

CITY OF PIERCE
404 South Main St Pierce, ID 83546
Monday, April 13, 2026
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Mayor Gerot called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

Present: Mayor Gerot, Councilmembers John Stinson, Guy Bonner, Theresa Root, and Amy Jared. Maintenance Supervisor Jack Koepke, City Clerk/Treasurer Teresa Koepke, and PVFD Chief Matthew Hagele.

Councilmember Jared moved to approve the Consent Agenda which includes the March 9, 2026 Regular Council Meeting Minutes April 2026 Accounts Payable. Councilmember Root seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion Carried.

Citizen Comments: Kelly Coursey was present to announce his candidacy for Clearwater County Commissioner, District 2. He provided a brief overview of his background and shared his reasons for running for the position. Mr. Coursey emphasized his interest in working more closely with all communities within Clearwater County and expressed his commitment to thinking creatively and collaboratively to address county issues.

Department Reports:

Maintenance Supervisor Jack Koepke reported that the generator at the booster plant had developed issues that caused a leak. These issues have since been successfully repaired. Rock material was hauled to the affected area by Downings in an effort to mitigate ongoing erosion concerns. Jack contacted Lawson Land to request assistance with covering the cost of gravel. A response is still pending. The maintenance team continues to perform cold patch road repairs; however, the remaining material is aging and no longer compacts effectively. A new supply is expected to arrive in April or May. Plans are in place to repair the damaged roadway near Hemlock Court, which was impacted during a previous water leak repair. To ensure a high-quality fix, a saw and packer/roller will need to be rented. The booster station is currently operating at approximately 10 gallons per minute. The water treatment plant has reduced operations and is now running approximately 3 to 3.5 hours per day. Backwashing frequency has decreased to once or twice per week. Bids received for the wastewater treatment plant project exceeded initial expectations. Terrence Stevenson of Merrick Engineering is actively exploring potential solutions. Dalton Thomson has successfully obtained his Level 2 Water Treatment Certification. He will continue working toward additional certifications in water distribution and wastewater treatment, pending completion of required hours and testing.

Chief Matthew Hagele reported that four members of the department attended the Clearwater County Fire Academy. Following the training, a debrief meeting was held in which attendees shared and taught key topics learned with the rest of the department. Chief Hagele also noted that four department members responded to the recent fire in Weippe using their personal vehicles. When asked about maintenance of the fire engine, Chief Hagele stated that he is unsure when the engine was last serviced and has not seen any maintenance records. He was asked about creating and implementing a maintenance logbook to ensure this information is documented and easily accessible. Chief Hagele agreed that this could be done. Additionally, Chief Hagele was asked about the fire hydrant signs purchased in June 2024. He responded that he will work on getting a plan in place to have the signs installed.

Code Enforcement Liaison Jeffrey Getchell reported that the only call he had for the recent month was a follow-up on Downings at 102 S Third Ave. The issue has been ongoing since October 2025. Getchell issued citations for accumulation of waste and inoperable vehicle parked in yard.

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City Clerk/Treasurer Teresa Koepke reported that the City of Pierce was awarded a \$2,500 A250 grant. The funds will be used for upgrades to the visitors' kiosk, including an unveiling celebration. Vitruvian Planning has begun work on the comprehensive plan, starting with data collection that will assist with the initial analysis. A community survey will be distributed to residents in the near future. Postcards were mailed to residents as a reminder of the upcoming Pierce Community Cleanup Day scheduled for April 25. Additionally, letters were sent to local businesses regarding the snow removal code and policy that were discussed at the March 9 regular council meeting.

New Business:

No action was taken on the Authorization for Mayor to sign the Owner Concurrence of Engineer's Recommendation to Award or Authorization for Mayor to sign the Notice of Award. The lowest bid received exceeded the project budget. Terrence Stevenson of Merrick Engineering is currently working with USDA Rural Development to determine whether additional funding is available to allow the project to proceed as proposed.

