

TOWN OF ARIETTA

July 6, 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 - present
Douglas Stobo – Councilperson - present
Christy Wilt – Councilperson - absent
Marie Buanno – Town Clerk - present

OTHERS PRESENT:

Craig Small – Highway Superintendent
Mel LaScola – Zoning Officer
Bill Hotaling – Assessor
Kevin Kennedy
Wayne Schermerhorn
Helen Vail
Susan Burchard
Bruce Burchard
Matt Sullivan
David Wilson
Steve Woehrle
Ed Cox
Jim Horan

Supervisor Rhodes asked for a motion to accept the June 15, 2026, meeting minutes as presented by the Town Clerk. Jenny Smith offered the motion to accept those minutes. Doug Stobo seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion passed 4:1.

There were no Resolutions to present tonight so Chris asked for committee reports.

COMMITTEES:

Snowmobile Trails/ Fuel at K09- Jacqui Grier didn't have anything further to report except to see what snowmobile RFQ's came in which were due today by 5 PM.

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Town Buildings/ Grounds- Doug said Adirondack Cleaning is scheduled to come to the Community Hall on July 15th to clean the windows inside and out. He hadn't checked on the condition of the Hall since the PVFDA Rummage Sale over the weekend. Town Clerk Marie Buanno said she had been in touch with Fred and Cindy Adcock of the Historical Society to see if they wanted tables and chairs left up. They did and they are all set for them to use the hall on Wednesday. Marie noted excessive dead flies in the windowsills of the kitchen. Chris noted they will probably be taken care of with the window cleaning being done on July 15th. Chris Rhodes asked if Doug had heard from Chris Hotaling who is staining for us. Doug said the last time he heard from him he was running a little behind schedule but still plans to do it. Chris Rhodes said he received the insurance certificate from him.

Recreation/Website/Campsite- Christy Wilt was absent so there was no report.

Lake/Dam/Cemetery- Jenny Smith said Patrick Vedder has taken the tree in the cemetery down! Chris noted it looks great and he did a great job with the clean-up. The logs are gone. Hwy. Supt. Craig Small provided a truck for the disposal of some of the brush. Jenny asked if anyone had a chance to survey the other trees Patrick noted should come down. Chris said that will be a consideration when things slow down. She asked what the lake level was now. Chris said minus 3 inches.

Finance/ Airport/ Internal Management/ Insurance- The draft avigation easements have been sent to NYS DOT for their review. Hopefully they will start presenting them and talking to the landowners in mid-July.

Hwy Superintendent/Building and Grounds/Parks & Recreation- Craig reported this week they start picking up garbage on Mondays and Thursday. Recycling is still only on Mondays. He has been in touch with the truck dealer about the new tandem dump truck. They verified it will be going in to be built in November or December with completion in May 2027. The garbage truck will be here relatively quickly. His crew will be working on Arrowhead Road replacing all the metal culverts with plastic ones. They will have to ditch and regrade everything for proper drainage. They are covered under the reimbursable CHIPS program but initially will be about \$12,000.00. The state budget finally passed, and they awarded 50 million dollars more to the state CHIPS fund. That amounts to just over \$7,000.00 for the Town of Arietta. We are able to get a couple loads of blacktop for that amount. He noted as an FYI that the county is

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paving all over the place. They will be in Hope and Indian Lake in the next couple weeks so watch for them. In our town paving will be done on East Shore Road in the fall.

Codes and Zoning- Zoning Officer Mel LaScola had nothing new to report.

