

State of New York
County of Fulton
Town of Caroga

Minutes of a Caroga Town Board meeting held Wednesday May 11, 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 – Arrived at 6:15 pm
Council Member Barbara DeLuca – Here
Council Member Richard Sturgess – Here
Council Member Donald Travis – Here

Lynne Delesky Planning Board Member, John Byrnes – BTI applicator & ZBA Member, John Olm –Lakes Management. Jeremy Manning – Bike Trail coordinator, along with 13 others were in attendance.

Since there were more than 12 people in attendance Supervisor Horton asked for a motion to rescind the requirement to limit the number of people in the room.

RESOLUTION #2022-068 to rescind resolution #2021-041 back to pre-COVID attendance at Town Board meetings was offered by Council Member Sturgess at the regular monthly meeting held on May 11, 2022.

WHEREAS, resolution #2021-041 was made on April 14, 2021 which allowed 12 members of the public to attend town board meetings, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that resolution #2021-041 is hereby rescinded to allow the public to attend the town board meetings.

Seconded by Council Member Travis

Adopted a vote of four Ayes, Horton, DeLuca, Sturgess, Travis

Council Member Sturgess made a motion to waive the reading of the minutes of the April 13th 2022 meeting. The motion was seconded by Council Member Travis. The motion was carried by a vote of four Ayes; Horton, DeLuca, Sturgess, Travis

Public Comments and Questions

Jed Potocar asked if the insurance company had adjudicated the claim for the fire. Have they settled the claim, and if not, what is holding it up? Supervisor Horton replied no and stated there are a lot of moving parts and pieces. The Supervisor stated the town was given a settlement agreement which was rejected. Two days ago, the insurance company came back with another number and we are right there. The Town is negotiating the settlement there were things they missed. Mr. Potocar asked what the limits and coverage was on the policy. Supervisor Horton

stated the town has a blanket policy and then individual buildings are assessed at a certain value amount. The town has a replacement policy. The clubhouse was listed for less than a million dollars but we are getting more than that. The Supervisor stated we are getting around 4.3 million, there were actually two buildings. Mr. Potocar knows insurance. The Supervisor stated there were different riders on the policy so they have paid the depreciated value of the policy. That was just under a million dollars. If we rebuild, we have a code compliance rider on the policy. The building would be covered up to \$500,000.00 for each building. The settlement offer went from \$500,000.00 up to \$647,000.00.

Lynne Delesky thanked everyone that participated in the highway clean up on Saturday. There were about 15 people that day with others who picked up garbage during the week. The Wheelerville School staff did their portion of the road on Monday. The CAC is scheduled to pick up garbage on certain roads over the Memorial Day weekend. They collected over 30 bags of garbage. They found 80 returnable cans and bottles. The beer found most was Bush. The Supervisor found ten cents. Approximately 10 miles of roadways were cleaned up. They found a shovel but when they came back to pick it up it was gone. The group is registered with the Mohawk Valley Economic Development District Clean and Green Initiative for possible future funding for cleanup projects. Mrs. Delesky thanked Larry Voght the Highway Superintendent for leaving the trucks out to put the garbage in.

Ralph Palcovic stated on November 15th the two year anniversary of the tragic event of the building burning down it will be considered a nonconforming structure. He asked what the board is doing to address the non-conforming structure reconstruction project. Supervisor Horton stated one of the plans will be conforming. Mr. Palcovic asked for the Conservation zone? Yes was the reply by the Supervisor. The Supervisor stated he talked to Mr. Purcell (former Zoning Chairman) after the fire. “The clubhouse is an allowed use in conservation.” Mr. Palcovic still questioned the use. Council Member Sturgess stated the T’s are getting crossed. Mr. Palcovic mentioned the boat house case that was in court for ten years and the expense of a nonconforming structure being built after the fact. Mr. Palcovic did not see clubhouse being designated for a use in that zone at this point. Council Member DeLuca asked if a town hall was allowed in that zone. Supervisor Horton stated he has run it by the ZBA and Codes and there are no issues. Mr. Palcovic asked if it was going to be approved by the APA. Mr. Palcovic thought it might need a zoning change. Supervisor Horton stated the APA maps have it zoned as hamlet. “So they have no objections. They’ll have review, but they don’t have any objections.” Mr. Palcovic continued by saying he did not believe a municipal building is included in that zone. The Supervisor stated it is going to be fine. Mr. Palcovic stated there are rules and for anyone else it would be enforced.

