

TOWN OF ARIETTA
January 2, 2024
Regular Town Board Meeting

Supervisor Rhodes opened the meeting at 5:00 pm with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Roll Call:

Jacqui Grier present
Douglas Stobo present
John Rajca present
Christy Wilt present
Chris Rhodes present
Craig Small- Superintendent of Highways-present
Mel LaScola- Zoning Officer-present
Bill Hotaling-Assessor- present

OTHERS PRESENT:

Marie Buanno
Mike Cullen

Supervisor Rhodes asked for a motion to accept the December 20, 2023 minutes as presented by the town clerk. Doug Stobo offered the motion and Christy Wilt seconded. All members in attendance were in favor. Motion passed.

Agenda
January 2, 2024
at School
Town of Arietta

- Call to Order
- Roll Call
- Motion to approve minutes for the December 20th meeting
- Resolutions
 - **24-01-01 Organizational**
 - **24-01-02 Procurement**
 - **24-01-03 Investment**
 - **24-01-04 Brennan Agreement**
 - **24-01-05 Senior Agreement**

- **Snowmobile Trails –Grier**
- **Town Buildings and Grounds - Stobo**
- **Internal Management / Insurance, C. Rhodes**
- **Recreation, Website & Chamber, Campsite- C Wilt**
- **Finance / Airport-C. Rhodes**
- **Lake / Dam /Cemetery -Rajca**
- **Superintendent report– Craig Small**
- **Codes and Zoning – Mel Lascola**

NBT, or any commercial bank designated by the Board in resolution will be the official bank of the Town of Arietta

The Hamilton County Express and the Leader Herald of Gloversville will be designated as the official newspapers of the Town of Arietta

The Town Board will review the financial books of the Supervisor, Justices, Town Clerk, and Tax Collector at the January 16, 2024 meeting

The Supervisor is authorized to invest idle town funds in NBT Bank Certificates of Deposit or Money Market Accounts

Any Town Official (authorized by the Town Board) may attend the Association of Towns Meetings in New York City and other meetings & training pertaining to Town business and the town will reimburse any official charges.

The Supervisor is authorized to pay utility and water testing bills, postage, and payroll before the audit of the Town Board and these bills will be audited at the following Town Board Meeting

The reimbursable mileage rate for approved charges is 67 cents per mile.

Salaries for Elected Officials and Appointed Personnel are set forth as established in the 2024 Town Budget: 3.0 % increase in the Wage and Salary Structure adopted by the Town Board (see attached)

in 2024 for the following Grade 1-9 positions:

- Laborers (General, Highway & Airport)
- Account Clerk, Account Clerk/Typist

Motor Equipment Operator

- Heavy Equipment Operator
- Automotive Mechanic

THEREFORE, LET IT BE RESOLVED: the Town Board, Town of Arietta approves the above appointments, salaries, wages, and standards.

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

AYES:		NOES:		ABSTAIN		ABSENT:	
Jacquelyn Grier	x__	Jacquelyn Grier	___	Jacquelyn Grier	___	Jacquelyn Grier	__
John Rajca	x__	John Rajca	___	John Rajca	___	John Rajca	___
Douglas Stobo	x__	Douglas Stobo	___	Douglas Stobo	___	Douglas Stobo	___
Christy Wilt	x__	Christy Wilt	___	Christy Wilt	___	Christy Wilt	___
Christian Rhodes	x__	Christian Rhodes	___	Christian Rhodes	___	Christian Rhodes	___

Laura Morehouse January 2, 2024
 Town Clerk

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:

January 2, 2024 at 5:00pm

Resolution # 24-01-02

Subject: **Procurement Policy**

Resolution Offered By: Christy Wilt

WHEREAS: Section 104-b of the General Municipal Law (GML) requires every town to adopt internal policies and procedures governing all procurement of goods and services not subject to the bidding requirements of GML~103 or any other law; and

WHEREAS: comments have been solicited from those officers of the Town involved with procurement, and

THEREFORE, LET IT BE RESOLVED: that the Town of Arietta does hereby adopt the following procurement policies and procedures:

Guideline 1 Every prospective purchase of goods or services shall be evaluated to determine the applicability of GML~103. Every Town Officer, Board, Department Head, or other personnel with the requisite purchasing authority (hereinafter Purchaser) shall estimate the cumulative amount of the items of supply or equipment needed in a given fiscal year. That estimate shall include the canvass of other town departments and history to determine the likely yearly value of the commodity to be acquired. The information gathered and conclusions reached shall be documented and kept with the file or other documentation supporting the purchase activity.

