

TOWN OF ARIETTA

April 20, 2026

Town Board Regular Meeting
Piseco School Meeting Room

Supervisor Rhodes opened the meeting at 5:00 PM with the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL:

Christian Rhodes – Supervisor - present
Jacquelyn Grier – Councilperson - present
Jennifer Smith – Councilperson - absent
Douglas Stobo – Councilperson - absent
Christy Wilt – Councilperson - present
Dana Ordway – Deputy Town Clerk - present

OTHERS PRESENT:

Craig Small – Highway Superintendent
Mel LaScola – Zoning Officer
Steve Woehrle
Jim Colton

It was noted the April 6, 2026, meeting minutes could not be Accepted as two members of the three who attended that meeting is absent from this meeting. They will be voted on once those members of the Town Board are in attendance.

Resolution 26-04-20 was read. (Planning Board Chairman Appointment) Jacqui Grier offered the motion to approve. Christy Wilt seconded it. Chris explained that this was discussed a bit at the last meeting. The consensus was Eric Greiner could not continue as Chairman remotely. Eric reached out to Jim Colton who is also on the Planning Board, and Jim agreed to assume the Chairman position. Chris feels Jim will be very good at it. Chris asked if there were any other questions. There were none. All members in attendance were in favor. Motion passed 3:2. The Agenda and Resolution are attached to these minutes.

COMMITTEES:

Snowmobile Trails/ Fuel at K09- Chris noted last week he met with Jacqui Grier and Craig Small to discuss the trails. They decided to offer some of the snowmobile trail grooming to a new club that has been formed in lower Arietta. A meeting has been scheduled with them tomorrow (April 21st). They will report back to the Town Board at the May 4th meeting about how it went.

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Town Buildings/ Grounds- There was no report in Doug Stobos absence.

Recreation/Website/Campsite- Christy Wilt reported she is playing phone tag with Jeremiah Kusia who is our new contact with DEC concerning the first campsite. She wants to talk to him about the cleanup there. Piseco Fire Chief Steve Woehrle spoke up and said there is talk of them having a “live burn” there. He was speculating that may be how they plan to clean it up. Christy noted the cleanup she is referring to is because people are getting stuck and the boat launch is there.

*Christy and Chris also reported there was one person interested in teaching swimming lessons, but she is not going to be certified until the end of this semester. That is too late for some of our commitment deadlines and there is no Assistant lined up so there will be no swimming classes. The Red Cross deadline is some time in April. Chris felt Christy and Recreation Director Sheila Crouse should shoot for February to advertise for it next year.

Lake/Dam/Cemetery- There was no report in Jenny Smiths absence.

Finance/ Airport/ Internal Management/ Insurance- Chris Rhodes noted he and Craig Small talked about the possibility of leaving the brush depository open all the time. It will be up to the residents to comply with the regulations as any violations will result in it being closed permanently. Craig noted the town guys should not have to take care of bags that are left or logs or stumps or try to find out who left them. Chris feels the residents want this privilege but will need to police themselves to keep it open. It does not make financial sense to pay someone to monitor it. He asked Jacqui and Christy if they had any comments on it staying open. Jacqui sees it being violated as in the past and short lived. Christy wondered how Lake Pleasant does it. She had thought there is a designated site, but they only allow brush and pine needles through June 30th. She felt if there is a violation we should consider having it open weekends only. Craig noted that is what we used to do. It was agreed that we should try leaving it open and see if residents will comply. Craig’s plan is to open it by the end of the week if it dries out enough to drive in.

*Chris also updated everyone on the following: The test wells at the brush depository are being scheduled. They were supposed to be in March but will take place when the Hamilton County Highway Department lifts the posting of the roads (after April 27th).

*There will be no June large trash day, only August 6th, after the Rummage Sale. It is the hope that any large items in June that people want to discard would be good enough to donate to the 4th of July Rummage Sale. Chris asked Christy to put this info on the website.

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*Correction to the website – Chris asked Christy to update the website regarding the Land Use Code Book and the Zoning Map. They seem too far apart, and it may be confusing. He suggests they open together.

*BTI treatment is underway.

*The Airport Apron Rehab project – Documents were available to contractors April 15th. They are in the NYS Contract Reporter. There will be a pre-bid meeting at the airport April 23rd at 11 AM. Chris and Craig will be meeting with the engineer and anyone who may want to bid on the project. Bids will be opened Thursday May 14th at 3 PM in the Supervisors office. Craig Small will be there as a witness to the opening of bids by Town Clerk Marie Buanno as well as Chris.

