

103) REGULAR BOARD MEETING, TOWN OF PIERCEFIELD, June 8, 2023 **DRAFT**

104) A regular board meeting of the Town of Piercefield was held on June 8, 2023 at 7:30 PM at the Piercefield Town Hall with the following members present:
Acting Supervisor Joe Denis
Councilmember Gina Sarazen
Councilmember Carol Dimond
OTHERS PRESENT: Town Clerk Christielee Geiger, Deputy Town Clerk Paige Phillips, Highway Superintendent Jay Rust, and the President of Mt Arab Preserve Association Loren Bailey.

105) Pledge of Allegiance
The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance led by Acting Supervisor Joe Denis.

106) Approval of Minutes
On a motion by Councilmember Gina Sarazen, seconded by Councilmember Carol Dimond, the minutes of May 11, 2023 as presented by the Town Clerk be approved with a few changes in grammar, suggestions presented by Gina Sarazen. AYES: Acting Supervisor Denis, Councilmembers Dimond, Sarazen. NAYS: 0

107) Monies Received

<u>General</u>	
Building Permits	\$1,015.00
Court Fines	\$423.00
Dog Fees	\$52.00
Transfer Station	\$1,980.00

Highway

Privilege of Floor

108) Mt Arab Preserve Association
Loren Bailey, spoke on behalf of the Mt Arab Preserve Association. They wanted to personally thank Jay Rust as well as the Piercefield Fire Department for their hard work and immediate response to the fire on their property this past month. They also want to thank the other local departments who sprang into action to assist Piercefield. Jay stated those Fire Departments included: Star Lake, Clifton-Fine, Tupper Lake, Paul Smiths and Colton.

Mr. Bailey would also like to thank The Town of Piercefield Highway Department for the paving on Mt Arab Rd. The 3 sections “look very nice” and the association appreciates the amount of work it took to complete the task. He looks forward to future momentum on the paving of Mt Arab Rd.

109) Highway
Jay reported that his employee Brian Emerson resigned. Brian found a Highway position closer to his family, with better pay and benefits. His last day with the Town of Piercefield is 6/9/2023. The Town Clerk will reach out to the local paper to run the HELP WANTED ad for one more week.

The Highway Department worked with the Town of Tupper Lake to complete the Well Cap replacements to the Conifer and Piercefield This work was required by NYS after being fined last month. The NYS Health Department was notified and pictures were sent to comply with fines.

The Highway Department continues to work on replacing new culverts. So far, 6 culverts were placed in Gull Pond Rd and 1 on Settling Pole Dam. Much more work on that front remains.

Superintendent Jay Rust hired Piercefield local Brian Bradley for summer mowing jobs. He will work 2x a week, unless roadside mowing is required which would take 5 days to complete. This position will be held until Labor Day.

110) CDL Business
Superintendent Jay Rust brought to the Town Board in March 2022 the new federal mandates required to obtain a Commercial Drivers License. This license is required in order to work for the Town of Piercefield because of various tasks, such as: driving a truck with a trailer and operating a snow plow. As they look to hire a new employee to replace Brian, the reality of finding someone who already has a CDL may be highly unlikely. Superintendent Jay Rust prementioned Brian left for a higher pay wage, he also made note that Long Lake Highway Dept, starting wage for CDL Drivers was currently \$30/hr. That being said, the town will have to send a new employee to take CDL courses to obtain the proper licensing for driving town vehicles. The Town Board reviewed different courses, what it would cost the town, how long it would take, etc. Deputy Paige Phillips shared a memorandum of agreement she obtained from the Village of Tupper Lake. In this agreement, a new employee would go under contract with the town, the Town of Piercefield would pay for the courses with the understanding that the new employee would give X amount of years to the town or pay back the cost of the class, prorated. Jay reminded the Town Board that his Highway Members are under Union and the Union Rep would have to be contacted to create the memorandum that everyone must agree with. Jay will speak with Jimmy to start the process with the union, and Acting

103) REGULAR BOARD MEETING, TOWN OF PIERCEFIELD, June 8, 2023 **DRAFT**

Supervisor Joe Denis will speak with Attorney Kirk Gagnier about any legalities behind the agreement. Given the time sensitivity to this subject the Board will be contacted with any updates by the Town Clerk through email.

Old Business

111) Opening the Town Museum

Town Historian Lenny Indellicati resigned from his position due to health complications. The Piercefield Town Board expresses their thoughts to him during this time. The Town of Piercefield is currently seeking a Historian. We ask this person be available to open the Town Museum a few times a week and by appointment, if necessary, throughout the summer. If this position interests you, please call 518-359-7544 for more information.

112) Town Beach

The policy manual has not been updated since 2012, at this time the beach was active with life guards, rules and regulations. Councilmember Gina Sarazen would like the Town Clerk to update the manual with the dates when the beach was officially closed. She would also like to see signage put up at the Beach, such as “Beach Closed/ No Lifeguard.” Acting Supervisor Joe Denis would like to speak with Attorney Kirk Gagnier before putting up any signs, to be cautious of liabilities. The Town Board would also like to see some sort of gate put up to restrict vehicles from driving to shoreline, large rocks placed in lieu of a gate was suggested and either demolishing or replacing the outhouses. The outhouses currently are locked, broken and a place used for inappropriate activities. This discussion was tabled until next meeting when the above information can be researched.