No action was taken regarding the Special Use Permit request for 701 Forsman Avenue. The Council determined that the City of Pierce must first adopt an ordinance establishing regulations for issuing special use permits. Additionally, a formal application process must be developed for residents to request a variance or special use of property. Once a special use permit application is submitted, a public hearing will be required. All proper procedures for conducting the public hearing must be followed, including public notice and advertisement. It was agreed that this topic will be reviewed in greater detail during a future work session.

Bobbie Kaufman from Clearwater County Building and Planning was present to review a Simple Subdivision Request by Logan Knight to divide approximately 5.14 acres in Judgetown into two lots. Per the Area of Impact Ordinance, the City of Pierce has the right to review and comment on the request. The request will be heard by the Clearwater County Planning and Zoning committee on April 15, 2026. It was decided to hold a special meeting on April 16, 2026 to further discuss the request as it pertains to the City of Pierce.

Councilmember Stinson made a motion to approve the request submitted by Loren and Linda Bolen to split and restructure parcels RPB36N5E025150 and RPB36N5E024835 into two parcels as presented, contingent upon the provision of revised legal descriptions consistent with the submitted map. Councilmember Bonner seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion carried.

Councilmember Jared moved to approve the quote from GMCO for dust abatement. Councilmember Bonner seconded the motion. The quote for 10,000 gallons is \$15,800. It was noted that approximately 7,500 gallons are estimated to be needed to treat all gravel streets within the city; however, purchasing 10,000 gallons is more cost effective. Discussion followed regarding the street budget, with Teresa Koepke noting that the budget currently appears favorable year-to-date and that \$15,000 had been budgeted for dust abatement. Councilmember Stinson expressed concern that the cost was too high and suggested that the maintenance team could instead water the streets throughout the summer. The Council also discussed the possibility of contacting McLaughlin Logging and Mangum's Trucking to determine whether either company would be interested in cost sharing for the project. Motion carried with a vote of 3 Ayes and 1 Nay.

Councilmember Bonner made a motion to approve Resolution No. 357. Councilmember Root seconded the motion. The resolution establishes Equivalent Dwelling Units (EDUs) for non-residential water accounts based on each account's average water usage over the preceding 12-month period. All in favor. Motion carried.

Councilmember Bonner made a motion to approve Resolution No. 358. Councilmember Stinson seconded the motion. The resolution establishes Equivalent Dwelling Units (EDUs) for non-residential sewer accounts based on each account's average water usage over the preceding 12-month period. All in favor. Motion carried.

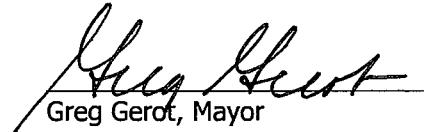
Councilmember Jared made a motion to approve Resolution No. 359. Councilmember Root seconded the motion. The resolution authorizes the City Clerk to update Equivalent Dwelling Units (EDUs) for water and sewer rates every six months without requiring a new resolution for each adjustment. Updates will be based on the existing formula used to determine EDUs, and the Council will be provided with revised EDU figures whenever changes are made. 3 Ayes 1 Nay Motion carried.

Councilmember Bonner made a motion to approve Pierce Gold Rush & Saloon's business license, liquor license, and beer & wine license; Flame Bar's business license, liquor license, and beer & wine license; and McLaughlin Logging business license. Councilmember Jared seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion carried.

Councilmember Jared moved to enter into executive session pursuant to Idaho Code 74-206(1)(b). Councilmember Root seconded the motion. Roll call: Stinson – Yes, Bonner – Yes, Root – Yes, and Jared Yes. Executive session entered into at 7:33 p.m. Regular session resumed at 7:45 p.m. No action taken from executive session.

It was decided to schedule a special meeting on April 16, 2026 to discuss the Area of City Impact regarding the proposed connections to the Judgetown Water and Sewer District, as well as a Special Use Permit application.

Councilmember Stinson made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Councilmember Bonner seconded the motion. Meeting adjourned at 7:47 p.m.


Greg Gerot, Mayor

ATTEST:



Teresa Koepke, City Clerk/Treasurer