

**Town of Pierce
Regular Meeting
May 13th, 2024
7:00 P.M.**

The Board of Trustees of the Town of Pierce, County of Weld, State of Colorado, met in regular session at Pierce Town Hall 144 Main Street, Pierce Colorado at the hour of 7:00 P.M., May 13, 2024.

Mayor Cathy Ortiz called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M. Based on the roll call, the following Trustees comprising a quorum attended:

Mayor Cathy Ortiz

Trustees	Others Present:
Doug Herrick	Kristina Duran, Town Clerk
Kenny Dill	Heather Rospierski, Deputy Town Clerk II
Geoffery Broughton	Shantel Anderson, Admin Assistant
Glen Lester	James Godbold- Absent
Larry Van Why	

1. **Swearing-in of Trustees:** Glen Lester, Larry VanWhy, Kenny Dill, Doug Herrick, and Geoffery Broughton were all sworn in.
2. **Appointment of Mayor Pro Tem-** Motion made by Trustee Broughton to appoint Larry VanWhy as Mayor Pro Tem. Second by Lester. 3 “AYES” by Trustee Broughton, Lester, and Ortiz. 2 “Naye” by Herrick and Dill. Motion passes.
3. **Letters of Interest for Open Board Position and Appointment:** 4 letters of interest were submitted for the open Board position by Teresa Martinez, Steve Guest, David Strahl, and Shawn Haynie. Each Board member said who they would like appointed. Shawn Haynie won the vote and will be appointed at June’s Board Meeting.
4. **Approval of Minutes:** Motion made by Trustee Broughton to approve minutes from April 8th, 2024. Second by Herrick. All “AYES”, motion passed.
5. **Approval of Agenda:** Motion made by Trustee Dill to approve agenda. Second by Herrick.

All “AYES”, motion passed.

6. **Public Comment:** Johanna Ostrum is the chief operating officer at Gradient Geothermal. Her background is in Oil and Gas. Her company submitted a grant to the State of Colorado, through the Colorado Energy Office to do a study of the oil and gas wells in the Town of Pierce. The grant would be to see if they could take some of the water from the wells and heat the streets and sidewalks, or if there would be an opportunity to heat the school from the wells. The wells haven't been producing for 5-6 years and this opportunity could repurpose the wells to provide the community benefits. They applied for the grant in Jan- Feb 2024 and should know in the next couple of weeks whether they won the grant. If they win, the grant study would look at what the wells can produce and what it would cost to put in the pipeline and talk with the community about where there might be an opportunity to use that heat. There are 7 existing wells still in the Town. They produce 99% water and 1% oil. Julie Lukela wants to apologize for losing her cool after last month's meeting, she stated she only went up to say something to the Attorney. Julie asked if residents are allowed to go up and talk to the Attorney. Mayor Ortiz said the Town pays for the Attorney and Julie is not on the Board and we don't pay for the Attorney to talk to residents. Julie said so the residents are not allowed to go up there and ask questions? Town Clerk Duran jumps in and states it might not be the right answer but what she knows is Town Attorney James Godbold says he is the Town Board Attorney, he says he is not the Town of Pierce's Attorney. That doesn't mean that you can't ask questions, but he can say he can't respond. Duran said she could be wrong but since he has an emergency and could not be at the meeting it would be best to ask him next month. Julie said if it's not allowed then the residents should know.

7. **New Business License Uppity Up LLC- 806 5th Street:** Residents were not present, the Board tabled this until June's meeting due to having questions for the residents.

8. **Change Trash Pick-Up Day Request- Bunting Disposal:** Raymond the general manager for Bunting was present. He asked if the Board would consider changing the trash pick-up day from Wednesday to Tuesday. This would help Bunting. Now with Wednesday being the pick-up day the trucks have to leave ½ way through the route and go dump and come back to finish the town. When this happens sometimes not everyone is picked up until the evening. Motion made by Trustee Broughton to approve the change in trash pick-up day, starting June 18th, 2024. Second by Herrick. All “AYES”, motion passed.

9. **Pierce Days Committee Request to Reserve the Park June 8th, 2024:** The Pierce Days Committee would like to reserve the Park for June 8th. They are doing a parade, craft fair, and cornhole, and will finish the night from 5-close at Grubbyz with a live band. Kara said they have an Umbrella under the Grubbyz Insurance Policy but are also working with J9 on a policy they are donating for the event and will provide it to the Town as soon as it is completed. Motion made by Trustee Dill to reserve the park for June 8th, 2024. Second by Broughton. All “AYES”, motion passed.

