

State of New York
County of Fulton
Town of Caroga

Minutes of the Regular monthly Caroga Town Board meeting held Wednesday July 12, 2017 at the municipal building located at 1840 State Highway #10 at 7:05 pm with the following persons in attendance by roll call. The flag salute followed.

Supervisor Beth Y Morris- Here
Council Member John Glenn – Here
Council Member Anthony Sturchio - Here
Council Member Jeremy Manning – Here

Other town department representatives in attendance were Steve Putman Highway Superintendent,

Public Speaking: Supervisor Morris asked that comments be directed to the board and be kept to 3 minutes.

Jed Potocar was at a meeting recently with Sherriff Giardino. He asked him what he would do about people trespassing on the Sherman's Property. The Sheriff said the town has to pass an ordinance saying they cannot go on the beach or file a complaint. The board needs to take some kind of action.

He wondered if there was an ordinance on the books that people must get their boats washed. He suggested the board consider doing that as a way to enforce it. He sees a lot of people bypassing it. Stickers could be passed out by the boat launch staff.

Trish Isabella is a resident and a commercial property owner. She is here to talk about the decision to go with the LPP Management or CAC. She asked the board to take the emotion out of the decision and to look at the numbers. What she read in the paper today reiterates that one party is willing to put 5 million into Sherman's and the other is \$700,000. As a tax payer she felt we should go where the money is. She was in favor of a for profit using the space so taxes would be paid. She also asked the board if they knew of the members on the Sherman's Committee how many had donated to the CAC.

Supervisor Morris stated she would discuss the Sherman's issue in her report because of the news article that was in the newspaper today. She has received 12 calls about this article.

John Delesky noted he and his wife have been putting in 911 signs on the weekends. There are about 600 signs in place so far. As a first responder he knows how it is at night to find a place when an ambulance or police is needed right away. Orders are taken by Linda, Judy and Adam in the clerk's office. The bills are paid through that office and to date we have sold about \$10,000 which covers the cost of the signs, numbers, and posts. Tony Toskas has made all of the signs so far. (He was given a round of applause)

Joyce Barrett is a full time resident, even though she is Kyle price's grandmother, she is speaking as a resident. We only have one piece of land on the lake. Scotia has Collingswood, Burnt Hills

has Jenkins Park, and the Town of Ballston has a little place on Balliston Lake. Why can't we have that for the residents of the town? She thinks she figured by adding up the insurance and loss of taxes it comes to \$6 a household – not a person. It is the only piece of land in this town. Once it is gone it is gone. Living on the lake she wants to see it enjoyed by the whole town on the lake whether they can swim or not. If we have to take down the buildings she would understand. She thought there was a state grant to help with that sort of thing.

Bill Bishop spoke to a council member and everything, and is speaking on behalf of the Caroga Music Festival. They are willing to hold concerts at Sherman's and everything at other places without charging people but they do accept donations. He thinks we should keep Sherman's and keep it as an Arts Festival and maybe have other events there. He did not think a corporation should be brought in. At the last meeting they said they could not find anything about the background of that company. Mr. Bishop noted that next week Kyle and 70 some musicians will be here. It would be nice if the people here would come to the concerts and make some donations.

John Lawrence of LPP is here tonight to take part and observe the proceedings. He did see the article in the newspaper. He wanted to make sure the board understood his proposal. He did not say tear down any buildings. In fact he is interested in preserving the history. He has been coming to Caroga Lake his entire life. He wanted to work together with the Arts Counsel. He noted the article did neglect to mention the investment that he is looking to put together.

Gene Centi stated that S. Shore Road has large pot holes. He knows it is not the right time to fill them. He noted the construction going on down the road.

Mr. Centi wondered why there could not be a boat launch inspection down in the East Caroga Lake area. From what he has read about in the grant it stated the location should be able to capture boats coming from the Sacandaga and Pecks Lake. He noted there is a boat inspector every day at the Northampton campsite. We are trying to control the weed problem and need to do more. He thought the two programs should work together.

Tony Toskas agreed with Trish Isabella. His concern is his tax bill. He questioned if that was the number - \$6 per household. Whatever we do we can't leave this open. The music group is great to have here but not if he has to pay for it out his taxes. The fact that it says in the proposed contract/lease that the town is going to do the maintenance on the property. What if that requires a new septic system? What happens to that \$6 per household – it becomes \$600 or more. They need to assume maintenance.

