

Caroga News Flash

Town Board Meeting Highlights

August 10, 2022

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

This monthly meeting started at 6:00 PM and lasted 140 minutes at Town Hall and via zoom.

The meeting featured Supervisor Horton's updated building presentation (see transcript). To justify his accounting, he insisted that "building projects" must not be called "capital projects". He claimed he is not doing a Capital Program. He said, **"We only have one project going on now that is funded. That's called the Salt Shed. That's the only project funded by the Town Board right now."**

Regarding the Golf Clubhouse, he said, "It's planning." At the same time, he recently deposited a Clubhouse fire insurance check for \$851,236.26 and previously received \$1,388,342.36 from NYMIR. He avoided discussing his proposal to build a new Highway Garage with \$1.5 million bond financing subject to permissive referendum (see TownOfCaroga.com/news_flashes/flash_2022-08-05.pdf).

Resolutions / Local Laws:

1. Highway Department —

- Approved Hybrid Solutions bid for 32x40' fabric Salt Shed with OGS specifications (5-0 vote)
Discussion noted that the Highway Department Superintendent and crew have prepared the construction site and will do the foundation with concrete blocks. Questions were asked about whether building now will disqualify the Town's \$69,000.00 DEC grant funding application?
- Approved snow removal and ice control contract for 5.13 miles at \$5,500.00 per mile for a total of \$28,215.00 (5-0 vote)

2. Finances — Funded Reserves for 2022 Budget and approved bank CD investments (5-0 votes)

A9901.9	Capital Reserves	\$20,000.00
A9950.92	Garbage Truck Reserve	\$20,000.00
DA9901.9	Equipment Reserve	\$10,000.00

3. Municipal Golf Course —

- Hired Adam Ferrari as Golf Course Manager (5-0 vote)
- Donated golf for 4 to Donnybrook Open Golf Outing at Saratoga Lakes on 9/11/22 (5-0 vote)

4. LED Street Lighting — Approved the final design plan (including revisions of two lights at the Dolgeville Point Parking Area) and Real Term Energy contract for converting the Town's street lights to LED fixtures in order to improve efficiency and to save money (5-0 vote)

5. Wheelerville Trails — Discussed plan to sell merchandise at Trail Festival and PureADK.com.

6. Other Business —

- Approved Majestic fireworks permit for 9/3/22 public celebration at Sherman's (5-0 vote)
- Authorized Town Clerk to continue selling the few remaining Caroga history books only at Town Hall and to keep 2 hard-cover and 2 soft-cover books for historical archives (5-0 vote) (see <http://www.canadalakesconservation.com/caroga-an-adirondack-town-recalls-its-past/>)
- Accepted July and August meeting minutes and paid bills as presented for audit (5-0 votes)

Announcements and Congratulations:

- ❖ Highway Superintendent Larry Voght recently received three different 2022 outstanding service awards from NYS Assemblyman Robert Smullen, Senator James Tedisco, and Wallace Davis.
- ❖ Scott Horton will be serving as the 2023 Chairman of the Fulton County Board of Supervisors.

Next Public Meeting:

Monthly Board Meeting — Wednesday, September 14, 2022 6:00 PM at Town Hall

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Issue #15— 2022

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August 2022 Building Presentation #5 (Verbatim Transcript)

Proposed New Location of Clubhouse/Town Hall and Maintenance Barn

Scott Horton, Caroga Supervisor and Tor Shekerjian, Confidential Secretary

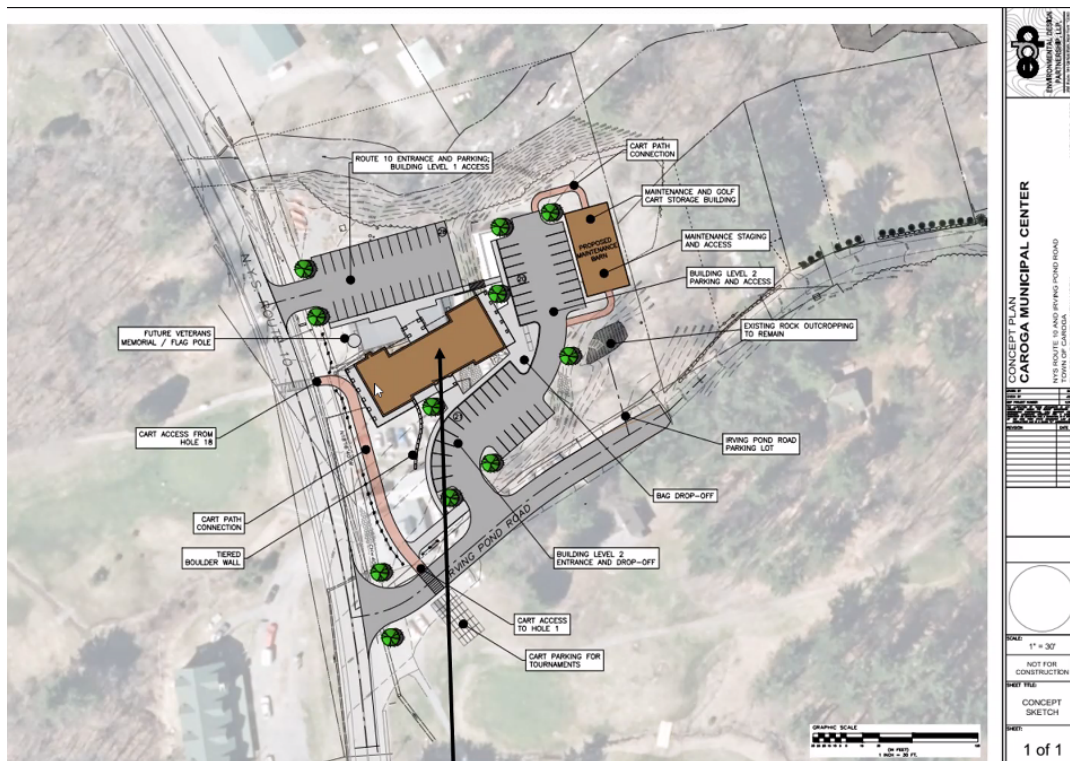
Supervisor Horton: I want to address the importance of getting accurate information on everything that's going on. I continue to get reports from people. This person said that we've got this major Capital Program, and I want to talk a little bit more about that. It's just misinformation. Some of it, unfortunately, is actually in print. There's nothing you can do nowadays. You've got websites. You've got Facebook. I guess, Twitter, but I don't use that. Letters. It's a real disservice to the public.

