

CITY OF PIERCE
404 South Main St Pierce, ID 83546
Monday, March 10, 2025 6:00 p.m.
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Mayor Gerot called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

Present: Mayor Gerot, Councilmembers Stinson, Bonner, Root, and Hosley. Staff members Jack Koepke & Teresa Koepke.

Councilmember Hosley made a motion to approve the February 10, 2025 Regular Meeting Minutes and March 2025 Accounts Payable. Councilmember Bonner seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion carried.

Citizen's Reports & Requests – Clare Brick reported that the Pierce GEM Team will be hosting a City Appreciation BBQ at the Pavillion on Saturday, May 3rd. All residents are welcome to attend.

Department Reports:

Maintenance Supervisor Jack Koepke reported that they have the water reaction tank set up to only use one-third of the tank to see if a smaller tank would work. The trial has been going for about three weeks and everything seems to be working very well. However, Jack stated that the trial of using only one-third of the tank would need to be tried during all the seasons/conditions to see how it works with the different water turbidity conditions. The current tank is in need of repair or replacement. Jack has contacted a couple manufacturers in Lewison to get a quote on a new tank. He is waiting to hear back from them. He has also contacted Robert's Filter Systems to get their ideas on the system filters. Adjustments have been made to the rate at which the alum is dispersed into the water. The amount of alum being used has not changed, just the rate at which it is dispensed. Jack had reported earlier that they were looking at adding alum to the system at the water intake to see if that would help with turbidity issues. By adding alum at the intake, the alum would have more time to react with the water. Due to time constraints and other projects taking priority, this has not been done yet but is still on the list to try. With the recent meter reads it was discovered that one property had a leak of 180,000 gallons of water. The leak was on the customer's side and the customer was notified as soon as the leak was detected. The maintenance team will be fixing a leak in a service line on Cedar on Tuesday, March 11th. Water production numbers continue to be much lower with the detection and repair of leaks in the booster station area. Avista has taken down all of the Christmas decorations. The IDYCA cadets swept the sidewalks and did a very nice job. The sanitation truck had a broken wire that was causing issues with the hydraulics. It has been repaired. The guys worked on filling some of the larger potholes but need to wait for better weather to do much cold patching. The new blower is scheduled to come online on March 18th. Councilmember Stinson asked if Dalton Thomson has obtained any of his operator licenses yet. Jack said that Dalton has successfully passed two exams but has not completed the paperwork necessary to obtain the actual license.

Fire Chief Matthew Hagele provided the Pierce Volunteer Fire Department Report. On Feb 16th the fire department had their monthly training covering on scene tactics and procedures. On March 2nd three members of the Pierce Fire Dept. (Asst. Chief Harv Nelson, Captain Billy Mack, and Firefighter James Wallace) responded to support Weippe Fire Dept. Six members will be attending the Clearwater Fire Academy Training in Orofino March 22nd and 23rd. Chief Matt Hagele, Captain Billy Mack and Captain John Payne will be staying on the hill in case of an emergency. Clare Brick attended the March

Clearwater Valley Fire District Auxiliary meeting as a representative of the Pierce Volunteer Fire Department. There will be a benefit for all the fire districts and departments in Clearwater County on Thursday, March 27th from 6 to 9 pm. Corks for a Cause will be at Lindsay Creek Vineyards. There will be live music, door prizes, silent auction, appetizers, great wines and great beer. There will be a bus to catch at Orofino City Park at 4:45 p.m., round trip cost is only \$5.00. The fire department received \$550 from the benefit breakfast fundraiser hosted by Chubby's Pizza held during Pierce Winter Festival. An additional \$130 in cash donations was received at the fundraiser. The fire department received \$800 from the Clearwater Valley Fire District Auxiliary. These were funds raised at the Fireman's Ball. Thank-you cards were sent out for the donations and events held.