Jim Selmsler asked for permission to approach. At a prior meeting Jack Glenn wanted an update on where we stand with the proposed zoning. He gave the board a list of requirements that initially came from the APA. The town has done down to step #3. He recommended continuing to utilize the County Planning Board for the other requirements on the SEQR process. The County should be able to provide that information to expedite that part of the requirements. Then the town can move on whether it is this year or next year and into some of the other requirements which take a little more time. He stated the requirement for a public hearing will probably not happen this year. He noted the planning board is pretty much done with it. There were some issues the town board had to follow up with the APA on. The board could do some things to get closer to the end of the process. He noted that Jim Mraz is retiring at the end of the year. He

thought we should use those resources while they are here. The town board is the lead agency. There is a 13 page SEQR to be filled out. He thought the county could put it together.

A seasonal Resident on West Caroga reported a large patch of weeds about the size of a football field in front of Vrooman Road. He noted last year this area was not taken care of. He also stated he felt we were fortunate to have the LPP come up and try to invest in a project like this.

The public section was then closed by the Supervisor.

Department Reports:

Assessor's Report – Victoria Hayner submitted a written report which the supervisor read. She has completed the process for the 2017 assessment roll. The roll has been filed and is available to view online or in the Town Clerk's Office. Sales continue to be entered. During the month of June there were 3 valid sales and 3 non-valid sales. Four were residential and two were vacant land sales. During the week of July 17th she will be at a conference to earn continuing education credits. Building permits have been entered and have been coming in regularly. She is in the office on Tuesday between 8 am and 2 pm. Her email address is value411@nycap.rr.com. She encouraged anyone with questions to contact her.

Supervisor Morris noted she is on the shared services panel at the county level. One thing they have been discussing is county wide assessing. It is getting harder and harder to hire an assessor. A new revalue that this town has to have is going to cost \$50,000. She does not want to spend that money until she knows we have to. This will be a referendum issue. The next meeting is July 31st. She invited everyone to this meeting. She will let everyone know what happened at that meeting at the next board meeting. Public hearings will also be held. The problem with county wide assessing is... it got voted down before. The panel may go with contract assessing. That is 2, 3, or 4 towns share an assessor. Each town has to have the same equalization rate she stated. She noted Stratford is being assessed at 105%, Caroga is at 63%, and some are at 85%. She will let the board know what happens at the meeting so the town can figure at budget time what has to be done.

BTI – Mr. Delesky noted they are winding down on the program. Per the permit they can monitor and treat until July 31st. A lot of the smaller streams are completely dry. They have used 15 more gallons of BTI this year than the previous year. It has been the 4th wettest spring in the north east on record.

Clerk/Registrar – Linda Gilbert submitted monthly reports for May & June. Receipts have been issued by the Town Supervisor. Deputy Judy Aldinger was thanked for putting in some extra hours to get caught up because of the extra workload due to situations here at town hall. There are four (4) delinquent Dogs from Jan. – May. The list will be given to the Dog Control Officer. A voucher was submitted for \$25 for a surplus computer. The DECAL computer is still using windows XP. The county has surplus computers. The town Supervisor and golf course have also put in for surplus computers. Monitors can be purchased for about \$89 each. The surplus computers have windows 7 operating systems.

Code Enforcement & Sanitation – Mr. Duesler stated to the supervisor that he is sending out 130 letters for open building permits. For the period from 6/1/2017 to 6/30/2017 he took in \$1033.95.

Blight – Council Member Glenn – No report

Dog Control – The clerk stated Mr. Dutcher called earlier with a report. He had 14 calls for the month, he responded to 2 dog bite cases.

Golf Course –No Report

Highway – Mr. Putman (birthday boy -applause) will be going out to bid for the Nick Stock Road – the box culvert deck has to be demo'd. He will then ask the engineer to give a blueprint to rebuild. He noted it has been a very wet summer the likes we haven't seen in a long time. During the last storm about 5 roads went out. He has worked hard to repair them. Some of the roads wash out as soon as you fill the pot holes. He noted S. Shore Roads of East and West Caroga Lake are on the CHIPS list as being done within the last 10 years. It will be a few years before CHIPS money can be used on them. He was out until 1:30 am during one of the storms. During that time people cried wolf chasing him down on Kasson Dr. for a washout with a car on its side. Come to find out it was a person's driveway and the vehicle was upright. People who live at the bottom of a hill should expect water to come down and pool. He is doing a little paving.

