

TOWN OF ARIETTA
April 7, 2025
Town Board Regular Meeting
Piseco School Meeting Room

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

ROLL CALL:

Chris Rhodes-present-Supervisor
Doug Stobo-present
Christy Wilt-present
Johnny Rajca-present
Jacqui Grier-present
Craig Small-Highway Superintendent-present
Mel LaScola-Codes and Zoning-present
William Hotaling-Assessor-absent

OTHERS PRESENT:

Steve Woehrle
Marie Buanno
Jodi Small
Jenny Smith
Barry Baker
Wayne Schermerhorn
Harold Cooper

Supervisor Rhodes requested a motion to accept the minutes of the March 17, 2025, Regular Town Board meeting as submitted by the Town Clerk. Johnny Rajca made the motion, which Christy Wilt seconded. All members present were in favor. The motion carried.

TOWN OF ARIETTA
in
HAMILTON COUNTY, NY
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P.O. Box 37
1722 State Route 8
Piseco, NY 12139
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Agenda
April 7, 2025
5pm at Piseco Common School
Town of Arietta

- Call to Order
- Pledge of Allegiance
- Roll Call
- Motion to approve minutes for the March 17, 2025, meeting
- Resolutions
 - **25-04-19** **Annual BOCES Agreement**
 - **25-04-20** **Foil**
- **Snowmobile Trails – Grier**
- **Town Buildings / Grounds - Stobo**
- **Recreation / Website / Campsite - Wilt**
- **Lake / Dam / Cemetery - Rajca**

- **Finance / Airport / Internal Management / Insurance - Rhodes**
- **Superintendent / Report – Small**
- **Codes and Zoning – Lascola**

➤ **Old Business**

➤ **New Business**

- MOU Stump Dump
- Discussion councilman seat
- Foil
- Discuss meal allowance Resolution reference 23-01-09

- Motion to accept the bills
- Motion to accept the financial statements
- Public Comment
- Designation of next Meeting Monday, April 21, 2025
- **Motion to adjourn**

RESOLUTIONS:

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:

April 7, 2025, at 5:00 pm

Resolution # 24-04-19

Subject: **Inter-Municipal Agreement between Jefferson-Lewis-Hamilton-Herkimer-Oneida BOCES and the Town of Arietta**

Resolution Offered By: Jacqui Grier

WHEREAS: the Town of Arietta, in the past, has had an agreement with Jefferson-Lewis-Hamilton-Herkimer-Oneida BOCES for the Drug and Alcohol testing program, and

WHEREAS: the new requirement is to have a one-year signed Municipal Agreement, as per the attached outline, on file for all facilities who are enrolled in the BOCES Drug and Alcohol testing program, and

WHEREAS: this agreement will start July 1, 2025, through June 30, 2026, and may be renewed, in writing, for successive one-year terms at a mutually agreed upon rate for services for the successive years, and

THEREFORE, LET IT BE RESOLVED: that the Town of Arietta Town Board does hereby authorize the Town of Arietta Supervisor to execute all necessary documents on behalf of the Town to enter into a one-year agreement with Jefferson-Lewis-Hamilton-Herkimer-Oneida BOCES.

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 Date: April 7, 2025
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:

April 7, 2025, at 5:00 pm

Resolution # 24-04-20

Subject: **A Resolution to Adopt the Town of Arietta Implementing Legislation on Public Access to Records**

Resolution Offered By: Doug Stobo

WHEREAS: the Town of Arietta is deemed an Agency under Article 6 of the New York Public Officers’ Law; and

WHEREAS: Article 6 requires all public agencies to issue regulations in conformance with Article 6 of the Public Offices Law establishing the New York State Freedom of Information Law (FOIL); and

WHEREAS: upon the anticipated codification of this, the Arietta Town Board as per the legislative update mandates, has reviewed and will accept the attached foil request form and policy, and

THEREFORE, LET IT BE RESOLVED: that the Town Board of the Town of Arietta hereby Adopts the Following Legislation and directs the Town Clerk to publish a Public Notice of this legislation to all official places and newspaper: Hamilton County Express.

