

State of New York
County of Fulton
Town of Caroga

Minutes of a Caroga Town Board meeting held Monday January 12, 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 (remotely)
Council Member Donald Travis - Here

Tor Shekerjian Confidential Secretary to the Supervisor facilitated the Zoom portion of the meeting. 118th Assemblyman Robert Smullen attended the meeting this evening as did Code Officer Anthony Fancher. There were five persons in attendance at town hall. There were seventeen people online using Zoom.

Council Member Glenn made a motion to waive the reading of the minutes. Council Member Deluca seconded the motion all board members were in favor of the motion. Horton, Glenn, Deluca, Sturgess, and Travis.

Council Member Glenn pointed out that Assemblyman Robert Smullen was in attendance this evening.

Council Member Glenn introduced Assemblyman Smullen. He represents us in the 118th district. Assemblyman Smullen thanked the people of Caroga Lake for the privilege of attending the meeting this evening. He is here for the presentation on LED Street lighting. The changeover in lighting has been a success, with money saved, in various communities within the 118-district including the city of Gloversville. The Assemblyman noted the legislature is in session. There is restricted access to the capital and to the legislative office building. They are on the floor voting on bills. Budget season is upon them. Last week the governor gave her state of the state address. One item he agreed with her on whole heartedly was the provision for term limits for statewide elected officials. He thought that was a good idea. Today he spoke with the chairman of the environmental conservation committee about their budget items several of which effect the Adirondacks and Caroga Lake. Those interested in speaking with him can contact his Johnstown office. He thanked the board for having him here this evening. (Applause)
Supervisor Horton thanked him for attending the meeting this evening.

Supervisor Horton noted the street lighting project began in 2017 but it was stalled and then revived in March of 2020. Confidential Secretary to the Supervisor Tor Shekerjian gave a brief slide presentation and narrative on the street lighting plan. The first slide listed that 94 lights would be decommissioned (means removing and not replacing), and 71 total lights would be converted to LED, 16 of them would have decorative down directed lights. Slide two showed a map of decommissioned and existing converted lights to LED. The LEDs are very efficient and

have a long life with minimal maintenance, not what we currently have here in town. There will be 4 decorative lights north on Routes 10/29A by Town hall and the golf course and there will be 12 decorative lights south of Vrooman Road. This is a good business practice, will cut down on light pollution and will save the town and the tax payers a lot of money. When the project is completed, the lighting will improve the appearance of the town center and town hall.

Supervisor Horton stated that a lot of work has gone into this. “The project stands, this is what the proposal is going to be.” The presentation will be placed on the website and printed copies of the map will be available in the clerk’s office. The supervisor is looking forward to getting this going. The lights should be purchased in the next month. Assemblyman Smullen did make a call on behalf of the town to move the project forward. The town is in the process of writing up the list of the lights that was submitted to National Grid before. The town will get an invoice to pay from national grid. Once the town pays that the electrical bill for street lighting goes in half. Then we can work on decommissioning lights and installing new lights. The Supervisor thought the public would have some thoughts on this but overall, the impetus for the program is cost saving to the town both short term and long term, the environment and then beautification. The Supervisor thanked Mr. Shekerjian for his efforts.

The Supervisor opened the privilege of the floor at 6:09 pm. There was no in person or virtual public comment this evening. At 6:10 pm privilege of the floor was closed.

Department Reports:

Wheelerville Bike Trail – Jeremy Manning gave a brief update. When he was last here, he gave an overview of the three-year plan for the project. Right now, the trails system has been reopened for the year for fat biking, snow shoeing and cross-country skiing on the trail system. There are five volunteers working now to keep the trails packed in. They are from Saratoga, and Northville. This years’ goals are to build bridges for existing trails. He would also like to put in another intermediate trail. It would go from the main parking area back to Irving Pond. Then he really wants to put in a kids focused beginner area, with a skills park. Mr. Manning stated that the trail manager had not been named yet. At a previous meeting Mr. Manning had discussed a salary of \$15,000.00. Now he has dropped it down to \$10,000.00. He would like the board to appoint and set the salary for the year tonight. Mr. Manning stated he would do a fundraiser sometime this spring in addition to seeking some other DEC funding through DEC. Supervisor Horton was excited about the skills area that is where the little guys and girls can hone their skills and, in the future, they can take advantage of the beautiful trails that were built. In the next few months, he expects to hear about the smart growth grant.

BTI – John Delesky is still pursuing the purchase of a tote of BTI with the other towns. Last year he received a negative response because budgets had been spent. He is checking with various towns again. The tote holds 264 gallons and is more than the town of Caroga needs. He has nothing definite yet. He thought he would know by the end of January. Supervisor Horton explained for the Assemblyman that BTI is no longer being sold in 2 ½ gallon jugs. Only in the larger amount. So other communities were contacted to see if they wanted to share the cost which is about \$11,000.00.

Council Member Sturgess asked what if we don’t get other municipalities to go in on this with us. Mr. Delesky noted we use approximately 70 gallons a year. There is a two-year lifespan on the product. Council Member Sturgess stated we have to buy it and thought it should be ordered. Mr. Delesky talked to the seller last week and there were a half dozen totes. They will

have more. They don't want to lose sales. Supervisor Horton noted a resolution was passed to make the purchase last year.

Sole Assessor – Leigh Anne Loucks submitted a written report. Later on, in the meeting a resolution is on the agenda to pay her New York State Assessor Association dues. She works for three municipalities. Every three years the town of Caroga will pay the dues. He did not know the cost. The assessor's report is available from the town clerk.