Lake Steward Program - Mr. Durkee reported the season is in full swing both at the boat launch and boat wash station. At West Lake they have inspected over 600 boats already. The boat wash station is still not getting the traffic – there have been about 100 boats. He would be happy to see a requirement for inspections. He thinks that may be difficult as this is controlled by DEC. He knows of Towns and Counties in the park that have regulations. Some have town boat launches so they can set the rules. Others have park commissions set up. He thought it might be possible on a countywide basis. Mr. Durkee would like to see a steward program at the Caroga Lakes. The grant was for the installation and operation of the boat wash station. The West lake program is separately as a partnership between the Canada lake Conservation Assoc., the town and DEC. This allows them to do inspections at the state boat launch.

Each year he tries to contact people from East & West Caroga Lake Associations, Pleasant Lake, Stoner Lake, Stewart Landing, Peck Lake, and Pine Lake to get them to attend the meeting to learn more on how the programs operate. He gives them handouts and posters to post.

Supervisor Morris wanted to set up a time to work on the expenditure report. She will work on that with Mr. Durkee and Mr. Harazin.

Town Hall Building - Mr. Travis reported the sewer pipe had a problem. Larry Smith came down and got in the manhole to check it out. He thinks he can connect the new drain pipe a 6" to the other one without digging up the parking lot. Adirondack Septic did not get back in touch with the town. Supervisor Morris will call them in the morning.

Mr. Travis is still taking bids on the front deck of the clinic. He has one.

The suggestion to paint the gym is on hold till at least after Aug. 11 when Summer Rec. is finished.

Youth - Colleen Ricciardi reported she is happy the program is up and running after a lot of red tape. The permit came through at the last minute. She has planned trips to state parks and applied for grants that will pay for the bus driver and mileage. The weather has not been very cooperative. Tuesdays are the Pine Lake trip and Thursday are the field trips. Paul Pavlus has been great and the driver Dawn on being flexible to change if there is a bad weather day. There are 55 kids enrolled. Today they went to Crystal Grove Diamond Mine and for ice-cream. There are 24 enrolled in the enrichment program. She is getting a lot of positive feedback from both the town residents and the summer residents. Both the town and school have backed her up. She feels this program is an asset to the town. She utilized the program herself. She is appreciative of the new crosswalk and signage put up by the state. She noted the lack of daycare up here – not that they provide daycare. Applause was given.

Supervisor Morris thanked Board Member Manning for putting in time to make the program happen due to new regulations.

Sherman's Advisory Committee – Mr. Kirsch stated this was the last report the board would receive as “the committee has done their work and they are dissolved as of about a week ago.” He asked to be taken off the agenda. He noted a number of errors and omissions in the newspaper article today. It is par for the course. It is too bad it happens. The committee was very productive and a great group. They put in over 30 hours in 12 meetings. There were hundreds of emails and a lot of discussions. They accomplished everything they were asked to do. It was at zero cost to the town. He drafted a letter for the board to consider sending to the group thanking them. Three of the members were from outside the county and brought a lot of expertise and experience to their discussions. He thanked the board for establishing the advisory committee and supporting the work they did.

Since this was the recommendation night – he is pretty sure everyone knows what the recommendation is. Sherman's has been a major factor in the town for at least 3 years. At best it has been controversial at worst it has been divisive and really negative. He does not feel it has been good for the image of the town. It has not been fun for the board either. It has been frustrating for those living in the town. He feels there is some light at the end of the tunnel. At the last meeting when the proposals were presented to the public there was a lot of interest and enthusiasm for the proposals. Acting on this recommendation the board can make a historic and positive decision for the town.

There is a lot of misinformation out there and there always has been from the day we started this. He is going to try to, in a concise way tell us how the committee come to their conclusion on their recommendation. First there were three options to talk about. 1) CAC Proposal, 2) LPP Management, LLC proposal, and then there was the concept of a joint effort by the two of them to work together to develop the property. That was at the request of the board. The committee thought both proposals were excellent. There were positives in both of them.

The key issues with CAC Proposal - there were five of them.

- 1) Largest revenue stream for the town \$400,000 over 10 years
- 2) There would be no ownership or legal issues, Mr. Abdella stated they supported CAC leasing the property.