Mrs. Holliday asked the Supervisor to speak up.

Department Reports:

Wheelerville Bike Trail – Mr. Manning reported that the bike trail is still closed, but he expects them to open on Sunday. The winter and spring were really hard on the trails. There was an early frost melt followed by a heavy rain which caused a lot of erosion. This coming Saturday is a volunteer day from 9 am – 2 pm. They will rake, clear rocks, and repack the trails. Mr. Manning noted The Canada Lake Store for providing coffee – he thanked them for that. The 19th

Hole is offering the volunteers free drinks and food afterwards. The Town is the recipient of the Adirondack Conservation Recreational Alliance Grant (ACRA) in the amount of \$5,000.00. He wrote the grant back in February. The grant will be used for materials to build bridges. ACRA is a connection to the Northern Forrest Alliance and they try to stimulate economic growth in the northern forest economies of upstate New York, Vermont, Maine and New Hampshire. Construction will begin on Monday on the bridges. Work will begin on a kids trail and another trail off that at the bottom of the mountain. There will be a downhill race on July 16th and on August 21st is the 1st Bike Festival. He is working with the Bike Works, Ann Bowles from the Chamber of Commerce, and some people from Saratoga who run these quite a bit. At some point there may be a demo day by Rocky Mountain Bike. Right now Mr. Manning stated he is working to figure out preparations and what kind of insurance is needed. The Supervisor thanked him for writing the grant. Later in the meeting there will be a budget amendment to accept the grant.

BTI - Lynne Delesky read a report from Mr. Delesky as he is out treating. All five of the technicians have been out since mid-March treating the streams. They have applied approximately 35 gallons so far this year. All of the streams have been monitored and treated at least once some as many as three times. Some of the smaller streams have stopped flowing. It was noted that only flowing water is treated. There were some complicated conditions from last year with beaver dams and logging making walking a little slower because of tripping hazards. Conditions change from year to year. Storing the BTI at the golf course has worked out well. The four towns who purchased BTI from the Town of Caroga have all sent payment. The Town is legally permitted to treat until July 31st. If anyone has any questions about the program they may contact John Delesky through the town clerk or from information on the town website.

Sole Assessor – Leigh Anne Loucks submitted a written report to the board members. Supervisor Horton read that the assessor has been continuing to work on inventories. There have been a lot of discrepancies. She is doing sketches of each property. The Assessor is working with codes to get a better system for information between the two departments. The Assessor needs to know, in a timely fashion, the stage of completion for tax roll deadlines. There were some STAR issues with Real Property Tax Service that she is trying to correct as well.

Town Clerk/Tax Collector/Registrar/RMO – the monthly report was submitted to the board. The Clerk noticed that account numbers on page 18 of the budget were cut off as the field was not large enough. Resolution 2021-118 amended to 2021-138 for the 2022 budget needs to be amended to include the whole account numbers DA9060.81, DA9720.61, and DA9720.71.

The Clerk received a FOIL request from James Long for building permits issued by the code office. There was a concern that this information would be posted on the website domain Mr. Long took from the town. While this information is available to the public, the clerk wondered why the *world* need to know what people, in Caroga Lake NY, are getting building permits. The Town Attorney was consulted and the documents will be released to Mr. Long.

