

PINCONNING CITY COUNCIL

REGULAR MEETING

JULY 20, 2026

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER:

Mayor Boettcher called the regular meeting of the Pinconning City Council to order at 5:30 pm.

2. ROLL CALL:

A motion was made by Boetefuer, seconded by Johnson to excuse Council Member Ramsay for work responsibilities and Lesniak for health issues. All yeas, motion carried.

Present: Bleshenski, Piechowiak, Boetefuer, Johnson and Mayor Boettcher

Also present:

Rebecca Lakin, City Manager

Rachel LeFever, City Clerk

Autumn Bellor, Pinconning Journal

3. OPENING CEREMONY:

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mayor Boettcher.

4. MAYOR'S COMMENT:

None

5. APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Mayor Boettcher added item" D" Budget and Resource Discussion and item" E" Appointments of Deputy City Manager, Treasurer and Clerk to New Business. A motion was made by Bleshenski, seconded by Boetefuer to approve the agenda with the addition as presented. Roll call: All yeas, motion carried.

6. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

A motion was made by Piechowiak, seconded by Bleshenski to approve both the Regular City Council Meeting Minutes of June 15, 2026, and the Special Meeting June 30, 2026. Roll Call: All yeas, motion carried.

7. APPROVAL OF BILLS:

A motion was made by Johnson, seconded by Piechowiak to approve the bills for July in the amount of \$159,496.36 Roll call: All yeas, motion carried.

8. TREASURER'S REPORT/COMMITTEE REPORTS:

No financial report given due to Treasurer Bromberg being on vacation.

Council Member Boetefuer attended the DDA meeting and indicated the Christmas decorations were put on hold again, the DDA is not happy with the approved budget by the city council especially the line items of attorney fees and financials. She indicated they did not approve the budget City Council passed. She stated Pinconning Township is on a month-to-month agreement for the financials. It was also noted by Mayor Boettcher when the \$3,000 budgeted amount for financials is gone, the DDA needs to return to the city for budget adjustments.

Mayor Boettcher indicated there is a Fire Board Meeting July 23 and no Planning Commission meeting until October.

City Manager Lakin updated the council on Blight activity and the success of the officers delivering the notices. She indicated that she and the clerk go out on Wednesdays and check properties for blight, grass, inoperable vehicles and campers. Council Member Boetefuer has also accompanied them on their weekly rides. Although this condition is still an issue, it seems to be under control at this time..

9. PRESENTATIONS:

None.

10. PUBLIC COMMENT:

Frank Majdecki and Machele Faith spoke in Public Comment.

11. OLD BUSINESS:

A. Standish Township Letter

On June 15, 2026, at the monthly city council meeting, the council approved for the City Manager to send a certified and electronic letter to Kevin Kilby, the attorney for Standish Township. This letter was sent in reference to the payment due to the City of Pinconning for \$250,000.00 regarding the sewer contract between the two municipalities. The township has asked for invoices supporting any updates to the plant and a request for an additional thirty (30) days for review. City Council agreed to fourteen (14) days only and a small sample of invoices containing attorney fees, supplies and maintenance items were included in the July 1, 2026 correspondence. A verbal response was given to the city attorney on July 15 (the required date for a response) stating a letter is following with an offer of monies for discussion/agreement. As of the meeting tonight, July 20, 2026, a formal letter has not been received, City Manager Lakin indicated as soon as she receives the letter, she will notify the council.

B. Blight Discussion

This discussion was added last month regarding Blight Ordinance. City Manager Lakin indicated she had an email out to the city attorney regarding some possible changes which would include fines to be placed on taxes versus court proceedings. At the time of this meeting, Lakin included a letter from the attorney, his recommendations, and MCL references. She also had blight ordinances from the City of Au Gres, Garfield Township and Pinconning Township for review. A lot of information was given and certainly different approaches and ideas. Again, it was stated by Lakin that the procedures the city follows with the first step being a notice. She and the Clerk go out once a week to check on grass, blight, campers, and unlicensed cars and send appropriate letters. Council Member Piechowiak had concerns regarding intrusions, possible targeting and unless health and safety concerns were an issue, he felt discretion and leaning on the side of mercy should be invoked. Council Members understood Council member Piechowiak's concerns but also stressed the importance of the ordinance. The remaining council members agreed that following this ordinance improves home values, entices new people and families to move here, and also keeps harmful, unwanted animals from the city limits. The manager will be updating the council on a monthly basis and if the council feels a need for changes, an amendment(s) can always be discussed and adopted.

