

State of New York  
County of Fulton  
Town of Caroga

Minutes of a Caroga Town Board meeting held Wednesday August 10, 2022 at the municipal building located at 1840 State Highway #10 at 6:00 pm with the following persons in attendance by roll call. The flag salute followed.

Supervisor Scott Horton - Here  
Council Member John Glenn – Here  
Council Member Barbara DeLuca – Here  
Council Member Richard Sturgess – Here  
Council Member Donald Travis – Here

Tor Shekerjian Confidential Secretary to the Supervisor facilitated the Zoom portion of the meeting. Department Heads Jeremy Manning Bike Trail, Steve Stedman Golf Course Maintenance, and Walter “Jim” Hogan Weed Harvesting Coordinator were in attendance. There were eleven people in attendance at town hall and 14 people were online using zoom.

Council Member Glenn made a motion to waive the reading of the minutes. Council Member Sturgess seconded the motion. All board members were in favor of the motion: Horton, Glenn, DeLuca, Sturgess, Travis.

Sheriff Richard Giardino usually comes to Caroga when there are problems. Tonight, he is here to give a report on his office, and to answer any questions. His office is 24/7. There are five divisions: Administrative, Civil, Communications, Corrections, and Road Patrol. There are 110 full time employees and 30 part time employees. Last year there were 11,172 calls for service. He noted the Gloversville Police Dept. had approx... 21,000 and Johnstown Police Dept. had approx... 7,500. The number has dropped down from 2017 when it was 14,313. Accidents have dropped in the last five years. He did not know if it was an enforcement issue or because of COVID. There were 54 DWI's in 2021. The State Police are very close to that number. He distributed a six-page report and left some extra packets.

He has restored boat & snowmobile patrols. This was done through donations. The Sean Craig fund provide a \$30,000.000 side scan sonar. It is shared with other counties. He has had staff retention issues since before COVID. Sheriff Giardino noted the Town Supervisor Scott Horton has been very supportive of trying to remedy the problem. The Sheriff noted there were 439 calls to Caroga in 2021. There is new gun legislation that will impact any lawful gun owner. The laws do not apply to the Adirondack Park as it is a forest preserve. He noted the new laws are confusing. The Sheriff brought some signs for businesses. If the business is allowing carry concealed weapons ***the sign must be posted***. He believes the federal court is going to review the new law. There will be a public informational meeting at the Meco Firehouse on August 16 at 6 pm on the gun law, and one on the Broadalbin/Kennyetto Fire House on August 23, and a final meeting at Hilltop in Oppenheim on August 30<sup>th</sup> at 6 pm. Millie Busch has asked for more patrols in Caroga. He does send a car up. He noted there used to be six people on a shift now they have a supervisor and three deputies. They are zoned, west, north and south and cover 500 square miles. They responded to a fight in the parking lot at Sherman's after a concert. They also cover people who have had threats made on them. Sometimes they use part time people on these details. The Sheriff's Department assists the State Police as needed on their calls.

Council Member Travis noted that Darin Smith a certified NRA instructor will put on a pistol permit class at the Caroga Fish and Game Club. Sheriff Giardino stated after September 1<sup>st</sup> if you haven't had

your application in the requirements will be for a 16 hours course with live fire. Those who have permits need to recertify with the state every 5 years.

It was asked if everyone was going to have to have a boating certificate after a certain date. That is true.

Supervisor Horton thanked the Sheriff for his support of Caroga. There are regular patrols, and it was nice to see them in the West Caroga Boat Parade. Sheriff Giardino stated he could not do a lot of what they do without the help of the Volunteer Fire Department. The Sheriff stated he is accessible and noted the squeaky wheel gets the grease. (Applause)

Mr. Poulin is running for the office of Fulton County District Attorney. He thanked the board for allowing him to speak this evening. He is from Northville NY and began his career about 28 years ago as Assistant District Attorney. He is familiar with the town as he was the prosecutor assigned to Caroga back in 1994. He is married and has three adult children. His wife is a teacher at Gloversville High School. He is a Republican and is also the Conservative Candidate for Fulton County DA. Let him know if you have any questions reach out on Facebook, or his emails are [electmjp@gmail.com](mailto:electmjp@gmail.com), [poulinlaw@yahoo.com](mailto:poulinlaw@yahoo.com), or [poulinlaw@gmail.com](mailto:poulinlaw@gmail.com). He thanked everyone for their support. (Applause)

Anne Boles of the Fulton Montgomery Chamber of Commerce was going to attend the meeting tonight. There is a state grant program for \$250,000.00 to help communities brand themselves. It is all about tourism and recreation. She was going to talk about this. In the last few days this has become a regional program. Fulton is joining with Schenectady, Albany, Washington and Green counties and they are going after \$2M. One concern was are we going to get left out if we were to support it. The Supervisor stated we are not at that point yet. If we have more resources there would be more administration to do the things you want.

### **Department Reports:**

Wheelerville Bike Trail – Jeremy Manning stated the branding idea came out of the Tourism Commission, and taking a broader approach would help get the message out about our town. Supervisor Horton stated this was a non-matching grant.

On August 20 & 21 the First Annual Wheelerville Bike Festival will be held. There will be a downhill race, food, merchandise, bike vendors, craft beer, and music. He has been working with Council Member DeLuca to contact the Department of Transportation, the Fulton County Sheriff's Dept. and the Caroga Lake Volunteer Fire Company to finalize the safety plan for the event.