10. Presentation by Luke Hinrich on Request for Dispensary: Luke Hinrich was present he is interested in bringing a Dispensary to the Town. His proposed location is the log cabin off Main. Trustee Herrick said this could be good revenue for the Town. Motion made by Trustee Dill to add to June's Board Agenda. Second by Herrick to allow Luke to provide the Board with location, security, and projected revenue the Town could receive from this. 1 "Naye" by Broughton. Motion passed.

11. Assignment of Department for the Board of Trustees: Mayor Ortiz assigned Lester to Water, VanWhy to Streets, Broughton to Buildings, Dill to Utilities and Energy, and Herrick to Growth and Development.

12. Appoint Board Member to Planning Commission: Motion made by Trustee Broughton to appoint Larry VanWhy to the Planning Commission. Second by Lester. All "AYES", motion passed.

13. Change the Board Meeting Time to an Earlier Time: Motion made by Trustee Broughton to change the Board Meeting Time to 6:30 P.M. starting June 10th, 2024. Second by Lester. Roll Call Vote was taken. 3 "AYES" by Trustee Broughton, Lester, and Ortiz. 2 "NAYE", by Herrick and Dill. Motion passed.

14. Would like Town Wide Yard Sale/ Schedule Date (June 15th, 2024): Mayor Ortiz would like to do a Town-wide yard sale for anyone who would like to not have it at their home can contact Mayor Ortiz to set up using the Markets lot.

15. Consider Resolution 2024-04 Approving Agreement for Express Bill Pay: Motion made by Trustee Dill to approve the agreement for Express Bill Pay. Second by VanWhy. All "AYES", motion passed

16. Approve Temporary Use Permit for 1 Unit CBT Water for Dollar General: Motion made by Trustee Dill to approve the 1 Unit of CBT water for Dollar General. Second by Herrick. All "AYES", motion passed.

17. Approve Codification of 2022 and 2023 Ordinances and Approve to Allow Staff to Codify Ordinances Every Year: Town Clerk Duran would like to codify every January. Motion made by Trustee Herrick to approve the codification and allow staff to do this every year. Second by Broughton. All "AYES", motion passed.

18. Consider Resolution 2024-03 Transfer Money from Farmers Bank to Colo Trust: The Board would like Town Clerk Duran to get more information regarding the transfer. This is tabled until June's Board Meeting.

19. Consider Ordinance 2024-01 Increase in Fireworks Fine: The Board wants to increase the firework fire from \$500.00 to \$1,000. Motion made by Trustee Dill to increase the fine. Second by VanWhy. All “AYES”, motion passed.

20. Old Business: Trustee Herrick wants to schedule a work session regarding Town Codes and Code Enforcement. This will be Tuesday, June 18th, 2024, at 6:30 P.M. He would also like Deputy Clerk Rospierski to have together what the Planning Commission approved to recommend to the Board for changes, and any information regarding 3-year dog tags.

21. Staff Reports:

(A) **Mayor Report:** None

(B) **Public Works:** Report provided. Bids for the pan on 5th were included. The Board would like a few more bids. This will be tabled until June’s Board Meeting.

(C) **Planning Commission:** There was a Meeting in April for an 830 S.F. Pole Barn at 311 Main that was approved.

(D) **Town Attorney:** Absent.

(E) **Town Engineer:**

1. **Monthly Water Report:** Provided.

(F) **Town Clerk:**

1. **Request to Pay Bills:** Motion made by Trustee Broughton to pay the bills. Second by VanWhy. All “AYES”, motion passed.

2. **Comment Box:** None.

3. **Schedule Presentation from DOLA:** This presentation will be on Wednesday, June 5th at 6:00 P.M.

4. **Senior Center Update:** Trustee Dill said a week from today the asbestos will be removed, and then they can move forward with upgrades. Town Clerk Duran said the Board approved \$10,000 for Engineering fees and the Senior Center has already spent \$8,000. She wants Dill to be aware of this. If they reach the \$10,000 this will have to go back to the Board for approval if more engineering costs come up.

22. **Department Reports**

(A). **Water/Sewer – Trustee Todd Blehm:** None.

(B). **Streets & Drainage – Trustee Doug Herrick:** Absent.

(C). **Utilities & Energy -** None.

(D). **Building:** None.

(E). **Parks & Recreation:** None.

(F). **Growth & Revenue:** None.

23. **Board Communications:** Town Attorney James Godbold apologized for not being able to make the meeting.

Adjournment: 8:48 P.M.

Heather Rospieski Deputy Town Clerk II