Guideline 2

All purchases of a) supplies or equipment which will exceed \$20,000 in the fiscal year or b) public works contracts over \$35,000 shall be formally bid pursuant to GML ~ 103.

All estimated purchases of:

~ Less than \$20,000 but greater than \$10,000 requires a written **request for a proposal** (RFP) and written/fax/email quotes from three vendors.

~ Less than \$10,000 but greater than \$6,000 requires an oral request for the goods and written/fax/email quotes from three vendors.

~ Less than \$6,000 but greater than \$2,500 requires an oral request for the goods and oral/written/fax/email quotes from two vendors.

~ Less than \$2,500 is left to the discretion of the Purchaser.

All estimated public works contracts of:

~ Less than \$35,000 but greater than \$15,000 requires a written RFP and written/fax/email proposals from three contractors.

~ Less than \$15,000 but greater than \$3,000 requires a written RFP and written/fax/email proposals from two contractors.

~ Less than \$3,000 is left to the discretion of the Purchaser.

Any written RFP shall describe the desired goods, quantity, and the particulars of delivery. The Purchaser shall compile a list of all vendors/contractors from whom written/fax/email/oral quotes have been requested and the written/fax/email/oral quotes offered.

All information gathered in complying with the procedures of this Guideline shall be preserved and filed with the documentation supporting the subsequent purchase or public works contract.

Guideline 3 The lowest responsible proposal or quote shall be awarded the purchase or public works contract unless the Purchaser prepares a written justification providing reasons why it is in the best interest of the Town and its taxpayers to make an award to other than the low bidder. (For example: the second low bidder is a business in town, paying property taxes and their quote was within 5% of the low bidder which is an out of state business or supplier.). If a bidder is not deemed responsible, facts supporting that judgment shall also be documented and filed with the record supporting the procurement.

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Guideline 4 A good faith effort shall be made to obtain the required number of proposals or quotations. If the Purchaser is unable to obtain the required number of proposals or quotations, the Purchaser shall document the attempt made at obtaining the proposals. In no event shall the inability to obtain the proposals or quotes be a bar to the procurement.

Guideline 5 Except when directed by the Town Board, no solicitation of written proposals or quotations shall be required under the following circumstances:

- a). Acquisition of professional services
- b). Emergencies
- c). Sole source situations
- d). Goods purchased from agencies for the blind or severely handicapped
- e). Goods purchased from correctional facilities
- f). Goods purchased from another governmental agency
- g). Goods purchased at auction
- h). Goods purchased for less than \$2,500
- i). Public works contracts for less than \$3,000

Guideline 6 This policy shall be reviewed annually by the Town Board at its organizational meeting or as soon thereafter as is reasonably practicable.

Resolution Offered By: Doug Stobo

WHEREAS: General Municipal Law (GML) requires every town to adopt internal policies and procedures governing investment procedures

THEREFORE, LET IT BE RESOLVED: that the Town of Arietta does hereby adopt the following investment policy:

**TOWN OF ARIETTA
INVESTMENT POLICY**

- I. **SCOPE** – This investment policy applies to all moneys and other financial resources available for investment on its own behalf or on behalf of any other entity or individual.

- II. **OBJECTIVE** – The primary objectives of the local government’s investment activities are, in priority order,
 - a. to conform with all applicable federal, state, and other legal requirements (legal);
 - b. to adequately safeguard principal (safety);
 - c. to provide sufficient liquidity to meet all operating requirements (liquidity); and
 - d. To obtain a reasonable rate of return (yield).