Town Clerk/Tax Collector/Registrar/RMO – The Town Clerk- Linda Gilbert submitted a monthly report. The town clerk presented the 2021 books for audit this evening. The 2021 edition of the Town Clerk's manual arrived last week. The clerk will order the new fireproof cabinet soon. The safe is overflowing with minutes books. A secure access for the Planning Board members has been set up on the town website. Resolution 2022-009 will need correction the term of John Livingston on the board of Assessment Review runs until September 30, 2025.

Supervisor Horton asked how the portal will work. His email portal just pops up on the screen. The clerk explained that there is a specific login and password to a back door into the website where things will be posted specifically for the Planning Board. Legal notices will be posted on the front page of the website. Working documents will be available to the Planning Board members. The public will still have access to Planning Documents at town hall.

Supervisor Horton asked if the emails for the council members had to go through a portal. The clerk did not know how Brian Macintosh set those up. He has sole control over those.

Code Enforcement & Sanitation – Anthony Fancher is in attendance this evening. Supervisor Horton reported as of last year the town issued 296 building permits. That is more than the Town of Johnstown. A little over \$27,000.00 was collected in permit fees last year. Planning Fees were \$1,300.00 and Zoning a little over \$900.00. Later in the meeting the board will talk about changing the code enforcement fee schedule.

Dog Control – No Report. The clerk gave the board a report of licenses not renewed at the last meeting for the years 2020 and 2021. Supervisor Horton stated the revenue for licenses was higher this year still with all the delinquents. The responded because of the COVID puppies.

Golf Course – Steve Stedman reported the course is under snow. He has been working on a spread sheet of all the oils, oil filters, hydraulic fluids, and fuel filter parts numbers. There are nine different oils. He is reading the manuals and writing all the numbers down. He will be putting in an order in for filters from NAPA shortly. Mr. Stedman stated that he would be ordering some new flag sticks and cups. Late January or early February he will be changing the oils and servicing, pressure washing and degreasing all the equipment. Council Member Sturgess will get back to Mr. Stedman about a once-a-year sale at NAPA for oils and filters. Council Member Sturgess thought in the future the town should look into owning a mini excavator for the golf course. He will bring it to the board at the end of the year.

Council Member Glenn asked about the golf carts. They are across the street all wrapped up. The Tyvek does tear but it is taped back together.

Highway – Supervisor Horton stated the highway department has taken a real beating this last month as far as labor. One person is out on Worker's Compensation. The earliest he can come back is January 19th. Another employee is out due to COVID, and the department is down one due to retirement. This year the department is budgeted for a seven-man crew. Of the seven only four are working right now. Last week Mr. Fancher drove a plow truck. It was a non CDL vehicle. He was thanked for helping out.

Lakes Management Program – Council Member Glenn reported that John Olm was not named as the head of the Lake Stewards program in the organizational meeting and needed to be reappointed with a salary of \$2,000.00. The decking on the harvester is being repaired. It was noted that committee member Gene Centi is hospitalized.

Town Hall Building – Council Member Travis reported that not much was going on.

PLRT Commission – Council Member Deluca reported there were open positions to be filled. The commission meets the last Wednesday of the month. The next meeting will be on January 26th at 7 pm at town hall. She will report back to the board after that meeting. Committee member Jennifer Sturgess also noted a couple people have resigned and then Barbara Deluca was elected to the town board and can't serve on the commission. Jennifer met with Supervisor Horton last month and they discussed going from a seven-person board to a five-person board. So, there are still two seats to be filled. There are a couple of people who have expressed interest in serving on the commission. Supervisor Horton stated it was up to the board if they wanted to go from seven members to five members. The Supervisor noted that it is harder and harder to get volunteers. He recognized all volunteers and encouraged people to step forward if they want to come into government on a Planning or Zoning Board as an alternate or to be on the PLRT Commission they would be welcomed. Twenty-five years ago, he volunteered in Niskayuna and got the bug and it has been very rewarding. The Clerk offered to put information on the town website about the need for volunteers.

Council Member Deluca asked for the resolution that formed the commission. The clerk was asked to provide the document.

Club House /Town Hall Project – Supervisor Horton was hoping that by the end of this week (the 14th) that he would have a settlement offer from the insurance company for the club house. The town has been paid for the equipment. Now hopefully, there will be a club house and town hall project rolled into one. The Supervisor stated the survey work has been done. We have to see what kind of money is available and if the amount for the building was reasonable. This will be shown to the public. Currently the project is a 9.5 million dollars all in, that includes a 25% contingency. In his opinion that was a little high. He will firm this up by the middle or end of February.

Council Member Travis had an idea. He stated the town owns a lot of properties in the town. He asked the assessor to provide him with a list. He thought maybe the town could sell some of the properties and use the money for the town hall. The club house would be paid for by insurance. The supervisor asked to have the information on this for the next board meeting of the locations of the properties. It was noted there are 16 acres on North Bush Road and 40 – 50 acres on Fisher Road. This will be a process there would have to be public hearings, and maybe a referendum.

Council Member Sturgess stated the board has to look at these properties. He thought the property on Fisher Road was a sand pit the town used to use. The supervisor agreed, the board should look at future benefit vs the immediate benefit if it were sold. The confidential Secretary to the Supervisor Tor Shekerjian offered to make a slide presentation on this.

Supervisor's Report:

Supervisor Horton reported that he received FEMA and State money to replace the Kasson Drive culvert the total amount is \$79,764.50. Mr. Shekerjian was thanked for helping secure these funds from the October 2019 storm. This is 87.5 % of the cost estimate the town received from

Fulton County Soil and Water to replace the culvert. This will have to go out to bid. The highway crew can't spend the time to work on this.

