

PIERSON TOWNSHIP
Board Meeting Minutes
21156 W. Cannonsville Rd, Pierson, MI 49339
July 20, 2026
7:00 pm

A. Meeting

1. Call to order: 7:00 pm
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Roll Call Present: Bergman, Burkholder, Maioho, Orcutt, Sower

B. Meeting Agenda

Motion: Bergman

Second: Sower

Aye: all

- C. Consent Agenda, as amended: Register of Warrants/Checks/Payroll dated June 11 – July 13, 2026; Check register: June 1-30, 2026; General fund invoices: Inv 22595 to Digital Office Supply \$103.31 101-101-900.000; Inv 744724 to Foster Swift for \$2,288 101-101-803.000 (June); Inv 2181 to Fresh Coast \$208.67 101-101-821.000 (partial on retainer); DeVault Burial to Heckman & Son \$150.00 101-567-821.000 (burial pd by funeral home); Inv 091860 to Spectrum Printers \$248.81 101-262-727.000 (may be paid by county/asking); Inv 947511 to Foster Swift \$1,043 (July) and Inv 947520 for \$868 101-101-803.000 (Kropf vs Pierson Twp); Inv 8173 to Superior Janitorial for \$160 101-265-831.000; Road Fund Invoice 1926 to Road Commission for \$11,126.12 216-446-822.000; Treasurer's Report ; Correspondence – added Fire Permit Application for Waltman Lake Lodge; Assessor's Activity Report; Sand Lake Fire Report(s): from Montcalm Dispatch; Howard City Fire Report; Sewer Check register for May 1-31, 2026 BWL/LWL; Accounts Payable Report: June 11 – July 13, 2026; BWL/LWL Sewer Fund: Great Lakes Energy for \$764.75(split 50/50); Inv 9640 to F&V Operations for \$25,852.75 (treatment permit charges \$15,884); LWL: \$4,486.85; BWL \$1,504.00 and Treatment Site: \$19,861.90 (60/40).

All matters listed under the Consent Agenda are considered to be routine in nature and will be approved under one blanket motion.

Motion: Bergman

Second: Orcutt

Aye: all

D. Public Comments:

Jeff Smith asked what the deadline to sign the SLFD/Nelson Township Contract; Sue Smith mentioned a lightning strike at her home took 25 minutes for Fire Dept arrival (no indication of which department responded); Jan Corneiles thanked Diane Ferris for an afternoon email regarding the Fire Contract (to Big Whitefish Association) and expressed, no reason to delay (signing the contract). Michael Julien indicated he would be happy to donate, once the contract was signed.

E. New Business:

1. Deny request for Surface Geological Survey.

Motion: Bergman

Second: Orcutt

Aye: all

F. Open Items

1. Sand Lake Area Fire Department Update: revised contract received 7/20/2026 at 10:22 am/not all Board was able to review prior to meeting. Deadline to accept July 31 (no further revisions) before discontinuation of voluntary service August 1, 2026. Special Meeting will be set before deadline for Board to review.
2. Policy Updates –
 - a. Zoning Fees & forms - complete
 - b. Road Policy – TIRF – no action/remove from agenda open items.

3. Committee Updates:

- a. Road Committee – no meeting scheduled: may have to look into other funding opportunities; i.e. millage or grant funding to increase road budget.
 - 1. Asphalt on Lake Street (Bottom to crest of hill) Jansen inquiry;
 - 2. Need to discuss priorities; current road requests are dead end roads; need to increase funding or entertain partnering with residents.
- b. Planning Commission: Next Meeting: July 23 2026 at 7 pm – agenda is posted.
- d. Parks & Recreation: no meeting in August; Sandbox Sun sail needing new bracket installation (requested).
- e. Sewer Authority Committee (SAC)- Next meeting: TBD
 - i. North site flow meter installation
 - ii. Survey, fence & signage for treatment site – awaiting county grant program opportunity.

G. Public Comments:

Dan Buyze addressed notifications from special interest groups to residents; noted work on storage units started in 2023 and the Rowkro project began in 2025. His opinion of pushing public PC Board Minutes lead the Board to act alone in Appeal; was requested to address the Board and not the membership.

Mike Julien asked where to find the Township Budget and salaries on the website; Dave Cornelius expressed thanks to Diane Ferris for her email to the BWL association; Sue Smith asked if the SAC (Sewer Advisory Committee) has requested other bids for upcoming sewer needs; Katie DeBoer, candidate for State Senate introduced herself and gave a short discussion of her campaign; Greg Wynsma expressed displeasure of the delay in addressing safety concerns for corner of Kendaville and County Line Road (both are County Roads/Township has no jurisdiction); Michael Florentine expressed his displeasure at the closed meeting on July 15; Jan Ver Merris expressed the community fears the proposed site (Rowkro Project) and asked if the Township Attorney was the residents attorney; Kevin Gilfillan requested Township to give more reminders – like advertising; residents are fearful of the unknown (regarding Rowkro project); Mark Wilkes requested information and clarification from the Board.

H. County Commissioner – Nate Alexander shared the County Commissioners are working on the County Budget; their meetings are the second and fourth Mondays, and welcomed attendance. He will look into the Road issue for Mr. Wynsma with the Road Commission.

I. Announcements and Board Comments: Supervisor Maioho reminded residents of no business on social media; the Board welcomes calls and visits with questions and concerns: “I don’t know what you don’t know”. In regard to Special Meeting and Maioho’s lack of attendance (long planned trip), Trustee Sower indicated his schedule presented the date of meeting; [Maioho indicated it was important for the Board to have the opportunity to speak with attorney (Supervisor is Township’s legal agent)].

Supervisor said regarding the Special Meeting: “The Township Board is the one that ultimately is going to be defending the PC’s decision.” Reminded the residents, that while they are able to speak freely, the Board has to be more prudent in theirs, in regard to township issues. Both Supervisor Maioho and Trustee Bergman stated contact numbers are available on the website, and the entire Board welcomes conversations.

J. Adjournment: 8:21 pm

Motion: Orcutt

Second: Bergman

Aye: all