

**Town of Pierce
Regular Board Meeting
November 13, 2023
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. November 13, 2023.

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

Mayor Julie Lukela

Trustees	Others Present:
Kenny Dill	Kristina Duran, Town Clerk
Donna O'Connor	James Godbold, Town Attorney
Todd Blehm	Heather Rospierski, Deputy Clerk II
Doug Herrick	
Steve Guest	
Geoffery Broughton- Absent	

1. Approval of Minutes from October 9th Budget Work Session and Board Meeting, and October 23rd Budget Work Session: Motion made by Trustee O'Connor to approve minutes. Second by Guest. All "AYES", motion passed.

2. Approval of Agenda: Trustee Herrick would like to move shirt/dress code after #8. Motion made by Trustee O'Connor to move shirt/ dress code. Second by Dill. All "AYES", motion passed. Motion made by Trustee Herrick to approve agenda. Second by Dill. All "AYES", motion passed.

3. Public Comment*: Doc Wirkus is looking for an apology from Trustee Dill for how he treated his wife when she came into the office to drop off ballots. He said it is unacceptable for a Trustee to treat any citizen in that manner. Dill said he would not apologize tonight. Marie said it has been a continued issue for people coming into Town Hall and disrupting Town staff. She said it is a waste of tax dollars. Connie Schwindt said according to the law, everyone has a right to put their ballot directly in the ballot box. She said it is interference of an election to try to deny anyone that. Schwint also said the Board has no administrative authority over Town Hall. Deb Schreiter said that there is a white and brown pit bull that has been running loose. She said there is goats loose by her house as well. Jason Maxey wanted to introduce himself. He is running for County Commissioner. He has roots to Weld County and wants to be able to build and foster relationships with the communities.

4. Appoint Trustee to Planning, Appoint Mayor Pro-Tem: Trustee Blehm would like to step down from Planning. Trustee Guest will take his place on Planning. Trustee Herrick is interested in being Mayor Pro-Tem. Motion made by Trustee O'Connor to appoint. Second by Dill. All "AYES", motion passed.

5. Horse Permit Request for More Horses at 701 W Main- Paula Strahl: Strahl is not present. Two objections have been received on the request for more horses, and they currently have five, which is more than allowed. Motion made by Trustee Herrick to deny the request for more horses. Second by O'Connor. All "AYES", motion passed. Motion made by Trustee Herrick to give until February 12, 2024, to comply with the requirements that were set forth when complaints were made. Those requirements consist of providing shelter, improve fences, provide dust mitigation and access to clean water. If they do not comply, their animal permits will be revoked. Second by Dill. All "AYES", motion passed. This will need to be inspected by Code Enforcement. They also have other animals besides the 4 horses and 1 goat that are permitted. Code Enforcement will need to address this.

6. New Business License Mobile Tank Services LLC 405 1st Street (Clayton Roth): This will be for general maintenance on trailers. There will be about 4-5 outside at a time, likely parked on the north side of the building. Motion made by Trustee Herrick to approve. Second by Guest. Five "AYES", one "NAYE", by O'Connor. Motion passed.

7. New Business License Kim's Stitches from the Heart 704 Carroll Lane (Kim Herrick): Motion made by Trustee O'Connor to approve the business license. Second by Blehm. All "AYES", motion passed.

8. J&C Professional Services LLC- 150 W Main (Quonset) Code Enforcement : There have been complaints about the cars parked on the north side of this property. When the business license application was presented, it was said there would not be junk cars. Clerk Duran wants to know how code enforcement should proceed with this. Motion made by Trustee Guest to approve no more than 6 cars to be continually rotated out. Second by Dill. All "AYES", motion passed.

9. Code Enforcement: This item was added to the agenda so clear expectations and directions can be given to Enforcement Officer Shippy. Clerk Duran wants to know if the Board wants back yards to be enforced. Trustee Herrick said it depends if there is a fire hazard, safety issue, etc. This will be discussed at a future work session.

10. Garden Located on Town Easement 440 E Main- William Greer: Not present. The Board would like to see if a garden is put back up in the spring. If it is, another letter will be sent to Mr. Greer.

11. Water and Sewer Rate Increase/ Non-Potable Increase

A. Adopt Resolution 2023-05 Adopting the Updated Fee Schedule: Engineer Curtis submitted proposed rate increases. This item will be tabled until December so it can be discussed at the next budget meeting.

12. Eaton Animal Den Agreement: Motion made by Trustee O'Connor to have Attorney Godbold draft a Resolution to adopt the Eaton Animal Den agreement. Second by Dill. All "AYES", motion passed. This will be added to the December agenda.