- 3) No infrastructure or environmental issues with the proposal.
- 4) Strong dynamic with what they are doing with the Nick Stoner Inn and MYHIL property
- 5) They have a 6 year history with the town. Extensive resident involvement the board, their attendees, the volunteers, housing - everyone is from the town.

The negative factor was they had limited property development and management experience

The key issues with the LPP Proposals

- 1) They had a 3 – 5 million project proposed with Apartments, hotel restaurant, and entertainment venue with jobs.
 - 2) There would be a 2 - 4 year period before the town would realize revenue
 - 3) Purchase or long term lease to any developer with LPP has potential legal issues
 - 4) Likely to have significant infrastructure and environmental issues- mainly septic
- The committee had a hard time getting a track record of prior success with development projects or information on the company. It was noted they did get pretty large grants from the state.

The recommendation is to pursue a lease agreement with the CAC. The vote was unanimous from the committee in support of the proposal. He was surprised with that. It was a short 1 hour meeting. The primary factors were the benefit to the town from the CAC proposal no legal battle over the ownership. The big black cloud goes away. It has the largest revenue stream. There are no septic or environmental issues to deal with. It is a lower risk approach as it is gradual development vs a big bang tear the place up put up a bunch of new building. The one risk factor that was there was the lack of experience in developing property. In the LPP proposal the risk factors weighed in on the decision causing them not to spend a lot of time discussing the joint effort proposal as a result of those concerns. Mr. Kirsch stated there would be no cost to the town, no legal fight, and Sherman's becomes an attraction again.

Mr. Kirsch then suggested the next four steps for the board;

- 1) Meet with Kyle Price and the CAC Board and talk about some issues
Adjust their proposals to eliminated ongoing town maintenance responsibilities and costs.
Lease 'performances/escape' clause so the town can end/amend lease if payments, etc., are not met.
- 2) Address code officers issues with the Sherman's property ASAP
- 3) Use volunteer labor to address non-technical maintenance issues at Sherman's (landscape, paint, etc.)
- 4) Take the above steps quickly to leverage the momentum and move the town forward with Sherman's

Mr. Kirsch then handed a two page document, "Sherman's Advisory Committee Final Recommendations" dated July 12, 2017 to the board.

Supervisor Morris had some comments. She stated it would have been much better if an interview could have waited until after the board and the town heard the recommendation from him first. She took exception to that. She "had a phone call from someone who doesn't live in the county wanting to know what we were doing up here." She felt slighted by that. There is one very important group the board had not heard from that is the CMC Board of Directors – the decision makers. Kyle is the magic behind the group. We need to sit down with the decision makers. Council Member Sturchio noted they just

recommended we meet. Kyle is not the decision maker. Supervisor Morris noted the next step is to turn this proposal over to the Town Attorney.

Mr. Kirsch noted the last meeting was a public meeting. The next day it was all over Facebook. It is public information. Kyle has been asked on several occasions to go back to his board with what has been updated. Mr. Kirsch stated he has gone back to them on 3 occasions to make sure he has their support. Mr. Kirsch stated he guessed it didn't hurt to have the town attorney look at it. He stated it is not a contract – it is just a proposal. Just an outline. Before this is accepted the attorney will look at it Supervisor Morris stated.

Council Member Manning stated he understands we are nowhere near a contract here, or a decision, or approving anything. He did think the attorney should be at a sit down meeting with the CAC Board, their Board of Directors and this board and have that discussion. The proposal is a starting point. Council Member Manning stated we can change anything we want. There may be sticking points in this. At this point it is a negotiation. “We can go back and talk about involving the possibility of developers.” They are playing with that right now. The Supervisor will call Attorney Ferlazzo in the morning.

Supervisor Morris noted there have been many discussions regarding Sherman's. Many people are concerned about the clear title. This has to be discussed as a town board. She stated this is subject to permissive referendum, “and it is going to go.” If we accept the proposal without a clear title it is going to a referendum.

Council Member Manning stated we know where George stands on his believing in the lease. He has expressed his support for this proposal. The proposal is subject to change and it will change significantly. Council Member Manning agreed we have to sit down with their board at this point in time.