Mr. Manning is working on merchandising for the event and put down half of the money needed to order T-shirts for the festival. Thirty pre-order shirts have already been sold. He is using a company called Pure ADK an online based Adirondack apparel company. They have sent out a contract. The Town will buy the product and they will sell it online and "we get all the proceeds." They want to further outdoor recreation in the park. It is a simple easy way to go. Mr. Manning stated we are not paying them. We can link to their site. He stated all proceeds go back to the town bike project. Supervisor Horton noted one of the best ways to brand our community is by selling merchandise that has logos on it. He stated it would be cost prohibitive for the town to be out on the internet selling merchandise. The Supervisor explained the town would purchase the merchandise and then transfer it to the vendor. We could also sell the merchandise through the club house or at events like next weekend. If we buy a shirt for \$10 and sell it for \$20, we get the entire gross market. Pure ADK takes care of the sales tax and the shipping and handling. The Town has to keep track of the inventory that goes to them. Jeremy did front half the money for the T-Shirts. The Supervisor stated the town needs to support this. It is a reputable vendor. We will have the shirts next weekend.

Mr. Manning noted the sand pit area has been revamped for a vendor area during the festival. He is also working to put in new jumps and grass seed, and an area for future parking. He continues to work on a kid's park – it will be done next week. He stated people are coming from all over the north east. The bike trail is bigger than anyone ever thought it would be. The expert trails got Wheelerville on the map, now the trails go from beginner to family use. Mr. Manning stated more intermediate and beginner trails are needed. Mr. Manning was contacted by a guy whose son rides. He has a show on FOX and is on YouTube. He said his son can wheelie for 14 miles. He is coming up to check out the Wheelerville Trails and will be at the festival. This will bring a huge online following, and a marketing benefit as well. (Applause)

The clerk asked if there will be shirts at the festival. Mr. Manning said there will he has to get them from Buffalo.

**BTI** – No Report – Supervisor Horton stated the program is done for the year.

**Sole Assessor** – Leigh Ann Loucks submitted a written report. She is as active as can be. She has downloaded a lot of files, and is trying to bring our inventory, using building permits, from 2016 up to date.

**Town Clerk/Tax Collector/Registrar/RMO** – the Clerk submitted a monthly report. The fireproof cabinet arrived 6 weeks early. She thanked Council Member Sturgess and the Highway department for their help in moving the cabinet. Supervisor Horton noted the clerk is working on a letterhead for the town.

**Code Enforcement & Sanitation** –the Code Office submitted a permit report. They have been busy but it is not as busy as last year. For the month of July, the valuation of permits was \$664,650.00 with revenues totaling \$4,875.00.

On the agenda but skipped **Dog Control** – Dutcher 7/25 Municipal Shelter Inspection Report Satisfactory.

**Golf Course** – Mr. Stedman gave a big shout out – last month Council Member Sturgess put together a big volunteer day. They worked on the cart paths. They got six or seven holes done. Since that time four more holes were done. He has trimmed back the trees. Two meetings ago Mr. Stedman noted he talked about Aerification of the greens and tees. The greens will be done a little differently. He will use a solid tine - like a pencil. He will seed and sand them. Later this month he will start spraying herbicide on T's and on the fairways if there is enough. He has a budget for the chemicals. Going forward you may see fairways that don't have weeds on them. He noted it is several sprays to eliminate all of the weeds. Mr. Stedman stated the town will probably never have a big enough chemical budget to do the roughs. Supervisor Horton thanked him for a great job, and stated the course hasn't looked better.

Supervisor Horton reported the total revenue two years ago was \$147,000.00 last year it was over \$240,000.00 and this year the board raised the revenue line to \$280,000.00 and we are on track to make that figure. Good management and people. The players are supporting us. It is a success story.

Mary Jablonski was concerned about chemicals getting into the lakes. Mr. Steadman stated with the herbicide it says on the label that you cannot treat on the golf course within 25 feet of a stream or a creek. On hole #9, the collar, he tries not to get any pesticides on it. There is math involved in putting down the chemicals. It is down to its lowest form. It kills the plant and nothing else. Depending on the label, we are talking ounces. In a 250-gallon tank there are 55 – 75 oz. of chemical. Supervisor Horton noted a liquid fertilizer is now used instead of granular. This helps to control runoff. Drainage was also worked on this spring moving it southward to a swampy area. Swamps are an excellent filter. Mr. Steadman stated it took him 2 -3 months to find a decent soil to use on the drain line. He noted the Canadian Geese are back. (Applause)

**Highway** – Supervisor Horton stated Mr. Voght is looking for a plow. He has saved the taxpayers money by leveling the site for the new salt storage shed. The Supervisor thanked him for helping the golf course.

Council Member Glenn noted the three citations awarded to the Highway Department and Mr. Voght recently. Supervisor Horton read the three citations. The Wallace Davis STOP DWI Award 6/20/2022. New York State Senate Citation to the Highway Department by Senator Tedisco, and a Certificate of Merit to Larry Voght and the Caroga Highway Department from New York State Assembly Robert Smullen. (Applause)

**Lakes Management Program** –Walter Jim Hogan submitted a written report and then reviewed it with those in attendance this evening. There have been some mechanical problems with the harvester and with the sonar unit. Overall, the number of bushels harvested is down but there is an increase in certain specific locations that have not been seen before. He hopes it does not become an issue. He is investigating the possibility of using a herbicide. There has yet to be one negative issue with it. He is just saying he is looking into it. Mr. Hogan stated it is almost 100% effective. Divers are still needed to apply the herbicide, which specifically kills the milfoil. It has to be applied to the milfoil. He has a new computer program to use provided by the Adirondack Park Invasive Plant Program. It makes identifying all types of invasive species easier. Mr. Hogan noted that natural species are causing issues on East Caroga Lake. The diesel engine is from 1970 runs well but one of the fuel injectors began leaking and was spraying fuel so the harvester had to be shut down. It took Matt Cooper over a week to find the parts. The engine may need to be replaced. Mr. Cooper was thanked for his work on the harvester.

