TOWN OF ARIETTA
October 5, 2026
Town Board Hearing and Budget Meeting
Piseco School Meeting Room

Supervisor Rhodes opened the meeting at 5:01 PM with the Pledge of Allegiance.
ROLL CALL:
Christian Rhodes – Supervisor – present
Jacquelyn Grier – Councilperson - present
Jennifer Smith – Councilperson - present
Douglas Stobo – Councilperson - present
Christy Wilt – Councilperson - absent
Marie Buanno – Town Clerk – present

OTHERS PRESENT:
Mel LaScola – Zoning Officer
Bill Hotaling – Assessor
Jim Colton – Planning Board Chairman
Judy Ford
Kevin Kennedy

Chris Rhodes immediately opened the public hearing for Local Law #2 to Override the Tax Cap for the 2027 Budget. He asked if there was anyone from the public who wanted to comment on it. No one did. The hearing will stay open until the end of the meeting in case anyone comes in wanting to do so.

Supervisor Rhodes asked for a motion to accept the minutes of the September 21, 2026, meeting as presented by the Town Clerk. Doug Stobo offered the motion to accept. Jenny Smith seconded it. All members in attendance were in favor. Motion passed 3:2. Jacqui Grier did not vote as she did not attend that meeting. Christy Wilt is absent.

COMMITTEES:

Snowmobile Trails/ Fuel at K09- Jacqui Grier reported Pleasant Riders went out Saturday and built two bridges. She said the trails look pretty good. They have planned for one more work weekend in November. Chris noted the Adirondack Trail Groomers are still doing some clearing.

Town Buildings/ Grounds- Doug Stobo checked on the Community Hall and said it looks good after being used on Saturday. The deposit has been released.

Recreation/Website/Campsite- There was no report in Christy Wilts absence.

TOWN OF ARIETTA
October 5, 2026
Town Board Hearing and Budget Meeting
Piseco School Meeting Room

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

Finance/ Airport/ Internal Management/ Insurance- Chris noted the lake level is minus 6 inches. He said the boards are set to come out this week at some point. He noted he responded to the emergency call over the weekend on Route 10. No one drowned as was previously thought. The generator is installed at the airport.

Hwy Superintendent/Building and Grounds/Parks & Recreation- Craig sent a report in his absence indicating the fiber mat was done on Wight Road, Airport Road and Pawling Road. They are due to pave Arrowhead in one to two weeks depending on the availability of the paver. They will then do the shoulders on Arrowhead and East Shore Road.

Codes and Zoning- Mel LaScolas had nothing new to report.

Resolution 26-10-47 was read. (Accept 2027 Preliminary Budget) Doug Stobo offered the motion to approve. Jenny Smith seconded it. All members in attendance were in favor. Motion passed 4:1. The Agenda and Resolutions are attached to these minutes.

Resolution 26-10-49 was read. (Transfer of Funds) Jacqui Grier offered the motion to approve. Doug Stobo seconded it. All members in attendance were in favor. Motion passed 4:1.

Brush Facility Use Agreement – Chris noted Judy Ford brought up at the last meeting that sometimes it is not possible to use the brush facility and get the key back in an hour. It was noted that another resident signed out the key and took two hours and seventeen minutes. With that in mind, Chris asked the Board to consider changing the regulations to allow a two-hour period. The new regulations will be attached to these minutes if approved. Also, it was thought that grass clippings were already included in the acceptable items that can be dumped at the facility and they were not so they are added. Chris asked if there were any other public comments concerning the changes, there were none. Chris asked for a motion to approve the agreement as amended. Jacqui Grier offered the motion to approve. Doug Stobo seconded it. All members in attendance were in favor. Motion passed 4:1.

Airport Fuel System – Chris brought Jacqui Grier up to speed with what had been done at the last meeting regarding the RFP for credit card readers and dispensers. He felt it would be beneficial to replace the dispenser as well as the card reader as it is antiquated. He was suggesting it go out to bid as it may be over $20,000.00 and exceeds the procurement limit.

TOWN OF ARIETTA
October 5, 2026
Town Board Hearing and Budget Meeting
Piseco School Meeting Room

Since then, he reached out to some companies that deal with them, including pictures of what we have, to try to get some guidance as to what we should be bidding and was told nothing we have meets current codes. This went from a smaller project to a much larger project. He reached out to NYS DOT to see if we could get a grant to upgrade the whole system. The FAA doesn't do anything that creates revenue, so we had to go to the DOT. It would have to go through the engineer. We are not going out to bid for it right now.

