

CITY OF PIERZ
Official Minutes of the Pierz City Council
City Council Meeting
November 25th, 2024
7:00 PM

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mayor John Perleberg, Council Member Don Bujalski, Council Member Jacque Johnson, Council Member Gary Berg, City Clerk Sarah Fyten, City Clerk Kaye Stangl

STAFF PRESENT: City Administrator Laura Wacker, Park Complex Superintendent Zach Baert, Director of Public Works Supervisor Eric Gaffke, Clubhouse Director Toni Meyer, Chief of Police Eric Hanneken

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

A motion was made by Council Member Jacque Johnson and seconded by Council Member Gary Berg to approve the regular city council meeting minutes from November 12, 2024. Motion carried unanimously.

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA:

Gambling Permit, Resignation-Planning and Zoning, and Safe Routes to School TA Grant

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

A motion was made by Council Member Gary Berg and seconded by Council Member Jacque Johnson to approve the agenda with the addition. Motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC HEARING:

At 7:02 pm Mayor Perleberg states that we will be resuming the public hearing from November 12 for the final 2024 street assessments.

At 7:43 pm the public hearing meeting for final assessments was closed and the council resumed the regular council meeting.

A motion was made by Council Member Don Bujalski and seconded by Council Member Gary Berg to close the public hearing and resume the regular city council meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

RESOLUTION #2024-1125-1 FINAL ASSESSMENTS:

A motion was made by Council Member Don Bujalski and seconded by Council Member Gary Berg to approve resolution #2024-1125-1 for the final assessments. Motion carried unanimously.

CUYUNA RANGE FIRE SERVICE MUTUAL AID AGREEMENT:

A motion was made by Council Member Jacque Johnson and seconded by Council Member Gary Berg to approve the Cuyuna Range Fire Service Mutual Aid Agreement. Motion carried unanimously.

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RPSWD SHARED SERVICES AGREEMENT:

RPSWD, Bob Gruber presents the contract between the city and RPSWD specifically for utility billing. Dionne does a great job for RPSWD and the city to solve all issues. The only items that have changed are the wage increase. Council Member Johnson asks if we did calculate for fringes at 1.12%, which was calculated.

A motion was made by Council Member Don Bujalski and seconded by Council Member Jacque Johnson to approve the agreement between the City of Pierz and RPSWD for shared services. Motion carried unanimously.

RPSWD MUTUAL AID AGREEMENT:

Gruber presents the mutual aid agreement where the City and RPSWD share equipment to keep costs down which is beneficial for each entity.

A motion was made by Council Member Jacque Johnson and seconded by Council Member Gary Berg to approve the agreement between the City of Pierz and RPSWD for mutual aid. Motion carried unanimously.

PAY APP #6:

SEH Engineer Jarod Griffith would like council to consider the approval pay application #6 for \$22,296.27 we are 87.77% complete with the project. The pay app covers concrete work most essentially street lighting bases. Lights are expected to be installed by end of Jan.

A motion was made by Council Member Jacque Johnson and seconded by Council Member Don Bujalski to pay the pay app #6 for the 2024 street project. Motion carried unanimously.

TOBACCO LICENSE RENEWAL:

City Administrator Laura Wacker lists the businesses, Reds Auto Inc, Pierz Foods, Pierz Speedway, and Lloyd's Discount Liquor, asking for tobacco license renewal for 12/1/24-11/30/25.

A motion was made by Council Member Gary Berg and seconded by Council Member Jacque Johnson to approve the presented tobacco licenses. Motion carried unanimously.

RESOLUTION #2024-1125-2 POLLING PLACE:

A motion was made by Council Member Jacque Johnson and seconded by Council Member Don Bujalski to approve resolution #2024-1125-2 for the City of Pierz designated polling place in 2025. Motion carried unanimously.

GAMBLING PERMIT:

A motion was made by Council Member Gary Berg and seconded by Council Member Jacque Johnson to approve the gambling permit for Pierz Basketball at Frosty's. Motion carried unanimously.

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DEPARTMENT UPDATES:

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT:

Director Eric Gaffke updates the council that the snow equipment is ready for the season. The Christmas lights are up, garland is yet to hang that will be done before Wednesday. We will continue to street sweep until we are not able to. Skating rinks are next on the list when the weather is ready.

Requests that the city pay the Minnesota Power bill for the street project. The original estimate was at \$540,000 and the bill is \$372,429.08.

A motion was made by Council Member Don Bujalski and seconded by Council Member Jacque Johnson to approve paying the Minnesota Power bill. Motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Perleberg states that he feels that one of the first people that should be called if Gaffke needs help would be Zach Baert. Bujalski agrees with this.

CITY ADMINISTRATOR:

City Administrator Laura Wacker presents a resignation from Mary Korf to be removed from the planning and zoning board at the end of this year.

A motion was made by Council Member Don Bujalski and seconded by Council Member Jacque Johnson to accept the resignation from Ms. Korf. Motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Council Member Jacque Johnson and seconded by Council Member Sarah Fyten to post the position via Facebook and Indeed. Motion carried unanimously.

Wacker asks for approval to move forward with the TA Grant/SRTS for the sidewalks on Park Avenue. With the approval that SEH will be writing the grant. Griffith states a rough estimate of \$2000 to write the grant.

A motion was made by Council Member Jacque Johnson and seconded by Council Member Gary Berg to approve SEH to do the grant not to exceed \$2000 without coming back to the council. Motion carried unanimously.

Wacker shares that the City Clerk top write in for the recent election was Sarah Fyten, who did accept the position. Congratulations Sarah.

Maintenance Mechanic Brad Dehler completed his CDL with no cost to the city. His pay will increase \$0.50 as soon as Wacker receives his certification.

A motion was made by Council Member Jacque Johnson and seconded by Council Member Gary Berg to approve Dehler's increase. Motion carried unanimously.

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Reminders:

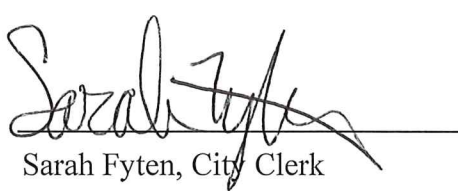
- City Hall will be closed Thursday and Friday, wishing everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.
- The next meeting on December 9 will include a public hearing for Cannabis, Truth in Taxation and approving the Levy.
- All regular city council meetings will now start at 6:00 pm.
- Oaths for all council members and city treasurer, starting their 2025 term, will be done December 9.

ADJOURNMENT:

A motion was made by Council Member Don Bujalski and seconded by Council Member Gary Berg to adjourn the city council meeting at 8:04 pm. Motion carried unanimously.



John Perleberg, Mayor



Sarah Fyten, City Clerk