Supervisor Horton noted Mr. Hogan spent an entire day, leaving at 5 am to attend a seminar last Friday on the proper practices for lake management. Mr. Harazin also attended the seminar. Mr. Hogan stated if you need to get in touch with him call Linda Gilbert at town hall.

**Town Hall Building** – Council Member Travis thanked Jeff McGillis for his time and the use of his boom truck to repair the flag pole at town hall and to put up the flag. The Summer Recreation program runs for another couple of weeks. He reported that the new boiler is in. It came in as quoted. The front door closer failed another was put on but it bent within a few days of use.

**CTC (former PLRT) Caroga Tourism Commission** – Council Member DeLuca reported the commission has been working on the branding concept. She has spent a lot of time getting ready for the Wheelerville Bike Festival Event. There will be fireworks on September 3<sup>rd</sup> in the town center for the end of the season celebration. There will be a concert at Sherman's. There will be food vendors. Other events the group is planning is the Trunk or Treat, a Christmas Celebration and a First Night Event. Anyone interested in joining the commission or who has input is invited to come to a meeting. The meetings are posted on the town website.

Supervisor Horton noted Barb and the Commission now are bringing this to the fruition he was hoping it to be early on. The Bike Trail Festival is a major event. The Council Member, the commission and Ralph Palcovic were thanked for all of their work on this.

**Club House /Town Hall Project** – Supervisor Horton stated he wanted to make sure the club house project (as well as the work in the cell tower area) did not require any permitting from the Adirondack Park Agency (APA) so a Jurisdictional Inquiry Form (JIF) was submitted. A letter was sent back by the APA dated July 28 with a negative declaration, stating that the town has exclusive control. The Supervisor noted that any project within 500 feet of a state highway or municipal boundary the town has to give notice to the county

for a 329M review. This is all part of the process. “We are just working on the bits and pieces.” Supervisor Horton stated he is the project manager for as long as he can saving the taxpayers thousands of thousands of dollars.

**Supervisor’s Report:** On Monday the Supervisor attended a Board of Supervisors (BOS) meeting in the 250-year-old courthouse building in Johnstown. It was very moving. Once upon a time the BOS used the building with the courts. A duplicate bell was created by the county highway department. The original has been restored and it was rung at the meeting. 1939 was the last time the board of supervisors met there. Next year Supervisor Horton will be Chairman of the Board of Supervisors. He will discuss having at least one board meeting a year at that historic facility.

Supervisor Horton wanted to address the importance of getting accurate information on anything going on. He continues to get reports from people and some of it is misinformation. Unfortunately, some of it is in print. These days there are websites, Facebook, twitter and personal letters. It is a real disservice to the public. The Supervisor is complaining to the public and stating that if they want information about things going on the clerk’s office will provide any information they want. People can come to meetings. The Supervisor has gone out to meetings with three different groups, and reached out to about 150 people. It is hurtful to him when he hears the town is not being transparent, and when he hears things that are not remotely true. He has called the State Comptroller’s Office he is doing things the way they are supposed to be done.

Supervisor Horton stated there is only one project going on now that is funded. That is the salt shed. The accounting is proper for that. Yes, other projects are being worked on. It doesn’t mean they are going forward but he thinks they are going to go forward. He wants to hear from the people. He cannot respond to all of the false accusations. He encouraged the public to call him, the board members and the clerk they all have the information. The town has applied for two grants. The awarding of grants is based on the community in some part. If they are supporting a project the chances of getting a grant is much higher. Supervisor Horton stated this doesn’t mean there shouldn’t be disagreements or questions. Two years ago, Assemblyman Smullen noted the importance of having the community together, and being honest with them. Supervisor Horton noted there was one individual going after the board maybe more. It is injurious to the town. Everyone has the freedom of speech but when these kinds of things are done, they hurt our ability to get grants. The public should tell the board how they feel about the project. To deceive the public saying things are being illegally done is completely false. His career has been building big projects. He stated the public should not listen to what they hear because there is a good chance it not completely accurate.

Supervisor Horton next gave a presentation of the Site Plan for the Club House and Town Hall project. He stated we are still in the planning stages. He likes comments and suggestions. A prerecorded message by Supervisor Horton and his Confidential Secretary Tor Shekerjian was then played.

- 1) A revised site plan was created by Phinney Design Group
- 2) Adjustments were made after the topographical survey
- 3) The Supervisor, Council Member Sturgess and Tor Shekerjian met with the Phinney group last week.
- 4) Vehicle, Golf and pedestrian traffic were reviewed and revised
- 5) The Town hall/Club House building was moved a bit north and the Maintenance barn was moved to the east.
- 6) A map showing the pathway the parking changes, and the entrances was described.
- 7) Parking is for 69 vehicles; the design is safe, attractive and saves money.

