

Town of Pierce
Regular Meeting
December 9th, 2024
6:30 P.M.

The Board of Trustees of the Town of Pierce, County of Weld, State of Colorado, met in regular session in the Pierce Town Hall, 144 Main, Pierce Colorado at the hour of 6:30 P.M. December 9th, 2024.

Mayor Cathy Ortiz called the meeting to order at 6:30 P.M. Based on the roll call, the following Trustees comprising a quorum attended:

Mayor Cathy Ortiz

Trustees	Others Present:
Larry VanWhy	Kristina Duran, Town Clerk
Glen Lester	Heather Rospierski, Deputy Town Clerk II
Geoffery Broughton	James Godbold, Town Attorney
Julie Lukela	
Chris VanWhy	
Teresa Martinez	

1. Review Letters of Interest for Open Board Positions and Appoint to Fill Vacancies: There were 6 letters received for the 2 open Board positions. They were from Chris VanWhy, Connie Schwindt, Sue Spurgeon-Paris, Teresa Martinez, Charlie Dehn, and Brandon Brewer. All letters were read by the Town Clerk. It then was open to public comment. Janice Henry asked Trustee Lukela why she wanted to be on the Board. Julie said that she cares about the community. Janice said the voters of this town have recalled her as Mayor, then she ran for election, and they didn't vote for her, so they have rejected her twice and she wants to know why Julie keeps coming back. The voters have made it clear they don't want Julie on the Board. Janice thinks Julie needs to resign and is playing some kind of a game, and it's just costing the Town money. Janice said if she had to guess as soon as the residents can, they would recall Julie again. Janice said to save the Town money and just resign. Town Attorney Godbold jumped in and said that this part of this public comment is to address the candidates for the open positions. Mayor Ortiz then had all the candidates stand up. Charlie Dehn, has lived in Pierce for 7 years, and he has a lot of experience to contribute to the Town board. His vision is to represent the people properly and look for future growth. Teresa Martinez has lived in Pierce for 40 years and has a lot of ideas to bring the community together. Chris Vanwhy has lived in Pierce for 30 years and has a

lot of experience on other Boards, His vision is to get things done without a fight and see Pierce grow a little bit. Brandon Brewer has lived in Pierce for 14 Years, and growth is important he would like to update how the Town looks. Sue- Spurgeon-Paris has lived in the Town for 24 years. She has over 20 years of experience on the Board, she would like to see some growth. Connie Schwindt has lived in the Town for 8 years she is very involved in the community. It then went to a Board vote. Chris VanWhy and Teressa Martinez got the most votes and were then sworn in to fill the open Board positions.

2. Approval of Minutes from the November 4, 2024 Board Meeting and November 20, 2024 Special Meeting: Motion made by Trustee Broughton to approve the minutes from November 4th, 2024 Board meeting and November 20th, 2024 Special meeting. Second by Lester. All “AYES”, motion passed.

3. Approval of Agenda: Motion made by Trustee Lester to approve the agenda. Second by Martinez. All “AYES”, motion passed.

4. Public Comment: Brain Fabrizius from Highland School District offered to sell the Highland Elementary School in Pierce to the Town for 1 dollar. They are building a new school in Ault. The Town would need to buy water to service the building since the school district is taking their 7 taps from North Weld County Water District. He talked about how this would be a good opportunity to turn it into a Rec Center, or even Town hall. Brain is going to talk to the School Board more about this and it will be added to the agenda in January for more discussion.

5. Geothermal Update- Joanna Ostrum: Joanna has been working on a geothermal project that kicked off on October 8th, 2024. They are working on site conditions overview, resource characterization, and reviewing work done to date, as well as developing a public involvement plan, and researching the HVAC systems in the larger buildings in Town. They are estimated to be finished on October 7th, 2025 and will have more information regarding their research then.

6. New Business License 301 1st Street Colt Enterprises LLC: Motion made by Trustee Broughton to approve the new business license. Second by L. VanWhy. All “AYES”, motion passed.