Code Enforcement & Sanitation – monthly reports were filed by Code Officer Blowers. Building permits for the last month had a valuation of \$159,200.00 fees collected were \$2350.00. It was also pointed out in the report that the permit application process isn't as effective as they would like to see. Supervisor Horton spoke to the ZBA & Planning Board Chairmen and they are going to come back to the town with some suggestions on how to clarify some things. 105 letters were sent out to property owners that have not called for inspections and these permits need to be closed out. Three cases were sent to the Zoning Board of Appeals and three cases were sent to the Planning Board. Three property owners have expressed interest in opening businesses and they were given Site Plan review information.

Dog Control – The clerk gave the board a report on the delinquent renewals.

Golf Course – Councilman Sturgess gave the report. He met with Mr. Groom within the last couple of days. There was an issue with the company the town leases the carts from promised the town extra rentals when needed for tournaments. They were not living up to that promise. Things were shuffled around and things are now good to go with the tournaments now. There is more new merchandise in pro shop. Mr. Steadman finished the drainage on hole #1. Council Member Sturgess hopes this solves the issue. It was stated the Monday Wednesday special is 18 holes with a cart is \$28.00. Mr. Groom submitted documents showing the cost of golf simulators for the new building. These estimates are half the cost of what the board originally figured. The numbers (revenue on the course) look to be on point. We will know more next month.

Mr. Miller of Irving Pond Road asked for a sketch of what to expect with the new development of the golf course. Pictures are posted at town hall and at the club house. The changes to parking were noted to Mr. Miller. It was asked when construction is going to take place. A start date has not been determined. The project still has to go for a public referendum and bids still have to go out. Mr. Miller was concerned about the two year deadline. Council Member Sturgess stated the insurance company is working with the town.

Highway – Supervisor Horton reported Green Lake Road from route 10 to the Kane Mt. access road will be paved with recycled paving materials.

Council Member DeLuca asked if the Highway Superintendent had a list of the town roads that are going to be paved this year. Supervisor Horton stated not yet. Council Member DeLuca thought this was something that was supposed to be done in January or February. Supervisor Horton stated this was something that was brought to his attention by the Town Clerk. It was something that was brought up at conference. Council Member DeLuca noted this was in her notes from the class she took in January. Supervisor Horton stated as far as this administration goes they have never had that. Council Member DeLuca noted it is clearly stated in the town law. Council Member Sturgess wondered if putting millings down would come into play for that. It would be great to have the Highway Superintendent attend the meetings. Council Member DeLuca suggested inviting him for next month. Supervisor Horton stated he has had discussions with Mr. Voght on the roads and what he can do. Council Member DeLuca will forward the Supervisor the information she has. The clerk gave the 284 form to the Town Supervisor to be filled out. Council Member Glenn will ask him to attend the next meeting and to

have to form filled out. Council Member Sturgess searched through his phone for a post of the roads that were going to be done by the Highway Superintendent. Supervisor Horton stated it is a checks and balance. The board has to see if the spending is reasonable. The Supervisor noted this effects the CHIPS funding the town gets. It is the board's job to oversee this.

Supervisor Horton noted the work taking place on route 29A and 10. The state milled the road and needed a place to store them. The Highway Superintendent made a deal for them to store them in the pit and ½ of the millings were given to the town. We have \$30,000.00 worth of millings. They can be used for a subbase. Supervisor Horton stated the south shore road of East Caroga was done with millings with the idea that we would be putting a final paving on it.

