

Caroga News Flash

Town Board Meeting Highlights

October 21, 2020

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This budget work session at Town Hall and via zoom lasted 3 hours and 23 minutes.

Supervisor Horton set a core goal to hone a “Tentative Budget” for public hearing. Board members again reviewed the 2021 budget in detail, primarily emphasizing needs for cuts from the initial proposed appropriations. In addition, Supervisor Horton noted opportunities to maintain smart growth momentum by investing in promising town projects, such as the Nick Stoner Golf Course and the Wheelerville Trails Bike/Hike Park.

Steve Smith, local resident and CEO of L.L. Bean, also presented facts and perspectives about the growing \$887 billion US outdoor recreation industry, and he highlighted opportunities for the Caroga community. He emphasized the 2020 exponential +400% sales boom in recreational products (e.g., for biking, golfing, hunting, hiking, skiing, boating, etc.). For 2021 and beyond, he predicted high usage of well-developed and diverse local travel destinations. In fact, this fits with the recent high activity we have seen at Caroga’s golf course and trail heads. As the saying goes, “If you build it, they will come.”

Resolutions/Local Laws:

1. **Local Law #4 of 2020 Public Hearing** — The Board proposed a local law allowing the 2021 town tax levy limit to be exceeded, and they called for public hearing on the property tax cap override to take place on Wednesday October 28, 2020 at 7:00pm (5 to 0 vote).

Town of Caroga Real Property Tax Rates

Rate (Per Thousand Assessed Value)	2020	2021 Proposed
Town (General)	\$ 1.00	\$1.36
Town (Highway)	\$ 4.08	\$5.08
Fire	\$ 0.89	\$0.90
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Town	\$ 5.97	\$7.34
County	\$13.65	?
Total	\$19.62	\$7.34 + County

2. **2021 Tentative Budget** — Adopted a “Tentative Budget” for 2021 (5 to 0 vote).
For details, see “Official Tentative Budget Spreadsheet” at <http://townofcaroga.com/finances/>
3. **Executive Session** — Discussed an individual personnel matter

Next Meeting:

Public Hearing for Tax Cap Override Law
Wednesday, October 28, 2020 7:00pm

Join Zoom.US (Meeting ID: 872 0478 4198, Passcode: 811749) or dial 929-205-6099

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