13. Cameras for Town Hall: Matt Ramos presented 4 quotes for cameras. He would install everything. The new cameras would replace the current camera system. Motion made by Trustee Dill to approve quote #4 for a maximum of \$8250.00. Second by O'Connor. All "AYES", motion passed.

14. Cost of Living Increase for Employees: Mayor Lukela believes that raises are given, but not based on anything. She believes that some people are paid too much, and some people are not paid enough. It was explained that cost of living isn't based on performance but based on inflation. This will be added to the December agenda.

15. Police Contract: Mayor Lukela has been working with Chief Nissan. They have decided that 6 hours a day should be sufficient. The contract for 6 hours a day is \$295,650.00. It will also automatically increase by 3.5% a year. Trustees would also like the PD to provide a more detailed log of the hours spent, and how the hours are spent. Motion made by Trustee O'Connor to have Attorney Godbold draft a Resolution to approve the PD contract. Second by Herrick. Five "AYES", one "NAYE" by Dill. Motion passed. This will be added to the December agenda.

16. Who is Allowed Into Back Offices of Town Hall: Motion made by Trustee Herrick to allow current board members, Town employees, and Town officers only into back offices of Town Hall. There will be exceptions made for court days. Second by Dill. All "AYES", motion passed. Attorney Godbold will draft a Resolution, and this will be added on the December agenda.

17. Questions and Clarification on Policies and Procedures: The Mayor said she wants clarification on policies and procedures. She does not believe that employees should be allowed to work from home. Trustee Herrick thinks that if the Board approves work from home that the policy should be fine. Paychecks will be dispersed the Wednesday after the pay period like the personnel policy says. Trustee Dill would like the Board to approve any purchases over \$100.00. Staff explained that just typical office supplies are more than \$100.00. It was agreed that the amount the office can spend up to \$250.00. Motion made by Trustee Dill. Second by O'Connor. All "AYES", motion passed.

18. Discussion to Have Weld County Run Elections for the Town of Pierce: Motion made by Trustee Blehm to have Attorney Godbold look into the process to have Pierce coordinate with Weld County for elections. Second by Herrick. All "AYES", motion passed.

19. Old Business: None.

20. Staff Reports:

(A). Mayor Report: Attended several meetings.

(B). Public Works: Report provided.

(C). Planning Commission: Had meeting but items were tabled until more information was provided.

(D). Town Attorney: Proposition HH failed. It has not been done by previous Attorneys, but he would like to start providing a summary of new laws that affect municipalities.

(E). Town Engineer:

1. Monthly Water Report: Provided.

(F). Town Clerk:

1. Request to Pay Bills: Motion made by Trustee O'Connor to pay bills. Second by Guest. All "AYES", motion passed.

2. Comment Box: Richard Wuehler would like extra agendas to be out for the meetings. Complaint from Carol regarding Trustee Dill was read. Dill went into Town Hall and told Carol Wirkus and M. Sue Spurgeon-Paris that they needed to leave Town Hall. They explained that they were dropping off ballots. He then turned his anger to Deputy Clerk II Rospierski. There were also 2 more complaints/ witness statements about the incident with Dill submitted by Rospierski and Rodarte.

3. Email Accounts for Trustees: Provided.

4. CIRSA Handout for Trustees: Provided.

Clerk Duran would like to schedule a budget work session. November 29th, 2023, at 6:00 P.M.

21. Department Reports

(A). Water/Sewer- Todd Blehm: None.

(B). Streets & Drainage- Doug Herrick:

1. Town Board Shirts/ Dress Code: Trustee Herrick thinks that each Trustee and the office staff should get a polo shirt with Town of Pierce logo, name and position with the Town. Each person will pay for their own.

(C). Utilities & Energy- Geoffery Broughton: Absent.

(D). Buildings- Steven Guest: Handouts were provided with quotes to replace gutters and downpipes. Motion made to ask C&S if they can do the work that Bone Dry has quotes for cheaper. If not, Guest can go with Bone Dry for the purchase. Would also like to purchase air quality monitor for \$126.00 for 4 monitors. Second by O'Connor. All "AYES", motion passed.

(E). Parks & Recreation- Kenny Dill: The lawns are dry, and the water is off.

(F). Growth & Revenue- Donna O'Connor: Asked if business licenses have to be paid every year. Would like to look at increasing the fee for each license.

22. Employee Personnel Questions:

May Need to Go Into Executive Session: The employee needs to be notified about the meeting and then they decide if they want an executive session or not.

23. Board Communications: None.

Adjournment: 10:38 P.M.

Kristina Duran, Town Clerk