

119) REGULAR BOARD MEETING, TOWN OF PIERCEFIELD, June 11,2026 **DRAFT**

120) 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			

Guests: Patty Reandeau, Carrie Riley, Loren Bailey, James Bisson, Keith Merrill, Marlene Ashton, Ginger Storey-Welch, Traci Goff.

121) Pledge of Allegiance

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

122) Approval of Minutes

On a motion by Town Supervisor Karen Brownell, seconded by Councilmember Carol Dimond, the minutes of May 21, 2026 as presented by the Town Clerk be approved. AYES: Town Supervisor Brownell, Councilmembers Dimond, and Rust. NAYS: 0

123) Monies Received

Insurance Recoveries	\$161.56
Fines, Forfeits&Bail	\$519.00
Licenses & Permits	\$97.50
Licenses	\$12.00

Privilege of Floor

124) Ginger Storey-Welch

Ginger Storey-Welch is running for St. Lawrence County Legislature in District 7 and attended the meeting discuss issues related to data centers. The Town of Massena currently has a data center that is in the process of applying to expand. Ginger found out that if this center operates as intended, it would account for 4% of the total electricity consumed in New York for the year. There have been reports of excessive noise. She recommended that residents look into the Texas data center controversy for more details. Ginger indicated that the state recommended towns create their own moratoriums to regulate data centers. Establishing a moratorium also allows towns the time needed to examine the regulations and requirements that would need to be put in place. Ginger also suggested getting in contact with the county administrator to see what steps would be appropriate for the Town of Piercefield

125) Traci Goff

Traci shared several ideas aimed at increasing connections within the Town of Piercefield. She suggested the creation of a QR code that would allow visitors and residents to upload photos of their experiences, things they see around town, or share suggestions for activities in the area. She mentioned posting the QR code on the website, at the fishing pier, boat launch, or visitor kiosk. Another idea she had was to set up a sign-in book at the picnic area to keep track of visitors and for safety purposes. The councilmembers will get in contact with the forest rangers to see if a sign-in book can be implemented.

126) Patricia Reandeau

Patty inquired about having the Piercefield Cemetery mowed. Town Supervisor Brownell advised that the area remains too wet at this time but will be mowed once the area dries out.

127) Carrie Riley

Carrie Riley attended the meeting and started off by commending Roy Benware, the Gale Cemetery caretaker. She highlighted his exceptional work and expressed that the Town is fortunate to have him. As a member of the Cemetery Committee, Carrie shared several proposals she has. First, she advocated for a new fence for the cemetery, noting that the existing one is deteriorating and poses a potential safety hazard. Carrie has offered her time to collaborate with the town on the installation and staining of the new fence. Additionally, she inquired about the possibility of adding a flower box at the center of the fence. Carrie also requested that the water tank be filled prior to Memorial Day each year. Jay Rust has agreed to have the tank filled before this date. Lastly, Carrie would like to have the cemetery's rules or guidelines displayed at the entrance or near the water tank to prevent any potential issues within the cemetery.

128) Loren Bailey and Keith Merrill

Loren Bailey attended the meeting to introduce the new MAPA President, Keith Merrill, who will assume the role in July. Loren inquired about the plans for the Mt Arab Road this year. Highway Superintendent Jay Rust confirmed that late this fall they will be blacktopping all areas that have been previously dug up and have had the proper time to settle. Jay has been working to remove the deep rocks in the road to ensure that the blacktop is applied correctly. Loren raised concerns regarding the deep ditching and tree roots. Jay said it was necessary to withstand the upcoming weather and prevent the road from washing out. He assured that any leaning trees in the ditches would be removed by the town. Loren spoke on behalf of the residents and said they really appreciate all the work the highway department is doing on the road.

129) James Bisson

James Bisson, a resident of the Raquette Flow Road attended the meeting to discuss his concerns regarding the condition of the gravel road. James advised that he conducted a survey among residents living on the road, with 17 residents indicating that they felt the condition of the road was unsatisfactory. It was noted that the poll was conducted prior to recent road maintenance being completed, and no follow-up poll was conducted after the work was performed. Highway Superintendent Jay Rust advised that the road is a gravel road and that the spring weather conditions, including frost and wet weather, significantly impact its condition. He explained that maintenance work cannot be completed until the road has had sufficient time to dry out. Supervisor Brownell stated that the Highway Department is following the recommendations provided by NYSDOT, including raking, grading, rolling, and applying calcium as needed. The Board discussed that weather conditions are a major factor affecting gravel roads. Jay also mentioned that the stone recently placed on the road has helped improve the road's stability and overall condition.