Supervisor Horton reported on the completion of the setup of emails for elected and appointed officials of the Town. Now there will be a history of the town emails and not on personal home emails. This will provide continuity for future town officials.

Supervisor has been looking over the town finances. He noted the town has spent less than was budgeted. We do not have the fund balance we used to have, but we do have a healthy fund balance. He noted the town has received about 1.45 million dollars from the insurance company. Of that we have spent \$380,000 of that on golf course equipment plus other expenses for the club house. We have a million dollars more in our bank account than we would normally have due to the insurance reimbursement.

Council Member Sturgess suggested investing the money in six-month CD's. Supervisor Horton stated the short answer is yes, he does that regularly. Currently the town has \$1.389 million dollars in an interest-bearing account that pays just about the same as a CD does. Every year at this time he goes out to the banks and have them bid for our funds. The Supervisor noted if you need the money before the term is up you can take it out but you lose 3 months of the interest. If you lost three months of interest that would be less than what the annual rate is on our Wall Street account. In another couple of months, he will have a better idea on what the town will need for funds. If he can put some more away in a CD he will. The Supervisor will keep the board posted on this.

Old Business: on the agenda not discussed was the Franchise agreement with Spectrum Northeast LLC expired in 2020.

RESOLUTIONS:

RESOLUTION 2022-010 to name Jeremy Manning Trail Manager for the Wheelerville Bike Trail and John Olm the Lake Stewards Manager for the year 2022, was offered by Supervisor Horton at the regular monthly meeting of the Caroga Town Board held on Wednesday January 12, 2022.

WHEREAS, the Wheelerville Bike Trail manager and the Lake Stewards Manager for the year 2022 were not named during the organizational meeting, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that Jeremy Manning is hereby named Trail Manager for the Wheelerville Bike Trail and John Olm is hereby named as the Lake Stewards Manager for the year 2022.

Adopted by a roll call vote as follows:

Supervisor Scott Horton - Aye

Council Member John Glenn - Yes

Council Member Barbara Deluca - Aye

Council Member Richard Sturgess - Yes

Council Member Donald Travis - Aye

Council Member Glenn then asked if the board needed to talk about the salaries. Supervisor Horton stated we could do that. The Supervisor stated the budget has changed. Mr. Manning has changed his \$15,000.00 to \$10,000.00 and use the remaining \$5,000.00 for other purposes for the bike trail. Council Member Glenn stated Mr. Olm is paid \$2,000.00 annually.

RESOLUTION 2022-011 to rescind RESOLUTION #2022-010 was offered by Council Member Glenn, at the regular monthly meeting of the Caroga Town Board held on Wednesday January 12, 2022.

WHEREAS, the salaries were not discussed or included in resolution #2022-010, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that resolution #2022-010 is hereby rescinded.

Seconded by Council Member Deluca

All board members were in favor of the motion: Horton, Glenn, Deluca, Sturgess, Travis

RESOLUTION 2022-012 to name Jeremy Manning Trail Manager for the Wheelerville Bike Trail at the salary of \$10,000.00 and to name John Olm the director of the Lake Stewards Program with a salary of \$2,000.00 for the year 2022, was offered by Council Member Glenn at the regular monthly meeting of the Caroga Town Board held on Wednesday January 12, 2022.

WHEREAS, the salaries were not listed in resolution #2022-010 for the Wheelerville Bike Trail manager or the Lake Stewards Manager for the year 2022, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, to name Jeremy Manning Trail Manager for the Wheelerville Bike Trail with a salary of \$10,000.00 and John Olm the director of the Lake Stewards Program with a salary of \$2,000.00 for the year 2022 to be paid quarterly.

Adopted by a roll call vote as follows:

Council Member John Glenn - Yes

Council Member Barbara Deluca - Aye

Council Member Richard Sturgess - Yes

Council Member Donald Travis - Aye

Supervisor Scott Horton - Aye

RESOLUTION 2022-013 to create an audit committee and appoint Don Travis, Rick Sturgess and Scott Horton to be the audit committee for the year 2022 was offered by Supervisor Horton at the regular monthly meeting of the Caroga Town Board held on Wednesday January 12, 2022.

WHEREAS, an audit of the Town Clerk's books, the Town Justice's Books – set up for January 31st the codes books, and golf course books are reviewed annually, and

WHEREAS, there was not an audit committee the last two years but the books were reviewed by the individual Council Members, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, an audit committee was set for the year 2022 consisting of Don Travis, Rick Sturgess and Scott Horton

Seconded by Council Member Deluca

Adopted by a roll call vote as follows:

Council Member Barbara Deluca - Aye

Council Member Richard Sturgess - Yes

Council Member Donald Travis - Aye

Supervisor Scott Horton - Aye
Council Member John Glenn – Yes

RESOLUTION 2022-014 To ask New York State Department of Transportation (NYSDOT) to change the State Highway Speed limit on Route 29A from 55MPH to 35 MPH from the East Shore Rd intersection to the intersection of Route 10 and 29A near the Pine Lake Amusement Park, was offered by Supervisor Horton at the regular monthly meeting of the Caroga Town Board held on Wednesday January 12, 2022.

WHEREAS, Supervisor Horton has received lots of comments from people about the speed through town, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Caroga Town Board does hereby move to ask New York State Department of Transportation (NYSDOT) to change the State Highway Speed limit on Route 29A from 55MPH to 35 MPH from the East Shore Rd intersection to the intersection of Route 10 and 29A near the Pine Lake Amusement Park,

Seconded by Council Member Glenn

Discussion: The Clerk asked the distance, John Livingston stated he measured it as 6.9 miles. Mr. Livingston stated with big log trucks you cannot do 35mph from the old fire house up through the rock cut to Pine Lake.