Supervisor Morris recalled her conversation with Mr. & Mrs. Abdella. They believe every stipulation is valid. Council Member Manning responded “true.” That is a problem. Supervisor Morris recalled that two years ago “We went out and petitioned because of these stipulations.” Council Member Manning responded, “I recall.” She recalls her name and his name on an Article 78 suing the previous administration. Council Member Manning replied, “True.” She asked what has changed. We thought we had won this great battle all it was, was a feel good moment. Council Member Manning stated, what changed was the perception of whether or not that is an issue right now. We are moving forward. The question is if there is the cloud. All there has to be is a discussion to see where this is going. It might go nowhere. Supervisor Morris agreed there should be a meeting but we just can't kick down the road this title problem. Council Member Manning stated he thinks we are going to have to address it.

Council Member Manning wants to go with the recommendation and have a meeting. Council Member Sturchio was asked by Council Member Manning what he thought the next step should be. He would like to have a meeting with the Attorney, and their board.

Council Member Glenn stated during the meeting when both proposals were given he recommended that maybe since there were non competing proposals that maybe they could come together – both proposals and mitigate and mediate and incorporate the good of both proposals. He did not think there have been a lot of in-depth discussions in putting the two together. (Applause)

Supervisor Morris stated because there is support behind this second proposal from John Lorence she thought he should be involved in the discussion. Council Member Manning agreed.

Weeds – Mr. Centi reported they are harvesting near the association area on East Lake and the area of Kirchen Grove and the Outlet. Last year in those areas there were 1519 bushels of weed taken out of the lake for the entire season. This year in just those two area they have taken out 1529.

Today they changed the approach. The divers work 7 hours all four divers and one tender. Two divers go down for 45 minutes they come up and the others go down. There is a constant flow of weeds coming out. It used to be 5 hours in the morning, and 5 hours in the afternoon last year. He has received calls with concerns. He noted the westerly breeze and the need to clean up the shoreline. The new compressor had a couple of glitches. They were down for a couple of days. The exhaust is not channeled away from the divers. Three areas of the lake were tested for E.coli. The boat launch by the campground, the campground beach and the East Lake Association. All came back fine. It gives us a baseline. He will see what happens once the septic system at the campground is up and running.

Beginning next year there will be testing for Enterococcus Faecalis that will be the new standard. Handout were given to the Clerk. Copies of a proposal for an Aquatic Plant Assessment of East and West Caroga Lakes prepared by Lawrence Eichler were also presented to the clerk. West Caroga Lake doesn't have near the amount of weeds East Caroga Lake has. They are not being ignored. They will come over with the harvester at some point. Mr. Centi will check the budget to see if he can run the program longer this year. It can actually run year round.

Mr. Centi showed the board the CSLAP report from two years ago. He reviewed a few points from the report. He noted we need another lake assessment. He will have it done in September some time. Lawrence Eichler will do it.

Supervisor Morris asked what he found out about the end of year report for 2016. He has copies of last year's dive records. He will put together a brief report 4 – 5 sentences.

There have been recent discussion about mechanical weed harvesters. Leigh Walrath is not in favor of using the drum type harvester/echo harvester. He is more in favor of the cycle type which cuts. More research is necessary.

Supervisor's Report

ATV's – There is no riding on town roads. They go up and down her road all the time. She suggested calling the authorities if you see them on the road.

Sherman's is off limits to residents and visitors unless you are authorized. The Supervisor received many phone calls on July 4th apparently someone thought it was OK to set off a fireworks display. For the past year and ½ the board has tried to make it clear. Supervisor Morris then stated, "If a board member finds anyone on this property, you will be prosecuted." She noted the property is not secure. It is POSTED do not go on to the property. The only people who can tell people to get off the property is board members or the Code Officer.

Council Member Glenn noted at one time the board discussed getting surveillance cameras. The cost was about \$2,300.00. Supervisor Morris has to look at the budget to see what is on the line item. She noted the electrical inspections, structural engineering report has to be paid from that account. She noted the other night the 4 kids who always hang out there in the pavilion were there. The kids were told to get out or the Sheriff would be called to have a talk with them. She noted the need for security. She noted a lot of damage has been done on the property. Council Member Sturchio called the Sheriff last Thursday. A complaint would have to be signed by the board. She has seen people picnicking in the pavilion – it is not safe right now. People are smoking on the property.

Mr. Kirsch suggested in addition to the cameras, have motion activated lights. Also there are lots of signs on the beach but more are needed at the access points.

