

92) REGULAR BOARD MEETING, TOWN OF PIERCEFIELD, May 21,2026 **DRAFT**

93) Roll Call

Board Members	Present	Excused	Town Officials	Present	Excused
Supervisor Karen Brownell	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: Patricia Reandeu, Marlene Ashton, Ginger Storey Welch, Traci Goff, Eastynn Savage.

94) Pledge of Allegiance

The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance led by Town Supervisor Karen Brownell.

95) Approval of Minutes

On a motion by Councilmember Carol Dimond, seconded by Councilmember Gina Sarazen, the minutes of April 16, 2026 as presented by the Town Clerk be approved. AYES: Town Supervisor Brownell, Councilmembers Dimond, Sarazen, and Rust. NAYS: 0

96) Monies Received

Refuse & Garbage	\$1,942.00
Insurance Recoveries	\$161.56
Fines, Forfeits & Bail	\$794.00
Vital Stats	\$81.00
Licenses & Permits	\$2,733.75
Sale of Forest Products	\$2,957.00

Privilege of Floor

97) Marlene Ashton

Councilmember Dimond has indicated that she continues to seek clarity on who is accountable for the maintenance of the fishing pier.

98) Traci Goff

A discussion took place regarding the disconnect between the town and its community members. Ideas were proposed on how to reunite the community and enhance transparency, as well as to engage residents in the town's decision-making processes.

99) Patricia Reandeu

Patty asked for an update regarding the residences that are currently may be compliance. The Town Board is working to create a list of these properties to submit to Code Enforcement Officer Nicholas Snyder for him to review.

100) Highway Report

- Sweeping of the town roads has been completed. Grass seed and dirt have been spread on the areas that needed repair
- Flushed water lines
- Jimmy Brownell started in the temporary summer time position. Jay asked if he could provide Jimmy more hours when needed since the highway department is down an employee.
- Notice was published in the Free Press for the open MEO position.
- Dependent on the CHIPS budget Jay plans to pave 1,400 feet on the Mt Arab Road. The county will come price out the job before paving starts.
- There is a wire down on Main Street. Supervisor Brownell will call Slic Network to have it removed.
- A new pick up and snow plow will be needed within the next 5 years.

101) Code Officer Report

- Issued 2 building permit
- Completed 6 site inspections
- Received 19 phone calls

102) Dog Control Report

Kim Kopp DCO, submitted her quarterly report for January-March of dog activities. The report is available with the Town Clerk for anyone who wishes to view it.

Old Business

103) Emergency Vet

Janet Collier Animal Health Inspector from Agriculture and Markets has approved for Canton Animal Hospital to serve as the town's emergency veterinary facility. Additionally, the Town has established a dog shelter contract with Daniel Moyer and the owner has a veterinarian with whom he collaborates. Councilmember Gina Sarazen inquired whether there are existing laws regarding the payment of veterinary bills should the town receive a bill for a stray animal. The Town Clerk will look into current laws/resolutions/policies.

104) Shared Highway

TOWN OF PIERCEFIELD
RESOLUTION # 17 of 2026

AUTHORIZING TOWN SUPERVISOR TO SIGN A CONTRACT FOR SHARED
HIGHWAY SERVICES ON BEHALF OF THE TOWN

RESOLUTION authorizing the Town Supervisor to sign a contract on behalf of the Town to permit the Town Highway Superintendent to share services with highway department heads in other municipalities who possess similar authorization for the borrowing or lending of materials and supplies and the exchanging, leasing, renting or maintaining of machinery and equipment, including the operators thereof, for the purpose of aiding the highway department head in the performance of his duties.

