

TOWN OF ARIETTA

April 6, 2026

Town Board Regular Meeting
Piseco School Meeting Room

Supervisor Rhodes opened the meeting at 5:02 PM with the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL:

Christian Rhodes-Supervisor-present

Jacquelyn Grier- absent

Jennifer Smith-present

Douglas Stobo-present

Christy Wilt-absent

OTHERS PRESENT:

Craig Small – Highway Superintendent

Mel LaScola – Zoning Officer

Richard Hart

Supervisor Rhodes asked for a motion to accept the March 2, 2026, meeting minutes as presented by the Town Clerk via e-mail. Jenny Smith offered the motion to accept the minutes. Doug Stobo seconded the motion. All members in attendance were in favor. Motion passed.

Resolution 26-04-15 was read. (Transfer of Funds) Doug Stobo offered the motion to approve. Chris Rhodes asked for a second on the motion. Jenny Smith seconded it. Chris asked if there was any other discussion. There was none. Chris explained that this was for the loader payment. The town received the insurance payment last fall and just got the bill from CAT per Craig Small. When it was received it went into the fund balance. It is going from the fund balance to the Machinery expense fund and now that we have gotten the bill, it will be paid out of that. Chris asked if there were any other questions. There were none. All members in attendance were in favor. Motion passed. The Agenda and Resolutions are attached to these minutes.

Resolution 26-04-16 was read. (Approval of Bidding for FAA AIP grant at Piseco Airport for work as described: Apron Rehabilitation - Construction) Doug Stobo offered the motion to approve. Chris asked for a second on the motion. Jenny Smith seconded it. Chris asked if there was any other discussion. There was none. All members in attendance were in favor. Motion passed.

Resolution 26-04-17 was read. (Approve Contractor for the Justice Court Assistance Program) (JCAP) Jenny Smith offered the motion to approve. Chris asked for a second on the motion.

Doug Stobo seconded it. Chris noted that this is the grant that we applied for last year for air conditioning and the wall seal for the courtroom. This is approving the lowest bidder we received. All members in attendance were in favor. Motion passed.

Resolution 26-04-18 was read. (Approve Contractor for Staining/Painting the Exterior of the Old Town Garage) Jenny Smith offered the motion to approve. Chris asked for a second on the motion. Doug Stobo seconded it. Chris thanked Doug for getting the three quotes and with Chris Hotaling being the lowest bid, it was accepted. Chris Asked Doug to once again contact Chris Hotaling to let him know he has been approved and to ask him to get us on his schedule. All members in attendance were in favor. Motion passed.

Resolution 26-04-19 was read. (Approve Snow Check of New Ski-Doo Skandic Snowmobile) Doug Stobo offered the motion to approve with the \$1,000.00 non-refundable deposit. Chris asked for a second on the motion. Jenny Smith seconded it. Chris asked if there was any discussion. There was none. Chris did note that Craig looked into this last year or early this year. We have looked for these machines in the past and this one model is all we can really use. This is a single sourced manufactured item. Any dealer can buy one of these, but they are very limited. Craig talked to the NYS Comptroller's office and found that we can do this because it is a single source, but we still need to do the RFP (Request for Proposals) and reach out to other dealers to see if there may be a leftover or a situation where someone ordered one but didn't take it. We will do that but most likely will end up with Smith Marine. We are going to try to make the procurement to satisfy our policy. Chris asked if there were any other questions. There were none. All members in attendance were in favor. Motion passed.

COMMITTEES:

Snowmobile Trails/ Fuel at K09- No report due to Jacqui Griers absence. Chris noted and Craig agreed there is nothing to report as snowmobile season is done.

Town Buildings/ Grounds- Doug Stobo reported the first use of the Community Hall will be when the PVFD Auxiliary meets for their first meeting of the season May 6th at 7 PM. He has contacted Adironadack Advanced Cleaning, and they are scheduled to clean April 28th. Chris noted the floors and plumbing were replaced in the bathrooms by the highway department crew. Doug said the floors look nice and bright.

Recreation/Website/Campsite- No report due to Christy Wilts absence.

Lake/Dam/Cemetary- Jenny Smith had nothing new to report.