Mr. Palcovic asked if the project has been approved by a civil engineer for drainage and sanitation. Supervisor Horton stated we haven't gotten that far but yes; the site plan was developed by a civil engineering firm called EDP. Mr. Palcovic stated before this plan can be cut and dry or black and white this site can't be ready for building until a civil engineer is involved. He asked where the storm water drainage is going. He asked how they can reconfigure something without this information. Supervisor Horton thought they were aware of this. The Supervisor did not want to go back and forth on this and invited Mr. Palcovic to come to his office to answer some of these questions. Mr. Palcovic noted these are some of the things that have to be looked at. He wanted the public to know understand that. Supervisor Horton noted the heating system also has to be looked at. Mr. Palcovic stated the picture looks great but it may not stay that way. Supervisor Horton stated he thought it was going to be pretty close. Mr. Palcovic was gaveled. The Supervisor wanted to move on. Mr. Palcovic asked if this information was available on the town website. It will be was the supervisor's response he just got the information a few days ago.

To go on, the Supervisor's primary focus, and the board's efforts are on building the salt shed and building a maintenance and storage facility for the golf course and moving the highway garage to the cell tower area. This is a 2 -3 phase project. Supervisor Horton stated it is important for the people to know "we are still in planning phases." There are a lot of questions to be answered yet with the town hall and club house building. Those are not the primary focus right now.

The Supervisor stated there are two active grants out there earlier.

Real Term Energy whom the town contracted with early in 2020 has ordered the lighting supplies and the installation for the new street lights.

Supervisor Horton reported the site plan for the salt shed and the new town highway garage is also completed. That information will also be on the town's website. Printed copies will also be available.

Budget packages will be sent to department heads the end of this month.

Supervisor Horton is looking to solicit CD interest rates from local banks. There is a resolution this evening to allow the town to do business with banks other than NBT.

Supervisor Horton stated things were moved around on the agenda so the public has information before the public comments and questions session.

At 7:20 pm the Public Comments and Questions portion of the meeting was opened.

Mr. Livingston asked Council Member DeLuca about the report from the CTC and her reference to the town center. He asked if she was saying the Caroga Arts Collective (CAC) a private piece of property is the town center. Council Member DeLuca explained that the Town Center is outlined in the master plan as being from the Firehouse to Vrooman's Hotel. She did not say the CAC was the town center.

Mary Jablonski asked how the club house and town hall building would be funded. Supervisor Horton stated it would be funded through a bond anticipation note, which is like a line of credit. Then that is converted to bonds which are sold in the market in \$5,000.00 denominations. That is the way it was done 93 years ago when the golf course was built. Council Member Glenn asked if insurance money would be used. Yes, there are insurance proceeds. Supervisor Horton restated if we want to get all of the insurance money back that is due the town, we have to rebuild the clubhouse. He noted there is a depreciation that has been taken off of the settlement until you build. This amount to about \$1.25M.

Janice Corr stated there has been a lot of concern about salt going into the lakes. She wondered if an analysis had been used prior to determining the size of the new shed. Supervisor Horton noted in 2008 when the alienation took place over at the cell tower it used to be park land. That stemmed from DEC telling the town we had to move the salt shed 14 years ago. He stated no analysis had been done like that. Mrs. Corr wondered about the amount of salt being put on the roads. She wondered if the town decided to use something other than salt perhaps a salt shed of this size would not be necessary. Supervisor Horton stated the salt shed being proposed is 32 feet wide and 40 feet deep. The current shed is 36 feet wide by 80 feet deep. She again asked how much was used.

Council Member Sturgess brought up a study that was done as state representative have talked about reducing the use of salt. Supervisor Horton stated there is a pilot program in Lake George about reducing the salt usage on the roads. The biggest user is the state. They use 100% salt on the state highways. Supervisor Horton stated the town uses a mixture of sand and salt 18% salt to 82% sand. We are very conscious of minimizing the usage. This has to be balanced with road safety. This is a huge topic being discussed especially in the Adirondack Park. The lakes are monitored for sodium, and so far, the Supervisor stated we are in fine shape. He stated we did contaminate a well and had to buy a house once. The clerk stated that was not salt. Council Members DeLuca and Travis also state it was not salt. It was a gas additive. Council Member Glenn stated the monitoring shows that the salt content has been stable over the last several years. It is not the greatest but it hasn't gotten any worse.

Jana Dykeman asked what happened that the town is building a salt shed half the size as was in the past. Supervisor Horton state we do not have a problem getting salt delivered. Carver will also do the 18% blend for the town. Supervisor Horton stated the shed was designed to have enough product on hand for 2 – 3 snowstorms. The clerk stated the current building also housed the garbage truck. The Supervisor stated it housed signs and tires too. Supervisor Horton was not sure the multi-purpose use was intentional. The clerk noted the new highway barn will have a separate area for the garbage truck. Supervisor Horton noted the problem in the Adirondacks with salt stems back to the 1980 Olympics.

Public comments were closed.

#### **Old Business:**

Franchise agreement with Spectrum Northeast LLC expired in 2020

#### **New Business:**

Sale of Caroga Books - Supervisor Horton asked the clerk about the sale of Caroga Books to museum, he was not sure what this was all about. The clerk stated she sent out a list of the inventory of the books on hand to the board members last month because an email was received from the President of the Caroga Historical Association, Doug Purcell asking for books to sell at the museum. The clerk stated we have a very low inventory 8 - 10. She asked the board for their direction if anymore should be sold, and how many should be held onto. There are some hardcover books she asked if they were available for sale. Supervisor Horton stated there are so few books so if people want them the museum could tell them to come to town hall. The town used to sell the books at cost to the museum and they made the profit. He would like the revenue to coming into the town. Council Member Sturgess asked if the town could get more books printed up. The clerk laughed... Council Member Travis thought the town should keep two of each book for historical purposes.