12. NEW BUSINESS:

A. Approval of the Resolution #2026-11- A Resolution to approve Ballot Proposal regarding Public Safety Millage

This resolution is being approved in case the millage does not pass at the August 4 primary election. The previous resolution stated the date of the primary election, August 4, 2026. The deadline to submit a proposal on the ballot for the general election is August 11 and this date is before our August 17 meeting. This resolution approves the date being changed to the date of the general election, November 3, 2026. A motion was made by Boetefuer, seconded by Piechowiak to approve Resolution # 2026-11 as presented. Roll Call: All yeas, motion carried.

B. Approval of Resolution #2026-12- A Resolution Establishing a Receiving Board for Elections

According to the Election Commission, a city must provide an election where ballots are counted and certified, and election inspectors need to be appointed to serve as Receiving Boards. With this being said, 2 election workers, 1 Republican and 1 Democrat will be appointed on Election Day to perform these duties. A motion was made by Piechowiak, seconded by Johnson to approve Resolution #2026-12 as presented. Roll Call: All yeas, motion carried.

C. Approval of the use of Doc Letchfield Park for Cheese Town Festival June 18-21, 2027

Due to the great success of Cheestown 2026, the Chamber has asked for permission for the use of the park for June 18-21, 2027. They have already begun planning and look forward to an even bigger and better event next year! A motion was made by Bleshenski, seconded by Boetefuer to approve the use of Doc Letchfield Park June 18-21, 2027, for Cheese Town Festival. Roll Call: All yeas, motion carried.

D. Budget and Resource Discussion

Council Member Johnson proposed a plan to help with the city's budget concerns and plan ahead before the situation becomes more difficult to correct. He proposes a 1% general reduction across city operations as a starting point. It is feasible that the reduction may not be practical in some line items where others may be able to be reduced more. His plan also includes strengthening the city's financial position by pursuing more grants, networking with other municipalities, attending workshops and building relationships with regional partners. The proposal would also include collaboration with the DDA to actively market and fill vacant commercial properties. This would help to attract new businesses and support tax base and the city's financial health. The City Manager, although she gives City Council weekly updates, will provide a monthly update for the public. The council discussed the proposal with encouragement but an option of tabling the item until the August meeting was discussed. A motion was made by Boetefuer, seconded by Johnson to not table the item and vote tonight. Roll Call: Boetefuer, Bleshenski, Johnson, Mayor Boettcher yeas, Piechowiak nay. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Johnson, seconded by Boetefuer to approve the proposal as presented. Roll call: Boetefuer, Bleshenski, Johnson, Mayor Boettcher yeas, Piechowiak nay. Motion carried.

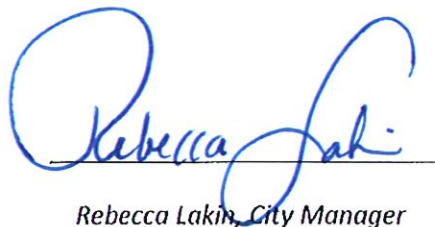
E. Appointment of Deputy Clerk, Deputy Treasurer and Deputy City Manager

The City Manager is recommending for appointment the offices of Deputy City Manager, Deputy City Treasurer and Deputy City Clerk. Cities appoint these positions, without added salary compensation, to ensure the continuity of government activities. With a small office, cross titles allow qualified leadership during extended absences, vacations and vacancies. City Manager Lakin is recommending Amy Bromberg as Deputy City Manager and Deputy Clerk and Rachel LeFever as Deputy Treasurer. A motion was made by Boetefuer, seconded by Bleshenski to approve the above appointments. Roll call: All yeas, motion carried.

City Manager Lakin presented a monthly report to council and the public.

13. ADJOURNMENT:

With nothing further to address, a motion was made by Johnson, seconded by Bleshenski to adjourn the Regular City Council Meeting at 6:29pm. All yeas, motion carried.



Rebecca Lakin, City Manager