130) Highway Report

- The highway crew has been doing maintenance on the Massawepie Road.
- Removing rocks from the Gull Pond Road and repairing the road with sand and crusher run.
- Gravel roads have been graded and calcium has been spread.
- Jay presented a FOIL request in regards to CHIPS funds from 2019.
- Jay would like to start meeting again the Monday before the scheduled board meeting to go over bills with the bookkeeper and the Town Supervisor.

Old Business

131) 250th Celebration Date

The 250th Anniversary Celebration of the Declaration of Independence is scheduled for July 25th at the Piercefield Fire Department. The Town, Fire Department, and Ladies Auxiliary will work together to organize and host the celebration.

132) Non-Compliant Properties

Town Supervisor Karen Brownell provided CEO Nicholas Snyder with a list of properties to determine whether the lack of maintenance puts them in violation of code.

133) Signs for Picnic Area

The picnic area signs have been received and will be installed by the Highway Department.

134) Fishing Pier

Town Supervisor Karen Brownell received a map from the Town Assessor showing that the Town of Piercefield owns the land the fishing pier is on however, Councilmember Carol Dimond is working with Mark Luciano from Brookfield Renewable to determine who is responsible for the maintenance.

135) Beach Grant

Town Supervisor Karen Brownell will request a map of the former beach parcel from Assessor James Snyder and forward it to Tammy Althiser so the area may be reinspected to ensure compliance

136) Water Grants

Town Supervisor Brownell shared that Governor Hochul made \$425 million available to help communities affordably upgrade the drinking water and sewer systems. This will allow local governments to continue modernizing aging infrastructure and tackling threats such as lead service lines and emerging contaminants. Jay Rust advised at the previous meeting that the water systems in the Town of Piercefield and Conifer will need updating. Town Supervisor Brownell plans to contact Tupper Lake to see who they use for a grant writer. In the meantime, the town will explore potential grants that could benefit our municipality.

New Business

137) Adirondack BESS Moratorium

The Town Clerk will work with the Town Attorney to create a Local Law for the town board members to review at the July board meeting.

138) Spend Highway

Highway Superintendent Jay Rust presented the 2026-2027 budget received from NYS DOT for road improvement reimbursement. The numbers are as follows: CHIPS \$112,201.00, PAVE NY \$17,526.17, EWR \$13,993.79, and POP \$13,783.97. With this budget, Jay offered the Town Board his agreement to spend town highway funds. His plan includes improvement that includes repair and laying sand and crusher run to ¾ of a mile on the Gull Pond Road, 4.15 miles of blacktop and road rebuilding on the Mt Arab Road, and 6.89 miles of general repair on the Massawepie Road. On a motion by Councilmember Carol Dimond, seconded by town Supervisor Karen Brownell, the spending of Highway funds be approved: AYES: Supervisor Brownell, Councilmembers Dimond, and Rust. NAYS: 0 Approved.

139) Budget Transfers

RESOLUTION NO. 18-06-2026

DATED: June 11, 2026

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE TRANSFER OF MONEY IN THE 2026 BUDGET

WHEREAS, the Town of Piercefield needs to transfer money in the 2026 Budget because of increased expenditures,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the following transfers be made in the 2026 budget:

General					
Increase	Description	Amount	Decrease	Description	Amount
14104.01	Town Clerk CE	\$1,810.72	19904.01	Contingency	\$2,083.39
13551.01	BAR	\$118.55			
71104.01	Parks CE	\$154.12			
	Total	\$2,083.39		Total	\$2,083.39

On a motion by Councilmember Carol Dimond, seconded by Town Supervisor Karen Brownell, resolution #18 be approved.: AYES: Town Supervisor Brownell, Councilmembers, Rust, and Dimond NAYS: 0 Approved.

140) Approval of Town Clerk Monthly Reports

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

141) Payment of Bills

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 Rust NAYS: 0

General Fund:	\$5,861.98
Highway Fund:	\$27,024.74
Lighting District	\$379.47
Conifer Water:	\$188.41
Piercefield Water:	\$227.00
Trust and Agency	\$12,736.66
Total	\$46,418.26

142) Adjournment

On a motion by Town Supervisor Karen Brownell, seconded by Councilmember Gina Sarazen the meeting was adjourned at 9:00 pm. Next regular meeting will be held on Thursday, July 9, 2026 at 7:00pm.

Paige Phillips, Town Clerk

Date Approved