

- 196) REGULAR BOARD MEETING, TOWN OF PIERCEFIELD, December 10, 2020
- 197) A regular board meeting of the Town of Piercefield was held on December 10, 2020 at 7:30 PM (virtually by Zoom due to the Covid-19 virus pandemic) 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

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

199) Approval of Minutes
 On a motion by Councilmember Lewis, seconded by Councilmember Amy Lalonde, the minutes of November 5, 2020 as presented by the Town Clerk be approved: AYES: Supervisor Pickering, Councilmembers Sarazen, Lewis, Lalonde, Snye. NAYS: 0 Approved.

200) Monies Received

General

Transfer Station Fees	\$1,679.00
Fines & Forfeited Bail	\$543.00
Q4 Sales Tax	\$43,809.70

Highway

Q4 Sales Tax	\$43,809.71
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Privilege of Floor

201) Highway
 The crew is in desperate need of a pickup truck. Superintendent Rust has had to use his personal vehicle for Town road maintenance. A truck is available on State Contract, a 2021 Chevy 2500 with plow for \$43,762. On a motion by Councilmember Lewis, seconded by Councilmember Gina Sarazen, the Town take steps to secure a bond toward the financing of this vehicle: AYES: Supervisor Pickering, Councilmembers Sarazen, Lewis, Lalonde, Snye. NAYS: 0 Approved. The red pickup will be retired. Supervisor Pickering will meet with Tom Snye and Jay Rust to develop a long-range plan for future equipment needs, road work, etc. The efforts of a committee several years ago was a good start, but more comprehensive plans are needed.

202) Code Enforcement Officer (CEO) and Assessor Reports

One demolition permit issued, one certificate of occupancy issued, three days' virtual training, resolved several property maintenance complaints.

Old Business

203) Fire Department Contract

A new contract effective February 15, 2020 was presented to the Town Board equal to the current contract. Mark McCuen is the current chief. A public hearing will be scheduled for 7:30 pm January 14, 2021.

204) 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. The Board will allow the exemption to stand and will not opt out. This requires no action by the Board.

New Business

205) Budget Adjustments

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

BUDGET ADJUSTMENTS TOWN OF PIERCEFIELD DECEMBER 9, 2020

GENERAL FUND

ACCOUNT #	NAME	DEBIT	CREDIT
12204.01.000.04	Deputy Supervisor	\$ 57.09	
12204.01	Supervisor	\$398.93	
12202.01	Equipment	\$250.00	
12204.01.000.03	Bookkeeper		\$706.02
19904.01	Contingency	\$5,000.52	
19504.01	Judgments & Claims (Fisher)		\$5,000.52
90408.01	Worker's Comp	\$1,609.18	
90108.01	State Retirement		\$1,609.18
90308.01	Social Security	\$1,855.00	
90558.01	Disability Insurance		\$1,855.00

CONIFER WATER

ACCOUNT #	NAME	DEBIT	CREDIT
83404.12.000.12	Water Testing	\$118.09	
83404.12.000.21	Chlorine		\$118.09
83401.12	Personal/Payroll	\$101.93	
90308.12	Social Security		\$101.93

PIERCEFIELD WATER

ACCOUNT #	NAME	DEBIT	CREDIT
83404.13.000.10	Pipe Water Main (Conifer)	\$1,824.30	
83401.13	Personal/Payroll (Piercefield)		\$1,824.30
83404.13.000.10	Gas	\$34.58	
83404.13.000.12	Water Testing		\$34.58
83404.13.000.10	Pipe Water Main	\$9,860.01	
83404.13.000.15	Equipment Repair		\$9,860.01
83404.13.000.10	Gas	\$236.20	
83404.13.000.21	Chlorine		\$236.20
83404.13.000.10	Pipe Water Main	\$955.61	
90308.13	Social Security		\$955.61

HIGHWAY

ACCOUNT #	NAME	DEBIT	CREDIT
51101.03	General Repairs PS	\$3,669.74	
51401.03	Misc PS		\$3,669.74
51302.03	Equipment	\$8,658.21	
51424.03	Snow Removal		\$8,658.21

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90508.03	Unemployment	\$250.00	
90558.03	Disability Insurance		\$250.00
90408.03	Worker's Comp	\$1,148.66	
90608.03	Health Insurance		\$1,148.66

206) Town Attorney Agreement

On a motion by Councilmember Lewis, seconded by Councilmember Snye, the following resolution be adopted: AYES: Supervisor Pickering, Councilpersons Lalonde, J. Lewis, Boeye. NAYS: 0 Adopted.

RESOLUTION NO.: 23-12-2020

Dated: December 10, 2020

TOWN ATTORNEY RETAINER AGREEMENT

The Firm of Kirk Gagnier, Attorney has agreed to perform legal services for the Town of Piercefield for the year 2021 for the sum of \$2,400.00 (\$200.00 per month). Services are described as follows:

1. Consultations as needed with the Supervisor, Deputy Supervisor, and Board Members.
2. Attendance at Town Board Meetings only when necessary to consider legal issues and when requested by the Supervisor or Deputy Supervisor. We have agreed that you will place legal matters and executive sessions as early items on the agenda, to the extent that you are able to do so.
3. Preparation of various documents for the Town, including bonds, notes, resolutions, contracts, leases, deeds, road dedications and related documents, ordinances and local laws, other than district law; and other usual documents required by the Town in ordinary course of business.
4. We will handle enforcement proceedings in the Town Justice Court, but more extensive litigation, collection matters, disputes or matters in the County Court or Supreme Court, are not included herein and, will not be required of us under this arrangement but can be contracted separately.
5. This Agreement does not include consultations with the Planning Board. It also expressly excludes any matters regarding tax assessment, tax grievances or related matters. Nothing in the Agreement shall prevent our firm from handling matters such as tax grievances or subdivisions on behalf of private persons and the parties agree that no confidential information regarding such matters shall be shared.
6. We will continue to provide Bonds and Bond Anticipation Notes and consultations with the Town Board with regard to existing Town financing matters. However, the establishment, modification, and financing of improvement Districts or new facilities within existing Districts related to any districts would not be included in this arrangement. Those matters can be contracted separately and paid for by the property owners within the Districts.

Notwithstanding that this contractual arrangement will be for the 2021 year, we agree that either of us may terminate this agreement upon thirty (30) days' written notice, provided of course, that we will complete any matters that may be pending upon such a termination if the Board wishes us to do so.

RESOLVED: That the Town Board of the Town of Piercefield hereby authorizes the Town Supervisor to enter into this agreement as outlined above.

207) New Water Contaminant Testing

All communities are required to test for specific new contaminants, beginning in 2021 for Towns under 3000 population. Larger Towns are already testing. These tests are estimated to cost in the neighborhood of \$800 per water district.

208) Approval of Supervisor and Town Clerk Monthly Reports

The Clerk and Supervisor Monthly Reports for November 2020 were not considered for logistical reasons considering the necessity to meet via ZOOM.

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209) Payment of Bills

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

Abstract # 12	General Account: Vouchers # 140-63PW	\$3,622.33
Abstract # 12	Highway Account: Vouchers # 179-203	\$24,253.99

210) Adjournment

On a motion by Councilmember Gina Sarazen seconded by Councilmember Amy Lalonde, the meeting was adjourned at 8:05 pm. Next regular meeting Thursday, January 14, 2021 at 7:30pm.

Donald G. Mauer, Town Clerk

Date Approved