Whereas, all municipalities, including the Town of Piercefield have the power and authority to contract with other municipalities for the purpose of renting, leasing, exchanging, borrowing or maintaining of machinery and equipment, with or without operators; and

Whereas, all municipalities, including the Town of Piercefield, have the power and authority to borrow or lend materials and supplies to other municipalities; and

Whereas, it is hereby determined that the Town of Piercefield and other municipalities have machinery and equipment which is not used during certain periods; and

Whereas, it is determined that the Town of Piercefield and other municipalities often have materials and supplies on hand which are not immediately needed; and

Whereas, it is hereby determined that by renting, borrowing, exchanging, leasing or maintaining highway machinery and equipment and the borrowing or lending of materials and supplies, the Town of Piercefield and other municipalities may avoid the necessity of purchasing certain needed highway machinery and equipment and the purchasing, or storing, of a large inventory of certain extra materials and supplies, thereby saving money for the taxpayers; and

Whereas, it is recognized and determined, from a practical working arrangement, that no program of borrowing, exchanging, leasing, renting or maintaining of highway machinery and equipment or borrowing or lending of materials can be successful if each individual arrangement or agreement must receive prior approval by the Town Board and the governing board of each of the other municipalities which may be parties to such agreements, since such agreements must often be made on short notice and at times when governing boards are not in session; and

Whereas, it is incumbent upon each municipality to design a simple method whereby materials, supplies, equipment and machinery, including the operators thereof, may be obtained or maintained with a minimum of paperwork and inconvenience and with a swift approval process; and

Whereas, it is the intent of the Town of Piercefield Town Board to give the Town Superintendent of Highways the authority to enter into renting, exchanging, borrowing, lending or maintaining arrangements with the persons serving in similar capacities in other municipalities without the necessity of obtaining approval of the Town Board prior to the making of each individual arrangement; and

Whereas, a standard contract has been prepared which is expected to be adopted and placed into effect in other municipalities, and will grant the person holding the position comparable to that of the head of the highway department in each of those other municipalities the authority to make similar arrangements; and

Whereas, it is hereby determined that it will be in the best interests of the Town of Piercefield to be a party to such shared services arrangements.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Supervisor of the Town of Piercefield is hereby authorized to sign the following contract on behalf of the Town: The complete contract is available for review in the Town Clerk's Office by anyone wishing to examine it in its entirety.

105) 250th Declaration of Independence Anniversary Funding

Councilmember Carol Dimond submitted a letter to Jim Reagan, Chair of the 250th Commemoration Committee stating that the Town would like to apply for the \$500.00 grant to aid in a town wide celebration dedicated to the 250th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence. Carol spoke with the deputy clerk for the board of legislators, who informed her that the funds have been approved for the Town of Piercefield. The approval letter and the check are expected to arrive by mail within a couple of weeks. Supervisor Karen Brownell will collaborate with the Fire Department to finalize a date for the celebration.

106) Court Clerk Position

The position of Court Clerk has been successfully filled by Nancy Russel. According to information received from the association of towns, there was no requirement to publish an advertisement for the vacant court clerk position.

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107) Summer Help

Part time summer position has been filled by Jimmy Brownell.

108) Picnic Area (former beach)

Council members examined various signs intended for the entrance of the picnic area as well as near the water. The signs and the required materials for their installation will be purchased by Councilmember Gina Sarazen.

109) Cemetery Committee Policy

The Town Clerk is Authorized to update the Cemetery Committee Policy to state “membership on the Cemetery Committee shall be open to residents of the Town. In addition, individuals who are not residents of the town may be appointed to the committee if they have a familial connection to an individual interred in the Gale cemetery. For the purposes of this policy, a familial connection shall mean a person who has a parent, grandparent, spouse, child, sibling, or other direct relative buried in the Gale Cemetery.

110) Route 421 Speed Study

Councilmember Carol Dimond contacted Aaron Docteur, PE Regional Traffic Engineer to inquire about the status of the speed study that the Town requested to be conducted on the road in September of 2025. Aaron anticipates that the study will be finalized by the end of June or the beginning of July.

New Business

111) Adirondack BESS (Battery Energy Storage System) Moratorium

Discussion was held regarding the implementation of a Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) Moratorium. The purpose of the moratorium would be to provide the Town with additional time to research battery energy storage facilities, evaluate potential benefits and risks, and develop appropriate local regulations before considering future applications. The Town Clerk will provide a Local Law for the board to review at the next meeting.

