

**Town of Pierce
Regular Board Meeting
October 9, 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. October 9, 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:
Connie Schwindt	Kristina Duran, Town Clerk
M. Sue Spurgeon-Paris	Brad Curtis, Town Engineer
Todd Blehm	James Godbold, Town Attorney
Doug Herrick	
Mary Heberlee	
Geoffery Broughton	

1. Approval of Minutes from September 11, 2023 Budget Work Session and Board Meeting:

Motion made by Trustee Broughton to approve minutes. Second by Paris. All "AYES", motion passed.

2. Approval of Agenda: Motion made by Trustee Paris to approve agenda. Second by Heberlee. All "AYES", motion passed.

3. Public Comment*: Donna O'Connor asked about the packets the Board gets. She was told that they get them the Thursday before the Board meeting usually.

4. Home Business License for Fine Art- Brody Olson: Brody would like to have an art business out of his home. The sales would be mostly online so there wouldn't be any increased traffic. Motion made by Trustee Paris to approve business license. Second by Heberlee. All "AYES", motion passed.

5. Review of Horse Permit/ Would Like More Horses- Paula Strahl: They have been allowed to have 4 horses on this property. They would like to be allowed to have 6 horses. History was provided to the Board, outlining the complaints that the Town has had regarding this property. Summons were issued in 2020 and 2021 because they had more horses than was allowed. Numerous complaints were made by neighbors regarding the condition of the property, dust blowing, etc.. Strahl agreed at that time that they would implement dust mitigation and build a shelter for the horses. He was asked by the Board tonight if any of that had been done and it

hadn't. Trustee Herrick said he walked north of the property and that the fence is in poor condition and the dirt piled up at the fence would allow the horses to simply walk over it. Herrick asked Strahl if he could go to his property and look around to see what would need to be done. Strahl denied that request. Dusty Helzer was present and said that the issues he complained about in the past have not been resolved. He is against them being allowed more horses. Letters were not sent out to the neighbors notifying them of the request to increase the number of animals, so these letters need to be sent out. Attorney Godbold gave guidance to the Board on their options. They could revoke the permit completely, deny the request, or approve with conditions. Motion made by Trustee Herrick to table until next month. Second by Schwindt. All "AYES", motion passed.

6. Alternative Landscapes: Bob Vandop: Bob is not present. Trustee Blehm will contact him in the future.

7. Don Juans Restaurant: Engineer Curtis explained to the Board that this is a use by right and has been presented to the Planning Commission. The Planning Commission has made a recommendation to approve with conditions. They need to clarify some things before a permit can be issued. Motion made by Broughton to approve Don Juans Restaurant to move forward with the conditions set forth in the Town Engineer's report. Second by Schwindt. All "AYES", motion passed. Curtis will work with them to get clarification.

8. Water Moratorium: A resolution has been provided for the Board to change the moratorium from allowing no taps except the 3 that were exempt from the moratorium to review on case-by-case basis. Motion made by Trustee Schwindt to approve Resolution 2023-04. Second by Paris. Roll Call. All "AYES", motion passed.

9. Presentation of the Proposed Budget: A preliminary budget was presented to the Board. Clerk Duran and Engineer are waiting for Auditor Chavies to answer a few questions. Attorney Godbold said Proposition HH could change the budget, so he recommends adopting 2 budgets. A budget work session was scheduled for October 26th at 6:30 pm, but that is the night of the Town and County dinner, so it was changed to October 25th at 6:00 pm.

10. Old Business

1. Deb Schreiter- Stop Sign Request: Deb is not present. Mayor Lukela asked the Chief to put the speed trailer in this area to see how fast people are driving.

2. Mold Bids: Mayor Lukela and a resident read every page of the report and it is still her opinion that the root cause of the mold needs to be found. Clerk Duran said she thinks the mold situation has been blown out of proportion, and the most recent report is drastically improved from the prior one. She explained that the Town already has ozonators and air purifiers. It was reported that Deputy Clerk II Rospierski can use the air purifier and it would take care of the issue. Duran will order new timers to try to get the ozonators set up.

9. Staff Reports

(A). Mayor Report: Went to the City of Thornton meeting. They were discussing options for offloading their properties in the area. Met with Chief Nissan and based on the history of the Towns police overage hours, he recommends that the Town increase police coverage to 6 hours a day instead of 4.

(B). Public Works: Report provided.

(C). Planning Commission: Meeting regarding Don Juans Restaurant.

(D). Town Attorney:

1. Proposition HH: If Proposition HH passes, it will reduce the amount that the Town gets for taxes. CML is opposed to Proposition HH.

(E). Town Engineer:

1. Monthly Water Report: Provided.

2. Update on Main St RFP: Couple things still left to be done. Mayor Lukela said people are concerned about how fast some are driving on this new road. Clerk Duran said to inform the Police Department so they can have an officer in the area. There is also concern about Double J truck drivers driving on this road. Duran will call Kelly at Double J to ask her to inform their employees to take the established truck route.

3. Water Rate Update: Based on the study done, Engineer Curtis suggests at least a 7% increase in water and sewer service.

(F). Town Clerk:

1. Request to Pay Bills: Motion made by Trustee Schwindt to pay bills. Second by Paris. All "AYES", motion passed.

2. Comment Box: Duran reported there was nothing in the comment box, but there was one from Hargreaves. It referenced code violations but didn't have any addresses.

3. Tina Surgery Update: Surgery is scheduled for November 6th. Trustee Herrick asked if Heather would know what to do with the election and how to count the ballots. Duran explained that there are judges that come in, staff does not do any of that.

10. Department Reports

(A). Water/Sewer- Todd Blehm: Public Works Director Lester had briefly told Trustee Blehm that there may be a EPA federal mandate in the works that would require 3 days of water to be stored.

(B). Streets & Drainage- Doug Herrick: Asked if anyone knew when C&H was going to come, he wasn't sure but thought it was after silage.

(C). Utilities & Energy- Mary Heberlee: Colorado Mission of Mercy treated 900 patients. Weld County Project Connect is October 19.

(D). Buildings- Connie Schwindt: None.

(E). Parks & Recreation- Geoffery Broughton:

1. Creation of Subcommittees: Asked Attorney Godbold of subcommittees could be created because he feels like a lot of things are decided on the fly. There are also a lot of conversations going on at once in the Board meetings so not everyone is heard. Godbold stated that most small towns do not do this because there is a lack of people wanting to participate.

(F). Growth & Revenue- M. Sue Spurgeon-Paris: None.

11. Board Communications: None.

Adjournment: 8:54 P.M.

Kristina Duran, Town Clerk