Sign Code Discussion - Mel LaScolas and Jacqui Grier were not at the last meeting. At that meeting, Jim Colton had reviewed the codes changes the Planning Board was proposing to try to answer any questions the Board had. The Town Clerk sent a copy to the Town Board last week via e-mail.
Since then, Jim went through the book to jot down some things that may need to be changed. Chris had suggested that while we are modifying the signs code, we may as well include anything else that may need changing since we have to have a public hearing and get APA approval. Jim wanted clarification on a few things so he could take them back to the next Planning Board meeting. Jim's list includes short-term rentals and air b and b's. Chris explained that the short-term rental issue has to do with signs. The Planning Board is proposing that the flags can be flown when a business is open. It needs to be determined if flags for on-line businesses such as air b and b's can fly 24/7. What the hours of operation actually are and when the business is actually open need defining. The Boards consensus was that they didn't want sign flags flying 24/7 as they would be all over the place. Another subject discussed last meeting was if we are expecting Mel LaScola to enforce these sign laws, it needs to be determined what kind of authority he actually has except for writing a letter to say they are in violation. Jim noted there is a section in the Land Use Code Book that already has an enforcement policy. Jim would like to have the Planning Board go over the enforcement code. He would also like Chris to give him his thoughts on what is already in the code book as that may be all that is needed. Mel will also review it and plans on attending the Planning Board meeting. Jim noted the APA mentioned that the terms Code Enforcement Officer and Land Use Officer are used interchangeably in the book. It should be the same throughout the book. The other items that need to be addressed are the junk cars and property maintenance. Chris suggested to Bill Hotaling that he might want to sit in on the Planning Board meeting as he is a former Planning Board member. Bill Hotaling also brought up Density (how many buildings you can have on your property). Chris noted that had been put on the back burner for a while. We will wait to see what the Planning Board comes back with.

Airport Capital Improvement Program (ACIP) – It must be planned out for the next five years.

We were awarded the money already and have a contractor in place. According to the FAA they consider that in the past as it has already been awarded. 2027 is a Gap year. 2028 is Obstruction Removal – Land Acquisition, 2029 is Obstruction Removal – Design, 2030 is Obstruction Removal – Construction and 2031 is Relocate Entrance Road/Wight Road – Design. The is all tentative, however, it must be done per FAA regulations. Chris asked for a motion to approve the plan as presented. Doug Stobo offered the motion to approve. Jenny Smith seconded it. All members in attendance were in favor. Motion passed 4:1.

A motion was required to pay the bills as presented. Jacqui Grier offered the motion. Doug Stobo seconded the motion. All members in attendance were in favor. Motion passed 4:1.

General Fund	Vouchers 566, 569 and 573 through 588	$29,488.87
Highway Fund	Vouchers 565, 568 and 570 through 572	$10,789.67

A motion was required to accept the financial statements as presented. Doug Stobo offered the motion. Jacqui Grier seconded the motion. All members in attendance were in favor. Motion passed 4:1.

PUBLIC COMMENT- There were no other comments.

At this time Supervisor Rhodes closed the public hearing for Local Law #2 to Override the Tax Cap for the 2027 Budget. With no public comment offered, Resolution 26-10-48 (Local Law No. 2 of the year 2026 "A Local Law Overriding the Tax Levy Limit for the Town of Arietta 2027 Budget and Authorizing the Adoption by the Town of Arietta of a Budget for 2027 that Requires a Tax Levy that is Greater Than the Tax Levy Limit for the 2027 Fiscal Year") was read. Jacqui Grier offered the motion to accept. Seconded by Doug Stobo. Chris asked if there was any further discussion. There was none. All members in attendance were in favor. Motion passed 4:1.

Chris asked if the Board wanted to go over the Preliminary Budget. If they get through it all tonight, there would be no need to meet on the scheduled workshop night of Tuesday October 13th. Everyone was in favor. Chris said he hoped everyone had a chance to go over it on their own before tonight.
He noted most towns were going with 5% raises for salaries. It was noted that the Town Board members froze their wages last year and did not take a raise. Jacqui Grier suggested we do the same this year. The vote was 3:1 of those present in favor of a 5% raise for Town Board members. The Supervisor went over all lines one by one with reasoning for any changes.
It was noted there are no funds allocated for the Senior Center. Jacqui Grier asked if this would be a problem. Chris said they were asked for information about programs they are providing our seniors. We heard nothing so it has been dropped.
Funds for the swimming program were discussed. Chris wanted to know if the Board wanted to cut it out seeing we did not have an instructor in a couple years or leave it. At first, it was thought it should be cut. Jacqui Grier felt we should try harder to get the word out and advertise