Council Member Sturgess had a discrepancy with the resolution the speed limit is actually 40 mph. He agreed with the previous speaker about not doing 35 mph all the way to Pine Lake. He also questioned the change from 40 mph to 35 mph. Council Member Deluca agreed. She stated the problem was enforcement. She suggested using the speed sign from the Sheriff's office. Supervisor Horton stated we have to have a resolution to ask for something. The state will weigh in on some of these things. The Supervisor noted most people go above the speed limit. If the limit is 40 you will do 45 – 50mph. If the limit is 35 you will do 40 – 45 mph. Supervisor Horton noted the fatality in front of town hall a few years ago. He noted we have golf carts going across the roadway and now there is more traffic with events in the Town center area, there is the rodeo, the Canada Lake Store scares him as much as anything. He cannot believe the speed limit is 55mph with boats going back and forth across the road. The Supervisor noted the state Dept. of Transportation will weigh in on this. He noted another boat storage is going up at the north end of town, Council Member Sturgess agreed that the professionals should look at it. Supervisor Horton was not sure a resolution was necessary.

The Clerk stated the Town has to petition the county and then the county petitions the state. Council Member Glenn stated the town should negotiate with Dept. of Transportation to look at the various areas that would be affected. Supervisor Horton stated the state will give the town what can be done. He wanted to get the approval of the board to go forward with this. The Supervisor will check to see if this has to go to the county. Council Member Glenn agreed the board needed to move forward on this.

Adopted by a roll call vote as follows:
Council Member Richard Sturgess - Yes
Council Member Donald Travis - Yes
Supervisor Scott Horton - Aye
Council Member John Glenn - Yes
Council Member Barbara Deluca - Aye

RESOLUTION #2022-015 to change code enforcement fees as per the attached schedule was offered by Supervisor Horton. All board members were given a copy of the proposed changes. The Supervisor noted 296 building permits were issued last year bringing in revenue of \$27,400.00 with \$1,300 in Planning fees and \$900 in ZBA fees. Currently Code Enforcement costs the town \$95,000 in labor. Only a ¼ of the cost is being picked up. The cost of codes is absorbed by the municipality. Permit fees do not cover the cost 100% of codes.

Supervisor Horton stated we've had some meetings with codes. They support these changes being brought to the board.

All items there were \$50 are now \$75

Free items would be \$75 (siding windows, docks and projects below \$500.

Supervisor Horton stated the Planning and Zoning Fees are very low the fee would go from \$100 to \$250. There is a lot of work that goes into these applications.

Accessory Structure 101 SQF or more was \$100 proposed is \$150.

Certificate of Occupancy was \$100 the Supervisor is suggesting \$300. This is not for a new structure. This is for people who never had a C of O and are selling their place. Some of the requirements have been changed since some homes were built. One example is stairs so an exemption may need to be issued. Waivers may need to be issued. This entails a lot of work.

Added was commercial building up to 1,500 SQF \$250 Over 1,500 SQF \$500 permit fee

New foundations was \$100 proposed \$250 Slabs and decks stayed at \$100.

Manufactured Homes was \$150 now \$250

New Home, Garage, Guest Cottage and Modular first 1,500 SQF was \$250 now \$300 each additional 1,000 was \$175 now \$200

Council Member Deluca questioned the price of a commercial up to 1,500 SQF was \$250 but a new home was \$300. The supervisor wanted to get through the list before discussion began.

Total renovations up to 500 SQF was \$100 now \$200, up to 1,500 SQF was \$175 now \$250 over 1,500 SQF was \$250 now \$300.

Occupied Recreational Vehicle/Camping Permit: was \$15 now \$75 this is 28 individual nights in a calendar year.

A fee for Municipal Searches: \$75 the clerk asked if searches came under FOIL requests. The Supervisor responded no. The Supervisor stated this has been talked about extensively with codes. He stated there is a big difference between a FOIL request and a search. The code office is being asked to do research on what has been done a property. Mr. Fancher explained the difference between a FOIL request and a municipal search is broad scope of everything that has been done. He stated that usually a bank or title search company will request a search. The clerk asked if the code officer would be creating a document stating a search was conducted and their findings. Mr. Fancher noted his BAS program there is a window with a breakdown of various questions about a parcel. The report is printed from the computer program. The Supervisor noted FOIL requests are for documents, the clerk agreed. The Supervisor stated this is an interpretation and providing information/a search. The clerk asked if code had to go on site to do an inspection. Mr. Fancher responded seldom would that happen.

The clerk asked if Supervisor Horton made a motion. He responded in the affirmative. Council Member Glenn seconded the motion.

Discussion: Council Member Deluca questioned why the fee amount was higher for a private home than a commercial business.

Council Member Sturgess stated no disrespect to the Supervisor or Code Officer. He did not agree with the increases. He stated it is tough to keep businesses in town. He did agree with the charge for the search. He would like to see this matter tabled to get public input. Earlier, Council Member Sturgess spoke to the supervisor and it was said that this would only increase revenues \$8,000 - \$10,000. He noted the department is for public safety not a money grab. Supervisor Horton stated he shared his sentiment. The Supervisor stated it is difficult in government, people jointly pay for things they don't get any benefits from, though they have the opportunity to receive the benefit. This is one of those instances. The Supervisor does not know of any municipality that does cover all their costs through the building permit process. He stated there is an order of fairness as well. The Supervisor noted the amount of work that goes into building permits is substantial. He was not even sure the fee increase would cover that. The Code officer is out on some permits 12 – 15 times, others only 2 – 3 times. The Code officer has to document each and every site visit.