Chris asked the Town Clerk to open the received RFQ Snowmobile Contracts. Three were received from Snowdrifters of Stratford, Salisbury Center, Pleasant Rider Snowmobilers of Lake Pleasant and Adirondack Mountain Riders of Sheriff Lake and Lower Arietta. Chris Rhodes asked for a motion to accept the three RFQ's for review by Craig Small, Jacqui Grier and Chris Rhodes. Information about what is in the contracts will be shared at the next Town Board meeting. Doug Stobo offered the motion to accept the RFQ's. Jenny Smith seconded the motion. All 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 400 through 403 and 408 through 435 and 447	\$13,728.35
Highway Fund	Vouchers 436 through 446	\$6,583.31

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

PUBLIC COMMENT-

Helen Vail asked that the "stump dump" (now the brush facility) be opened on Saturdays from 8 AM until 4 PM. Chris Rhodes responded that some of them have been talking internally about allowing volunteers to man the site so it can remain open. It cannot be a town employee. There are not enough funds or manpower to pay someone to do it. They would open the gate at 8 AM and close at 4 PM. Someone would need to be there every hour it is open and monitor what is brought in. Bruce Burchard said he would get some names from the PLA (Piseco Lake Association) and Kevin Kennedy of Half Moon Beach will get some names from there to see if this can be accomplished as they too want it open. Depending on how many are willing will depend on how long it can be open. It may end up being only four hours. Talks will continue.

Bill Hotaling asked Craig Small how they decide which roads will be worked on. Craig said it depends on the condition of the road. If he uses CHIPS funds on a road, he can't do anything

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else to that road for ten years. There is no line in the budget specifically for roads, so he has to use CHIPS funds with those stipulations.

Bill noted the fireworks were last night and hoped everyone liked them.

Jim Horan asked how they were doing at the back of airport where it is torn up. Craig and his crew work on it as time allows. They are shorthanded as they are also paving. He also asked how the cell service is coming. Chris Rhodes said it is coming along slowly. The Spy Lake tower site tower is going to be erected in late September. Once erected, Verizon will get their equipment up there and the Hamilton County Emergency Communication radio too. Jim also asked about the condition of Poplar Point and who is going to maintain it. NYS owns it and will not grant the Town a permit to do anything but plow in the winter. They are supposed to be maintaining it. Jenny Smith wondered if we could become a steward for it. In that way you could have volunteers do the work as she does for the trails in lower Arietta. She will look into it. It was noted that in the past there has been a porta potty there but not this year. Kevin Kennedy says the state has been asked.

Ed Cox wondered why we wouldn't consider electronic surveillance at the brush facility. Chris noted once we get cell service that may be a possibility. Right now, there is no cell service there. Craig said he has tried in the past. You can capture cars coming in but there is no way to record what they bring in. It is too big of an area to get every angle. If someone knows there are cameras and they are dumping something illegal, they will just take the camera.

Jenny Smith did research on 30 different types of camera options to consider for the brush facility that are completely operational off grid. They are all solar powered. You can choke off the traffic to one lane with a stop sign and a speed bump. They are up to \$150.00 each. She also suggests charging \$10.00 for a registration card so when you stop at the stop sign where the speed bump is you show your card to the camera, so it puts a driver with a vehicle, so you know who is authorized to use the facility. Chris suggested she send this info to the Board members and make a presentation at the next meeting. He also suggested she visit the brush facility with Craig and himself to see exactly how this could be implemented. On another note, Jenny said she talked to Verizon and they are running high speed internet to Averys on Route 10.

Ed Cox also noted that whatever course the Town takes, it needs to be communicated better to let people in Arietta know what the rules are or will be. Except for Facebook, people didn't know that the brush facility had closed. Chris noted it is posted on our website.

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Town Clerk Marie Buanno noted she took in \$916.38 in fees for June. \$875. For 13 building permits, \$25. For a fireworks permit, \$15. in dog fees and \$1.38 for our portion of a NYS fishing license.

The next meeting will be on Monday July 20, 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 Doug Stobo seconded the motion. Motion passed 4:1. Meeting adjourned at 5:33 PM.

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

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Agenda

July 6, 2026

5 pm at Piseco Common School

Town of Arietta

- Call to Order
- Pledge of Allegiance
- Roll Call
- Motion to accept the minutes for the June 15, 2026, meeting

- Resolutions
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- **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**
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- **New Business**
 - Open RFQ's Snowmobile Trails

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