Council Member Manning noted there are people authorized to be on the property right now who are working on it. There is an ongoing town/volunteer base effort to rehabilitate the property to a point where it is safe for the public to be on it. Two weeks ago a massive list was created by the Supervisor, Code Officer, Council Member Manning and his brother to secure the buildings and property. Until that is done only those who have signed a waiver to be on the property to do work can be there. Maybe in a few weeks the Code Officer will approve being on the grounds. Until that point in time no one can be on the grounds.

The volunteer were mentioned Supervisor Morris thanked Mr. Ruby for mowing. Other volunteers are Dan Boyle, Mike Manning, Bill Bishop, Tony Sturchio, Kent Kirsch, Pat Fifer, Eric Manning, Holly Parker, Jacky Fake, and Jeremy Manning. (All have signed waivers) Materials for the fence along the shore were donated by Don Wixal of Kingsboro Lumber and other town residents paid for it too. A thanks to Barbara Lee for the waivers. There will be more cleanup days to be organized. A sign up sheet will be created for people to volunteer for projects. As far as the direction right now of where this thing goes.... Being able to get this open to the public and utilize the space will make a big difference Council Member Manning stated in keeping down the vandalism. Council Member Glenn wondered if these people can be identified by a badge. Council Member Manning will look into it. They could keep a copy of the waiver with them. All volunteers were thanked.

At this time Shannon Wager was introduced as the new bookkeeper by the Town Supervisor. A few weeks back our long time bookkeeper resigned. "It was a difficult decision for both of us but one that needed to be made." Over the past several months the Supervisor has mentioned that the bookkeeping needed to be updated. Our bookkeeping is in very, very bad shape. The

Supervisor is “working with the state and working many hours with the bookkeeper to perform the tasks that need to be done. Over the course of 30 years there have been a lot of things that have not been done right. Things were overlooked and let go. This comes from gross negligence, a lack of accountability and a lack of leadership for whomever was sitting in this seat.” Her top priority is the CFO. Everything else comes second. It is on her. It is not her job to know the bookkeepers job but it is her job to make sure the work is done. It has not been done. The board will be updated monthly. The town has faces many, many fines. She is working to get the money back. She thanked the board for their help in this matter. She will do her best to make sure the town’s books are where they should have been all the time. The Supervisor also thanked the Town clerk and the Deputy Town Clerk. They have had to take on a lot more work.

Old Business:

Ferris wheel fencing – the Code Officer and the insurance company have pointed out that a protective barrier needs to be installed. He got five oral bids for the fencing,

- 1) Dolan Fencing for \$2,605 they can start next week.
- 2) A & G Fence \$3000 about 5 weeks out
- 3) Mariaville Fencing \$2100 three weeks out
- 4) Custom Wood Craft – Mayfield \$2400 not sure when they can do the work
- 5) Free from Rick Ruby and Jim Zeitler would use existing fence along Bath Ave.

The board discussed the free option. The fence would be 6 feet high. We know it has to be done. If the fence can’t be reused or the posts is there money to spend. They will start on the project. Council Member Manning wanted to approve a backup plan with one of the other quotes. The Supervisor wanted to review the budget as expenses for the electrical engineering study and structural study need to be paid out of the Sherman’s line item.

RESOLUTION #2017-069 to allow volunteer group to remove fencing on town property

was offered by Council Member Manning at the regular monthly Town Board meeting held on July 12, 2017 at 7 pm at Caroga Town hall 1840 State Highway 10 Caroga Lake NY 12032, and

WHEREAS, volunteers have offered to secure fencing around the ferris wheel on the Sherman’s property as directed by the Code Officer and insurance company, and

WHEREAS, authorized volunteers Rick Ruby and James Zeitler have suggested reusing a section of fence along Bath Ave. on the Sherman’s Property, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the afore mentioned volunteers are hereby authorized to take down the fence bordering Bath Ave. on the Sherman’s Property and reuse it around the Ferris Wheel on the midway on the Sherman’s property.