Lakes Management Program –John Olm was in attendance and Jim Hogan submitted a written report. Council Member Glenn reported that Lakes management committee, (Mike Durkee, John Olm, Jim Hogan, Marcus Harazin, and Council Member Glenn) had a great zoom meeting on Monday night. They are all set as far as the DASH program at the beginning of June. Mr. Olm stated the Stewards program is ready to start on May 28 with the boat wash station and also at the West Lake boat Launch. The Adirondack Watershed Institute is providing stewards at the Campground and the West Lake Boat Launch, and we are supplementing the steward at the west Lake launch for the days they are not providing coverage. Council Member Glenn read from Mr. Hogan's report. Mr. Hogan attempted to contact the Adirondack Park Agency about the harvesting permit and found his contact person had retired. The new contact is Erin Ziemann. He is waiting direction on how the data needs to be sent. Last month Mr. Hogan met with 5 of the 8 divers at Council Member Glenn's home. Supervisor Horton was there. John Morey agreed to be the team leader with Ben Chapin assisting with the afternoon shift. Mr. Hogan has been in touch with the three other divers and will schedule a meeting with them. Luke Horst has a son who could work as a possible tender and there is another individual interested as a tender who also has experience as a diver. Mr. Hogan discussed with Barb Donnelly the continued use of Kowalski Point for the mooring of the Harvester June – August. As in the past she would have access to the diver's porta-potty. She asked to meet at the end of the summer to discuss next year's use. The Caroga Lake Marina will pick up the harvester for launching the first week in June.

Mr. Harazin received data from CSLAP (Citizens Statewide Lake Assessment Program) which will be put on the town website. Council Member Glenn had the report on his phone and reported the chemicals on Canada Lake, and East and West Caroga Lakes are pretty much stable. The only concern was the sodium level may be a tad bit elevated. The town has cut back on the use of salt by about a 1/3. This issue is also being addressed with the state. Supervisor Horton noted a salt study is being done in the Lake George area for two years. The Supervisor stated origin of this salt problem started with the 1980 Olympics and the desire to have clear roads. The Supervisor sees the state laying down salt like crazy in the winter. The town uses 18% salt to sand ratio. We sweep up the roads for the dust.

Town Hall Building – Council Member Travis reported that the school crew striped and waxed the meeting room floor in exchange for the town salting the parking lot at the school.

Council Member Travis received two quotes to cover the floor in the gym. The Galleria 161 East State Street Johnstown NY is \$3935.00, and the second from price is \$2850.00 for a 33 x 42 area of flooring. Supervisor Horton stated what precipitated this was someone almost falling on loose tiles in the hallway. Anthony Fancher, Council Member Travis and the maintenance person Bob put down a new floor for liability purposes. The youth program uses the gymnasium and the gym also has loose tiles in part of the floor. The Supervisor felt that was a hazard to the children and wanted to cover it up. The procurement policy states over \$2,000.00 requires two quotes. Just to be clear Council Member Glenn stated at one point it was because of asbestos the kids couldn't use the gym. Council Member Travis responded "no, it was just the loose tiles we discussed. The Youth program will go forward. Council Member Travis has already done the water test for nitrates. The building is tested monthly June, July and August while the kids are here.

Caroga Tourism Commission (former PLRT) – Council Member DeLuca reported the Caroga Tourism Commission is transitioning. There is a lot going on. They are working on a tourism calendar. There is a resolution tonight to add another member. Council Member DeLuca asked anyone interested in becoming a member of the Tourism Commission to contact her, the town Clerk Linda Gilbert or any one of the board members they could use the help. They plan to do a lot of marketing for the Town rather than putting up posters locally for events going on they want to reach out to other communities to make Caroga Lake a destination. They will use social media – Facebook and Instagram. Mr. Groom is savvy with that. The commission meets the last Wednesday of each month here at town hall at 7 pm.

Council Member Sturgess asked how many members there are currently. Four or five was the response. She has received some resignations but cannot discuss it right now.

