

CITY OF PIERZ
Official Minutes of the Pierz City Council
City Council Meeting
March 23, 2026
7:00 PM

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mayor John Perleberg, Council Member Don Bujalski Council Member Lynn Egan,
Council Member Gary Berg, City Clerk Sarah Fyten, City Treasurer Kaye Stangl

STAFF PRESENT: Laura Wacker, City Administrator, Rick Wacker Public Works Director, Brad Dehler
Groundcrew Lead

COUNCIL PROTOCOL:

The City Council Members are here to serve the City of Pierz. We expect respectful conduct at all times. Slander or inappropriate language will not be tolerated. Please speak only when addressed, one person at a time. Each speaker has a 5-minute time limit. We thank you for your cooperation.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

A motion was made by Council Member Lynn Egan and seconded by Council Member Gary Berg to approve the regular city council meeting minutes from March 9, 2026, as is. Motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Council Member Gary Berg and seconded by Council Member Don Bujalski to approve the city council workshop minutes from March 17, 2026, as is. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

A motion was made by Council Member Lynn Egan and seconded by Council Member Sarah Fyten to approve the agenda as is. Motion carried unanimously.

PLANNING AND ZONING:

Brittany Pauly – 120 Edward St S – Fence Permit

A motion was made by Council Member Don Bujalski and seconded by Council Member Lynn Egan to approve the planning and zoning requests as recommended. Motion carried unanimously.

PIERZ AREA COMMERCIAL CLUB:

Presenting \$35,000 Donation for Playground Renovation-Picture taken prior to meeting.

RESOLUTIONS:

#2026-0323-1 Accepting Donations for the Pierz Park Playground

A motion was made by Council Member Lynn Egan and seconded by Council Member Gary Berg to approve #2026-0323-1 accepting donations for the Pierz Park Playground. Motion carried unanimously.

#2026-0323-2 Dedicated Funds to the Parks Fund

A motion was made by Council Member Gary Berg and seconded by Council Member Lynn Egan to approve #2026-0323-2 dedicated funds to the parks fund. Motion carried unanimously.

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#2026-0323-3 Authorizing the Closure and Consolidation of Funds

Council Member Bujalski noted that the 2024 street project is not yet complete, as installation of a drinking fountain is still pending. Due to the city stating they would install it. He shared that he met with Public Works Director Rick Wacker and RPSWD Director Bob Gruber to review the remaining work, with cost estimates in progress. He also expressed concern that funds from the 430 account, which feels originated from special assessments, should remain dedicated to street-related projects, as that is the expectation of residents. City Clerk Sarah Fyten clarified that consolidating these funds into the Capital Projects Fund 400 would still limit their use to eligible capital improvements, such as roads, rather than general expenses. Discussion also included a potential Safe Routes to School project expected to cost several hundred thousand dollars. Council Member Egan confirmed that any remaining 2024 project costs could be paid from the capital projects fund, which Wacker affirmed.

A motion was made by Council Member Lynn Egan and seconded by Council Member Sarah Fyten to approve Resolution 2026-03-23-3 authorizing the closure and consolidation of the funds. Councilmember Bujalski opposed. The motion carried on a 4–1 vote.

APPROVAL OF EXEMPT PERMIT:

Holy Trinity School Gym, Raffle 12/2/2026

PACC Rock, Roll and Stroll, Raffle 9/3/2026

A motion was made by Council Member Sarah Fyten and seconded by Council Member Gary Berg to approve Holy Trinity School Gym, Raffle 12/2/2026 and exempt permit for PACC Rock, Roll and Stroll, Raffle 9/3/2026. Motion carried unanimously.

CITY COUNCIL WORKSHOP MARCH 17 REVIEW:

Mayor Perleberg shared the topics that were discussed at the workshop and stated if anyone would like to watch the recording they needs to request it from city hall. Minutes will be posted online.

DEPARTMENT UPDATES:

Fire Department:

Not Present

Police Department:

Not Present

Public Works Department:

Rick Wacker, Director of Public Works, provided an update, noting recent snowplowing and additional Main Street cleanup due to safety concerns, with partial reimbursement from the state. The department is preparing for spring, including planned street sweeping, pothole repairs, and restricting access to the brush site by key. New decals have also been installed on the department pickup.

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Resolution 2026-03-23-4 was presented to declare certain equipment as surplus and authorize sale or trade-in, including two pickup trucks, a snow pusher, a lift, and a tractor. The Council agreed the items may be sold via Facebook Marketplace, with the Public Works Committee to meet and finalize sale details and pricing.

