

Town of Pierceton
Council Public Meeting Minutes
Pierceton Community Building
April 10, 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 at 7:02 pm). 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 March 13, 2023, at 6:30 pm at the Pierceton Community Building were approved by council.

Claim Docket

\$125,197.01 in claims were paid.

Guests

- Matt Sandy from Kosciusko Area Plan Commission was present regarding a rezoning request from property now owned by Lexlil Contracting. The property is located by the Dollar General Store. Matt Brubaker motioned to approve Ordinance 2023-4-1 to rezone the property from residential to commercial. Lexlil will be planting trees along the north border of the lot as a buffer for the residential property. Janet Castle seconded the motion and the vote carried 2-0.
- Matt Trier and Bob Jones from Pierceton Woods Academy were present to continue the discussion of allowing chickens for educational purposes.
 - In 2016 the Woods property was rezoned as agricultural but excluded livestock.
 - Concerns of the Council include disease and the effects of the large egg industry in Kosciusko County and the regulating of the chickens by town staff. Also, a concern was the supervision of the minors at the facility.
 - A variance for the Woods property would not change the Town's ordinance regarding livestock.
 - The BZA would work with Woods to place restrictions.
 - Matt Brubaker asked for additional time to gather additional details before coming to a decision.

- Chad from Fleis & Vanderbrink discussed the State Revolving Loan and how it could help with water or wastewater projects. An asset management plan would be needed prior to application and the cost of \$80,000-\$90,000 would not be covered by the loan.

Approvals

- Abatement for OMCO, Paragon and Ibex were approved.
- Council agreed that any further charges for computer services from Microbyte could be paid from the CEDIT fund.
- Security cameras for the north side of the Community Park in the amount of \$2871.00 to be paid from the Park Non-Reverting Fund.
- Council approved the following for the Pierceton Chamber:
 - Closure of the alley north of Taproot for the Destination Pierceton event in May.
 - The use of town picnic tables.
 - The placement of a double-sided banner for advertising in Brower Park.

Streets, Water, Sewer – Casey Boggs

- A pump at the wastewater plant is needing repair. The estimated cost will be \$2000.
- Casey will be bringing seasonal employee James Ault back in May to help with mowing.
- An IDEM inspector stopped in for an inspection. The results have not yet been received.
- Nowak has performed maintenance on 18 of the Town's fire extinguishers. They took 7 with them for additional repairs. One extinguisher was condemned and is being replaced.
- Quotes for seal coating the town parking areas at the Community Building, the Senior Center, the police station and the area in front of the shop.
- Casey met with Pat Crawl from Alliance of Indiana Rural Water and discussed the process of sludge handling. Though there are no current compliance issues, Pete recommended a process he developed. Casey would like to try this process again as it was tried about a decade ago. Jar tests by Water Solutions Unlimited would determine the effectiveness of the process.

Pierceton Police Department – Jim Bumbaugh

- Marshal Bumbaugh expressed that he would like to send an officer to the ALICE training. Alice is an acronym for Alert, Lockdown, Counter and Evacuate. This training is the most nationally utilized for active shooter training. Whitko Community School has offered to pay half of the \$749 cost for one individual.

The Council approved the other half to be paid from the Law Enforcement Continuing Education Fund with a 3-0 vote.

Lions Club

- On behalf of the Pierceton Lions Club, a check in the amount of \$1500 was presented to the Pierceton Recreation Board by Georgia Tenney and Jack Phillips. A letter from the Lions Club that accompanied the check requested the funds be used to purchase new playground equipment.
- The local Lions Club are in the process of disbanding. Long time Lions Club member Jack Phillips stated that the club was formed in 1928 and has been active in the Pierceton community for 95 years. The unit is disbanding due to a lack of membership needed in order to continue.

Comments and Questions

- Greg Chism asked about the progress with the noon siren. Per Matt Brubaker an antenna is needed to work with the radio they found that will trigger the siren.

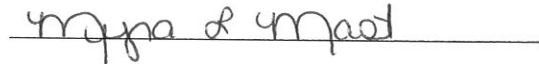
Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Council, by a motion duly made and seconded, the meeting was adjourned at 7:22 pm. The next general meeting will be at 6:30 pm on May 8, 2023, at the Pierceton Community Building.

Minutes Submitted by Myra Mast, Clerk-Treasurer.



Council President



Clerk-Treasurer