7. Assignment of Trustee Departments: Mayor Ortiz assigned Lester to Water & Sewer, Larry VanWhy to Streets & Drainage, Lukela to Utilities & Energy, Broughton to Buildings, Martinez to Parks & Recreation, and Chris VanWhy to Growth & Revenue.

8. Adopt Posting Locations for 2025- Post Office, Town Hall Boards: Town Clerk Duran said online when available. Sometimes online is not available to post so we did not want to formally adopt it. Motion made by L. Vanwhy, Second by Lester. A roll call vote was taken. All “AYES”, motion passed.

9. Adopt Updated Water and Sewer Rates for 2025- Add to Fee Schedule: Motion made by Trustee Broughton to adopt the updated water and sewer rates for 2025. Second by Lester. A Roll call vote was taken. All “AYES”, motion passed.

10. Adopt Budget Resolutions:

A. Resolution to Adopt Budget: Motion made by Trustee Lester to adopt the Budget. Second by Broughton. A Roll Call vote was taken. All “AYES”, motion passed.

B. Resolution to Appropriate Sums of Money: Motion made by Trustee Broughton to Appropriate Sums of Money. Second by Lester. A Roll Call vote was taken. All “AYES”, motion passed.

C. Resolution to Set Mill Levies for Budget Year: Motion made by Trustee Lester to Set Mill Levies for the Budget Year 2025. Second by Martinez. A Roll call vote was taken. All “AYES”, motion passed.

11. Donation Request from Upstate Colorado: Motion made by Trustee Lukela to not donate anything. Second by L. VanWhy. All “AYES”, motion passed.

12. Consider an Ordinance 2024-08 An Ordinance to Protect the Public by Restricting Residency of Sex Offenders: Trustee Broughton would like more information regarding what Ault, Nunn, and Eaton’s restrictions are. He would also like Shippy to come to the next meeting to talk to the Board about this. The Board tabled until January’s meeting.

13. Consider Ordinance 2024-09 An Ordinance Adding a New Section 1425 to the Model Traffic Code Prohibiting the Use of Jake Brakes by Commercial Moter Vehicles Within the Town Limits: Motion made by Trustee Broughton to adopt Ordinance 2024-09. Second by L. VanWhy. A Roll call vote was taken. All “AYES”, motion passed.

14. Christmas Light Contest: Clerk Duran and Deputy Clerk II Rospierski had an idea to get residents involved is to have a light contest in Town. Anyone can stop into Town Hall and recommend their neighbor. Duran and Rospierski will then decide who the winner will be, and a gift basket will be put together for the winners.

15. Old Business: None.

16. Staff Reports

(A.) Mayor Report: None.

(B.) Public Works: Report provided.

(C.) Planning Commission: There was no meeting last month.

(D.) Town Attorney: Working a on draft regarding the Natural medicine and should have a draft for January’s meeting.

(E.) Town Engineer:

Monthly Water Report: No report was provided.

(F.) Town Clerk:

1. Request to Pay Bills: Motion made by Trustee VanWhy to pay the bills. Second by Lester. All “AYES”, motion passed.

2. Comment Box: None.

3. Christmas Lunch for Employees: The Board approved for the staff to close for 2 hours for the Employee Christmas lunch.

4. Approval of Yearly Cleaning: Motion made by Trustee Broughton to approve the yearly cleaning. Second by Martinez. All “AYES”, motion passed.

17. Department Reports:

A. Water/ Sewer- Trustee Lester: Report was read.

B. Streets & Drainage- Trustee VanWhy: All the alleys have been graded and straightened up. He is waiting until the spring to try the dust control.

C. Utilities & Energy: None.

D. Buildings- Trustee Broughton: None.

E. Park & Recreation: None.

F. Growth & Revenue: None.

18. Board Communications: None.

Adjournment: 8:33 P.M.

Heather Rospierski, Deputy Town Clerk II