A motion was made by Council Member Sarah Fyten and seconded by Council Member Don Bujalski to approve 2026-0323-4 declaring certain property as surplus and authorizing sale or trade-in. Motion carried unanimously.

The Director received 2 quotes for a compact tractor and recommended trading in the existing tractor toward the purchase of a compact tractor for year-round use at a cost of the trade-in plus \$6,500.

A motion was made by Council Member Sarah Fyten and seconded by Council Member Don Bujalski to approve the purchase of the compact tractor Modern Farm Equipment. Motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Council Member Sarah Fyten and seconded by Council Member Lynn Egan to approve up to \$1000 of an engineered drawing of the salt shed. Motion carried unanimously.

Clubhouse:

Council Member Egan states that the flooring and baseboards should be completed this week. Clubhouse Lead Andy will get the second coat of wax on everything and from there we should be able to move everything back to their designated spots.

A motion was made by Council Member Lynn Egan and seconded by Council Member Gary Berg to approve #2026-0323-5 Sourcewell Community Benefit Grant to be able to submit for the grant. Motion carried unanimously.

Golf Course:

Brad Dehler, Lead Grounds Crew, provided an update on course operations, noting ongoing seasonal maintenance, including equipment servicing, and recent assistance from Public Works with brush removal. The course has wintered well overall, though additional cleanup is needed due to downed trees and debris, with volunteer groups being contacted to assist.

Dehler requested to hire approval of 2 high school seasonal positions, Trace Swanson \$15.00/hr, Henry Stamm \$15.00/hr and rough mower position JD Folger \$16.00/hr.

A motion was made by Council Member Sarah Fyten and seconded by Council Member Gary Berg to approve the wages presented at the council meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

An update was provided on the final remaining position, with second interviews scheduled. Based on the strength of applicants and operational needs, Dehler requested approval to hire two employees instead of one. He explained this adjustment would remain within budget and would help reduce overtime, improve weekend coverage, and better support overall course and campground operations.

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City Council Meeting
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7:00 PM

Mayor Perleberg noted that the typical process is to approve the number of positions first and then approve specific hires at a subsequent meeting, but acknowledged that Dehler had done his due diligence and that the request appeared time-sensitive. The Mayor opened the item for discussion and a motion.

A motion was made by Council Member Gary Berg and seconded by Council Member Lynn Egan to approve hiring two employees for the position, pending successful background checks. Motion carried unanimously.

CITY ADMINISTRATOR:

Wacker states upcoming community events, including citywide garage sales scheduled for May 13–16, coordinated by Sarah Funk, with information to be shared as it becomes available. Citywide cleanup day is scheduled for May 16, with the fire department assisting with brush pickup and additional details to be finalized. Grant agreements for cleanup day have been received and are ready for signatures.

Lutheran Social Services is seeking a site coordinator for the local senior meal program and continues to look for volunteers. Dine-in meals and home delivery Monday–Friday from 11:30 am to 12:30 pm remain available with pre-registration.

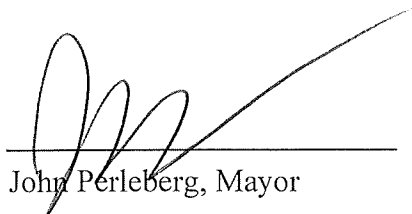
It was noted that this was the final council meeting for a local reporter, Joseph, whose last day will be April 3, and the Council expressed appreciation for their service.

Discussion was held regarding a donation request from Big Brothers Big Sisters. Council consensus was to defer consideration to the budget process, noting that donation funding is limited and typically allocated annually. Wacker will maintain a list of requests received and include them in future budget discussions, and organizations will be informed accordingly.

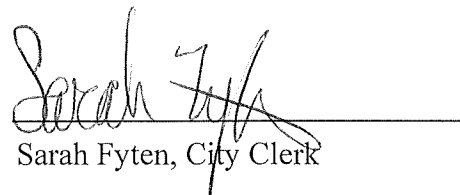
COUNCIL UPDATES:

ADJOURNMENT:

A motion was made by Council Member Don Bujalski seconded by Council Member Sarah Fyten to adjourn the city council meeting at 7:49 pm. Motion carried unanimously.



John Perleberg, Mayor



Sarah Fyten, City Clerk