*Town Board will be meeting May 18th to apply for the grant. Grant application is due June 1st to the FAA.

*Airport Fuel pump card reader – Chris would like to get prices to replace the unit. The pump and dispenser are working. We had one quote from July last year of \$18,345.00 including shipping. That quote is still the same. Jacqui Grier will reach out for other quotes as she has the specs. It will be talked about at the next meeting.

Hwy Superintendent/Building and Grounds/Parks & Recreation- Chris noted the garbage truck needs to be replaced. Craig Small has reached out to a couple companies to get prices and availability. He has researched and found one option which is just like what we have. Craig just got the specs before the meeting and will look them over. Chris said he would like to go ahead with this unless Christy and Jacqui have a better option. Craig is thinking the timing would be several (up to 6) months. Chris would like to pay for it out of the Fund Balance instead of budgeting for it next year. A Resolution would be brought to the Board. We would figure a way to put something into the garbage truck budget line. It would not have to go out to bid as it is a piggyback off the Onondaga contract. Craig is researching lease options too. If there were a ten-year lease option, then it wouldn't have to come out of Fund Balance.

*The guys are cleaning up the roads. They are trying to get down Powley Road, but the gate is closed. They went down through Stratford to replace some culverts and couldn't get in. Hopefully next week they will get someone to open it up.

*Garbage is getting strewn everywhere by birds as residents are putting bags out instead of garbage pails or receptacles of some kind. The guys will not be picking it up if it is strewn around. It will be left for the resident to clean up. Christy will put something on the website to remind people of this.

Codes and Zoning- Zoning Officer Mel LaScola had nothing to contribute at this time.

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New Business- Lithium-Ion Battery Moratorium – Chris noted he received several e-mail messages from a lady in Northampton stating many other surrounding towns are putting a moratorium on Lithium-Ion Battery Energy Storage Systems and encouraged us to do the same. Chris asked if the Board wanted to do this. Everyone in attendance agreed that we should do this. A Resolution to start the Local Law process will be forthcoming.

A motion was required to pay the bills as presented. Christy Wilt offered the motion. Jacqui Grier seconded the motion. All members in attendance were in favor. Motion passed 3:2.

PUBLIC COMMENT-

Steve Woehrle – Thanked the Town Board for voting for the lithium battery moratorium. He said (as Piseco Fire Chief) we could not handle it if there was a fire.

Steve wondered if something could go out about the brush depository opening and policy. Dana Ordway noted it could probably go out with the PLA mailing. Christy said it could go on the website. Steve asked how we notify people in case of emergencies? Shouldn't there be a town e-mail list or something like that? Chris noted the county is creating something, but it still needs to be implemented.

Jim Colton noted the sign law changes have gone to the APA for review. The Planning Board is waiting for a response.

The next meeting will be on Monday May 4, 2026 at 5:00 PM at the Piseco School Meeting Room.

Supervisor Rhodes asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Jacqui Grier offered the motion, and Christy Wilt seconded the motion. Motion passed 3:2. Meeting adjourned at 5:29 PM.

Respectfully Submitted by,

Marie C. Buanno, Town Clerk/Tax Collector

Minutes taken by Dana Ordway, Deputy Town Clerk/Tax Collector

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Agenda

April 20, 2026
5 pm at Piseco Common School
Town of Arietta

- Call to Order
- Pledge of Allegiance
- Roll Call

- Resolutions
 - **26-04-20** **Appoint Planning Board Chair**

- **Snowmobile Trails** – *Grier*
- **Town Buildings / Grounds** - *Stobo*
- **Recreation / Website / Campsite** – *Wilt/Smith*
- **Lake / Dam / Cemetery** - *Smith*
- **Finance / Airport / Internal Management / Insurance** - *Rhodes*
- **Superintendent / Building and Grounds Report / Parks & Recreation**– *Small*
- **Codes and Zoning** – *Lascola*

- **Old Business**
 - Fueling Terminal

- **New Business**
 - Pre-bid Conference scheduled for Thursday, April 23, 2026, at 11am on-site for the Piseco Airport Apron Rehab Project

- Motion to accept the bills
- Public Comment
- Designation for next Meeting Monday, May 4, 2026
- **Motion to adjourn**