112) Beach Grant

The Town received a grant in 1985 to assist with the development of the beach site. To remain in compliance with the grant requirements, the property must continue to be maintained and utilized for outdoor recreational purposes. Jay reported that the culverts have been repaired, picnic tables have been placed at the site, and a porta potty is scheduled for delivery in June. An inspector recently visited the property but was unable to clearly identify the area. Property maps and supporting documentation will be submitted to the appropriate agency, and a follow-up visit will be conducted to determine whether the Town remains in compliance with the grant requirements. The Board will await the inspector's findings and consider any recommendations regarding future actions needed to maintain compliance.

113) Dog Shelter Donation

RESOLUTION NO.: 16-05-2026

Dated: May 21, 2026

ESTABLISHING REVENUE ACCOUNT A2705 DOG SHELTER DONATIONS

WHEREAS, New York State Agriculture and Markets Law require municipalities issuing dog licenses to provide an opportunity for applicants to make voluntary donations to support the animal shelter with which the municipality contracts; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Piercefield contracts with an animal shelter for the care and housing of dogs; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board finds it necessary to establish a separate revenue account to properly account for and track all voluntary donations received through the dog licensing process;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Piercefield hereby establishes revenue account A2705 Dog Shelter Donations in the General Fund budget for the purpose of recording all voluntary donations received for animal shelter support; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that all monies received and deposited into account A2705 shall be maintained separately from other Town revenues and shall be remitted annually to the Town's contracted animal shelter in accordance with applicable law and contractual obligations; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town Supervisor, Town Clerk, and any other appropriate Town officials are authorized and directed to make the necessary accounting and budgetary adjustments to implement this resolution.

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

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114) Pickleball Court

Town Supervisor Karen Brownell notified councilmembers that a resident from Piercefield wishes to utilize the old basketball court for pickleball. He is requesting permission to paint lines on the court and will provide his own removable net. On a motion by Supervisor Brownell, seconded by Councilmember Dimond use of the old basketball court for pickleball be approved. AYES: Supervisor Brownell, Councilmembers Dimond, Sarazen, and Rust. NAYS: 0. Approved.

115) Highway Superintendent Office

Councilmembers deliberated on proposing a Local Law to change the Highway Superintendents Office from an elected office to appointed. Discussion was had on expanding residency requirements rather than changing the office to appointed. On a motion by Councilmember Carol Dimond, seconded by Town Supervisor Karen Brownell discussion tabled until councilmembers can obtain additional information: AYES: Town Supervisor Brownell, Councilmembers, Dimond, Sarazen, and Rust NAYS: 0

116) Approval of Town Clerk Monthly Reports

On a motion by Councilmember Angela Rust, seconded by Town Supervisor Karen Brownell the Clerk Reports for April 2026 be approved: AYES: Town Supervisor Brownell, Councilmembers, Dimond, Sarazen, and Rust NAYS: 0

117) Payment of Bills

Councilmembers Carol Dimond and Gina Sarazen reviewed and signed checks prior to the regularly scheduled board meeting due to scheduling conflict. The Town Board ratified the abstract of bills at the rescheduled board meeting. On a motion by Town Supervisor Karen Brownell, seconded by Councilmember Carol Dimond the following payments be approved AYES: Town Supervisor Brownell, Councilmembers Dimond and Sarazen. Abstain: Councilmember Rust NAYS: 0

General Fund:	\$10,697.88
Highway Fund:	\$14,992.36
Lighting District	\$392.70
Conifer Water:	\$198.16
Piercefield Water:	\$308.68
Trust and Agency	\$8,238.78
Total	\$34,828.56

118) Adjournment

On a motion by Town Supervisor Karen Brownell, seconded by Councilmember Gina Sarazen the meeting was adjourned at 8:39 pm. Next regular meeting will be held on Thursday, June 11, 2026 at 7:00pm.

Paige Phillips, Town Clerk

Date Approved