

40) REGULAR BOARD MEETING, TOWN OF PIERCEFIELD, March 13,2025 **DRAFT**

41) Roll Call

Board Members	Present	Excused	Town Officials	Present	Excused
Supervisor Joe Denis	X		Town Clerk, Paige Phillips	X	
Councilmember Carol Dimond	X		Highway Superintendent, Jay Rust	X	
Councilmember Gina Sarazen	X				
Councilmember Angela Rust	X				
Councilmember Tom Snye		X			

Guest: Marlene Ashton

42) Pledge of Allegiance

The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance led by Town Supervisor Joe Denis.

43) Approval of Minutes

On a motion by Councilmember Carol Dimond, seconded by Councilmember Gina Sarazen, the minutes of February 13, 2025 as presented by the Town Clerk be approved. AYES: Town Supervisor Denis, Councilmembers Dimond, Sarazen, Rust. NAYS: 0

**Public Hearing**

44) Proposed Local Law #2-2025

Town Supervisor Joe Denis opened the public hearing on Proposed Local Law No.2 of 2025 A Local Law providing a Volunteer Firefighter and Volunteer Ambulance Workers Real Property Tax Exemption. No community members came to be heard regarding the Local Law. The public hearing was closed at 7:01pm.

45) Monies Received

Refuse & Garbage	\$1,515.00
Insurance Recovery	\$500.00
Fines, Forfeits,of Bail	\$443.00
Interest&Earnings	\$148.83

**Privilege of Floor**

46) Marlene Ashton

In the past month, Marlene reached out to Elise Stefanik's office and spoke with Allen, a staff member there. She informed Allen about the difficulties the Town of Piercefield is experiencing due to the lack of home healthcare services from St. Lawrence County. Marlene emphasized to Allen that “she is not looking for a quick fix.”. Allen expressed his belief that the County is unlikely to provide assistance, suggesting that the Town would need to pursue State or Federal funding for support. Additionally, Marlene mentioned that she has approached the local newspaper and initiated a petition. Allen recommended that she expand her advocacy efforts by sending letters to Washington, D.C., to ensure her concerns are heard at the state level. Councilmember Carol Dimond informed Marlene that she had contacted District Legislator Rick Perkins at Marlene's request. Mr. Perkins concurred with Allen that the likelihood of the Town receiving home health aide services from St. Lawrence County is low, noting that he hasn't seen a County Nurse in 15 years. He also indicated to Carol that he would make an effort to attend the board meeting scheduled for April 17th.

47) Highway Report

Highway Superintendent Jay Rust presented Assembly Bill A. 5890. This bill seeks to amend the state finance law, the general municipal law, and the highway law to expand the New York State Buy American Salt Act to include rock salt or sodium chloride mined or hand harvested in Canada. Jay is asking the board to adopt a resolution endorsing this bill.

Highway Superintendent Jay Rust has requested the following purchase approvals.

- Battery operated jack hammer in the amount of \$2,200.00 to be split between the highway department and water departments.
- Calcium for gravel roads in the amount of \$5,183.20
- 2 heaters for the Youth Center in the amount of \$4,252.36

On a motion by Supervisor Joe Denis, seconded by councilmember Gina Sarazen the purchase of a battery-operated jack hammer in the amount of \$2,200.00 be approved. AYES: Supervisor Denis, Councilmembers, Dimond, Rust, Sarazen. NAYS: 0

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On a motion by Supervisor Joe Denis, seconded by councilmember Carol Dimond the purchase of Calcium in the amount of \$5,183.20 be approved.    AYES:    Supervisor Denis, Councilmembers, Dimond, Rust, Sarazen. NAYS:    0  
Supervisor Joe Denis would like to look into different outlets for pricing on the heaters for the youth center. The approval to purchase heaters has been tabled until alternative pricing options are reviewed.

Jay reported a sub main water break at 5 Dewey Ave. The line, which was installed in 1994, had rotted. The crew fixed the break and replaced the damaged section with stainless steel and brass. The crew installed the new ceiling in the youth center and will begin painting this week. A 4ft broom attachment for the mini excavator was purchased for sweeping sand. This purchase will be covered by CHIPS. Jay has also been looking for a mower attachment for the mini to cut back trees. If the attachment is purchased this will also be covered by CHIPS. Jay also reported purchasing and installing 2 new LED lights for outside the garage and town offices.