The motion was seconded by Council Member Sturchio

Adopted by a vote of 4Ayes, Morris, Glenn, Sturchio, Manning

Council Member Manning stated last month the board ended the issuance of lifetime benefits for any new employee or hire as of 6/14/17. No one appointed or elected after that date will be

eligible to receive lifetime health benefits, excluding highway employees. That needs to be discussed. The resolution tonight addresses the issue of continuity in the twelve years. People may run for a seat for the benefit get 2 or 4 years in the board want to try to eliminate that. The word consecutive was added to this resolution. Anyone who worked for a couple of years prior to 6/14/17 back to 1996 could not come on in future years and be eligible to receive health benefits. Those retiree need to actually be retired from the system. According to the comptroller it is illegal to retire from the Town of Caroga and receive the health benefits and go work somewhere else.

RESOLUTION #2017-070 to amend the lifetime health benefit resolution to read continuous years was offered by Council Member Manning at the regular monthly meeting of the Caroga Town Board held on July 12, 2017 at 7 pm at Caroga Town hall 1840 State Highway 10 Caroga Lake NY 12032 and

WHEREAS, on or about January 3, 1996, the Board of the Town of Caroga (the “Town”) passed three separate resolutions relating to the provision of medical coverage for elected officials and/or full-time appointed officials and such resolutions are identified as #7/96, #8/96, and #9/96, respectively (collectively, the “’96 Resolutions”); and

WHEREAS, among other things the ’96 Resolutions provide that any individual serving as an elected official and/or full-time appointed official in the Town for a period of at least twelve (12) years shall be entitled to individual medical coverage for the rest of his or her life with the option for family coverage at his or her own expense; and

WHEREAS, having discussed the matter the Town desired to limit the lifetime benefits identified in the ’96 Resolutions to only those persons eligible to receive them as of June 14, 2017, and passed a resolution identified as #2017-062 so limiting such benefits and further providing that, going forward, such lifetime benefits would not be available for those elected officials and/or full-time appointed officials who were elected or appointed after June 14, 2017 and who have not previously held elected or appointed office in the Town prior to June 14, 2017; and

WHEREAS, the Town further desires to clarify that, in order to be eligible for individual medical coverage for the rest of his or her life with the option for family coverage at his or her own expense, elected officials and/or full-time appointed officials otherwise eligible for such benefits under the ’17 Resolution must serve at least twelve, consecutive years in his or her elected and/or full-time appointed Town position and subsequently file for and become entitled to receive a retirement allowance (*e.g.*, Social Security; NYSERS).

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the availability of lifetime health insurance benefits set forth in Town Resolutions #7/96, #8/96, and #9/96, as modified by Town Resolution #2017-062 shall be available for eligible elected officials and/or full-time appointed officials only where such persons have served at least twelve, consecutive years in his or her elected and/or full-time appointed Town position and subsequently file for and become entitled to receive a retirement allowance (*e.g.*, Social Security; NYSERS).

Supervisor Morris seconded the motion.

Adopted by the following vote 4 Ayes; Morris, Glenn, Sturchio, Manning

One comment was to make the benefit 20 years. Council Member Manning noted the goal is to phase the benefit out. He noted the highway department has to still be addressed in their contract.

Supervisor Morris noted there have been some discussion about the heating system. The one boiler blew up. It has to be replaced. The Town Clerk showed and discussed the contract for the boilers with the supervisor. The contract stated they were supposed to size the boiler for a commercial job but they installed residential boilers. The contract was for about \$25,000.00. The board discussed sending a copy of the contract to the Town Attorney to review. If it wasn't sized right maybe the town won't have to replace it at our cost.

RESOLUTION #2017-071 to send a copy of the Eco Sun & Power Systems, LLC contract to the Town Attorney was offered by Supervisor Morris at the regular monthly meeting of the Caroga Town Board held on July 12, 2017 at 7 pm at Town hall 1840 State Highway 10 Caroga Lake NY 12032, and

WHEREAS, the town sent out a request for proposals for a heating system for town hall to be opened on July 10, 2013 and,

WHEREAS, the board reviewed and selected Eco Sun & Power Systems, LLC of 6804 Duanesburg Rd, Duanesburg, NY 12056 to perform the work, and

WHEREAS, boiler number one has failed and has to be replaced, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Caroga Town Board does hereby move to have the contract sent to the Town Attorney Sal Ferlazzo of Girvin and Ferlazzo 20 Corporate Blvd. Albany NY for review.

Council Member Glenn seconded the motion.

