

Town of Pierceton
Council Public Meeting Minutes
Pierceton Community Building
March 13, 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 approximately 6:60 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 February 13, 2023, at 6:30 pm at the Pierceton Community Building were approved by council.

Claim Docket

\$88,521.52 in claims were paid.

Guests

- Amy Roe, coordinator for the Kosciusko County Hoosier Enduring Legacy Program (HELP), presented the Pierceton portion of the Kosciusko County's Strategic Investment Plan for review and approval by the Town Council. She reviewed the projects listed which include a heated multi-use pole building, façade improvements for the "downtown" area, a sidewalk project and a utility study for the water infrastructure plan. The approval of the SIP is only to verify the information with no intent to approve any specific project. Janet Castle made a motion to approve the document as written. The motion carried with a 2-0 vote. Amy advised the next step for the committee is to find funding for projects.
- Matt Trier and Bob Jones from Pierceton Woods Academy submitted a request to raise chickens on the Academy's property. The coops will be 300 ft from the nearest neighbor. The chickens will be for educational purposes. Matt Brubaker asked that Matt and Bob provide the policy they have created for use and care of the chickens. The issue will be then addressed at the April 10th council meeting.

Approvals

- The Kosciusko Community Foundation has requested a nomination from the Town Council to replace Brent Widman as a scholarship reviewer for the Fred

and Nedra Beebe Scholarship Endowment. Katie Wonderly had been contacted by the clerk and Katie was excited to serve. Matt Brubaker made the motion to nominate Kate to the position and Janet Castle seconded. The motion carried with a 2-0 vote.

- The contract between the Town of Pierceton and the Pierceton Youth League was presented and approved by the council with at 2-0 vote. The contract is the same as the 2022 contract with the lease amount being \$1700 for the season.
- The Town Council approved the list of events planned by the Pierceton Chamber of Commerce for 2023.
 - Town wide garage sale: June 9 & 10
 - Pierceton Days Festival: July 28 & 29
 - Heirloom Tomato Festival: August 26
 - Christmas Parade and Lighting: December 2
 - The Vintage Motorcycle Show in May: no confirmed date as of this time.
- To work with the town wide garage sale dates, the council approved changing the Spring Trash Pick-up day from the first Saturday in June to the third Saturday in June. Council also approved the town paying half of the promo mailing for the garage sale that will also advertise for the change in the trash pick-up date.

Streets, Water, Sewer – Casey Boggs

- The push mower needs to be replaced. The estimated cost for a new unit will be approximately \$500.
- Casey is again wanting to hire James Ault for a part-time seasonal position.
- The roll off dumpster is being delivered next week to the property at Columbia and Third for clean-up.
- J&K could not locate the old radio to activate the noon siren and are now looking for a compatible replacement.

Pierceton Police Department – Jim Bumbaugh

- Marshal Bumbaugh addressed the chamber members who were present advising them that he has ordered business tags that will be placed on their doors when the PPD checks after hours.
- The crack and seal performed by INDOT several weeks ago left sand on the sides and in the center of SR 13. Officer Bumbaugh left a complaint with INDOT. He was contacted by the supervisor in charge of that project who apologized and did send a street sweeper to clean up the sand after the Pierceton town staff had already cleaned it up.
- Bumbaugh also asked INDOT about lighting up the crosswalk on SR 13 and was advised that would be a Pierceton town responsibility.

Park – Annie Espinoza

- The new security cameras installed at the Community Park aided Town Marshal Bumbaugh in uncovering the culprits responsible for the recent vandalism.
- Annie requested approval for the additional cameras for the North side of the park. Clerk, Myra Mast, had not been notified prior to the meeting so was unable to confirm where the funds could be expended from. Matt Brubaker asked that this be brought back at the next council meeting.

Comments and Questions

- Rob Neel, chamber member and Pierceton business owner, thanked Jim, the town staff and the clerk for the work in getting SR 13 cleaned.
- Greg Chism inquired about the progress of the fiber optics in town. The town has no update due to no contact from Comcast.
- Chamber President, Kelsea DeGaetano, advised council that if the town electric bill ever runs higher than average, the chamber raises money to cover such expenses.

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Council, by a motion duly made and seconded, the meeting was adjourned at 7:10 pm. The next general meeting will be at 6:30 pm on April 10, 2023, at the Pierceton Community Building.

Minutes Submitted by Myra Mast, Clerk-Treasurer.



Council President



Clerk-Treasurer