

176) REGULAR BOARD MEETING, TOWN OF PIERCEFIELD, November 5, 2020 **DRAFT**

177) A regular board meeting of the Town of Piercefield was held on November 5, 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
- Councilmember Thomas Snye

OTHERS PRESENT: Town Clerk Donald Mauer, Highway Superintendent Jay Rust, Carol Fuller

178) Pledge of Allegiance

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

179) Public Hearing, Preliminary Budget

Supervisor Pickering convened a public hearing at 7:30 pm on the Preliminary Budget for 2021, falls within the mandated NYS Tax Cap. No one wished to be heard. The public hearing was closed at 7:31pm.

180) Approval of Minutes

On a motion by Councilmember Lewis, seconded by Councilmember Amy Lalonde, the minutes of October 8, 2020 as presented by the Town Clerk be approved: AYES: Supervisor Pickering, Councilmembers Sarazen, Lewis, Lalonde, Snye. NAYS: 0 Approved.

181) Monies Received

General

Transfer Station Fees	\$2,597.00
Fines & Forfeited Bail July	\$1008.00
Dog Licenses and tag fees	\$7.00
Dog Control Fees	\$113.50
Building Permits	\$25.00

Highway

SLC Mowing Contract	\$625.10
---------------------	----------

Privilege of Floor

182) Town Sign

Piercefield resident Carol Fuller stated that stones around the Town sign are falling out and that weeds are encroaching on the flower bed – suggested that stones be replaced and new edging be installed. Trimmer should be used rather than mower to reduce damage. Also, she requested that wreaths and garland be put up in the Park from Thanksgiving to February. The Board thanked her for her work on the flowers.

183) Highway

Water project will likely not be finished before winter. Mark from the village has not had time to make the final taps. Vehicles and machinery nearing the end of their useful lives: F250 starts one day and not the next. Used to have a cycle of replacing a plow truck every 5 years. Need to get back into the cycle. The 2010 is now 10 years old and the loader is a 2015. Estimate \$50K for pickup, \$225K for plow truck, and \$200K for loader. Gull Pond Road and Massawepie road have been graded. Massawepie road needs to be graded beyond the last rental, is in bad shape.

- 184) Code Enforcement Officer (CEO) and Assessor Reports
None provided for October as yet.

Old Business

- 185) Assessment Grievances
The Simmons property has been sold, so it remains to be seen whether the new owner will pursue a grievance suit.
- 186) Derelict Building
The new owner has demolished the ruined basket shop in Childwold and will renovate the house on the property.
- 187) Fire Department Contract
Supervisor Pickering mentioned to Jay Rust that the Fire Department Contract is soon to expire, and the Town had budgeted the same amount as last year. Jay will convey the message. In light of the recent passing of Fire Chief Richard Riley, this is not an urgent request.
- 188) Speed Limit Reduction
Supervisor Pickering received notice from NYSDOT that there will not be a speed reduction on the Rt. 3 curve between Conifer Rd and Dump Rd.

New Business

- 189) Solar Exemption
NYS allows Solar panels to be exempt from property tax assessment, unless Towns opt out of the exemption. It offers incentive for folks to use cleaner energy, but at the same time, represents an improvement to the property, which normally would increase the value assessment. Topic tabled until next month.
- 190) Water District Re-levies
On a motion by Councilmember Lewis, seconded by Councilmember Gina Sarazen, the following resolution be adopted: AYES: Supervisor Pickering, Councilmembers Lalonde, Lewis, Sarazen, Snye NAYS: 0 Adopted.

RESOLUTION NO.: 21-11-2020

DATED: NOVEMBER 5, 2020

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING UNPAID PIERCEFIELD AND CONIFER WATER DISTRICT USERS CHARGES TO BE RE-LEVIED

RESOLVED, the Town Board of the Town of Piercefield authorizes the unpaid Piercefield and Conifer Water District users charges including penalties to be re-levied onto the respective 2021 property tax bills, and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Real Property Tax Services Office be notified of same with attached listings of unpaid water charges of \$5,400.00, plus penalties of \$648.00, for a combined total of \$6,048.00.

- 191) Water Users Charges
On a motion by Councilmember Amy Lalonde, seconded by Councilmember Lewis, the following resolution be adopted: AYES: Supervisor Pickering, Councilmembers Lewis, Lalonde, Sarazen, Snye NAYS: 0 Adopted.

RESOLUTION NO.: 22-11-2020

DATED: NOVEMBER 5, 2020

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING 2021 PIERCEFIELD AND CONIFER WATER DISTRICT USERS CHARGES

176) REGULAR BOARD MEETING, TOWN OF PIERCEFIELD, November 5, 2020 **DRAFT**

RESOLVED, the Town Board of the Town of Piercefield authorizes the establishment of the 2021 Piercefield Water User fee at \$200.00 and the Conifer Water User fee at \$220.00; and

RESOLVED, payment schedule established with full payment being made by March 1, 2021 without penalty, and 2% interest in March and 1% interest per payment month thereafter. Collection period set from January 1, 2021 through September 30, 2021, and

RESOLVED, payments not made by September 30, 2021 shall be assessed a total of 12% penalty for the year, which penalty plus Water User Fee shall be re-levied onto the January 2022 Town/County Property Tax bill, and

RESOLVED, establish the 2021 Piercefield Water District Debt Service at \$13,475.76 (81 @ \$166.37) and the Conifer Water District Debt Service at \$5,059.83 (42 @ \$120.47), which will appear on the January 2021 Town/County Property Tax bill.

192) 2021 Budget

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 ABSTAIN: Councilmember Snye Adopted.

RESOLUTION ADOPTING 2021 BUDGET

The total amount to be raised by taxes for the year 2021 is \$362,836.00.

BE IT KNOWN that the Town Board of the Town of Piercefield, St Lawrence County, New York, met at the time and place specified in the Notice of Public Hearing on the Preliminary Budget for the year 2021 and heard all persons desiring to be heard thereon. Now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Town Clerk shall prepare and deliver a certified copy of the adopted 2021 budget to the Town Supervisor of the Town of Piercefield and another to the Real Property Tax Office of the County of St. Lawrence, and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Town Clerk shall cause the adopted 2021 budget in detail to be entered into the book of the official minutes of the Town Board of the Town of Piercefield and on the official website at www.piercefield.org, and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Town Clerk shall also send certified copies of the adopted 2021 budget to the New York State Municipal Workers Compensation Alliance, the Belleville & Associates Insurance Company.

193) Payment of Bills

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

Abstract # 11	General Account: Vouchers # 130-60PW	\$4,794.51
Abstract # 11	Highway Account: Vouchers # 161-178	\$34,952.17

194) Approval of Supervisor and Town Clerk Monthly Reports

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

195) Adjournment

On a motion by Councilmember Amy Lalonde, seconded by Councilmember Gina Sarazen, the meeting was adjourned at 8:10 pm. Next regular meeting Thursday, December 10, 2020 at 7:30pm.

Donald G. Mauer, Town Clerk

Date Approved