

158) REGULAR BOARD MEETING, TOWN OF PIERCEFIELD, October 8, 2020

159) A regular board meeting of the Town of Piercefield was held on October 8, 2020 at 7:30 PM at the Piercefield Town Hall with the following members present:  
Supervisor Neil Pickering  
Councilmember Gina Sarazen  
Councilmember John Lewis  
Councilmember Amy Lalonde  
OTHERS PRESENT: Town Clerk Donald Mauer, Highway Superintendent Jay Rust, Mt Arab resident Lorraine Lewis

160) Pledge of Allegiance  
The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance led by Supervisor Neil Pickering.

161) Approval of Minutes  
On a motion by Councilmember Lewis, seconded by Councilmember Gina Sarazen, the minutes of September 10, 2020 as presented by the Town Clerk be approved with the following correction: Item 154) If the average speed is 60mph or more (not less), a speed limit reduction is not likely: AYES: Supervisor Pickering, Councilmembers Sarazen, Lewis, Lalonde. NAYS: 0 Approved with correction.

162) Monies Received  
**General**  
Transfer Station Fees \$2,517.00  
Fines & Forfeited Bail July \$220.00  
Dog Licenses and tag fees \$38.50  
Building Permits \$275.00  
**Highway**

**Privilege of Floor**

163) Highway  
The department has been plagued with flat and worn out tires on multiple vehicles. The cost to replace all, even on state contract, is around \$7,000. On a motion by Councilmember Amy Lalonde, seconded by Councilmember Lewis, \$7,000 be allocated for the purpose of replacing 10 tires: AYES: Supervisor Pickering, Councilmembers Sarazen, Lewis, Lalonde. NAYS: 0 Approved.  
The Ford 250 is inconsistent in its ability to start. Suspect the flywheel is missing teeth. A new truck is needed. Some repairs have been done on the Mt. Arab road which are being allowed to settle before adding more to improve the surface. About half the winter salt is in, as is 3,000 yards of sand. The rented mini excavator is being used on the Mt. Arab and Gull Pond roads.

164) Code Enforcement Officer (CEO) and Assessor Reports  
None provided for September as yet.

**Old Business**

165) Sales Tax Distribution  
No decision has been made to date. The city of Massena is the only community that has a say in the matter. When the sales tax was increased to 8% some years ago, it was expected that all the towns in the county would benefit, but the general feeling is that the county is not sharing appropriately with the towns.

166) Assessment Grievances  
Slic Network Solutions is taking Piercefield and all other towns they serve to court over their assessment and property taxes. NYS allows towns to levy this tax and all the towns are charging the minimum allowable.

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167) Fiberoptic Installation

Installation has not begun yet. Property owners are working with Adirondack Techs on a price quote. Some have inquired about a public hearing, but the Town is not responsible for this in that this is not a Town project. The Town has merely given permission to Adirondack Techs to install the line along the right of way.

**New Business**

168) Life Flight

On a motion by Supervisor Pickering, seconded by Councilmember Gina Sarazen, the following resolution be adopted: AYES: Supervisor Pickering, Councilmembers Lalonde, Lewis, Sarazen. NAYS: 0 Adopted.

**RESOLUTION No.: 19-10-2020**

**DATED: OCTOBER 8, 2020**

**CONTRACT AUTHORIZATION WITH LIFE FLIGHT**

**WHEREAS**, North Country LIFE FLIGHT, Inc. is a not-for-profit, tax-exempt corporation which is responsible for all aspects of patient care by providing medical equipment, training medical personnel and administering the medical portion utilizing the New York State Police helicopter based in Saranac Lake private fixed-wing aviation resources, and

**WHEREAS**, The New York State Police and private fixed-wing aviation resources do not provide a medically trained team or medical equipment for patient transports, and

**WHEREAS**, The people of Clinton, Essex, Franklin, Hamilton and St. Lawrence Counties receive a vital emergency medical service which is free of charge to critically ill and seriously injured patients, and, therefore municipal governments are asked to pledge monies for this worthwhile program, now therefore be it

**RESOLVED**, That the Town Board of the Town of Piercefield hereby authorizes the Supervisor to enter into a contract with North Country LIFE FLIGHT, Inc. for the purpose of operating the medical component of the Medevac program, which will serve its residents and visitors, and paying the amount of \$1,000.00 which represents the Town's share for 2021, and be it further

**RESOLVED**, That the sum of \$1,000.00 is hereby appropriated to Account No. A45404.01-7 for payment to North Country LIFE FLIGHT, Inc.