**RESOLUTION #2022-117 to keep two of each Caroga Recalls Its' Past book (hard cover and soft cover) for historical archives and the others can be sold** was offered by Council Member Travis at the regular monthly meeting of the Caroga Town board held on Wednesday August 10, 2022.

**WHEREAS**, the clerk received an email from the president of the Caroga Historical Association asking for copies of the Caroga Recalls Its' Past books to sell at the Caroga Museum, and

**WHEREAS**, the clerk took an inventory of the books at town hall and did email the board with the number of books on hand, now therefore be it

**RESOLVED**, that based on the limited number of books the town shall retain two of each Caroga Recalls Its' Past book (hard cover and soft cover) for historical archives and the others can be sold.

Seconded by Council Member DeLuca

Discussion: Council Member Sturgess wanted them kept in two different spots. The clerk stated the books would be preserved.

All board members were in favor of the motion; Horton, Glenn, DeLuca, Sturgess, Travis

Supervisor Horton noted the list of correspondence.

7/13 Workers Compensation Report

7/27 NLH Price increase in Pre-employment physicals and afterhours post-accident call info. changed

8/4 NYS DOT approved (No) Parking Order for signs on RT 29A northerly from Garlock to May Ave

8/5 Email from Julia Butler: Comments

8/5 Email from Steve Egan

Labor Day Holiday Transfer station closed Monday open Tues 9/6 8-4

Winter hours begin October 1<sup>st</sup> @ Transfer Station

**RESOLUTIONS:**

**RESOLUTION #2022-118 to accept the Snow Removal and Ice control Contract 5.13 miles with Fulton County \$5,500 per mile, total \$28,215.00** was offered by Supervisor Horton at the regular monthly meeting of the Caroga Town board held on Wednesday August 10, 2022.

**WHEREAS**, the County Superintendent of Highways and Facilities of Fulton County has submitted a contract for the removal of snow and ice control from certain designated County Roads within the Town under Section 135A of the Highway Law, now therefore be it

**RESOLVED**, that pursuant to Section 135A of the Highway Law, this board does hereby accept the contract for snow removal and ice control as submitted for County roads 111 London Bridge Road -1.37 miles and County Highway 137 Beech Ridge Road 3.76 miles and does authorize the Supervisor and Town Board to execute the contract at a price of \$5,500.00 per mile for a total of \$28,215.00 a total of 5.13 miles of roads.

Seconded by Council Member Travis

Discussion: Council Member Glenn asked if this was the same amount as last year. Supervisor Horton stated it went up \$500.00. It used to be \$5,000.00. Supervisor Horton stated there are 43 miles of town roads, if you looked at the cost to do our roads this would be a good deal for the town. He stated this is a hot topic in the county. The Supervisor noted the Town of Mayfield decided not to do it.

All board members were in favor of the motion; Horton, Glenn, DeLuca, Sturgess, Travis



The clerk reminded the board members to sign the contract in triplicate before they leave.

**RESOLUTION #2022-119 to approve a permit for a Fireworks Display on Sept 3<sup>rd</sup> by Majestic** was offered by Supervisor Horton at the regular monthly meeting of the Caroga Town board held on Wednesday August 10, 2022.

**WHEREAS**, the Caroga Tourism Commission is working to bring tourism into the town, and

**WHEREAS**, the commission has held numerous meetings to plan events in the Town of Caroga, now therefore be it

**RESOLVED**, that the Caroga Town Board does hereby move to approve a permit for a Fireworks Display on Sept 3<sup>rd</sup> in the Town of Caroga behind the Post Office on CAC Property by Majestic Fireworks, Inc. 29 College St. Clinton NY 13323.

Seconded by Council Member DeLuca

All board members were in favor of the motion; Horton, Glenn, DeLuca, Sturgess, Travis

**RESOLUTION #2022-120 to fund the following Reserves as authorized by the 2022 Budget:** was offered by Supervisor Horton at the regular monthly meeting of the Caroga Town board held on Wednesday August 10, 2022.

A9901.9 Capital Reserves                      \$20,000.00

A9950.92 Garbage Truck Reserve      \$20,000.00

DA9901.9 Equipment Reserve              \$10,000.00

Seconded by Council Member Sturgess

Discussion: Supervisor Horton explained the garbage truck is an “A” expense. What this does, we have it in the budget, and by reserving it now instead of waiting until the end of the year Supervisor Horton stated he would put these funds into a CD to earn more interest. Supervisor Horton stated the finances are very strong in the town. This is not a risk of running out of money. There were no questions or comments.

All board members were in favor of the motion; Horton, Glenn, DeLuca, Sturgess, Travis

**RESOLUTION #2022-121 to donate a certificate for a round of golf for four and two carts to the Donnybrook Open Golf Outing at Saratoga Lakes Golf Course Sept 11, 2022** was offered by Supervisor Horton at the regular monthly meeting of the Caroga Town board held on Wednesday August 10, 2022.

**WHEREAS**, there was a speaker about cemeteries at a recent town board meeting, who is involved with the Hibernia group who is having a golf outing in Saratoga and is requesting that the town donate a certificate for the fundraiser, now therefore be it

**RESOLVED**, that the Caroga Town Board does hereby move to donate a certificate for a round of golf for four and two carts to the Donnybrook Open Golf Outing at Saratoga Lakes Golf Course Sept 11, 2022.

Seconded by Council Member Glenn

Discussion: Supervisor Horton stated the rounds would be played at Nick Stoner. It is part of our marketing. The Supervisor stated we have had a lot of cross over golfers. We have reciprocal arrangements like that. This is a way to put the course on the map. It is a good idea; it brings more play and recognition to our golf course.