Club House /Town Hall Project – Supervisor Horton gave an update. The settlement agreement is almost there. The design work is ongoing for a combined clubhouse and Town hall. The Supervisor will get more information out on other options for the voters to look at. One of the fallback positions would be to just build the clubhouse, and then either renovate this building or build a separate building. Later in the meeting there is a resolution to hire CT Male who have done three evaluations of this building to update the assessments. This would not address the insulation, windows, or bathrooms. The condition of the town hall building is well known. As far as when the new clubhouse is going to be built it depends on the voters. We don't have all of the financial aspects of this yet. The Supervisor noted the town has applied for two grants one for 2.2 million and the other \$350,000.00 and there may be others they can go for. The town did qualify for the smaller grant. There are more steps involved to get the grant. The Assoc. of Libraries or some agency for the state have 90 million more in their budget to support libraries. The new town hall would have a library in it, maybe we can get funding for that.

Supervisor Horton stated we still don't know how much we are getting from the insurance company though we are very close. The question is how much this will cost the taxpayers. There are lots of revenue that we would have. A club house running 365 days, 12 months a year instead of seasonally will bring in more revenue. An area was designed to have two golf simulators, revenues projections were based on them. The Supervisor stated they are very

profitable and will offset the cost of the building. The club house was designed with a large meeting room with a service kitchen. The space can be rented out for anniversaries and birthdays. The voters will have to say yes to a bond issue and will have tax implications. The engineer/architect can help with some savings. The Supervisor stated the building would have virtually no maintenance for 30 years. The building will be a lot more energy efficient. The town hall building is about 6700 sq. ft. Now we are taking care of 10,000 sq. ft. There is no insulation in the walls or ceiling. Energy costs are very important for the future. Supervisor Horton has always said, if you want to have long term planning, and long term savings, you have to have long term solutions. He is excited about the project. He noted the only thing the insurance company is taking away is the old fire station being leased for \$2,200.00 a month that will end in November of this year.

The Town will have to hire an engineer for a salt storage building. The costs run from \$40,000 - \$80,000. They are all different construction. Once the project cost is over \$20,000.00 we have to get specifications from an engineer and put the project out to bid.

Mr. Potocar asked if there was some interest in this building, he has heard rumors that a hotel chain is interested, He asked if there was an opportunity to sell this building? Supervisor Horton stated he has talked to two individuals, no hotel chain that would be interested in purchasing or leasing this property. No one wants this building. If someone was interested that becomes part of the equation. The town receives \$1,000.00 a month from the clinic. The Supervisor put it out there than an Inn on this property would be ideal. We have good water and an existing leach field system. It is very preliminary now. He noted the highway garage is unsightly and he would rather look at the building the Phinney Group has designed.

Mr. Potocar asked if the town is talking to bond companies now. The bond market is on its ear right now, values are down. The interest the town would have to pay is going up. The timing is tough. Supervisor Horton noted the town did hire a bond consultant. She gave us a schedule a few months ago. Supervisor Horton wants to hire Phil Beckett a CPA who does municipal account involved in this so we have good numbers to verify the projections. The Supervisor thought we have to build a clubhouse or we would walk away from an awful lot of money if we didn't.

Council Member Sturgess thought the biggest thing in his eyes is the cost savings on combining the two projects as a result of the fire. The savings is over a million dollars. A lot of people don't understand how bad this building is. It is very costly to heat this building.

Shirley Holliday asked if the building was two stories. The Supervisor stated it is a grade level on both sides. The lot is suited for that. There will be some retaining walls. There will be an elevator as required by code.

Mr. Miller asked will the voters have a chance to vote on this in November of 2022. Supervisor Horton replied, "I'm hoping." The voters have to approve the bond. Supervisor Horton explained that bonds are sold in \$5,000.00 increments. When you go out to the bond market you ask for say 2 million dollars over 20 years. The bond company prepares the bonds and issue \$100,000 for 20 years, 19 years and so on down to 1 year. So you are retiring these bonds every

year. The longer the term of the bond the higher the interest is. When you pay off the first year bond you are still paying interest on bonds from year 2 – year 20. The town does not have bonds now. The Town is rated as a one now. That is the best. We will get a lower rate. Council Member Sturgess asked if the town could get a mortgage or did it have to go out for a bond. Supervisor Horton stated bonding was cheaper. People who buy municipal bonds don't pay tax on the revenue they get from the bonds. Mr. Potocar confirmed this. The Supervisor stated there is a cost paid to the bonding company. Mr. Potocar has worked on projects where if you get a couple of entities going after bonds at the same time you can lower some of the overall costs. He asked if any other towns were going out for funding. The Supervisor stated Stratford is looking at doing a new town hall. The cost to bond is about \$10,000.00 for 5 million or less.