Council Member Sturgess noted for the last several meetings it's been noted the amount that people are investing into properties in Caroga and how that will increase the tax base. Supervisor Horton stated this was an effort to close the gap so the tax bill that goes out to everybody that they are paying what he is suggesting a more reasonable amount in their taxes for having the service of codes department and not giving up as large of a share that benefits the people being serviced directly. The Supervisor stated a person building a \$500,000.00 home and is asked to pay a \$250.00 permit fee, he did not see where that is injurious. Council Member Sturgess stated that \$500,000.00 home is going to pay \$6 – 8,000 in property taxes. Council Member Sturgess did not want to discourage people from doing stuff up here because the cost is too high, and they might not get a permit.

Council Member Glenn asked about the municipal search. Code Officer Fancher stated the fee starts at \$150 in Saratoga. Their permit fees are about three times the amount being proposed here this evening. He's done about 10 – 15 searches. Council Member Sturgess stated that is the only fee he agrees with.

Council Member Travis stated they went over this with the code office. He thought it was pretty fair. Council Member Deluca asked how these fees align with other local governments similar to Caroga. Code officer Fancher compared our fees to the town of Johnstown. On some things we are lower on some we are in line with them or 5% higher. Supervisor Horton didn't know the last time the fees were changed. Council Member Glenn stated two administrations ago.

Council Member Sturgess requested that the matter be tabled. He would like to see some fee schedules from other municipalities comparable to Caroga.

The clerk stated there was a motion on the table.

Supervisor Horton said it doesn't hurt to see what other municipalities are doing. He thought the decision should be made on a philosophical basis, on how the board thinks they should be servicing the taxpayers and do a value judgement on someone getting a building permit and how much is the cost to administer the inspections etc. and what is the equitable way to balance this.

Supervisor Horton was happy to table this until more information could be obtained. He did not want it to go too long. Council Member Sturgess thought some of the increases were a lot.

The resolution was tabled.

RESOLUTION 2022-016 to charge the NYS DEC campground for refuse collection was offered by Supervisor Horton at the regular monthly meeting of the Caroga Town Board held on Wednesday January 12, 2022.

WHEREAS, Supervisor Horton stated the town has been picking up refuse at the NYS DEC campground forever, and

WHEREAS, the Supervisor noted that tipping fees have gone from \$12 a ton to \$65 - &70 a Ton, a bag he figures could equal \$0.60, plus the transportation fee, and

WHEREAS, the Supervisor considers this a commercial business and did not know why they would get a free ride, and

WHEREAS, the highway superintendent figures he picks up 1 ½ and 3 tons of garbage per week, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that a break-even number for 22 weeks at \$200.00 per week would be \$4,400 per year.

Discussion: Council Member Travis noted that before the summer recreation program was run on the beach at the campground and that was the exchange. This has not happened for the past 5 years yet the town continued to pick up the garbage. Council Member Sturgess has a 6-yard dumpster and pays \$140.00 a month. Does the town want to continue to pick up the garbage or have them use an outside contractor?

Council Member Sturgess seconded the motion.

Discussion: Supervisor Horton asked about the volume of garbage generated at Council Member Sturgess' s store. The council Member stated he generates more than the campsite. He thought people burned things.

Council Member Glenn asked what the town charges for the commercial rate. Supervisor Horton stated we don't pick up commercial.

Supervisor Horton stated if the campground does not want to pay the rate, and did their own how did that hurt the town? It doesn't was one response. Supervisor Horton stated it's probably a benefit. While the town wants to support things like this the taxpayer can't subsidize private business or the state.

Adopted by a roll call vote as follows:

Supervisor Scott Horton - Aye

Council Member John Glenn - Yes

Council Member Barbara Deluca - Aye

Council Member Richard Sturgess - Yes

Council Member Donald Travis - Yes

Supervisor Horton will write a letter to the Department of Environmental Conservation.

RESOLUTION 2022-017 to implement a colored bag refuse collection fee for short term rentals and set a fine of \$200.00 for non-compliance, was offered by Supervisor Horton at the regular monthly meeting of the Caroga Town Board held on January 12, 2022.

The motion was seconded by Council Member Glenn

Discussion: Supervisor Horton explained that Fulton County says that short term rentals are commercial and the town can't pick up their refuse. So now they have to spend quite a bit of money to have a container there. Again, taxpayers should not be subsidizing commercial. Council Member Sturgess says he pays \$200 a month. The Supervisor thinks the dumpsters are unsightly and if not picked up regularly they could attract rodents, or could smell. He did not think that was the right solution. He had a discussion with the clerk about identifiable refuse bags that the town purchases and resells. The figure of \$1.25 was offered right now. They would be translucent or labeled in some way. The Supervisor stated we have to research the cost of the bags and the time it takes has to be figured in to make a little bit of money on this. We would not gouge anyone. The Supervisor estimated if they put out 10 bags it would cost \$12.50 a week a lot cheaper than a commercial hauler and it would be picked up on a weekly basis. The Supervisor wants to explore this more. The Supervisor thought a fine for noncompliance was necessary. The clerk would have the bags for sale. The Supervisor stated refuse is getting expensive.

