

PIERSON TOWNSHIP
Board Meeting Minutes

21156 W. Cannonsville Rd, Pierson, MI 49339

September 21, 2026

7:00 pm

A. Meeting

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

B. Meeting Agenda, as amended.

Motion: Burkholder

Second: Sower

Aye: all

- C. Consent Agenda: Approval of Meeting Minutes from August 17, 2026; Register of Warrants/Checks/Payroll dated August 13 – Sept 14, 2026; Budget Amendments to Fire Fund for SAD/High Estimates and invoice for fire services & capital to Nelson Township: See attached; Check register: August 1-31, 2026; Gen Fund: Inv 949567 Foster Swift for \$4,526.00 and Inv 950502 Foster Swift for \$4,291.31 101-101-803.001 Rowkro Appeal; Inv 949559 Foster Swift for \$2,481.20 101-101-803.000 Junk/Blight & General Twp; Inv 120789 Siegfried & Crandall for \$300 101-101-821.000 Prof services including fire fund; Inv 152 Creekside for \$375.00 101-101-821.000 installation computer; Inv 160 Creekside for \$196.50 101-262-810.001 replaced hard drive/election laptop; Fire Fund: Inv 949559 Foster Swift for \$2,175.50 206-336-803.000 FIRE SAD #1; Inv 950503 Foster Swift for \$1,072.50 206-336-803.002 SAD #1; Inv 362377 KCI for \$204.84 206-336-727.000 FIRE SAD #1; Road Fund: Inv 2023 Road Commission for \$11,126.12 216-446-822.000 Chloride #3; Inv 2015 Road Commission for \$3,392.50 216-446-822.001 Culvert replace on Reed Road (Kendaville & Waterwheel Rds); BWL Weed Fund: Inv. 3023053 PLM for \$5,308.24 and Inv. 2033016 PLM for \$4,321.50 for weed treatments; Treasurer's Report; Correspondence; Assessor's Activity Report and Howard City Fire Report; Sewer Check register for August 1-31, 2026 BWL/LWL; Accounts Payable Report: August 13 – Sept 14, 2026; Payable from the BWL/LWL Sewer Accounts: Inv 714121 F&V Operations for total Inv: \$18,023.24 (\$7,922.40 BWL & \$1,477.45 LWL \$8,623.39 Treatment site 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: Sower

Second: Bergman

Aye: all

- D. Public Comments: Guest Speaker – Corey Bordo from Tri County Schools – Ballot overview
Norm Hawkins advocated for taxable value collection for the Special Assessment and questioned wages on the special assessment. Mike Julien agreed; that the Special Assessment should be based on taxable value; (flat rate) is unfair to those with less valuable homes.

E. New Business:

1. Amend Resolution 2026-12 for clerical change.

Motion: Burkholder

Second: Orcutt

Aye: all

F. Close regular meeting at 7:15 pm and open Public Hearing

Motion: Bergman

Second: Orcutt

Aye: all

Public Hearing: Emergency Services Special Assessment District Comments:

Jerry Rohen of 2685 Elmwood is opposed to districts – north and south; creating a discrepancy in fire services, we already have a millage from 2024 for up to .75 mills taxable value. We are currently at .4446 mills, with the 2025 taxable value it could raise over \$150K higher number than what we are doing. Doesn't make any sense to him. The Millage was passed 64% to 36% back in 2024. Quoted "We choose to do this to ensure the fastest possible response time for emergencies and to keep insurance rates as low as possible for our citizens,"

Pierson Township meetings may be recorded.

Supervisor Dan Buyze previously told the Daily News. “The passage of this millage will allow us to keep our current fire and EMS coverage scenario and allow for the increases our service providers will be passing on to us for replacing and updating their equipment necessary for ensuring our safety.” Nothing has changed. To have a Special Assessment district when there is a millage in place. Doesn’t make any sense; just do some homework.

Supervisor Maioho offered some context for the public, the reason why we are doing two districts, is when we did some research with our attorney that wrote the millage, and they advised, as the millage was worded, not using it for capital funds. Since we can not use that millage for the capital contributions, we are using Act 33 which allows us to do a Special Assessment District. The reason for two districts because of the two unique contracts, one which includes capital expenditures of equipment from the Sand Lake Fire Department. We will then be using the Act 33 Special Assessment instead of using the voter-approve millage. Due to timing and getting budget in place we will use a Special Assessment, until the current millage expires in 2028.

Close Public Hearing and resume regular meeting: 7:18 pm (motion mentioned later)

Motion: Burkholder

Second: Bergman

Aye: all

1. Resolution 2026-13 Emergency Services Special Assessment No. 2 – reporting roll of SAD and Supervisor Certificate of Special Assessment Roll using the millage/taxable calculation.