Supervisor Horton noted there is a town topic newsletter that Tor Shekerjian, Confidential Secretary to Supervisor Horton puts out that the supervisor posts to that. To be put on the mailing list e-mail confidentialsecretary@caroga.town the Supervisor welcomes the feedback. Supervisor Horton noted the fire was a tragedy but sees this as an opportunity to put two functions into one building. The combined project will save millions. Council Member Sturgess thought it would be interesting to know the amount of money spent on the old town hall from the time when a new building was proposed (and turned down) to now.

Former Council Member Palcovic noted the building cost the town nothing to begin with. This was a godsend from the school district. Part of the problem was there was no prophylactic maintenance on the building. Supervisor Horton stated the building owes us nothing. We have put very little money into it. Eventually something is going to go. The roof could collapse or loose a floor joist.

Council Member Glenn stated the sewer system sooner or later something is going to happen. We have to be proactive and do something about a sewer system now. He stated that the DOT or the Department of Health could come in and say you have 90 days. We have to move this town forward. Lake George was given a renovate order on an existing system. Mr. Palcovic noted his administration spent a lot of money on engineering (twice) a septic system and the public voted not to do it. He thought the old plans could be dusted off and not have to be re-engineered. Mr. Potocar stated that even if the state makes you do a sewer system, he lives in Ballston Lake, the public can vote it down and it doesn't get done. Even if mandated, everyone has to vote in that district to pitch in to buy the sewer system. Mr. Palcovic noted back then it was \$600 per unit, now it is \$1000.00. (Mr. Palcovic leaves the meeting.)

Supervisor Horton noted during the first year of his administration Council Member Glenn worked very hard on coming up with a conceptual design for the sewer. We are only one step away from a final design. We have the plans, and know how it will be laid out, the location the utilities and have done unit costing for four different areas of town primarily centered around the Caroga lakes area because it is the most at risk. We have done the planning. The next step is to get the numbers to the public and see what they say. He was thanked for his effort.

Supervisor's Report:

Hire Phil Beckett to do a financial analysis of the impact of the Municipal Center project on tax rates. The analysis would entail evaluating construction costs, avoided maintenance/construction costs, energy and operational savings, increased revenue from enhanced golf course operations.

Council Member DeLuca stated we talked about Phil Beckett. She asked if there was a price for him.

Supervisor Horton noted he was recommended by the Center for Regional Growth. They have been helping with the building. The Supervisor stated he has done a lot of projects for municipalities. The Supervisor has to get more information to him. Then he can come up with a proposal. The Supervisor had planned to do this last week, but he is behind.

Supervisor Horton wanted to discuss Adopting a Local Law for remote attendance by a board member(s) with the board members. He stated there was a 60 day window and was not sure this could get done. The law would be in effect only through 2024, to allow Council Members and ZBA and Planning Board members join meetings remotely. Like we did in the middle of COVID. We have had experience with that. The Supervisor thought it was a very poor idea. He is so happy seeing everyone in the room tonight. There is eye contact and the board can read your faces. If there is interest in this there would have to be a special meeting on this and a public hearing within three weeks.

Council Member Sturgess noted the cost to the taxpayers to do meetings remotely. There is a person who has to facilitate this. It would cost \$100 per meeting times how many different meetings.... It is a no for him. The people doing the meeting cannot monitor it. It was a no for Supervisor Horton, Council Member Glenn agreed he would rather be face to face with the folks in town.