All board members were in favor of the motion; Horton, Glenn, DeLuca, Sturgess, Travis

**RESOLUTION # 2022-122 to add Key Bank and Community Bank to the approved bank depositories for the Town** was offered by Supervisor Horton at the regular monthly meeting of the Caroga Town board held on Wednesday August 10, 2022.

**WHEREAS**, Supervisor Horton noted that at the organizational meeting only one bank was listed as a depository for the Town of Caroga, and

**WHEREAS**, in the past the town has had Certificate of Deposits (CD) at other banks, and

**WHEREAS**, the Supervisor has waited to bring this to the board because interest rates kept going up, and there may not be an advantage to waiting any longer, now therefore be it

**RESOLVED**, that the Caroga Town Board does hereby move to add Key Bank and Community Bank to the approved bank depositories for the Town of Caroga.

Seconded by Council Member Glenn

Discussion: Supervisor Horton stated that a few months ago he spoke to NBT Bank about their CD rate and they had a lot of money and were not interested in at that time when the rate was low. He spoke to the County Treasurer about where she banks. The Supervisor thought it would be prudent to get rates from three banks and then decide how much would be put in those accounts. Supervisor Horton noted we have a Wall Street account where most of the money is in. They have higher interest than a checking account.

Council Member Glenn remembers a couple of years ago the town was missing \$350,000.00. The money had been placed in Saratoga National Bank. He asked for a detailed accounting of where our money is and how much was deposited. Council Member Glenn asked for quarterly statements.

Supervisor Horton wanted to stay local at conveniently located banks in the Gloversville and Johnstown area. He noted the town receives monthly statements. The Board will see a new line on the balance sheets they receive monthly. The Supervisor noted the clerk gave him three checks totaling \$851,000.00 from the insurance company.

All board members were in favor of the motion; Horton, Glenn, DeLuca, Sturgess, Travis

Supervisor Horton stated he received the proposal today from Hybrid Building Solutions to build 32 feet wide by 40 feet long Calhoun Super Structure CC series building with 10 feet on center trusses that are galvanized with a snow load of 70 pounds and a wind load of 108 miles per hour. The structure is to the Office of General Services specifications. Supervisor Horton and Council Member Travis contacted five vendors of this type of building. Supervisor Horton stated the board passed a budget of \$107,000.00 to fund the building of the salt shed. He noted the foundation work still has to be done. Hybrid Solutions will provide the engineering. The highway department has prepared the site. There is a plot plan for it.

Supervisor Horton stated it is a temporary structure and under the town's building code you don't even need to go in front of the Planning Board for it. He noted for the Garage you do have to go before the Planning Board. He hopes to get that over to the Planning Board soon for their review. He was assured it could get done this year. The drawings are needed to place the blocks. Council Member Travis stated it has a 25-year warrantee. Supervisor Horton stated this company does 90% of this type of salt storage shed in New York State. The Supervisor and Council Member Travis traveled to Johnstown to see a recent installation. It was thought that a concrete floor would be put in. Council Member DeLuca asked if the cost of the site work and foundation costs were known. Supervisor Horton did not, but thought it would be well below \$50,000.00. The town highway department has spent four hours doing the site work vs getting a contractor. The Supervisor noted the work he has done on the project has saved money and noted an emergency could be declared because we are so close to winter time. He thought the town has 50% of the foundation blocks on hand already. Council Member DeLuca confirmed that the foundation work has to be completed before the shed is put up. That was correct. Supervisor Horton will send her details. The structure has a coating on the inside.

Council Member DeLuca asked for confirmation that the town had applied for a grant for this and stated that the board made a resolution to apply for the grant for a salt shed. Supervisor Horton confirmed that the board did. She asked if we start building the salt shed prior to getting the grant do we still qualify for the grant. Supervisor Horton did not know. Council Member DeLuca stated most grants don't work that way. Supervisor Horton stated we would go hat in hand if we do get it. The award is not until the end of December. Council Member DeLuca asked if we paid a grant writer to write this grant and now, we are just going to just ignore now. Supervisor Horton replied, "Yes." He asked her to rephrase it a different way. Council Member DeLuca asked did we pay money to have a grant written for the salt shed. Supervisor Horton stated yes, we did \$600.00. Council Member Sturgess stated we are between a rock and a hard place. Council Member DeLuca understood this but wanted it clear.

Council Member Sturgess reviewed that if we don't move forward with this and the salt shed doesn't get built and we have to use the previously used salt shed, then the golf course equipment has to stay in the previous fire house. The insurance is done paying for that in November, so the town would have to pay the current owner of the fire house \$2,200.00 a month to keep our equipment there until our maintenance facility is ready to be occupied. He is trying to balance this the best... Council Member DeLuca remembers a discussion about what would happen if we didn't get the grant. Council Member Sturgess thought he asked about even if the project was started, we would still be eligible for the grant. Supervisor Horton stated the maintenance shed for \$350,000.00 that one has a requirement that we would have to start by September 12<sup>th</sup>. Council Member DeLuca did read that. Supervisor Horton stated he was completely unaware on this one because it is an ongoing grant process. This was a Department of Environmental Conservation Grant. Council Member Sturgess asked if this was coming out of the General fund. Supervisor Horton stated right now if we pass a resolution to put this project on the books, we said we were going to use funds we already had in the bank. The Supervisor wanted to borrow money to pay for the three projects. If we did that a budget amendment would be needed or the money could stay where it is. Supervisor Horton stated the \$851,000.00 we received today is unallocated. "You can get the \$57,000.00 out of that if you want, we have the funds." Council Member Glenn asked if the money was in the general fund or taken out of the insurance money. Council Member Travis replied general fund. Supervisor Horton noted from the monthly balance sheet we can fund it lots of different ways. The way we passed the resolution was to use our fund balance. The fund balance is around \$910,000.00. Tomorrow another \$851,000.00 will be added to it. The rest of the money the town has is reserved.