Finance/ Airport/ Internal Management/ Insurance- Chris Rhodes noted that last year Hamilton County participated in the Venison for Vets program. People donate venison and volunteers get together to package it and divide it up for distribution to different counties. This year the meat will be picked up in Fulton County April 15th. This year 6,000 lbs. of meat was processed. If anyone knows of any veterans in our town that would like some venison or even if there is

someone in need of venison, please e-mail Chris as soon as possible and he will forward the information.

On another note, Chris said Planning Board Chairman Eric Greiner may be accepting a new job that will take him out of town during the week. He would like to stay on as Chairman but do the meetings remotely. Chris has investigated this with the Attorney for the NYSAOT (New York State Association of Towns). According to the NYS Committee on Open Government, this is allowed as long as an alternate location is open to the public and advertised as such. The other option is for the Town Board to enact a Local Law to allow meetings to be held remotely. Chris said he is not in favor of the remote meetings. Chris asked for the other members' thoughts on this. Jenny Smith was in favor of the advertised alternate location as long as WiFi were available. She felt limiting the number of members calling in could be designated. WiFi is available where the Planning Board meetings are currently held but space for the public is not prevalent. The room where the Town Board meets does not have WiFi at all times. Doug Stobo wondered about Eric possibly remaining on the Planning Board but relinquishing his title as Chairman and have someone else take over even temporarily until Eric finds out if his new job is permanent. The downside to being a remote Chairman are the delays in progress and communications you need to have. If someone were a regular member that is one thing, but a remote Chairman may not work well. Jenny said she is more than willing to help in any way she can to bridge the gap as she is getting experience in running her foundation remotely. She said we want to keep someone on who has the interest to stay involved. Eric is planning on attending the upcoming Planning Board meeting on April 14th but meetings after that may already be problematic if not done remotely. Zoning Officer Mel LaScola said there is already occasion that Planning Board members have called in and the call gets dropped on one end or the other or the connection is spotty depending on where they are. He feels it would be difficult for someone to run a meeting remotely. He wondered about having Co-Chairmen for now. There have been recent meetings where no one knew if there would even be a quorum. With the Secretary being the Alternate Planning Board member, they could at least open last month's meeting as no one knew the Chairman wasn't going to come. The public does not have to make an appointment to come with inquiries for the Planning Board. If someone had come from out of town to the public meeting to be heard and there wasn't a quorum, they would have had to come back the next month. Town Clerk Marie Buanno noted since she was Planning Board Secretary that there are good people on the Planning Board that have great input whether they are there or they call in. Right now, one member is gone the whole winter, one is very involved with the kid's events so those two are gone a lot. If the Chairman is also gone, is it going to be acceptable for everyone to call in remotely? How will someone's plans be reviewed if no one is there to physically look at what they are presenting? Doug was in favor of trying Co-Chairmen. Craig Small noted that the fire department had problems with members being allowed to attend remotely. The idea was to call in remotely if it was an extreme circumstance that they could not be there in person. Members were abusing it and calling in remotely when they lived right down the road. Chris feels the consensus right now is to see if we can go with Co-Chairmen. He thinks the ones to consider would be Eric Greiner and Jim Colton. He will talk to them. If they are agreeable, a Resolution will have to be presented and passed. Chris will report back to the next meeting.

Hwy Superintendent/Building and Grounds/Parks & Recreation- Craig Small reiterated the work done in the bathrooms at the Community Hall. Doug Stobo asked about the leaking that made the ceiling tiles come down earlier in the winter. Craig said he had thought it was just because of the snow but with the rain recently, he has discovered more leaks in the roof. He will have to contact a contractor to take a look and see what is going on and what the fix is. Chris noted there may be loose screws from when the roof was put on. The leak is not just the chimney area as before.

Craig said his guys are pulling the plows off the trucks. He thinks Marion Parslow has started BTI treatments.

Chris said he had an airport hangar tenant wanting to know why the gate was bolted shut. Craig said that was news to him, but he will check it out. Chris also noted that it was pointed out to him that there is equipment on one of the roads at the airport. Craig said it was the drags. They will be moved soon.