113) Town Policies

The Town of Piercefield has been working with William Dashnaw to update our Town Policy Handbook. Policies reviewed at tonight’s Board Meeting included: Computer/Internet Use, Travel Expenses and Banking. Some suggestions were made pertaining to grammar or specific rules that did not apply to Piercefield. The Town Clerk will update the suggested corrections and bring to the next Town Board Meeting to be signed and the policy handbooks will be updated. If you are interested in reading these policies feel free to reach out to the Town Clerk or the Town Board Members. The Piggyback Clause took a deeper level of understanding, Councilmember Carol Dimond requested Kirk Gagnier attend to the next Board Meeting to explain this policy in more detail. Town Clerk Christielee Geiger will reach out to the Town Attorney for more clarification.

New Business

114) Transfer Station

Acting Supervisor Joe Denis will collect the money from Transfer Attendee Rick Lamoy, he will count the money and cross reference the receipts before passing it along to the Town Clerk, Rick approved this process. Board Members have brought up public concerns about the hours of the Transfer Station. The hours state 8-4pm however on many occasions Rick has been 15-30 minutes late, causing frustrations. Acting Supervisor Joe Denis will follow up with Rick about this matter.

115) Town Clerk Resignation

This will be the last minutes I will write as your Town Clerk. I officially resign on June 30th and as of July 1st, 2023 my Deputy Paige Phillips will be appointed as Piercefield’s Town Clerk. I wish her the best and I know I am leaving Piercefield in capable hands. On a motion to appoint Paige Phillips as Town Clerk starting 7/1/23 made by Councilmember Carol Dimond seconded by Councilmember Gina Sarazen. AYES: Acting Supervisor Denis, Councilmembers Sarazen, Dimond NAYS: 0.

116) Board Member Resignation

Karl Pryce put his resignation in as of June 2nd, 2023, he will not be running in the 2023 election due to schedule conflicts. Therefore, the Town of Piercefield is seeking an interested local who would be willing to take his seat. The Town Board meets once a month, the 2nd Thursday at 7:30pm. As a Board Member you are the voice for the town’s people when it comes to spending money, creating the town budget and providing town programs. You are appointed to the head of a department, i.e.: Highway. If this interests you, please contact our Acting Supervisor Joe Denis, 518-359-7544.

117) Code Enforcement Officer Laptop

Nick Snyder requested that the Town of Piercefield provides him with a laptop to complete his official duties. He is currently using a borrowed computer from the Town of Clifton-Fine. The Town Board requests that the CEO Nick Snyder prints out (3) laptop options that includes prices, so they may purchase the appropriate computer for his responsibilities.

118) Voters ID Resolution

The Town of Huntington drafted a resolution urging Kathy Hochul to create a legislation regarding the voter’s identification process. This was not a unanimous vote by the town and the Councilmember of the Town of Huntington, Eugene Cook, wanted to make other Town Boards

aware of this concern. Town Clerk Christielee Geiger passed on the note and resolution to update the Piercefield Town Board of these concerns.

119) Piercefield Town Signs

The Piercefield Town Board would like to take a moment to thank Carol Fuller for her beautiful work at the front welcome sign, her time and donation to the Town is greatly appreciated.

Kim Kopp requested funds to purchase flowers for the Welcome to Piercefield Sign in Childwold. She would purchase the flowers and use her own time on landscaping. On a motion to use funds from Parks and Recs to purchase flowers for the Childwold sign made by Acting Supervisor Joe Denis, seconded by Councilmember Gina Sarazen. AYES: Acting Supervisor Denis, Councilmembers Sarazen, Dimond NAYS: 0.

120) July Meeting

Due to conflicts in schedules the Town Board Meeting date will be rescheduled. Instead of meeting on July 13th, The Piercefield Town Board moved up the date to July 6th, 2023 at 7:30pm. Town Clerk Christielee Geiger will put an ad in the paper to update the public about the change of date.

121) Payment of Bills

On a motion by Councilmember Carol Dimond, seconded by Acting Supervisor Joe Denis, the following payments be approved AYES: Acting Supervisor Denis, Councilmembers Dimond, Sarazen. NAYS: 0

General Fund:	\$13,262.90
Highway Fund:	\$59,227.99
Lighting District	\$0.00
Conifer Water:	\$473.88
Piercefield Water:	\$322.12
Trust & Agency Fund	\$10,136.72
Total	\$83,423.61

122) Approval of Town Clerk Monthly Reports

On a motion by Councilmember Gina Sarazen, seconded by Councilmember Carol Dimond, the Clerk Reports for May 2023 be approved: AYES: Acting Supervisor Denis, Councilmembers Dimond, Sarazen. NAYS: 0

123) Adjournment

On a motion by Councilmember Gina Sarazen, seconded by Councilmember Carol Dimond, the meeting was adjourned at 9:02 pm. Next regular meeting Thursday, July 6, 2023 at 7:30pm.

Christielee Geiger, Town Clerk

Date Approved