Council Members Glenn & Deluca agreed. Council Member Sturgess remembers when Mr. Palcovic spoke to the board about Air B& B's last year. He is amazed at the number of towns doing this. Council Member Glenn noted this was talked about by the previous administration and noted the need to address bigger issues with Air B & Bs like sewage, safety. This is a first step he stated. Supervisor Horton also agreed. The board will have to decide what to charge for bags Council Member Sturgess thought it would cost about \$0.55 per bag. He thought multiple sizes should be available, a 13 gal. and a 30 gallon. The Supervisor asked him for a wholesaler on them. He suggested Uline. Council Member Sturgess suggested stickers might be an option also. Supervisor Horton agreed it would be simpler but will they peel off. The Supervisor thought a bag with a green stripe around it would be hard to counterfeit.

Adopted by a roll call vote as follows:

Council Member John Glenn - Yes
Council Member Barbara Deluca - Aye
Council Member Richard Sturgess - Yes
Council Member Donald Travis - Yes
Supervisor Scott Horton - Aye

RESOLUTION 2022-018 to pay the annual NYS Assessor Association dues for Leigh Anne Loucks. The dues are annual, but the Town will pay the dues once every three years, The other two Towns that the sole assessor works for rotate paying the dues on a three-year cycle, was offered by Supervisor Horton at the regular monthly meeting of the Caroga Town Board held on January 12, 2022.

Seconded by Council Member Glenn

Adopted by a roll call vote as follows:

Council Member Barbara Deluca - Aye
Council Member Richard Sturgess - Yes
Council Member Donald Travis - Yes
Supervisor Scott Horton - Aye

Council Member John Glenn - Yes

Supervisor Horton explained that the Highway Superintendent spends a lot of time at the stump dump down by the transfer station. He has asked that a resolution be passed to dump stumps and yard waste at the stump dump. There would be a \$10.00 fee per year for property owners, commercial users would pay \$200.00 per year. All of the materials would have to be generated in the town. No out-of-town yard debris is allowed.

RESOLUTION 2022-019 to require permits to dump stumps and yard waste at the stump dump. Property owners \$10.00 per year; commercial users \$200.00 per year. All material to be generated in Town. No out-of-Town yard/stump debris allowed, was offered by Supervisor Horton at the regular monthly meeting of the Caroga Town Board held on January 12, 2022.

WHEREAS, the Highway Superintendent spends a lot of time at the stump dump down by the transfer station and has asked that a resolution be passed to dump stumps and yard waste at the stump dump now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that property owners will pay \$10.00 per year; and commercial users would pay \$200.00 per year. All material to be generated in Town. No out-of-Town yard/stump debris allowed

Seconded by Council Member Travis

Discussion: Council Member Sturgess stated if people are going to be charged to use the stump dump, it has to be more accessible. Hours need to be set.

Council Member Deluca asked how would this be enforced. She knows there are cameras down there she saw pictures on Facebook.

Supervisor Horton stated Larry knows the people in town certainly the commercial ones. He sees where work is being done. This won't be foolproof. At one time a key was at the transfer station but that was not a workable solution.

Mr. Voght the Highway Superintendent texted the supervisor and stated he has been receptive to people. Council Member Sturgess agreed. The Supervisor stated it costs a lot of money for the front-end loader to go to the stump dump. People have dumped there illegally. That is why it was locked up.

Council Member Sturgess suggested having a code like the fish and game club have. He did not think the Highway Superintendent should have to run down there for people.

Council Member Glenn suggested a permit for the stump dump and then they would get a phone number for Larry or his representative. Council Member Travis stated that is what we do now.

Council Member Sturgess stated if we are charging people it has to be more accessible in his opinion.

The Supervisor wanted the Highway Superintendent to come up with how there can be better service.

Mrs. Holliday asked why the charge was \$10 for property owners they will have a truck.

Supervisor Horton noted it was always a service. He was more concerned about the commercial users. They will pass on the cost but it is a way to control it a little bit. We will try it and see how it works.

Council Member Sturgess asked if someone who doesn't live in town can get a commercial permit. The Supervisor clarified that any contractor that is doing work in the town that they would be eligible but it has to be generated within the town boundaries. Twice last week Council Member Sturgess saw someone coming up the mountain with a truck and trailer full of debris. He knew where they were going. The Supervisor noted if you make the tipping fees too much, they dump garbage on the side of the road. He is just looking out for the taxpayer's pocketbook.

Adopted by a roll call vote as follows:
Council Member Richard Sturgess - Yes
Council Member Donald Travis - Yes
Supervisor Scott Horton – Aye
Council Member John Glenn - Yes
Council Member Barbara Deluca - Aye

RESOLUTION 2022-020 to appoint Laura Nealon secretary/clerk to the Planning Board, and Board of Assessment Review was offered by Supervisor Horton at the regular monthly meeting of the Caroga Town Board held on January 12, 2022.

Seconded by Council Member Sturgess

Adopted by a roll call vote as follows:
Council Member Donald Travis - Yes
Supervisor Scott Horton – Aye
Council Member John Glenn - Yes
Council Member Barbara Deluca - Aye
Council Member Richard Sturgess - Yes

RESOLUTION 2022-021 to assign a delegate and an alternate delegate to the Association of Towns annual meeting February 20, 2022 at the Marriott Marquis in New York City was offered by Supervisor Horton at the regular monthly meeting of the Caroga Town Board held on January 12, 2022

WHEREAS, Supervisor Horton noted that the annual meeting will now be virtual, and

WHEREAS, Supervisor Horton did and does plan to attend the meeting, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that Supervisor, Scott Horton is the delegate and Council Member John Glenn is the alternate delegate to the Association of Towns annual meeting February 20, 21, and 22, 2022

Seconded by Council Member Travis

Discussion: since the business meeting is a Sunday the delegates could meet at town hall or the Supervisor's home.