- III. **DELEGATION OF AUTHORITY** – The governing board’s responsibility for administration of the investment program is delegated to the Town Supervisor, who shall establish written procedures for the operation of the investment program consistent with these investment guidelines. Such procedures shall include an adequate internal control structure to provide a satisfactory level of accountability based on a database or records incorporating description and amounts of investments, transaction dates and other relevant information and regulate the activities of subordinate employees.

- IV. **PRUDENCE** – All participants in the investment process shall be made with judgment and care, under circumstances then prevailing, which persons of prudence discretion and intelligence exercise in the management of their own affairs, not for speculation, but or investment, considering the safety of the principal as well as the probable income to be derived. All participants involved in the investment process shall refrain from personal business activity that could conflict with proper execution of the investment program, or which could impair their ability to make impartial investment decisions.

- V. **DIVERSIFICATION** – It is the policy of the Town of Arietta to diversify its deposits and investments by financial institution, by investment instrument, and by maturity scheduling.

- VI. **INTERNAL CONTROLS** - It is the policy of the Town of Arietta for all moneys collected by any officer or employee of the government to transfer those funds to the Supervisor within 30 days of deposit, or within the time specified in law, whichever is shorter. The Supervisor is responsible for establishing and maintaining an internal control structure to provide reasonable, but not absolute, assurance that deposits and investments are safeguarded against loss from unauthorized use or disposition that transactions are executed in accordance with management’s authorization and recorded properly and are managed in compliance with applicable laws and regulations.

VII. DESIGNATION OF DEPOSITARIES - The banks and trust companies authorized for the deposit of monies up to the following maximum amounts are:

<u>Depository Name</u>	<u>Maximum Amount</u>	<u>Officer</u>
NBT Bank	\$3,750,000.00	

VIII. COLLATERALIZING OF DEPOSITS – In accordance with the provisions of the General Municipal Law, ~10, all deposits of the Town of Arietta, including Certificates of Deposit and special time deposits, in excess of the amount insured under the provision of the Federal Deposit Insurance Act shall be secured:

1. By a pledge of “eligible securities” with an aggregate “market value”, or provided by General Municipal Law, ~10, equal to the aggregate amount of deposits from the categories designated in Appendix A to the policy.
2. By an eligible “irrevocable letter of credit” issued by a qualified bank other than the bank with the deposits in favor of the government for a term not to exceed 90 days with an aggregate value equal to 140% of the aggregate amount of deposits and the agreed upon interest, if any. A qualified bank is one whose commercial paper and other unsecured short-term debt obligations are rated in one of the three highest rating categories by at least one nationally recognized statistical rating organization or by a bank that is in compliance with applicable federal minimum risk-based capital requirements.
3. By an eligible surety bond payable to the government for an amount at least equal to 100% of the aggregate amount of deposits and the agreed upon interest, if any, executed by an insurance company authorized to do business in New York State, whose claims – paying ability is rated in the highest rating category by at least two nationally recognized statistical rating organizations.

IX. SAFEKEEPING AND COLLATERALIZATION - Eligible securities used for collateralizing deposits shall be held by NBT Bank and The Bank of New York Mellon (BNY Mellon) and/or a third-party bank or trust company subject to security and custodial agreements. The security agreement shall provide that eligible securities are being pledged to secure local government deposits together with agreed upon interest, if any and any costs or expenses arising out of the collection of such deposits upon default. It shall also provide the conditions under which the securities may be sold, presented for payment, substituted, or released and the events, which will enable the local government to exercise its rights against the pledged securities. If the securities are not registered or inscribed in the name of the local government, such securities shall be delivered in a form suitable for transfer or with an assignment in blank to the custodial bank. The custodial agreement shall provide that securities held by the bank or trust company or agent of and custodian for the local government, will be kept separate and apart from the general assets of the custodial bank or trust company and will not, in any circumstances, be commingled with or become part of the backing for any other deposit or other liabilities. The agreement should also describe that the custodian shall confirm the receipt, substitution or release of the securities. The agreement shall provide for the frequency of revaluation or eligible securities and for the substitution of securities when a change in the rating of a security may cause ineligibility. Such agreement shall include all provisions necessary to provide the local government a perfected interest in the securities.