I guess what I'm doing is just complaining in front of the public now. I'm saying that if you want information about this, then Linda's office will provide any information that you want. You can come to any meeting. I've gone out to the public. I've had three meetings, in person, with three different groups and spoken to almost 150 people reaching out. It's hurtful to me when I hear that we're not being transparent. It's hurtful when I hear things being said that are not remotely true.

I have called the New York State Comptroller's Office, and we are doing things the way that we are supposed to do it. **We only have one project going on now that is funded. That's called the Salt Shed. That's the only project funded by the Town Board right now.** That is setup properly. The accounting is proper.

Are we working on other projects? Yes, we are. People say they want accountability. Well, we're telling you that we are working on these projects. It doesn't mean that they are even going forward. I mean, I think that they're going to go forward, but it's just to let the public know that we want to hear from people, but it's very frustrating when I can't respond to all of the false accusations. Please, if you want to know something, then call Linda's office. Call me. Call any of the Councilmen here. We all have the information. It would really help.

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Clubhouse/Town Hall Proposed Location

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Town Board Meeting Highlights

Proposed New Location of Clubhouse/Town Hall

Proposed New Location of Maintenance Barn

Supervisor Horton: I want to do a very short presentation on the site plan for the Clubhouse and Town Hall project. Right now we are still in the planning stages. That's what I'm saying. This is planning. I love people's suggestions, comments, things like that. It's planning.

As part of our ongoing efforts to keep the public informed, tonight I am providing another update on the status of the municipal project. **The Phinney Design Group along with the Environmental Design Partnership recently created a revised site plan, which will be covered in tonight's overview.**

After reviewing the topographical survey of the site, adjustments had to be made. We met with members of the Phinney Design Group. There was some very healthy discussion about the topographical challenges presented by the location seen here, taking those as opportunities for pedestrian, golf, vehicles, or traffic.

These revised plans illustrate the placement of green space, parking, and in particular, the proposed Golf Course Maintenance Barn and the combined Town Hall and Clubhouse. The Town Hall and Clubhouse building has moved just a bit north, and the Maintenance Barn is moved to the east.

Secretary Shekerjian: The slide is self-explanatory. But it helps to understand, at least for me, these vicinities. Creating paths ensures that the landscape is not disturbed, that equipment and vehicles can move about effectively and safely, and that golfers will not be creating their own pathways that create hazards.

The Clubhouse and Town Hall has two entrances: one dedicated to the Golf Course and one to the Town Hall. The parking areas were configured to function both separately and together to save money. That also allows the flow of people and vehicles to be as effective and safe as possible.

Supervisor Horton: In total, there is parking for 69 vehicles. The northern parking area will primarily serve Town Hall. There also is a southern parking area. This allows for overflow parking from the Golf Course. Similarly, the front parking area will primarily serve golfers. There is a stairway to the north parking lot. This provides overflow parking for Town Hall and the Golf Course, making this a practical and economical design.

Additionally, the site plan shows the traffic pattern of golf carts. All of it is well designed and engineered with an efficient use of space that is attractive and saves taxpayers money. The cart path connections at the northern and southern ends of the proposed Maintenance Barn show how golf carts and other foot paths can get from this building to the parking lot and the Golf Course. Note that there is cart access to Hole #18, and next to Irving Pond Road, there will be cart access to Hole #1. Cart parking is also available for tournaments.

We looked at dangerous conditions of parking along Irving Pond Road. We eliminated this long-standing safety concern by having additional off-street parking. Ok. Thank you.

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Question: Has civil engineering approved this? Have they approved the drainage and sanitation?

Supervisor Horton: We haven't gotten that far, but yes, the site plan was developed by a civil engineering firm. We haven't gotten to the detail of the storm water drainage. The first thing was to just come up with a plan. The sanitary and sewer system has not been placed on there yet.