TOWN OF ARIETTA
October 5, 2026
Town Board Hearing and Budget Meeting
Piseco School Meeting Room

earlier to see if we can save the program before cutting it out. Once summer people come back, they ask if, or why we are/aren't having swimming lessons. This way, at least we tried. After discussion it was unanimous to keep it in the budget and try to keep it going even if it means starting to advertise in January.
Funds for trail grooming went up as we have to pay people to do Sheriff Lake trails. There are funds to pay Indian Lake and Long Lake to do Arietta trails although they have not responded since the contracts went out. They need to submit logs to get paid as that is part of the agreement. The funds need to be there to pay them. Also, Craig feels we may need a new drag for the Tucker. It keeps breaking and Bill Parslow keeps fixing it. It works so Chris asked what the Board wanted to do. Everyone agreed to leave it in the budget.
The new health insurance program has been working well. It went up 14 ½% but adjusted accordingly due to deaths and went up only 5%. We pre-pay for deductibles and not everyone used that so some of it went back into the General Fund. We could leave it flat instead of raising it if the Board wants to go that way. The Board unanimously decided to leave it in the budget.
Chris went over the Revenues; however, they are hard to predict. When going over the Highway Funds, it was noted the Revenue was down as we no longer have the staff to maintain Route 10 and the county maintains it. Jenny asked if we would ever get it back. Chris noted we only have two HEOs to plow the whole town. Unless we can find some to hire, we will not be getting it back.
Everyone thanked Chris for the work that went into preparing the Preliminary Budget. Everyone seemed satisfied with the figures so it was agreed that we will not be having the Budget Workshop scheduled for Tuesday October 13th.

The next meeting will be on Monday October 19, 2026, at 5:00 PM at the Piseco School Meeting Room.

Town Clerk Marie Buanno noted she took in $611.51 for the month of September. This included 5 building permits, 1 tent permit, 80 death certificates, 1 residential hunting license, 1 non-resident fishing license, 7 dog fees, 2 commemorative books sold plus .01 interest on the checking account.

Supervisor Rhodes asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Jacqui Grier offered the motion, and Doug Stobo seconded the motion. Motion passed 4:1. Meeting adjourned at 5:57 PM.

Respectfully Submitted by,
Marie C. Buanno, Town Clerk/Tax Collector

TOWN OF ARIETTA
in
HAMILTON COUNTY, NY
toa@townofarietta.com

1722 State Route 8, P.O. Box 37
Piseco, NY 12139
TEL: (518) 548-3415 FAX: (518) 548-6203

Agenda

October 5, 2026

5 pm at Piseco Common School

Town of Arietta

- Call to Order
- Pledge of Allegiance
- Roll Call
- Open Public Hearing: Local Law #2 Override Tax Cap for the 2027 Budget
- Motion to accept the minutes for the September 21, 2026, meeting

- **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*

- **Resolutions**
  - **26-10-47** Adopt Preliminary Budget
  - **26-10-49** Transfer of Funds

- **Old Business**
  - Brush Facility Use Agreement
  - Fuel system K09
  - Sign Code Discussion
- **New Business**
  - Airport Capital Improvement Program (ACIP)

- Motion to accept the bills
- Motion to accept financial statements
- Public Comment
- Close Public Hearing Local Law #2 Tax Cap 2027 Budget
- Resolution 26-10-48 Override Tax Cap 2027 Budget
- Designation for next meeting: Tuesday, October 13, 2025, Budget Worksho
- Motion to adjourn

TOWN OF ARIETTA

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

October 5, 2026, at 5:00 pm

Resolution # 26-10-47

Subject: **Accept 2027 Preliminary Budget**

Resolution Offered By: Douglas Stobo

WHEREAS: the Town Board, Town of Arietta, has reviewed the 2027 Tentative Budget as submitted by the Arietta Town Supervisor in September 2026, and

WHEREAS: the Arietta Town Board, after reviewing the Tentative Budget, will carry these numbers over with any noted changes for the Preliminary Budget and will accept them as the 2027 Preliminary Budget at the October 5, 2026, Town Board Meeting; and

WHEREAS: it is necessary to schedule a Public Hearing for the purpose of public comment on the proposed budget before adopting, and

THEREFORE, LET IT BE RESOLVED: the Town Board of Arietta accepts the 2027 Preliminary Budget and will hold a Public Hearing for the purpose of adopting the 2027 Budget at the Town Board Meeting on November 2, 2026, at 5 p.m.