Codes and Zoning- Zoning Officer Mel LaScola got the state report done. He is having a few issues with mobile home parks but is handling it.

Old Business- T-Mobile Grant update– Jenny Smith submitted it. Jenny asked who generally looks for new grants? Chris said Christy Wilt looks for upcoming grants through the Lake George/Lake Champlain Regional Planning Board. We haven't very good luck with them as they are more into studies. Some new grants come through the Town Clerks' contacts. Jenny said she submitted her own T-Mobile grant through her foundation for an ADA kayak ramp. It will not compete with the one for the Town of Arietta. They applied for it as a temporary, movable fixture that will not need permits. They are going to try it at the West Branch then see where it will do the most good. It is not easily movable, but her father has heavy equipment to move it.

New Business- See info previously given for Venison for Vets.

A motion was required to pay the bills as presented. Jenny Smith offered the motion. Doug Stobo seconded the motion. All members in attendance were in favor. Motion passed.

A motion was required to accept the financial statements as presented. Doug Stobo offered the motion. Jenny Smith seconded the motion. All members in attendance were in favor. Motion passed.

PUBLIC COMMENT-

Doug Stobo – Noted he heard Jenny Smith will not be in attendance at the next meeting on April 20th. He will not be here either nor will he be at the May 4th meeting. Jenny said she will be back for the May 4th meeting.

Doug asked when the brush dump will be opening. Craig said the gate was open until just recently. He had to close it as there is still a lot of snow back there to melt which will make it too soft to drive in.

Marie Buanno had a couple of things. The NYSAOT (NYS Association of Towns) recently notified all Town Clerks that they extended the deadline (to March 31st) to get town history in for publication in a book they are putting together for the 250th Birthday of America. She looked into it. Since sometime last year they have been asking the towns for information. With Town Historian Bill Hotaling on vacation, she contacted Town of Arietta Historical Society President and Vice President Fred & Cindy Adcock who have published a book on Piseco and Arietta. Marie thought they might allow her to pull excerpts from their book or use some of what the Piseco lake Association has on their website that they wrote. They went the extra mile as they always do and wrote something (it had to be 1,000 words or less) and included pictures. Marie notified Chris Rhodes and he gave it a thumbs up to submit. Marie gave the Town Board members copies. The town will get a complimentary copy of the book. It is unknown if they will be for sale. Chris wanted to be sure to thank Fred and Cindy on behalf of the Town of Arietta.

Thursday April 9th Marie will be settling the tax rolls with the County Treasurer. The rolls balanced to the penny. The town retains penalties and overpayments collected. That is over \$1,700.00 this year.

Marie is attending the NYS Town Clerks Association conference April 19th through the 22nd in Albany. She is taking the Notary Class with hopes of taking the test shortly. With that said, her Deputy Dana Ordway is taking notes at the next Town Board meeting on April 20th. Marie is creating a template so she will know what she needs to do and record.

The Town Clerks report for January had no fees coming in so there was no report. In February there was \$60.50 collected for dog fees and death certificates. In March there was \$298.50 collected for dog fees, a building permit and a variance fee.

The next meeting will be on Monday April 20, 2026 at 5:00 PM at the Piseco School Meeting Room.

Supervisor Rhodes asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Doug Stobo offered the motion, and Jenny Smith seconded the motion. Meeting adjourned at 5:46 PM.

Respectfully Submitted by,

Marie C. Buanno, Town Clerk/Tax Collector

TOWN OF ARIETTA
in
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Agenda

April 6, 2026

5pm at Piseco Common School

Town of Arietta

- Call to Order
- Pledge of Allegiance
- Roll Call
- Motion to accept the minutes for the March 2, 2026, meeting

- Resolutions
 - **26-04-15** **Transfer of Funds**
 - **26-04-16** **Set Apron Rehab Construction Bid**
 - **26-04-17** **JCAP Award**
 - **26-04-18** **Contractor for Staining/Repainting Garage**
 - **26-04-19** **Purchase New Ski-Doo Skandic**

- **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**
 - T-Mobile Grant update