"It has to be used for the purpose for which it was reserved. Which is why I wanted to make these transfers so that once that's done and that goes in, we account for it that way but we can take all that money even though it is different accounts, I can take all \$50,000.00 and put it in one CD. When we take out the CD we have to know if we used it from the reserve fund or from the general fund or from the insurance

proceeds.” Supervisor Horton stated he will come to the town board noting we have a lot of money let’s look forward to how we are going to spend it. Whether we want to reserve these funds or whether we want to keep them unreserved. He thought the town board should have a say in that. Right now, the only CD the town has is for \$100,000.00. Supervisor Horton noted it was a judgement call this last year on investing due to the interest rates.

**RESOLUTION # 2022-123 to contract with Hybrid Solutions to furnish and install a 30” x 40” salt shed for \$57,221.00** was offered by Supervisor Horton at the regular monthly meeting of the Caroga Town board held on Wednesday August 10, 2022.

**WHEREAS**, a proposal came in today from Hybrid Building Solutions to build 32 feet wide by 40 feet long Calhoun Super Structure CC series building with 10 feet on center trusses that are galvanized with a snow load of 70 pounds and a wind load of 108 miles per hour, and

**WHEREAS**, the structure is to the Office of General Services specifications, and

**WHEREAS**, Supervisor Horton and Council Member Travis contacted five vendors of this type of building, now therefore be it

**RESOLVED**, that the Caroga Town Board does hereby move to contract with Hybrid Solutions 850 Main Road, Corfu New York 14036 716-741-7416 to furnish and install a 30” x 40” salt shed for \$57,221.00.

Seconded by Council Member Glenn

Adopted by a roll call vote:

Supervisor Horton – Aye

Council Member Glenn – Yes

Council Member DeLuca – Yes

Council Member Sturgess – Yes

Council Member Travis – Yes

**RESOLUTION # 2022-124 to hire Adam Ferrari at \$18.00/ hr., overtime to be paid over 40 hours per week, no retirement or health insurance benefits, to fill the vacated position of Jerry Groom III till the end of the golf season in 2022** was offered by Council Member Sturgess at the regular monthly meeting of the Caroga Town board held on Wednesday August 10, 2022.

**WHEREAS**, the town accepted the resignation of Jerry Groom III at a special meeting held on August 5<sup>th</sup>, 2022, and

**WHEREAS**, Council Member Sturgess and Supervisor Horton met with Adam Ferrari today to discuss filling the position vacated by Jerry Groom III, now therefore be it

**RESOLVED**, that the Caroga Town Board does hereby move to hire Adam Ferrari at \$18.00/ hr., overtime to be paid over 40 hours per week, no retirement or health insurance benefits, to fill the vacated position of Jerry Groom III till the end of the golf season in 2022.

Seconded by Council Member Glenn

Discussion: Supervisor Horton introduced Mr. Ferrari. He noted that he worked in the clerk’s office about three years ago and was a great asset to her. Supervisor Horton stated an ad was placed in the club house,

and he inquired about it. Council Member Sturgess stated in the meeting they discussed the direction they are looking to go with the golf course that they had been working with Jerry on. Adam had all the answers that we were looking for. There are a couple things he has to learn and that we are willing to teach him. That goes with any new position. Supervisor Horton stated he is also a good golfer. Mr. Ferrari stated his best was 81. Mrs. Holiday asked for 9? He is a resident in the Town of Caroga. He has worked with POS Systems and works with excel spread sheets. Both are used in managing the golf course.

All board members were in favor of the motion; Horton, Glenn, DeLuca, Sturgess, Travis

Supervisor Horton welcomed Adam aboard. (Applause)

Supervisor Horton was not sure this needed to be presented as a resolution. The funds were already approved and waiting to be paid. The engineer has gone out to different suppliers. Graybar is a major, major, electrical supply house. They were awarded the contract to supply the light fixtures. They went out to three local electricians one in town, one in Johnstown and a third in Amsterdam. The Amsterdam electrician was the lowest bidder. In a couple of months' time the Supervisor expects all of the lights will be changed. "The street lighting plan as we designed it, and proposed it, is going to save the taxpayers somewhere between \$800,000.00 and \$840,000.00 over the next 20 years." Right now, we are paying close to \$40,000.00 a year. Once this is paid off, we will be paying \$3,000.00 - \$4,000.00 a year. The lights being replaced are beautiful the Supervisor noted. They are all the same Kelvin rating a sort of amber light. The Supervisor gave a tremendous amount of thanks and gratitude to Tor Shekerjian who has ramrodded this project. He thanked the town board for giving him a Confidential Secretary. The program was started around March of 2020 and now the file is four inches thick. Supervisor Horton didn't know how replacing street lighting got so complicated. There is a lot of engineering. He noted each light has to be sized for the intersection it is covering. That is part of the contract. They draw up the contracts...we funded it the money is in the bank the town borrowed the money for it. The company gave the Supervisor an investment grade audit. There is a payback of 3.2 years on the project. Originally it was thought it was going to take seven years.