Councilmember Gina Sarazen raised concerns regarding the excavator costs for the month. Jay explained that a mechanic from Tracy was required to connect to the motor, and that the injectors, wiring for the injectors, and the valve cover gasket all needed replacement. He also mentioned that the town will be receiving a bill from Mitchells due to the thumb on the excavator not functioning properly and failing to hold. The guys replaced the piston and cleaned the valves, yet the issue persists.

- 48)    Code Officer Report  
Code Officer Nicholas Snyder did not submit a report for this month

**Old Business**

**New Business**

- 49)    Volunteer Firefighter and Ambulance Worker Real Property Exemption

**RESOLUTION TO PASS LOCAL LAW 2025-2: Local Law Number 2 of the Year 2025 A Local Law providing for a Volunteer Firefighter and Volunteer Ambulance Workers Real Property Tax Exemption.**

**WHEREAS**, local law number 1 of 2025 was duly introduced to the Town Board on February 13, 2025 and

**WHEREAS**, legal notice of the Public Hearing regarding the proposed local law was published and advertised and copies of the proposed local law were made available at the Town Clerk's office for public review; and

**WHEREAS**, a Public Hearing on the proposed law was held on March 13, 2025 at Piercefield Town Hall, with 0 public comments being offered; and

**WHEREAS**, no other agency has the legal authority or jurisdiction to approve or directly undertake the enactment of a Local Law in the Town of Piercefield, such that there are no other involved agencies within the meaning of the New York State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQR) with respect to the proposed enactment of said Local Law, with the result that the Town Board has acted as lead agency in this matter; and

**WHEREAS** the adoption to said Local Law is an unlisted action for purposes of environmental review

**WHEREAS**, the Town Board has considered the adoption of said Local Law, has considered the criteria. contained in 6 N.Y.C.R.R. Part 617.7 and has compared the impacts which may be reasonably expected to result from the adoption of said Local Law against said criteria; and

**WHEREAS**, the purpose of the local law benefits the Town and its residents and visitors.

**NOW THEREFORE**, be it resolved as follows:

**RESOLVED AND DETERMINED** that the enactment of proposed Local Law No. 2 of 2025 is an unlisted action, there are no other involved agencies, and this Board acts as lead agency in this matter for purposes of SEQR review; and it is further

**RESOLVED AND DETERMINED** that the Town Board has determined this action shall have no significant adverse impact on the environment; and that, accordingly, an environmental impact statement (EIS) shall not be required; and that this resolution shall constitute a negative declaration under SEQR; and it is further

**RESOLVED** that the Town Board hereby adopts Local Law No. 2 of 2025 titled "Local Law 2025-2: A Local Law Providing for a Volunteer Firefighter and Volunteer Ambulance Workers Real Property Tax Exemption.

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50) Second Notice Fee

**RESOLUTION NO.: 03-07-2025**

**Dated: March 13, 2025**

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A \$2.00 SECOND NOTICE CHARGE ON UNPAID TAXES**

**RESOLVED**, that the Town Board of the Town of Piercefield authorizes a \$2.00 charge for a second notice to be mailed to each owner of real property in the Town of Piercefield upon which taxes remain unpaid on the tax roll, and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that second notices are to be mailed at the end of April before the tax collector's warrant expires, and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that the Town Tax Collector forward a copy of this Resolution to the St. Lawrence County Treasurer.

A motion to adopt the foregoing Resolution was made by Councilmember Angela Rust and seconded by Councilmember Gina Sarazen. The following each voted in favor of the Resolution: Town Supervisor Joe Denis, Councilmember Gina Sarazen, Councilmember Carol Dimond, and Councilmember Angela Rust.  
NAYS:0

51) Town Justice Audit

**RESOLUTION NO.: 08-03-2025**

**Dated: March 13, 2025**

**RESOLUTION TO AUDIT RECORDS OF TOWN JUSTICE JONN KOPP**

**WHEREAS**, the New York State Comptroller requires periodic audits of Town Justice financial records by the Town Board, and

**WHEREAS**, Town Justice Jonn Kopp of the Town of Piercefield, St. Lawrence County, New York, has submitted his financial records from the year January 1, 2024 to December 31, 2024 to the Piercefield Town Board for audit, now therefore be it

**RESOLVED**, that the Town Board of the Town of Piercefield has audited and does approve the financial records submitted for the year 2024 by Town Justice Jonn Kopp, and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that a copy of this resolution be sent to the New York State Unified Court System as evidence that said audit was conducted as required.

A motion to adopt the foregoing Resolution was made by Town Supervisor Joe Denis and seconded by Councilmember Angela Rust. The following each voted in favor of the Resolution: Supervisor Joe Denis, Councilmember Carol Dimond, Councilmember Angela Rust, and Councilmember Gina Sarazen.