- **New Business**
 -

- Motion to accept the bills
- Motion to accept financial statements
- Public Comment
- Designation for next Meeting Monday, April 20, 2026
- **Motion to adjourn**

TOWN OF ARIETTA

At a regular meeting of the Arietta Town Board at the Piseco Common School, 1722 State Route 8, in the Town of Arietta, Hamilton County, New York on:

April 6, 2026, at 5:00 pm

Resolution # 26-04-15

Subject: **Transfer of Funds**

Resolution Offered By: Douglas Stobo

WHEREAS: the Town of Arietta will give the Town Supervisor permission to make the following transfer of money:

Highway Fund

\$ 23,100.00 to #DA-5130-400, Machinery Contractual Expense
from #DA-0909 Fund Balance

THEREFORE, LET IT BE RESOLVED: that the Town of Arietta Town Board does approve the above transfers of money.

Seconded by Jennifer Smith and put to a vote, which resulted as follows:

AYES:	NOES:	ABSTAIN:	ABSENT:
Jacquelyn Grier <u> </u>	Jacquelyn Grier <u> </u>	Jacquelyn Grier <u> </u>	Jacquelyn Grier <u> X </u>
Jennifer Smith <u> X </u>	Jennifer Smith <u> </u>	Jennifer Smith <u> </u>	Jennifer Smith <u> </u>
Douglas Stobo <u> X </u>	Douglas Stobo <u> </u>	Douglas Stobo <u> </u>	Douglas Stobo <u> </u>
Christy Wilt <u> </u>	Christy Wilt <u> </u>	Christy Wilt <u> </u>	Christy Wilt <u> X </u>
Christian Rhodes <u> X </u>	Christian Rhodes <u> </u>	Christian Rhodes <u> </u>	Christian Rhodes <u> </u>

 Marie C. Buanno
Town Clerk

 April 6, 2026
Date

TOWN OF ARIETTA

At a regular meeting of the Arietta Town Board at the Piseco Common School, 1722 State Route 8, in the Town of Arietta, Hamilton County, New York on:

April 6, 2026, at 5:00 pm

Resolution # 26-04-16

Subject: **Approval of Bidding for FAA AIP Grant at Piseco Airport for work as described:
Apron Rehabilitation - Construction**

Resolution Offered By: Douglas Stobo

WHEREAS: the U.S. Department of Transportation Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) has developed the Airport Improvement Program (AIP); and

WHEREAS: the FAA has made funds available to eligible N.Y. airports to address critical infrastructure needs; and

WHEREAS: the Town accepted a grant to design the Rehabilitation of their Apron for a total of \$126,930.00; and

WHEREAS: McFarland Johnson was previously approved by the Town of Arietta as the engineering firm for Piseco Airport to complete design and bidding services; now, therefore, be it

WHEREAS: the project will go to public bid, to be compiled into an FAA grant application for the construction of the Apron Rehabilitation; and

WHEREAS: the project will have documents available to the public starting on Wednesday, April 15, 2026; and

WHEREAS: there will be an on-site pre-bid meeting held at Piseco Airport on Thursday, April 23, 2026, at 11 am; and

WHEREAS: all submitted bids will be opened publicly at the Town of Arietta Supervisor’s Office on Thursday, May 14, 2026, at 3 pm; and

THEREFORE, LET IT BE RESOLVED: that the Town Board, Town of Arietta, approves the bidding schedule for the construction project for the Piseco Airport for the Apron Rehabilitation Construction.

Seconded by Jennifer Smith and put to a vote, which resulted as follows:

AYES:	NOES:	ABSTAIN:	ABSENT:
Jacquelyn Grier _____	Jacquelyn Grier _____	Jacquelyn Grier _____	Jacquelyn Grier <u>X</u> _____
Jennifer Smith <u>X</u> _____	Jennifer Smith _____	Jennifer Smith _____	Jennifer Smith _____
Douglas Stobo <u>X</u> _____	Douglas Stobo _____	Douglas Stobo _____	Douglas Stobo _____
Christy Wilt _____	Christy Wilt _____	Christy Wilt _____	Christy Wilt <u>X</u> _____
Christian Rhodes <u>X</u> _____	Christian Rhodes _____	Christian Rhodes _____	Christian Rhodes _____

