussion ensued about shortage in funds; possible other options to get it all
152 accomplished at once and that repairs could get more costly as time goes by.
153

154 **Councilmember Tom Larrivee made the motion add the paving of Franklin and Cade**
155 **to the project of Braddock and Washington and to take any missing monies out of the**
156 **Reserve; seconded by Councilmember Herbert Bennett. All agreed; motion carries.**
157

158 Vice Chair James Peterson asked about looking at Vannote Street and Councilmember
159 Herbert Bennett gave a brief history on the issues that have been encountered. The Council
160 decided that it needed to be put on the list of roads that were outlined in the Town's five (5)
161 year plan.
162

163 Ms. Spelorzi was tasked to contact Duke Energy to obtain costs to move power poles in order
164 to widen Vannote Rd.
165

166 Discussion ensued about declaring eminent domain.
167

168 **7. OTHER BUSINESS**

- 169
170 a. Council and staff reports
171

172 Vice Chair James Peterson inquired if anything had been done about the backslash on the
173 wood bleachers from sprinklers and the resulting deterioration of the wood. Ms. Spelorzi
174 stated that Councilmember Greenlund had agreed to address this issue and that he would
175 probably give an update when he returned for the next Council meeting.
176

177 Councilmember Bennett had no comments.
178

179 Councilmember Tom Larrivee had no comments.
180

181 Mayor Sowell stated the Volusia League of Cities Distinguished Service Award is coming up
182 and any interested parties can contact the Town Clerk to RSVP.
183

184 Town Clerk Spelorzi informed the Council that Farm Workers Association of Florida in
185 Pierson is inviting any interested parties to attend their community meeting on 5/13/15.
186 Awards will be given out to local teachers for leadership and support.
187

188 Volusia County Sheriff's office stated that National Police Week has commenced to honor
189 fallen Police Officers and the representative encouraged the Council to appreciate the local
190 Sheriff Officers on National Peace Officer's Memorial Day on May 15. Chair Bennett stated
191 that next year the Council will create a Resolution. Ms. Spelorzi was asked to add this event
192 to the Town's Bulletin Board.
193

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

196 Resident Sue Elliott gave an update that she turned in Pierson's fatality/incident report to the
197 CAC/TPO and that the organization will check on the areas included in the report.
198

199 Discussion ensued about the way the data is being gathered and that improvements have been
200 made to ensure greater accuracy.
201

202 Mr. Robert Stone spoke on the issue of illuminating American flags at night and felt that the
203 Counsel should make every effort to ensure those flags continue to fly as he and a lot of other
204 residents have invested their time and money to donate these flags. Chair Bennett clarified
205 that the Counsel only tabled the discussion on how to address light kit issues and that the flags
206 will be flown on special events and holidays as they have in the past.
207

208 Ms. Linnie Richardson introduced new residents Grant and Shelley Faustich who recently
209 purchased a house on Hagstrom Rd. Ms. Richardson informed the Council that the Faustich's
210 neighbors have put up a Mobile Home on their property, which is against code. The Council
211 asked Ms. Spelorzi to send out a violation letter. Ms. Spelorzi requested that Mr. Faustich
212 email her the pictures he took of the Mobile Home.
213

214 **9. ADJOURNED**

216 **a. Chairman -**

217 i. Next Council Meeting: Tuesday, May26, 2015 at 7:00 p.m.
218

219 **Hearing no further business, meeting adjourned at 8:36 PM**
220

221 Minutes prepared by:

Minutes approved by:

222

223

224

225

226

Carmen M. Spelorzi

Samuel G.S. Bennett, Chairman