52) Rescheduled Town Board Meeting

Due to scheduling conflicts, the regularly scheduled town board meeting will be rescheduled to April 17, 2025. The Town Clerk will send notice to the TL Free Press along with post the rescheduling information on the town website and sign board at the town office.

53) Office Supplies

Bookkeeper Linda Pickering has requested to purchase a new printer. The printer is estimated to be around \$400. On a motion by Supervisor Joe Denis, seconded by councilmember Carol Dimond the purchase of a printer for the bookkeeper in the amount of \$400.00 be approved. AYES: Supervisor Denis, Councilmembers, Dimond, Rust, Sarazen. NAYS: 0

54) Endorsement of Assembly Bill A.5890

**RESOLUTION NO.: 09-03-2025**

**Dated: March 13, 2025**

**SUPPORTING ASSEMBLY BILL A.5890, "AN ACT TO AMEND THE STATE FINANCE LAW, THE GENERAL MUNICIPAL LAW, THE PUBLIC AUTHORITIES LAW AND THE HIGHWAY LAW, IN RELATION TO AWARDING CONTRACTS FOR THE PURCHASE OF ROCK SALT OR SODIUM CHLORIDE MINED OR HAND HARVESTED IN CANADA"**

**WHEREAS**, Assembly Bill A. 5890, seeks to amend the state finance law, the general municipal law, the public authorities law, and the highway law to expand the New York State Buy American Salt Act to include rock salt or sodium chloride mined or hand harvested in Canada; and

**WHEREAS**, the proposed amendment will allow state and local agencies to award contracts for rock salt or sodium chloride to bidders offering products mined or hand harvested in either the United States or Canada, provided their offer is within ten percent of the lowest price or best value offer; and

**WHEREAS**, the bill includes provisions to prevent misrepresentation of the origin of rock salt or sodium chloride, ensuring that products labeled as "Made in America" or "Made in Canada" are genuinely sourced from those countries, with penalties for intentional mislabeling; and

**WHEREAS**, the legislation maintains consistency with the state's obligations under applicable international agreements related to government procurement; and

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**WHEREAS**, the inclusion of Canadian-sourced rock salt and sodium chloride will provide greater flexibility and potentially lower costs for state and local agencies in procuring these essential materials for winter road maintenance; and

**WHEREAS**, expanding the sourcing options to include Canada, a close economic partner and neighbor, strengthens regional supply chains and ensures a more reliable supply of rock salt and sodium chloride; and

**WHEREAS**, this amendment supports both domestic and North American production, promotes fair competition, and enhances the ability of New York State agencies to effectively manage winter road conditions; and

**WHEREAS**, the legislation addresses the potential for fraudulent labeling and ensures that the integrity of the procurement process is maintained.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Town Board of the Town of Piercefield hereby expresses its strong support for Assembly Bill A. 5890, which amends the New York State Buy American Salt Act to include rock salt or sodium chloride mined or hand harvested in Canada; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that copies of this resolution be forwarded to Governor Kathy Hochul, Assemblyman Scott Gray, Senator Mark Walczyk, Assemblyman Ken Blankenbush and Senator Dan Stec.

A motion to adopt the foregoing Resolution was made by Town Supervisor Joe Denis and seconded by Councilmember Carol Dimond. The following each voted in favor of the Resolution: Supervisor Joe Denis, Councilmember Angela Rust, Councilmember Carol Dimond, and Councilmember Gina Sarazen. NAYS: 0

55)     Approval of Town Clerk Monthly Reports

On a motion by Councilmember Angela Rust, seconded by Councilmember Gina Sarazen the Clerk Reports for February 2025 be approved: AYES: Supervisor Denis, Councilmembers, Dimond,Rust, Sarazen. NAYS: 0

56)     Payment of Bills

On a motion by Town Supervisor Joe Denis, seconded by Councilmember Gina Sarazen the following payments be approved AYES: Supervisor Denis, Councilmembers Dimond and Sarazen NAYS: 0

General Fund:	\$3,420.02
Highway Fund:	\$13,435.25
Lighting District	\$0.00
Conifer Water:	\$48.94
Piercefield Water:	\$48.94
Trust and Agency	\$0.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$16,935.15</b>

57)     Adjournment

On a motion by Town Supervisor Joe Denis, seconded by Councilmember Gina Sarazen the meeting was adjourned at 7:55 pm. Next regular meeting will be held on Thursday, April 17, 2025 at 7:00pm.

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Paige Phillips, Town Clerk

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Date Approved