City Clerk/Treasurer Teresa Koepke reported the reimbursement for the weatherization of city hall project has been received. Ronnie Anderson has been working on getting the trim, railings, etc. painted. Teresa has been working with Tracey Daelyn with USDA Rural Development on the funding request for Phase III of the Wastewater Treatment Plant project. The FY25-26 budget hearing date needs to be set and filed with Clearwater County by April 30th. Generally, we hold the budget hearing at the regular August council meeting. Teresa has also been working on records retention. It doesn't appear that any record destruction has been done for several years so it may take a bit of time to get caught up. The district meeting for the Idaho City Clerks Treasurer Financial Officer Association (ICCTFOA) that Teresa attended in February was very beneficial regarding the topic of record retention. The FEMA community meeting that was scheduled for March 11th has been postponed due to travel restriction with the new administration. Jeffrey Getchell the new Code Enforcement Liaison Officer was present and reported that he had two code violation complaints, both dealing with dogs. He has been in touch with both parties and is working with them on a resolution.

New Business:

Bobbi Kaufman with Clearwater County Building & Planning was present to discuss the Area of Impact for the City of Pierce. The current Area of Impact map for the City of Pierce was done 49 years ago. The Governor is requiring all Area of Impacts be reviewed and updated by December 31, 2025. Bobbi presented both the current map and a draft ordinance and amended map. A public hearing is tentatively set for June 18, 2025. Bobbi will assist the City of Pierce with the public hearing. No action was taken on the topic at this time.

No representatives from the Clearwater County Ambulance Service were present to discuss the proposed levy increase. No discussion was had on the topic and no action was taken.

Councilmember Bonner made a motion to approve Community Development Block Grant Addendum. Councilmember Hosley seconded the motion. The addendum includes an increase in construction costs for Phase III and an increase in the grant amount requested from USDA Rural Development. Estimated completion dates regarding bid document approval, bid opening, and construction contract executed were also updated with the addendum. Roll Call: Stinson – Yes, Bonner – Yes, Root – Yes, Hosley - Yes Motion carried.

Clare Brick with the Pierce GEM Team was present to discuss the upcoming Community Cleanup Day scheduled for Saturday, April 26th. Clare mentioned that in the past it had been a joint effort with the GEM team, IDYCA, and the City of Pierce. Clare requested that the City of Pierce provide a trailer and personnel to help with the cleanup day. Mayor Gerot stated the City would be able to help with a trailer and personnel. IDCYA will have cadets present to help and people have volunteered trailers to assist with the project. Teresa Koepke will send out postcards a couple weeks before the event so that residents are aware of the cleanup day and free dumping at the transfer stations.

The purchase of a new snow plow was discussed. Mayor Gerot mentioned that he had been working with a sales representative from Pape Machinery. The cost of a brand-new machine is approximately \$208,000. Mayor Gerot has also been talking with a sales representative from United Rentals. They have a 2018 machine listed for \$80,000. The council had previously approved up to \$60,000 for the purchase a new machine to include shipping. Discussion was held that this may not be an adequate amount. No action was taken on this topic at this time.

Mayor Gerot reported that he had been contacted by Dennis Ruark regarding the RV dump station. Mr. Ruark was interested in negotiating a land swap with the City of Pierce for the piece of land that the RV dump station is on. The lot is 0.18 acres and has a tax assessed value of \$686. After discussing the topic, it was decided not to take any action at this time.

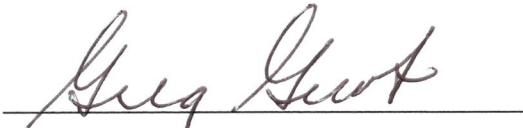
Councilmember Root made a motion to approve the 2025 Business License Application as presented. Councilmember Hosley seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion carried. Business licenses for High Country Land Surveying and Grooming by Sharon were approved.

Councilmember Root made a motion to take no action regarding the USDA Request for Reimbursement #32 until further information regarding the completion of Phase II was provided. Councilmember Hosley seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion carried.

Councilmember Hosley made a motion to not approve the Merrick & Company invoice as presented and that the City request the invoice be split into Phase II and Phase III for the council's review. Councilmember Bonner seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion carried.


Executive Session was not entered into.

Councilmember Hosley made a motion to adjourn. Councilmember Stinson seconded the motion. All in favor. Meeting adjourned at 8:14 p.m.



Greg Gerot, Mayor

ATTEST:



Teresa Koepke, City Clerk/Treasurer