X. PERMITTED INVESTMENTS – As authorized by General Municipal law ~11, the Town of Arietta authorizes the Town Supervisor to invest moneys not required for immediate expenditure for terms not to exceed its projected cash flow needs in the following investments:

Special time deposit accounts

Certificates of deposit
Obligations of the United States of America
Obligations guaranteed by agencies of the United States of America where the payment of principal and interest are guaranteed by the United States of America;
Obligations of New York State
Obligations of issued pursuant to LFL~24.00 or 25.00 with approval of the State Comptroller by any municipality, school district or district corporation other than the Town of Arietta;
Obligations of public authorities, public housing authorities, urban renewal agencies and industrial development agencies where the general State statutes governing such entities or whose specific enabling legislation authorizes such investments;
Certificates of Participation (COP) issued pursuant to GML ~6-c,6-d,6-e,6-g,6-h,6-j,6-k,6-l,6-m, or 6-n;

All investment obligations shall be payable or redeemable at the option of the Town of Arietta within such times as the proceeds will be needed to meet expenditures for purposes for which the moneys were provided and, in the case of obligations purchased with the proceeds of bonds or notes, shall be payable or redeemable at the option of the Town of Arietta within two years of the date of purchase.

XI. AUTHORIZED FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS AND DEALERS – The Town of Arietta shall maintain a list of financial institutions and dealers approved for investment purposes and establish appropriate limits to the amount of investments, which can be made with each financial institution or dealer. All financial institutions with which the local government conducts business must be credit worthy. Banks shall provide their most recent Consolidated Report of Condition at the request of the Town of Arietta. Security dealers not affiliated with a bank shall be required to be classified as reporting dealers affiliated with the New York Federal Reserve Bank, as primary dealers. The Supervisor is responsible for evaluating the financial position and maintaining a listing of proposed depositories, trading partners and custodians. Such listing shall be evaluated at least annually.

XII. PURCHASE OF INVESTMENTS - The Supervisor is authorized to contract for the purchase of investments:

1. Directly, including through a repurchase agreement, from an authorized trading partner.
2. By participation in a cooperative investment program with another authorized governmental entity pursuant to Article 5G of the General Municipal Law where such program meets all the requirements set forth in the Office of the State Comptroller Opinion #88-46, and the specific program has been authorized by the governing board.
3. By utilizing an ongoing investment program with an authorized tracking partner pursuant to a contract authorized by the governing board.

All purchased obligations, unless registered or inscribed in the name of the local government, shall be purchased through, delivered to, and held in the custody of a bank or trust company. Such obligations shall be purchased, sold, or presented for redemption or payment by such bank or trust company only in accordance with prior written authorization from the officer authorized to make the investment. All such transactions shall be held pursuant to a written custodial agreement as described in General Municipal Law ~10.

The custodial agreement shall provide those securities held by the bank or trust company, as agent of and custodian for, the local government, will be kept separate and apart from the general assets of the custodial bank or trust company and will not, in any circumstances, be commingled with or become part of the backing for any other deposit or other liabilities. The agreement shall describe how the custodian shall confirm the receipt and release of the securities. Such agreement shall include all provisions necessary to provide the local government a perfected interest in the securities.

XIII. REPURCHASE AGREEMENTS – Repurchase agreements are authorized subject to the following restrictions:

All repurchase agreements must be entered into subject to a Master Repurchase Agreement.

Trading partners are limited to banks or trust companies authorized to do business in New York State and primary reporting dealers.

Obligations shall be limited to obligations of the United States of America and obligations of agencies of the United States of America where principal and interest are guaranteed by the United States of America.

No substitution of securities will be allowed.

The custodian shall be a party other than the trading partner.

