

# ***Caroga News Flash***

## ***Town Board Meeting Highlights***

**January 12, 2022**

TownOfCaroga.com contains all issues of the ***Caroga News Flash***.

This monthly meeting started at 6:00pm and lasted 135 minutes at Town Hall and via zoom.

- Tor Shekerjian reported on **LED Street Lighting**. 71 street lights will be changed to LED Cobrahead with 16 decorative down-bell lights. 94 lights will be decommissioned / removed.
- Jeremy Manning reported on the **Wheelerville Trails**. 2022 goals include fixing existing trails, building a new trail near Irving Pond, building a kids' skills area, and seeking grant renewal.
- John Delesky reported on the **BTI program**. Previously, the Town used 70 gallons of BTI annually, purchased in 2½ gallon jugs. Product is now only available in 264 gallon containers. He is working with other local Towns on a cost-sharing program, to be available by February.
- Linda Gilbert reported on duties as Clerk, Tax Collector, and Web Master. She is working to setup a password-accessed portal on **Caroga.Town** as a Planning and Zoning Workspace. Legal notices will be posted on the Caroga.Town for public access. She also setup emails.
- Steve Stedman reported on the **Golf Course**. He is working on equipment and spreadsheets.
- Jack Glenn Reported on **Lakes Management**. They plan to do weed harvester repairs. Marcus Harizan will be Head of Lake Stewards and John Ohm will be Steward Manager.
- Barb DeLuca and Jen Sturgess reported on **PLRT**. Meetings are held the last Wednesday of each month at 7pm. Volunteers are needed. In addition to Barb's open seat, another couple also resigned. Plans are underway to reduce the PLRT from 7 people down to 5 people.
- Scott Horton emphasized, "It's getting harder and harder to get **volunteers**. I don't know what's changed. My hat goes off to all volunteers. It can be very rewarding at a local level."
- Don Travis announced, "The Town has a lot of unused properties (like North Bush on Fisher Road). We're looking to **sell properties** to get money to pay for the Clubhouse Project."
- Supervisor Horton reported on the **Clubhouse project** with an estimated cost of \$9.5 million.

### **Resolutions / Local Laws:**

1. **Appointments** — The Board appointed the following people to positions for 2022 (5-0 votes).
  - Jeremy Manning is the Wheelerville Bike Trail Manager (\$10,000.00 annual stipend)
  - John Ohm is the Lake Steward Manager (\$2,000.00 summer stipend).
  - Don Travis, Rick Sturgess, and Scott Horton will serve on a new Audit Committee.
  - Scott Horton will be the delegate (and Jack Glenn alternate delegate) for the Association of Towns annual meeting on February 20, 2022 to be held virtually.
  - Amended Resolution 2022-009 to appoint John Livingston to Board of Assessment Review (BAR) for a term ending September 30, 2025 (not 2026)
  - Linda Gilbert is Registrar and Judy Aldinger as Deputy Registrar (Supervisor to sign DOH).
  - Linda Gilbert is assigned as Webmaster with \$500.00 annual stipend.
  - Laura Nealon will replace James Long as secretary/clerk of the Planning Board and BAR.
2. **Town Web Site and E-Mail** — All Town Board members and Town officials are now required to utilize Caroga.Town email addresses, as established, for all Town business. (5-0 vote)

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3. **Highway Department** — Approved Highway purchase of Fisher stainless steel electric drive box sander to be installed on a light-duty truck for \$6060.00. (5-0 vote)
4. **Proposed Speed Limit** — Board passed a resolution to ask NYS DOT (through the County) to change the State Highway speed limit on Route 29A to 35MPH from East Short Road intersection to the intersection of Route 10/29A near Pine Lake Amusement Park (5-0 vote).
5. **Building Permits** — Building permits are required for all projects except painting, and working without a permit has a \$250.00 fine plus double the cost of the building permit(s). The Board discussed a detailed plan to increase specific permits and fees to bring them in line with other local Towns and to offset costs to general taxpayers. Councilman Sturgess proposed tabling the project, emphasizing, “The Code Office is not a money grab.” (5-0 vote)
6. **Refuse Waste** —
  - In 2022, the Town will begin to charge NYS DEC Campground for refuse collection: 22 weeks at \$200.00 per week equals \$4,400.00 per year. (5-0 vote)
  - Short-term rental owners must now use a special identifiable colored bag for refuse collection, to be purchased at Town Hall in the Clerk’s office, or be fined \$200.00 (5-0 vote)
  - Permits are now required to dump stumps and yard waste at the Caroga Stump Dump. Fees are \$10.00 per year for property owners and \$200.00 per year for commercial users. All materials must be generated in the Town of Caroga; no out-of-town debris allowed. (5-0 vote)
7. **Other Business** —
  - Approved Oaths of Undertaking for various Town Officials, with Board Members and local government officials bonded for liability insurance. (5-0 vote)
  - Adopted the Fulton County Hazard Mitigation Plan, through FCEM/NYS-FEMA. (5-0 vote)
  - Approved payment of 2022 NYS Assessor annual dues for Leigh Anne Loucks (to be rotated annually with the two other Towns for which she works, following a 3-year cycle. (5-0 vote)
  - Approved joining Association of Towns and paying annual dues. (5-0 vote)
  - Paid bills as presented for audit (4-0, 1 abstention)
  - Waived reading minutes and accepted minutes of 12/29/21 and 1/3/22 meetings (5-0 votes)

### **Announcements:**

- ❖ **Town Board Meetings** — 2022 regular Town Board meetings will be held at 6:00pm on the second Wednesday of each month (January 12, February 9, March 9, April 13, May 11, June 8, July 13, August 10, September 14, October 12, November 9, and December 14).
- ❖ **Wheelerville Trails** — Trails are now open for winter recreation, including snow shoeing.

### **Next Public Meeting:**

Up to 12 members of the public may attend at Town Hall with reservations. Others may attend via zoom.

### **Town Board Monthly Meeting**

**Wednesday, February 9, 2022 6:00pm**

Join zoom.us or dial 929-205-6099 Meeting ID: 687 640 4445 Passcode: 427903