Offered by: Burkholder

Aye: Maioho, Bergman, Burkholder, Orcutt, Sower

Second by: Orcutt

Nay: none

2. Resolution 2026-14 Emergency Services Special Assessment No. 3 – (second Public Hearing to be October 19, 2026)

Offered by: Burkholder

Aye: Maioho, Bergman, Burkholder, Orcutt, Sower

Second by: Bergman

Nay: none

3. Supervisor to begin work with attorney on the General Ordinance Updates (from 2019).

Motion: Burkholder

Second: Sower

Aye: all

4. Amend Policy Manual 5.20 to offer direct deposit and HSA pre-tax deduction contributions with signed authorization form. [*For eligible township employees; no township contribution; employee responsibility to monitor contribution limits; employee to set up individual Health Savings Account (HSA)].

Motion: Burkholder

Second: Sower

Aye: all

5. Resolution 2026-15 Authorize Voluntary Employee Pre-Tax Payroll Deductions for Health Savings Accounts (HSA).

Offered by: Burkholder

Aye: Maioho, Bergman, Burkholder, Orcutt, Sower

Second by: Sower

Nay: none

6. Complete and submit the L-4029

Motion: Sower

Second: Orcutt

Aye: all

7. Invoice for Nelson Twp/Sand Lake Fire Services April – September \$26,688.74; 2026 Capital #3,333.33 and Invoice for \$10K CD plus interest (2025-26 Contract) in holding.

Motion: Burkholder

Second: Orcutt

Aye: all

G. Open Items

1. Committee Updates:

- a. **Road Committee** – no meeting scheduled – October Board Meeting - review policy for number of meetings per year.
- b. **Planning Commission: Next Meeting: September 24, 2026 at 7 pm**
 - i. ADU, Prohibition of Marihuana Facilities, and Event Barns to Board for October meeting. Work on delivery of information from PC to Board.
- c. **Parks & Recreation:** October work day (banners down, winterization) to be scheduled
 - i. Sue Manente to fill the vacancy.

Motion: BurkholderSecond: BergmanAye: all
- d. **Sewer Authority Committee (SAC)-** Meeting update from Tuesday Sept 8 at 3 pm.
 - i. North site flow meter installation - completed
 - ii. Survey, fence & signage for treatment site – bids for grant/in process

H. Public Comments:

Kurt Stevens and Ed Hojnacki asked about meters for the BWL/LWL Sewer users. Deb Becker Fountain thanked the board for listening and being available for questions; concerns about Howard City Fire Department raising costs; and she expressed the need to get Sheriff coverage for our area. Deb also likes the idea of meters verse flat fee for sewer users. Jan Cornielius asked about NDA's; asked if the Township Board would be proactive and create a moratorium on Data Centers so PC has opportunity to establish an ordinance;

I. County Commissioner – Nate Alexander absent

J. Announcements and Board Comments:

Sewer Treatment Site Tour is Friday, September 25 from 4-6 pm. Open to the public, please wear boots!

ITC/ Michigan Electric Transmission Company "METC" Power Lines Project Open House in Pierson Township at Whitefish Golf Course is on Wednesday, October 7 from 12-7 pm. The public is encouraged to attend.

K. Adjournment: 8:29 pm

Motion: Sower

Second: Bergman

Aye: all

Attachment to Minutes of September 21, 2026; Approved as part of the Consent Agenda:

Budget Amendment JE 3642:

09/16/2026

Batch Add Budget Amendments

GL Number	Description	26-27 Amended	26-27 Activity	New Amended	Change
206-336-703.009	SAD WAGES CLERK	0.00	0.00	1,500.00	1,500.00
206-336-703.010	SAD WAGES TREASURER	0.00	0.00	1,800.00	1,800.00
206-336-727.000	SUPPLIES	0.00	1,227.86	356.00	356.00
206-336-803.002	FIRE & SAD LEGAL EXP	0.00	0.00	13,000.00	13,000.00
206-336-818.012	CONTRACT SVCS SAD	0.00	0.00	4,600.00	4,600.00
206-336-860.002	SAD MILEAGE	0.00	0.00	203.00	203.00
206-336-900.002	SAD PUBLISHING	0.00	0.00	1,000.00	1,000.00
406-000-959.000	CAPITAL CONTRIBUTION	0.00	0.00	10,329.40	10,329.40
406-336-970.000	CAPITAL OUTLAY	0.00	0.00	3,333.33	3,333.33
Total Expenditures		101,883.82	27,630.43	138,005.55	36,121.73

JE-3643

CR 206-336-727.000 DB 206-336-818.012 \$1,227.86