

**CITY OF PIERZ**  
**Official Minutes of the Pierz City Council**  
**City Council Meeting**  
**March 9, 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, Andy Leidenfrost, Clubhouse 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 Gary Berg and seconded by Council Member Don Bujalski to approve the regular city council meeting minutes from February 23, 2026, as is. Motion carried unanimously.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**

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

**CLAIMS REPORT- FEBRUARY \$323,382.87:**

City Treasurer Kaye Stangl shares the claims report for February \$323,382.87.

A motion was made by Council Member Sarah Fyten and seconded by Council Member Gary Berg to approve the claims report. Motion carried unanimously.

**TREASURERS REPORT- FEBRUARY \$3,329,198.99:**

Stangl shares the treasurers report for February \$3,329,198.99.

A motion was made by Council Member Lynn Egan and seconded by Council Member Don Bujalski to approve the treasurer's report. Motion carried unanimously.

**WORKSHOP-MARCH 17 AT 5:30 PM:**

Reminder that the workshop is set for 5:30 pm Tuesday March 17.

**DEPARTMENT UPDATES:**

**Fire Department:**

Steve Boser, representing the Pierz Fire Department Relief Association, presented the annual Pierz Fire Department Relief Association report. He reported that total assets at the start of 2026 are \$1,795,544, with estimated City and rural contributions of \$30,250 and a projected 5% investment return of \$91,290, resulting in estimated year-end assets of \$2,012,084.

The current retirement benefit is \$3,200 per year of service per member, which would place the fund at approximately 132% funded. The Relief Association membership voted to increase the benefit to \$3,400 per year of service, which would result in approximately 119% funding. Steve noted the association prefers to

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maintain funding near 110% to remain conservative and avoid potential future reductions. He also reported that the rural townships have reaffirmed their willingness to share responsibility for any potential funding shortfall.

A motion was made by Council Member Don Bujalski and seconded by Council Member Sarah Fyten to increase the retirement benefit to \$3,400 per year of service approximately 119% funded. Motion carried unanimously.

The City's annual contribution would remain unchanged, currently budgeted for 26 members.

A motion was made by Council Member Gary Berg and seconded by Council Member Lynn Egan to approve paying the \$550 for 26 firemen totaling \$14,300. Motion carried unanimously.

Boser also provided the Article 9 form for the Relief Association, which the City Clerk will sign for audit documentation and attach to the approved minutes. Ending with a reminder that all are welcome to the Relief Association that meets the second Thursday of each month.

Fire Chief Dan Rocheleau presented the 2025 Pierz Fire Department Annual Report.

Chief Rocheleau reported that the department leadership remained unchanged in 2025. The Chief and Captain positions will be up for renewal this year.

He noted that Morrill Township recently requested fire coverage, increasing the department's service area from six to seven townships. The township is primarily rural, and only a limited increase in call volume is expected.

The department responded to 77 total calls in 2025, compared to 98 calls in 2024. Calls included medical assists, motor vehicle accidents, false alarms, grass fires, and other emergency responses, with nine mutual aid calls during the year. Within the City of Pierz, the department responded to 11 calls, including two medical assists, four motor vehicle accidents (three with injuries), several false alarms, and one structure fire.

The Chief also discussed upcoming SCBA (Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus) replacements, which must be replaced every 10 years and will be out of compliance after December 31, 2025. Estimated replacement costs are currently \$190,000–\$210,000. The department plans to apply again for a grant of up to \$50,000, and Pioneer Mutual Insurance has already contributed \$20,000 toward the project. The remaining cost is expected to be shared between the City, the townships, and the Fire Department Relief Association. The purchase will likely occur during the next budget cycle.

Chief Rocheleau also reported that Harding and Lastrup donated \$2,000, which helped the department purchase new airbag lift supports used for vehicle rescue operations, capable of lifting up to 100,000–120,000 pounds.

Lastly, he reviewed the department's equipment replacement schedule, noting that the backup pumper truck will reach its 25-year replacement timeline around 2029. The schedule is intended to assist with long-term planning and budgeting. Grant opportunities may be pursued when major equipment replacement becomes necessary.

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**Police Department:**

Not Present

**Public Works Department:**

Council Member Don Bujalski shares that the new Public Works pickup truck is now in service and operating well. Council reviewed a proposed updated City of Pierz vehicle decal design to be placed on the truck doors and potentially other city vehicles. No objections were raised. Rick will obtain pricing for the decals.

**Golf Course:**

Not Present

**Clubhouse:**

Clubhouse Lead Andy Leidenfrost updates the hood system and mini-splits have been installed, with electrical work remaining before final startup. Flooring in the back area is expected to be completed shortly, with remaining flooring to be finished next week.

Leidenfrost reported that interior painting is largely complete and preparations are underway with vendors as the season approaches. Council thanked Andy for the update and his work on the project.

**CITY ADMINISTRATOR:**

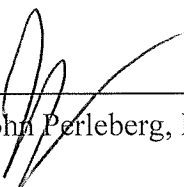
Wacker states that she submitted the closing of the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA). These funds were from 2020-2022 totaling \$149,170.25 and were used as revenue replacement allowing the funds to be used for general government operations. Wacker will update council when the closing is approved and final.

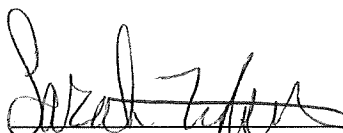
**COUNCIL UPDATES:**

The first meeting with St. Croix Recreation is next week regarding the playground project to establish a timeline. The meeting will take place prior to the workshop, and staff will provide an update to the Council following that meeting.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

A motion was made by Council Member Don Bujalski seconded by Council Member Sarah Fyten to adjourn the city council meeting at 7:25 pm. Motion carried unanimously.

  
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John Perleberg, Mayor

  
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Sarah Fyten, City Clerk