

Town of Pierceton
Council Public Meeting Minutes
Pierceton Community Building
January 9, 2023
6:30 pm

Opening

The monthly meeting of the Town of Pierceton was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present for Public Hearings

Council members Matt Brubaker, Janet Castle, and Tom Barker (arrived late at 6:36). Town Attorney Tammy Keirn. Clerk-Treasurer Myra Mast. Town Marshal Jim Bumbaugh. Town Superintendent Casey Boggs.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes for the council meeting held on December 12, 2022, at 6:30 pm at the Pierceton Community Building were approved by council. Also approved were minutes from the special year end council meeting and an executive session both held on December 28, 2022.

Claim Docket

\$370,851.08 in claims were paid.

Approvals

- The Axon Enterprise contract for the police department body camera storage was approved with a 2-0 vote due to the vote being taken before council member Tom Barker's arrival.
- The contract with Kosciusko County for the use of the brush chipper was approved with a 3-0 vote.
- The Town of Pierceton Fire Contract from Washington Township Trustee Dean Rhodes was presented. Janet Castle did voice that the contract had excluded details that she was expecting to have been present. Tom Barker motioned to approve the contract. Janet seconded the motion stating that the Town did need emergency fire services. The contract was approved with a 2-0 vote. Matt Brubaker abstained due to being a member of the fire department.
- Resolution 1-1-23 for the sale of Real Property

- The Council approved submitting an application for the Go Forward! Grant through Kosciusko Community Foundation for the Tennis/Pickleball Court Project. The grant will provide an additional \$20,000 for that project.
- Council approved the disposal of two office desks to donate to a non for profit.

Streets, Water, Sewer – Casey Boggs

- The utilities department office furnace went out and the repairs were quoted at \$1000. A new unit with a 10-year warranty was just under \$3000. The furnace was replaced with a new unit.
- Emergency sirens were repaired by J&K Communications. Only emergency sirens will be set off as the noon set up will not work at this time. A rough estimate for a new siren is \$32,000. Casey is waiting for a firm quote.
- Security cameras are set up at the park and Casey has been trained on how to use them. Matt Brubaker and the police department will be getting access also.
- Casey is waiting for a quote from Toriq to set up VPN at the water plant. Unofficial quote would be around \$5000. One benefit of the VPN would be for staff to see water levels from their phones and not have to be at the plant to do this check.
- Casey will provide information at the February meeting regarding the replacement of the truck bed on one of the town trucks.

Pierceton Police Department – Jim Bumbaugh

- Marshal Bumbaugh has completed my required 80-hour refresher training 4 months ahead of schedule.
- The body camera grant was submitted by the due date of December 15, 2022. It is still in a pending status as of now. Documents were signed by Bumbaugh to continue the agreement with Axon for another 5 years. If the grant is approved, it will reduce our cost by about \$2796.00. Council approved the 5-year contract.
- Town Attorney, Tammy Keirn, administered the official oath to James Hastings. Hastings was administered the oath before taking office privately, but the Town Council wanted to recognize the new officer with a public oath.

Recreation Board

- Two letters of interest were received for the vacant position on the Recreation Board: Katie Wonderly and Kim Rose. Tom Barker made a motion to keep Kim on the board. The motion was seconded by Janet Castle. The vote carried with a 2-1 vote.
- Deb Thomas will serve as the Whitko School Board appointee on the Recreation Board.

Pierceton Chamber of Commerce – Kelsea DeGaetano

- Kelsea requested permission to place banner signs in Brower Park to advertise the events for the town. Council advised they had no problem with that but asked that Kelsea be present at the next Recreation Board meeting to have that board review her requests.
- Kelsea discussed a town wide garage sale during the Chamber's Second Saturday event in June.
- Permission for food trucks during events was also discussed. Council would need to know what streets would need to be shut down for the food trucks.

Other Business

- Possibility of additional street lights on Catholic Street.
- Dangerous intersection at Market and First. Janet asked Casey to remove parking spots to allow for a better view of oncoming traffic.

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Council, by a motion duly made and seconded, the meeting was adjourned at 7:47 pm. The next general meeting will be at 6:30 pm on February 13, 2023 at the Pierceton Community Building.

Minutes Submitted by Myra Mast, Clerk-Treasurer.



Council President



Clerk-Treasurer