169) Tentative Budget/Preliminary Budget Resolution

On a motion by Councilmember John Lewis, seconded by Councilmember Gina Sarazen, the following resolution be adopted: AYES: Supervisor Pickering, Councilmembers Lewis, Lalonde, Sarazen NAYS: 0 Adopted.

**RESOLUTION ADOPTING TENTATIVE BUDGET**

**RESOLVED**, the Town Board of the Town of Piercefield adopts the Tentative Budget for the year 2021, the amount to be raised by taxes originally being \$354,600.79, and modified to \$362,836.00 to fall within the NYS Tax Cap over the final budget of the previous year.

**RESOLVED**, the adopted Tentative Budget shall henceforth be known as the Preliminary Budget for the year 2021, and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that the Town Clerk is hereby ordered to publish a legal notice of Public Hearing on the Preliminary Budget to be held at 7:30 PM at the Piercefield Town Hall on the 5th day of November, 2020, at which time all interested persons may be heard.

170) Court Grant Application

On a motion by Councilmember Lewis, seconded by Councilmember Amy Lalonde, the following resolution be adopted: AYES: Supervisor Pickering, Councilmembers Lewis, Lalonde, Sarazen NAYS: 0 Adopted.

**RESOLUTION NO.: 20-10-2020**

**DATED: OCTOBER 8, 2020**

**RESOLUTION TO APPROVE COURT GRANT APPLICATION**

**RESOLVED**, that the Town Board of the Town of Piercefield hereby authorizes the Piercefield Town Court to apply for a JCAP grant in the 2020-2021 grant cycle up to \$30,000.00.

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171) BAR Appointment

Ben Geiger's term on the Board of Assessment Review ended September 30. He has agreed to serve another term, 10/2020 to 9/30/2025. On a motion by Councilmember Lewis, seconded by Councilmember Amy Lalonde, Ben Geiger be reappointed to the BAR: AYES: Supervisor Pickering, Councilmembers Lewis, Lalonde, Sarazen NAYS: 0 Approved.

172) Town Council Appointment

Tom Snye, a former Highway Superintendent, expressed interest in serving as a Councilmember in place of Larry Boeye, who has moved away for health reasons. On a motion by Supervisor Pickering, seconded by Councilmember Lewis, Tom Snye be appointed as Town Councilmember: AYES: Supervisor Pickering, Councilmembers Lewis, Lalonde, Sarazen NAYS: 0 Approved. Mr. Boeye's term of office ends 12/31/2023. The seat will be open for election in November, 2021 to fill the unexpired term.

173) Payment of Bills

On a motion by Councilmember Lewis, seconded by Councilmember Gina Sarazen, the following payments be approved: AYES: Supervisor Pickering, Councilmembers Sarazen, Lewis, Lalonde. NAYS: 0 Approved.

Abstract # 10	General Account: Vouchers # 121-54PW	\$3,158.13
Abstract # 10	Highway Account: Vouchers # 146-160	\$7,663.23

174) Approval of Supervisor and Town Clerk Monthly Reports

On a motion by Councilmember Lewis, seconded by Councilmember Amy Lalonde the Clerk and Supervisor Monthly Reports for September 2020 be approved: AYES: Supervisor Pickering, Councilmembers Sarazen, Lewis, Lalonde. NAYS: 0 Approved.

175) Adjournment

On a motion by Councilmember Lewis, seconded by Councilmember Gina Sarazen, the meeting was adjourned at 8:50 pm. Next regular meeting Thursday, November 5, 2020 at 7:30pm.

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Donald G. Mauer, Town Clerk

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Date Approved