Adopted by a roll call vote as follows:
Supervisor Scott Horton – Aye
Council Member John Glenn - Yes
Council Member Barbara Deluca - Aye

Council Member Richard Sturgess – Yes
Council Member Donald Travis - Yes

RESOLUTION 2022-022 to adopt the Fulton County Hazard Mitigation Plan was offered by Supervisor Horton at the regular monthly meeting of the Caroga Town Board held on January 12, 2022.

WHEREAS, Supervisor Horton explained that over the summer the town worked with the County and the State of New York for a hazardous mitigation. With an assessment being done of different risk factors to the town in conjunction with Federal Emergency Management Agency FEMA; and

WHEREAS, if the town did not participate, we would not be eligible for reimbursement; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Caroga with the assistance from the University at Albany’s Albany Visualization and Informatics Labs (AVAIL), has gathered information and prepared the Fulton County Plan; and

WHEREAS, the Fulton County Hazard Mitigation Plan has been prepared in accordance with the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Caroga affirms that the plan will be updated no less than every five years;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Caroga Town Board that the Town of Caroga adopts the Fulton County hazard Mitigation Plan as this jurisdiction’s Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan, and resolved to execute the actions in the plan.

ADOPTED this 12 day of January, 2022 at the meeting of the Town Board.

Seconded by Council Member Deluca

Town Supervisor

Town Clerk

Council Member Sturgess asked if this was through the fire department. Council Member Deluca explained the plan is through the Fulton County emergency management and the fire department is a factor. The whole county worked on this. Then the plan goes to the state and then to FEMA.

Adopted by a roll call vote as follows:

Council Member John Glenn - Yes

Council Member Barbara Deluca - Aye

Council Member Richard Sturgess – Yes

Council Member Donald Travis - Yes

Supervisor Scott Horton – Aye

RESOLUTION 2022 - 023 to require Town Board members and town officials to utilize Caroga.town email addresses, as established, for all town business was offered by Supervisor Horton at the regular monthly meeting of the Caroga Town Board held on January 12, 2022.

WHEREAS, Supervisor Horton thought this had already been done but liked to make sure in the future we don't have any issues with this, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that all Town Board members and town officials shall utilize Caroga.town email addresses, as established, for all town business.

Seconded by Council Member Glenn

Adopted by a roll call vote as follows:

Council Member Barbara Deluca - Aye

Council Member Richard Sturgess – Yes

Council Member Donald Travis - Yes

Supervisor Scott Horton – Aye

Council Member John Glenn – Yes

The town clerk explained the resolution was necessary to ensure the newly elected officials will pay over all moneys and property and that they are named as being bonded by the insurance company.

Supervisor Horton wondered about naming Jerry Groom as he handles money for the town. The clerk noted the resolution says and \$250,000 for all other employees. The Supervisor did contact the insurance company about this resolution but did not get a response back. Council Member Sturgess asked if this was about theft. Yes, was Supervisor Horton's response that is part of it and professional misconduct that could result in monetary damages. This is in case someone does something they are not supposed to do.

RESOLUTION #2022-024 for the Official Undertaking of Municipal Officers

Offered by Council Member Deluca

Seconded by Council Member Sturgess

Issued at the January 12, 2022 regular Monthly meeting of the Caroga Town Board

WHEREAS, Scott Horton of the Town of Caroga, County of Fulton, New York has been elected to the Office of Supervisor of the Town of Caroga, and

WHEREAS, Linda Gilbert of the Town of Caroga, County of Fulton. New York has been elected to the Office of Town Clerk/Tax Collector of the Town of Caroga, and

WHEREAS, Larry Voght of the Town of Caroga. County of Fulton, New York has been elected to the Office of Highway Superintendent of the Town of Caroga, and

WHEREAS, John Glenn of the Town of Caroga. County of Fulton, New York has been elected to the Office of Council Member of the Town of Caroga, and

WHEREAS. Barbara Deluca of the Town of Caroga, County of Fulton. New York has been elected to the Office of Council Member of the Town of Caroga, and

NOW, THEREFORE, we as respective officers above, do hereby undertake with the Town of Caroga that we will faithfully perform and discharge the duties of our office, and will promptly account for and pay over all moneys or property received as a Town Officer in accordance with the law: and

This undertaking of the Town Supervisor is further conditioned upon that he will well and truly keep, pay over and account for all moneys and property. Including any special district funds, belonging to the Town coming into his hands as such Supervisor; and

The Town does and shall maintain insurance coverage, presently with NBT-Mang Insurance Agency. LLC in the sum of \$250,000.00 for the Supervisor, \$400,000.00 for the Town Clerk/Tax Collector, \$250,000.00 for the Highway Superintendent, and \$250,000.00 for all other employees.

Dated: January 12, 2022. Town of Caroga and to be signed by the above mentioned:

Supervisor Horton

Town Clerk/Collector Gilbert

Highway Superintendent

Council Member Glenn

Council Member Deluca

Adopted by a roll call vote as follows:
Council Member Barbara Deluca - Aye
Council Member Richard Sturgess – Yes
Council Member Donald Travis - Yes
Supervisor Scott Horton – Aye
Council Member John Glenn – Yes

Council Member Glenn looked up the salary in the budget for the webmaster. It is on page 3.

RESOLUTION – #2022 -025 to name Linda Gilbert webmaster with a stipend of \$500 was offered by Supervisor Horton at the regular monthly meeting of the Caroga Town Board held on January 12, 2022.