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

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

Marie C. Buanno
Town Clerk

October 5, 2026
Date

TOWN OF ARIETTA

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

October 5, 2026, at 5:00 pm

Resolution # 26-10-48

Subject: **Local Law No. 2 of the year 2026 "A Local Law Overriding the Tax Levy Limit for the Town of Arietta 2027 Budget and Authorizing the Adoption by the Town of Arietta of a Budget for 2027 that Requires a Tax Levy that is Greater Than the Tax Levy Limit for the 2027 Fiscal Year"**

Resolution Offered By: Jacquelyn Grier

WHEREAS: Local Law No. 2 of the year 2026 "A Local Law Overriding the Tax Levy Limit for the Town of Arietta 2027 Budget and Authorizing the Adoption by the Town of Arietta of a Budget for 2027 that Requires a Tax Levy that is Greater Than the Tax Levy Limit for the 2027 Fiscal Year", and

WHEREAS: the intention of this local law is to comply with the requirements of General Municipal Law section 3-c (5) prior to adopting the 2027 Town of Arietta Budget, and

WHEREAS: it is clear that a responsible budget for 2027 will require a tax levy that is greater than the one calculated pursuant to applicable State Law, and

WHEREAS: the Town Board hereby overrides the tax levy limit for the Town of Arietta for 2027 and authorizes the Town of Arietta to adopt a budget for 2027 that requires a tax levy that is greater than the tax levy limit calculated for 2027 pursuant to Section 3-c of the General Municipal Law, and

THEREFORE, LET IT BE RESOLVED: the Town of Arietta Town Board, after a Public Hearing held on October 5, 2026, will hereby approve and accept Local Law No. 2 of the year 2026 "A Local Law Overriding the Tax Levy Limit for the Town of Arietta 2027 Budget and Authorizing the Adoption by the Town of Arietta of a Budget for 2027 that Requires a Tax Levy that is Greater Than the Tax Levy Limit for the 2027 Fiscal Year".

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

AYES :	NOES :	ABSTAIN :	ABSENT :
AYES:	NOES:	ABSTAIN :	ABSENT:
Jacquelyn Grier X	Jacquelyn Grier ___	Jacquelyn Grier ___	Jacquelyn Grier ___
Jennifer Smith X	Jennifer Smith ___	Jennifer Smith ____	Jennifer Smith ___
Douglas Stobo X	Douglas Stobo ____	Douglas Stobo ____	Douglas Stobo ____
Christy Wilt ____	Christy Wilt ____	Christy Wilt ____	Christy Wilt X
Christian Rhodes X	Christian Rhodes ____	Christian Rhodes ____	Christian Rhodes ____

Marie C. Buanno
Town Clerk

October 5, 2026
Date

PROPOSED LOCAL LAW NO. 2 OF 2026
State of New York
Town of Arietta

A LOCAL LAW OVERRIDING THE TAX LEVY LIMIT FOR THE TOWN OF ARIETTA FOR 2027 BUDGET AND AUTHORIZING THE ADOPTION BY THE TOWN OF ARIETTA OF A BUDGET FOR 2027 THAT REQUIRES A TAX LEVY THAT IS GREATER THAN THE TAX LEVY LIMIT FOR THE 2027 FISCAL YEAR

BE IT ENACTED by the Town of Arietta Town Board as follows:

Section 1. **Title:** This Local law shall be known as "Town of Arietta Responsible Budgeting Law of 2027".

Section 2. **Declaration of Intent:** The intention of this local law is to comply with the requirements of General Municipal Law Section 3-c (5) prior to adopting the 2027 Town of Arietta Budget. The slow recovery of the national, state, and local economies from the most recent recession and the continued financial obligations imposed on the Town by the State in the form of mandated government activities not fully funded by the State are conditions beyond the control of Town government. Notwithstanding these circumstances, the Town will need to provide services in 2027, in addition to those mandated by the State, which are important to our citizens. After serious and sustained efforts to minimize the amount of the tax levy and to project the tax levy limit for the Town of Arietta for 2027, it is clear that a responsible budget for 2027 will require a tax levy that will be greater than the tax levy limit calculated pursuant to applicable State Law.