Marie C. Buanno
Town Clerk

April 6, 2026
Date

TOWN OF ARIETTA

At a regular meeting of the Arietta Town Board at the Piseco Common School, 1722 State Route 8, in the Town of Arietta, Hamilton County, New York, on:

April 6, 2026, at 5:00 pm

Resolution # 26-04-17

Subject: **Approve Contractor for the Justice Court Assistance Program (JCAP)**

Resolution Offered By: Jennifer Smith

WHEREAS: the Town of Arietta requested funding from the Justice Court Assistance Program (JCAP) in 2025. The Arietta Town Court received an award of \$12,700.00 from JCAP under the 2025-2026 grant cycle for the following items: air conditioning \$12,200, a wall seal \$500.00, and

WHEREAS: the town has reviewed the quotes and will approve Vincent’s Heating & Energy Services LLC as the contractor to purchase and install the units for \$12,200.00, and

THEREFORE, LET IT BE RESOLVED: that the Town of Arietta Town Board does approve Vincent’s Heating & Energy Services LLC as the contractor to purchase and install the units for \$12,200.00 and authorizes the Supervisor to execute any document on behalf of the Town of Arietta.

Seconded by Douglas Stobo and put to a vote, which resulted as follows:

AYES:	NOES:	ABSTAIN:	ABSENT:
Jacquelyn Grier _____	Jacquelyn Grier _____	Jacquelyn Grier _____	Jacquelyn Grier <u>X</u> _____
Jennifer Smith <u>X</u> _____	Jennifer Smith _____	Jennifer Smith _____	Jennifer Smith _____
Douglas Stobo <u>X</u> _____	Douglas Stobo _____	Douglas Stobo _____	Douglas Stobo _____
Christy Wilt _____	Christy Wilt _____	Christy Wilt _____	Christy Wilt <u>X</u> _____
Christian Rhodes <u>X</u> _____	Christian Rhodes _____	Christian Rhodes _____	Christian Rhodes _____

Marie C. Buanno
Town Clerk

April 6, 2026
Date

TOWN OF ARIETTA

At a regular meeting of the Arietta Town Board at the Piseco Common School, 1722 State Route 8, in the Town of Arietta, Hamilton County, New York, on:

April 6, 2026, at 5:00 pm

Resolution # 26-04-18

Subject: **Approve Contractor for Staining/Painting the Exterior of the Old Town Garage**

Resolution Offered By: Jennifer Smith

WHEREAS: after inspection of the old highway garage, it was revealed that there is a need to stain/repaint the exterior to keep it in good condition, and

WHEREAS: the Supervisor, per the Town of Arietta Procurement Policy, received the required Request for Proposals (RFP) and, after review, would like to hire Chris Hotaling as the contractor for the exterior staining/painting project for \$3,265.00 as per the attached proposal, and

WHEREAS: the town board has reviewed the quotes and will approve Chris Hotaling as the contractor to stain/repaint the exterior for \$3,265.00, and

THEREFORE, LET IT BE RESOLVED: that the Town of Arietta Town Board does approve Chris Hotaling as the contractor to stain/repaint the exterior for \$3,265.00 as per the attached proposal and authorizes the Supervisor to execute any documents on behalf of the Town of Arietta.

Seconded by Douglas Stobo and put to a vote, which resulted as follows:

AYES:	NOES:	ABSTAIN:	ABSENT:
Jacquelyn Grier _____	Jacquelyn Grier _____	Jacquelyn Grier _____	Jacquelyn Grier <u>X</u> _____
Jennifer Smith <u>X</u> _____	Jennifer Smith _____	Jennifer Smith _____	Jennifer Smith _____
Douglas Stobo <u>X</u> _____	Douglas Stobo _____	Douglas Stobo _____	Douglas Stobo _____
Christy Wilt _____	Christy Wilt _____	Christy Wilt _____	Christy Wilt <u>X</u> _____
Christian Rhodes <u>X</u> _____	Christian Rhodes _____	Christian Rhodes _____	Christian Rhodes _____

Marie C. Buanno
Town Clerk

April 6, 2026
Date