WHEREAS, the Town Clerk Linda Gilbert has worked to create and administer the town of Caroga website Caroga.town, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that Linda Gilbert is hereby named the webmaster with a stipend of \$500 from account A1610.1 to be paid annually at the end of the year.

Seconded by Council Member Glenn

Adopted by a roll call vote as follows:
Council Member Richard Sturgess – Yes
Council Member Donald Travis - Yes
Supervisor Scott Horton – Aye
Council Member John Glenn – Yes
Council Member Barbara Deluca - Aye

RESOLUTION – #2022 - 026 to Join Association of Towns was offered by Supervisor Horton at the regular monthly meeting of the Caroga Town Board held on January 12, 2022.

WHEREAS, the town of Caroga annually joins the Association of Towns which offers valuable training opportunities and information, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Caroga Town Board does hereby move to join the Association of Towns pay dues in the amount of \$995.00 (based on population) from A1920.4.

Seconded by Council Member Glenn

Adopted by a roll call vote as follows:
Council Member Donald Travis - Yes
Supervisor Scott Horton – Aye
Council Member John Glenn – Yes
Council Member Barbara Deluca - Aye
Council Member Richard Sturgess – Yes

RESOLUTION #2022 - 027 to purchase a Fisher 3-yard stainless steel caster electric drive box was offered by Supervisor Horton at the regular monthly meeting of the Caroga Town Board held on January 12, 2022.

WHEREAS, the Highway Superintendent, Larry Voght has indicated a need to purchase a stainless steel (sander) caster electric drive box for a light duty truck – one ton, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Caroga Town Board does hereby move to purchase a Fisher 3-yard stainless steel caster electric drive box for \$5,760.00 from Bobcat of Gloversville-Johnstown, LLC 2053 State Highway 29 Johnstown NY 12095 from the highway account DA5130.2, and be it further

RESOLVED, that an additional \$300.00 is authorized for installation.

Seconded by Council Member Sturgess

Discussion: Supervisor Horton explained they can plow and sand at the same time without backtracking. Council Member Travis stated it will save time. Supervisor Horton noted on the quote that it is a stainless-steel box.

Adopted by a roll call vote as follows:
Supervisor Scott Horton – Aye
Council Member John Glenn – Yes
Council Member Barbara Deluca - Aye
Council Member Richard Sturgess – Yes
Council Member Donald Travis – Yes

The clerk explained this was a new form. In previous years when a new term began the form had to be filled out in triplicate and be originals. Since the same people are being reappointed the Supervisor, the Registrar and the Deputy Registrar can sign DOH 1556 on the town letter head and submit one document.

RESOLUTION #2022 - 028 to reappoint Linda Gilbert Registrar and Judith Aldinger Deputy Registrar authorizing the Supervisor to sign DOH – 1556 was offered by Supervisor Horton at the regular monthly meeting of the Caroga Town Board held on January 12, 2022.

WHEREAS, the clerk reviewed the current DOH-1556 notification of Application for Registrar of Vital Statistics and deemed all content to remain valid for the new term, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Caroga Town board does hereby move that this renewal statement is legally acceptable and appropriate to be relied upon by the aforementioned jurisdiction in lieu of submitting a new DOH-1556 form.

Seconded by Council Member Deluca

Adopted by a roll call vote as follows:
Council Member John Glenn – Yes
Council Member Barbara Deluca - Aye
Council Member Richard Sturgess – Yes
Council Member Donald Travis – Yes
Supervisor Scott Horton – Aye

The Tax Collector Linda Gilbert reported to date, \$555,274.43 have been collected. Unpaid are \$2,735,623.54. This report will be given monthly to the town board during tax collection.

The clerk noted she made a mistake in the term of the Board of Assessment Review member Livingston in resolution # 2022-009 which needed to be amended.

RESOLUTION #2022-029 to amend the term of John Livingston as stated in RESOLUTION #2022-009 was offered by Supervisor Horton at the regular monthly meeting of the Caroga Town Board held on January 12, 2022.

WHEREAS, the term of the reappointed Board of Assessment Review member John Livingston was incorrectly listed on resolution #2022-009, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the term of Board of Assessment Review member John Livingston shall run until September 30th 2025.

Seconded by Council Member Glenn

Adopted by a roll call vote as follows:
Council Member Barbara Deluca - Aye
Council Member Richard Sturgess – Yes

Council Member Donald Travis – Yes
Supervisor Scott Horton – Aye
Council Member John Glenn – Yes

Supervisor Horton made a motion to pay the bills as presented for audit. The motion was seconded by Council Member Glenn.

Adopted by a roll call vote as follows:
Council Member Richard Sturgess – Abstain
Council Member Donald Travis – Yes
Supervisor Scott Horton – Aye
Council Member John Glenn – Yes
Council Member Barbara Deluca - Aye

Council Member Deluca made a motion to accept the minutes of the December 29th Year end meeting and January 3rd organizational meeting. The motion was seconded by Council Member Glenn

Adopted by a roll call vote as follows:
Council Member Donald Travis – Yes
Supervisor Scott Horton – Yes
Council Member John Glenn – Yes
Council Member Barbara Deluca - Aye
Council Member Richard Sturgess – Yes

At 8:13 pm Council Member Deluca made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Council Member Glenn. All Board members were in favor of the motion; Horton, Glenn, Deluca, Sturgess, Travis.

Submitted by the Caroga Town Clerk,

Linda Gilbert, RMC, CMC

General #'s 1 – 21 \$17,048.44

Highway #'s 1 – 6 \$18,362.90

General Park No bills

Prepaid #'s 1 – 34 \$59,095.72