Seconded by: John Rajca and put to a vote, which resulted as follows:

AYES:	NOES:	ABSTAIN	ABSENT:
Jacquelyn Grier x_____	Jacquelyn Grier _____	Jacquelyn Grier ____	Jacquelyn Grier _____
John Rajca x_____	John Rajca _____	John Rajca ____	John Rajca _____
Douglas Stobo x_____	Douglas Stobo _____	Douglas Stobo ____	Douglas Stobo _____
Christy Wilt x_____	Christy Wilt _____	Christy Wilt ____	Christy Wilt _____
Christian Rhodes x_____	Christian Rhodes _____	Christian Rhodes ____	Christian Rhodes _____

Laura Morehouse January 2, 2024
 Town Clerk Date

(State of New York)
) SS:
 County of Hamilton)

I, Laura Morehouse, Clerk of the Town of Arietta, New York, do hereby certify that I have compared the foregoing copy of this Resolution with the original on file in my office, and that the same is a true and correct transcript of said original Resolution and of the whole thereof, as duly adopted by said Town Board, Town of Arietta at a meeting on January 2, 2024 by the required and necessary vote of the members to approve the Resolution.

Witness My Hand of the Official Seal of Town of Arietta, NY this January 2, 2024.

Laura Morehouse
 Town Clerk

TOWN OF ARIETTA

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

January 2, 2024, at 5:00 pm

Resolution # 24-01-04

Subject: **Agreement with James A. Brennan Memorial Humane Society**

AYES:	NOES:	ABSTAIN	ABSENT:
Jacquelyn Grier X_____	Jacquelyn Grier _____	Jacquelyn Grier _____	Jacquelyn Grier _____
John Rajca X_____	John Rajca _____	John Rajca _____	John Rajca _____
Douglas Stobo X_____	Douglas Stobo _____	Douglas Stobo _____	Douglas Stobo _____
Christy Wilt X_____	Christy Wilt _____	Christy Wilt _____	Christy Wilt _____
Christian Rhodes X_____	Christian Rhodes _____	Christian Rhodes _____	Christian Rhodes _____

Laura Morehouse

January 2, 2024

Town Clerk

Date

COMITTEE REPORTS

SNOWMOBILE TRAILS: Jacqui Grier had nothing to report.

TOWN BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS: Doug Stobo had nothing to report.

INTERNAL MANAGEMENT/INSURANCE, RECREATION, WEBSITE:

Christy Wilt reported she had updated the website.

LAKE/DAM/INVASIVE/CAMPSITES: John Rajca had nothing to report.

CODES AND ZONING: Mel LaScola gave a report on the different kinds of permits that he issued in 2024.

HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT: Craig Small reported there was a lot of damage to the Powley Road during the severe rain storm, they have been working on the road and should be acceptable for the snowmachine traffic.

AIRPORT AND FINANCE: Chris Rhodes had nothing new regarding the airport.

OLD BUSINESS: Jacqui Grier has not heard from Frontier regarding the lease on the building.

NEW BUSINESS: Supervisor Rhodes stated that there needs to be a person to oversee the Community Hall. The person will inspect the hall before rental and after rental to see the condition it was left in; this will be the deciding factor whether the cleaning deposit will be returned to renter. Discussion followed. Christy Wilt stated she could do this and Doug Stobo stated he could assist her. There will be keys made for the appropriate people.

BILLS:

General Fund-Voucher # 1-17for a total of \$33,199.49

Utilities Fund-Voucher #742, 743 for a total of \$591.79

Highway Fund- Voucher # 18-19 for a total of \$ \$20,851.48

Pay Bills: At this time Supervisor Rhodes asked for a motion to accept the bills presented. Doug Stobo offered the motion and John Rajca seconded. All members were in favor. Motion passed.

Next a motion was called for to approve the financial reports as presented.

Jacqui Grier offered the motion and Christy Wilt seconded. All members were in favor. Motion passed.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Mike Cullen had no comments.

Marie Buanno had no comments.

Bill Hotaling reported that the Piseco Ambulance is without an EMT as Chris Laver has retired as an EMT. A discussion followed on ideas to entice people to join and take a class.

The next regular meeting will be January 16th at 5pm at Piseco School.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was offered by John Rajca and seconded by Jacqui Grier. Meeting adjourned at 5:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Laura Morehouse, Town Clerk