Adopted by the following vote: 4 Ayes; Morris, Glenn, Sturchio, Manning

RESOLUTION #2017-072 to authorize the use of new equipment by the Nick Stoner Trailers Snowmobile Club on Town property was offered by Supervisor Morris at the regular monthly Town Board meeting held on July 12, 2017 at 7 pm at Town hall 1840 State Highway 10 Caroga Lake NY 12032, and

WHEREAS, Dave Briot submitted a document for the board to review showing a picture of the new trail grooming equipment the Nick Stoner Trailers are filing a grant to purchase, and

WHEREAS, to help support the application and approval of the grant the club needed the authorization to use the new equipment on town property, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Caroga Town Board does hereby move to authorize the use of the new equipment by the Nick Stoner Trailers snowmobile club

The motion was seconded by Council Member Sturchio,

Adopted by a vote of 4 Ayes, Morris, Glenn, Sturchio, Manning

Supervisor Morris stated that she was working on a previous Retirement Resolution that was not complete. She will have it ready for the next board meeting.

New Business:

Sherman's cleanup- Council Member Manning created a signup sheet for anyone who has any interested in being a part of the cleanup on the Sherman's property. Name, Specialty, and contact information should be filled out.

Correspondence:

Letter from Carolyn Suffern re: Sherman's Proposals

National Grid requests public service commission to approve increase

Thank you from Doug Purcell for use of Town hall for Ice Cream Social

Fulton Co. Workers Compensation 2nd Quarter Assessment

Fulton Co. Resolution 205 authorizing grant to purchase an excavator

Fulton Co Resolution 208 authorizing application for a micro enterprise grant

Course Request to hold an AARP Smart Driver Course at Town hall Gordon Schipper Zone 3
Coordinator

At 8:40 pm before a motion is made to go into an executive session the board took a five minute recess to give the public five minutes to talk to the board.

At 8:47 pm Supervisor Morris made a motion to enter into an executive session to discuss the medical, financial, credit or employment history of a particular person or corporation, or matters leading to the appointment, employment, promotion, demotion, discipline, suspension, dismissal or removal of a particular person or corporation. Council Member Sturchio seconded the motion. All board members were in favor of the motion.

At 9:31pm Supervisor Morris made a motion to exit from the executive session. Council Member Sturchio seconded the motion. All board members were in favor of the motion. There were no decisions or resolutions as a result of the executive session.

There were 9 people still in attendance.

The Clerk informed the board that the town has about 40 "Caroga a Town Recalls its Past" books left. Barbara McMartin James Long's mother wrote the book. Supervisor Morris asked if the board wanted to reprint them. She wondered about the rights to the book. Mr. Long stated his mother conveyed all rights to the town. "ALL of the Rights." At this time the board decided to wait. Only a few are sold to the public from the Clerk's office each year. The clerk noted the Mysteries on Main St. Bookstore in Johnstown purchases them yearly and so does Canada Lake Store. The town has the mechanicals in the record room. James described them as wax mechanicals. In the old days a book was created by waxing the back of a photo, waxing where you place it on, type setting the text and paste it on. It was laid out by hand. This method was done through the 70's. The museum is requesting a donation of 4 at this time.

Mr. Long noted the person who printed it last may have a photo offset of the mechanicals. Baronet Litho printed the book. Council Member Glenn suggested researching who printed the book.

RESOLUTION #2017-073 to donate 4 Caroga Books to the Caroga Museum was offered by Supervisor Morris at the regular monthly meeting of the Caroga Town Board held on July 12, 2017 at 7 pm at Town hall 1840 State Highway 10 Caroga Lake NY 12032

WHEREAS, Shirley Holliday President of the Caroga Museum has requested a donation from the Town of Caroga for four Caroga An Adirondack Town Recalls its Past books by Barbara McMartin, which it resells, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Caroga Town Board does hereby authorize the donation to the Caroga Museum.

The motion was seconded by Council Member Manning.

Adopted by a vote of 4 Ayes, Morris, Glenn, Sturchio, Manning

Supervisor Morris made a motion to pay the bills as presented for audit, accept the minutes of the 6/2, 6/7, & 6/12 work session and 6/14 town board meeting. The motion was seconded by Council Member Manning. All board members were in favor of the motion.

Supervisor Morris made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Council Member, Glenn. All board members were in favor of the motion.

Respectfully Submitted,

Linda M. Gilbert, RMC, CMC
Caroga Town Clerk

General #197 – #238- \$31,248.65

Highway #102 - #118 - \$7547.98

Gen. Park # 35- # 42 - \$1587.32 .