**RESOLUTION # 2022-125 to approve the designated suppliers of light fixtures, spare parts and installation of the same as submitted to the Town by RealTerm Energy** was offered by Supervisor Horton at the regular monthly meeting of the Caroga Town board held on Wednesday August 10, 2022.

**WHEREAS**, the project to purchase and replace the existing street lighting fixtures in the town to be more energy and cost saving began several years ago, and

**WHEREAS**, Supervisor Horton, Council Member Travis, and Confidential Secretary Tor Shekerjian have worked numerous hours on this project, now therefore be it

**RESOLVED**, that the Caroga Town Board does hereby move to approve the designated suppliers of light fixtures, spare parts and installation of the same as submitted to the Town by RealTerm Energy.

Seconded by Council Member Glenn

Discussion: The clerk noted the last she knew a map was place up on the wall and the board was addressing public comments. She asked at what point did the board say, OK this is what we are going to do. She noted there was one particular light in conflict that people were concerned about (being turned off). The clerk did not recall when the decision was made to say we are putting in X # of lights in the town and here they all are. Supervisor Horton asked how long the map had been on the wall. The clerk thought the board needs to say we are putting in X # of lights. Supervisor Horton thought the clerk was suggesting that a resolution

be made accepting the design. The clerk replied, “Yes, otherwise how do we know what we are paying for?” Supervisor Horton replied that is what we have been working on and that was up on the board. The Clerk replied now we have to make it final. There has to be a resolution to support that. The clerk asked Tor if he understood her. He was not sure he agreed. Mr. Shekerjian noted the lights to be decommissioned were agreed upon from day one. The only thing that changed was two lights on Dolgeville Point. The clerk noted those were the ones in contention. Supervisor Horton and Mr. Shekerjian stated they were redesigned. The clerk asked what plan # was that. How do we refer to those build outs? Supervisor Horton stated it is in the investment grade audit. That audit gets filed with the FCC, National Grid, and our engineers. The audit has all of the information, in detail every wire we cut. Council Member Sturgess stated the money is already borrowed for this. How did we know how much money to borrow if we didn’t know how many lights we were doing? The clerk was just looking for the final decision- the bottom line that says OK we are going to do X # of street lights. She was just looking for the final count. The clerk had not seen the investment grade audit.

Council Member DeLuca asked about the light at the boathouse on Dolgeville Point was that one of the lights being talked about. Council Member Travis spoke to Mr. Fincke and took down the pole number so the light would stay as a beacon. Council Member DeLuca stated that is very important. She has been on rescue operations in that area. Council Member DeLuca was going to ask the same question the clerk did. There is another light 50ft away that will be LED and that will stay lit. Council Member Travis has that pole number. Mr. Shekerjian stated he had a conference call with Supervisor Horton, and RealTermEnergy last week, he ironed out all of that detail out. They amended the Investment Audit with the change of the total light count. “We are good to go.” Supervisor Horton thought it was defacto. Council Member Sturgess felt we’ve passed the resolution 15 times. Supervisor Horton told the public, ‘You can’t believe the number of meeting that we have had over, and over, and over again.” A lot of thought and engineering has gone into it. To answer the clerk’s question, the finalized investment grade audit can be in the clerk’s office. The clerk is not a board member but had asked a question. Supervisor Horton stated by doing this we are saying we are done we know the number of light fixtures we are closing out the project and going forward. He did not know why we need the extra language. The clerk stated she was out of line... and stated the Supervisor had a lot of meetings but all five (board members) did not meet to make the final decision to dot the I and cross the T. Supervisor Horton stated the information has been out there for a year and a half. Council Member Glenn noted that a gentleman came a couple of meetings ago concerned about the Dolgeville Point light. It has been taken care of. Council Member DeLuca stated but this is the first time she knew this had been taken care of. Supervisor Horton stated that is a legitimate question. One of our constituents expressed concerns and we were able to address him. Council Member Sturgess asked Mr. Shekerjian for the final number of lights so we can get over this. Mr. Shekerjian could not quote the number. Council Member Sturgess asked if we could do this at the next meeting. The clerk stated the words “per the revised” could be added to the resolution.

**AMENDED** Supervisor Horton made the following amendment to the resolution: **to approve the final design as submitted by REALTERM ENERGY and to approve the designated suppliers of light fixtures, spare parts and installation of the same as submitted to the Town by RealTerm Energy.**

Seconded by Council Member Sturgess

Discussion: Supervisor Horton stated that would address the clerk’s concern. Supervisor Horton stated it is starting to come to him. Supervisor Horton asked the board members if they wanted to comment on the wording and if they had accepted the project (as designed).

All board members were in favor of the motion; Horton, Glenn, DeLuca, Sturgess, Travis

Council Member DeLuca made a motion to accept the minutes of the regular monthly July meeting and the August 5<sup>th</sup> special Town Board meeting. Council Member Sturgess seconded the motion. All board members were in favor of the motion; Horton, Glenn, DeLuca, Sturgess, Travis.

Council Member Glenn made a motion to accept the bills as presented for audit. Council Member DeLuca seconded the motion. All board members were in favor of the motion; Horton, Glenn, DeLuca, Sturgess, Travis.

At 8:18 pm Council Member Glenn made a motion to adjourn. Council Member Sturgess seconded the motion. All board members were in favor of the motion; Horton, Glenn, DeLuca, Sturgess, Travis.

Submitted by the Town Clerk

Linda Gilbert, RMC, CMC

General #'s 231-272 \$27,528.52

Highway #'s 88 – 94 \$12,809.66

General Park #'s 68-78 \$6,695.39

Prepaid #'s 211-235 \$38,501.33