Seconded by Johnny 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 Rhode	__

Laura Morehouse
Town Clerk

Date: April 7, 2025

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Snowmobile Trails—Jacqui Grier reported that the snowmobile trails are closed for the season.

Town Buildings and Grounds- Doug Stobo reported that he was in touch with the young lady who is going to be cleaning the Community Hall, and she will be starting on April 10, 2025. Supervisor Rhodes and Superintendent Small have discussed plans for the lower Highway Garage. Including three bids for heat pumps and siding. There will be more information on this project in the future.

Recreation/Website/Campsite- Christy Wilt stated that the fundraiser held at the Irondequoit Inn for the local basketball team was an enormous success. They raised \$1500.00.

Lake/Dam/Cemetery- Johnny Rajca had nothing new to report.

Finance/Internal Management/Airport/Insurance- Chris Rhodes had spoken to Vector One- the IT company, and they would like to install a firewall for more cybersecurity, as discussed at the last board meeting. There was a discussion on the cost of this feature. After the Supervisor asked for a motion to approve the installation of the firewall. Johnny Rajca offered the motion. Doug Stobo seconded, and all members were in favor; the motion carried. Chris reported that the BK Groomer the Town put up for sale was sold for \$17,500. There was a discussion regarding the town collecting sales tax from short-term rental properties. The board decided not to go forward with this.

Superintendent of Highways- Craig Small explained what his department will be working on now that snowplowing is virtually over. At this time, Supervisor Rhodes read a letter of thank you and commendation from a local person. Craig had gone to check on their driveway when he heard an ambulance call for that address. He made sure the driveway was safe and stayed to help until the ambulance had left. She was

incredibly grateful for the ambulance response and Craig’s going above and beyond as Highway Superintendent. The board was appreciative of Craigs caring response for our community member.

Zoning Codes and Zoning Officer Mel LaScola reported that his 4 days of training in Lake Placid were highly informative and challenging, as there are many changes.

Old Business: None to be discussed

New Business: Supervisor Rhodes discussed the Memorandum of Understanding regarding the town-owned 370 Old Piseco Rd property. The MOU sets forth the terms and understanding between the Adirondack Roots and the Town of Arietta to collaborate on the pre-development phase of 370 Old Piseco Road property. The first phase of this project will be an environmental study of the land. Chris asked for a motion to proceed with this phase. Christy Wilt offered the motion, seconded by Doug Stobo. Motion carried.

Next, the board discussed the appointment of someone to fill the councilman seat as Johnny Rajca is resigning. It was the board's consensus that the four people interested in the position obtain their independent petitions and let the voters decide in November.

Foil Policy, the Legislature in 2024 mandated that towns must update their policies regarding the Freedom of Information Law. As the mandate requires, the town has made the necessary changes and updates.

The board discussed increasing the amount allowed for meals while town officials are on town business. The amount allowed, decided on 1/9/2023, will remain the same.

BILLS:

General Fund: Vouchers#198-231 totaling \$22,645.00

Utility Fund: Vouchers#185,192,193 totaling \$2,329.43

Highway Fund: Vouchers #232-243 totaling \$25,301.43

The supervisor asked for a motion to pay the bills presented at this time. Johnny Rajca offered the motion, seconded by Doug Stobo. Motion carried.
He then asked for a motion to accept the financial statements. Doug Stobo offered the motion, seconded by Christy Wilt. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

The town clerk had read a letter from Snowdrifters of Stratford, regarding the trail grooming and maintenance. Mr. Wayne Schermerhorn, President, and Harold Cooper, Vice President, introduced themselves and assured the town that they will be continuing to take care of the trails. They thanked the town for their contract and asked if there were any concerns to contact them.
Supervisor Rhodes thanked them for the excellent job this winter.

John Rajca thanked the board for the opportunity to be a board member and appreciated all that he had learned about town government. They, in turn, thanked him for his participation.

The next regular meeting will be on April 21, 2025, at 5:00 pm

Johnny Rajca made a motion to adjourn, and Christy Wilt seconded it. The meeting was adjourned at 5:25 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Laura Morehouse- Town Clerk