Section 3. **Budget Authorization:** The Town Board hereby overrides the tax levy limit for the Town of Arietta for 2027 and authorizes the Town of Arietta, after completing all required procedures for the adoption of a budget, to adopt a budget for 2027 that requires a tax levy that is greater than the tax levy limit calculated for 2027 pursuant to Section 3-c of the General Municipal Law.

Section 4. **Severability:** If any section, subsection, sentence, clause, phrase, or other portion of this Local Law is for any reason declared unconstitutional or invalid, in whole or in part, by any court of competent jurisdiction, such portion shall be deemed severable and such unconstitutionality or invalidation shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of this law, which remaining portions shall remain in full force and effect.

Section 5. **Effective Date:** This local law shall take effect upon the date on which a certified copy of this Local Law is filed in the office of the Secretary of State pursuant to section 27 of the Municipal Home Rule Law.

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:

October 5, 2026, at 5:00 pm

Resolution # 26-10-49

Subject: **Transfer of Funds**

Resolution Offered By: Jacquelyn Grier

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

General Fund
$4,524.00 to #A0-5670-200, Airport Equipment Expense
from #A0-5670-400, Airport Contractual Expense

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

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

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

Marie C. Buanno
Town Clerk

October 5, 2026
Date

TOWN OF ARIETTA
in
HAMILTON COUNTY, NY
toa@townofarietta.com

1722 State Route 8
PO Box 37
Piseco, NY 12139
TEL: (518) 548-3415 FAX: (518) 548-6203

BRUSH FACILITY USE AGREEMENT

This Brush Facility Use Agreement ("Agreement") is entered into by and between the Town of Arietta ("Town") and the undersigned resident ("User"), effective as of the date of signature below.

1) User Information (Residents Only)

User Name: _____
Local (Town) Address: _____
Phone/Email: _____
Date: _____

2) Eligibility (Residents Only)

The User represents that they are a resident of the Town of Arietta. The Facility use authorized under this Agreement is for Town of Arietta residents and does not include contractors or businesses.

3) Facility Authorization

The Town authorizes the User to use the Town's Brush Facility located at 364 Old Piseco Rd("Facility") for the limited purpose of depositing only the materials allowed under this Agreement.

4) Allowed Materials / Prohibited Materials

Allowed Materials (only):

- Brush 3 inches or smaller in diameter
- Pine needles
- Leaves, grass clippings

Prohibited Materials:

- Nothing other than allowed materials listed above can be deposited or accepted at the Facility.
- No bags or any other type of container shall be left at the property.
- No unauthorized materials shall be deposited (including any items not listed under "Allowed materials").

Depositing unauthorized materials may result in refusal of access, denial of future access, and/or removal of unauthorized items at the User's expense (if applicable).

5) Conditions of Use

Required placement method:

- Deposit all allowed materials into the appropriate central pile—brush, pine needles, or leaves-to keep each consolidated together. *Do not put materials away from piles.

The User agrees to follow all Facility rules and any directions provided by Town staff.
The User agrees to ensure that no bags, containers, or unauthorized items are left anywhere on the Facility property.

6) No Liability / Release of the Town

To the fullest extent permitted by law, the User releases, waives, discharges, and agrees to hold harmless the Town of Arietta, its officers, employees, agents, and representatives from any and all liability, claims, damages, losses, costs, and causes of action of any kind arising out of or related to any aspect of the User's utilization of the Facility, including personal injury and property damage.

7) Key Access, Pick-Up, Return Deadline, and Fee

Key pick-up location: Supervisor's office (Town Office).
We recommend calling ahead to ensure staff is available. 518-548-3415, Ext. 1
Pick-up days: Wednesday – Friday (except holidays)
Pick-up hours: 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
The User must return the key within two (2) hours of receipt.
If the key is not returned within two (2) hours, the User agrees to pay a $20 fee.

8) Documentation Required at Each Key Return

At each key return, the User will present to office staff:
A picture showing what was deposited, and
A brief description of the materials deposited.

9) Entire Agreement

This Agreement represents the entire agreement between the parties regarding Facility use described herein and supersedes prior or contemporaneous understandings.

10) Signature

By signing below, the User confirms they have read this Agreement, understand and agree to comply with all terms, and acknowledge the release of liability described above.

User Signature: _____
Printed Name: _____
Date: _____

Description of Materials Deposited:

_____
_____
_____

Town Use Only

Key #___ issued to (initials) _____ Picture: ____
Date/time issued: _____ Description: _____
Date/time returned: _____ Staff initials: _____
Notes:_____
_____
_____