RESOLUTION 2022-069 to not consider adopting a local law for remote attendance by board members for all boards was offered by Supervisor Horton at the regular monthly meeting of the Caroga Town Board held on Wednesday May 11, 2022

WHEREAS, a discussion took place this evening about a local law to give the town board the authority to participate in meetings via video conferencing, and

WHEREAS, a majority of the board(s) would have to be present in the meeting. Now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Caroga Town Board does hereby move to not consider adopting a local law for remote attendance by board members for all boards.

Seconded by Council Member Sturgess

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

Old Business:

Franchise agreement with Spectrum Northeast LLC expired in 2020. Supervisor Horton stated the town still gets \$29,500.00 every year for our franchise fee so it hasn't been the highest priority for him. We just received the check about two weeks ago.

The Supervisor noted there are two things that need to be amended in the fee schedule. The wording current wording says "Building permits may be renewed for the same cost as the original, if renewed before the expiration date. There is a two-year limit on renewing permits." The Supervisor stated it is really a one year. Also the fee for a certificate of completion was not set. The fee for a Certificate of Completion (C of C) at \$100.00. A certificate of completion is for those who did not obtain a permit but in the future a bank may ask for a C of C so the code officer will have to go out to conduct an inspection. Council Member Sturgess thought the permit that has to be renewed should be less expensive. He has a permit that he will be working on for five years. The Supervisor explained that the codes are continuously changing. This is to protect the people. If a project is not completed in two years the code department can require you to bring the project up to code currently in effect. So you get one year to build and one year of a renewal.

RESOLUTION #2022-070 to amend building permit fee schedule was offered by Supervisor Horton at the regular monthly meeting of the Caroga Town Board held on Wednesday May 11, 2022.

WHEREAS, the code office notified the board of two changes that were necessary to the fee schedule adopted on April 1, 2022, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the wording on the schedule for the renewal of a building permit shall read as follows: "Building permits may be renewed for the same cost as the original, if renewed before the expiration date. There is a one-year limit on renewing permits." **And be it further**

RESOLVED that the fee for a Certificate of Compliance shall be set at \$100.00.

Seconded by Council Member Glenn

Four Members of Board were in favor of the motion; Horton, Glenn, DeLuca, and Travis

One Member of the Board was opposed: Sturgess

New Business:

Mr. Dave Cummings addressed the town board. He brought three copies of the first rough draft of his project. He is now on the third draft. For a couple of years he has tried to get his family to come to Caroga to find things to do here. So he googled Fulton County and the first thing that popped up was about the site of the first Roman Catholic Church in the county off the Bleecker Benson Road then down the Persch Road for a mile, there you will find Shrine road. (It is part of the snowmobile trail) the cemetery is about ¼ mile from that point. He was in church and his father volunteered him to help clean up the Shrine with a traveling priest. He found a cemetery with names like Baker, Unger, and Rinehart. He then became interested in finding his own ancestors. Some of his high school classmates also helped out. His first report was two pages

and now the document is 80 pages. He began researching what the Shrine was about it was built in 1933. He found all of the deeds and Mr. Cummings stated the Roman Catholic Diocese still owns the sites. Mr. Cummings has received help from Scott Henze through County Planning. He is here tonight to ask the board to waive the fees for the clerk to conduct a genealogy search of 79 names. Other municipalities and libraries have not charged him for vital records. He is not sure where the names are from. He hopes to finish the document by Labor Day. Supervisor Horton explained that genealogy searches are \$11.00 per name. The clerk stated she does not have the authority to waive the fees. The County Historian wrote a letter of support for Mr. Cummings research project. He is asking the clerk to thumb through the vital records books for any Marriage, Death, or Birth record of these 79 people. The clerk estimated it will take a few hours to conduct the search. The clerk has four books to review. The clerk noted the vital record books are not for public access. The resolution on the agenda stated the fee to be charged was \$25.00.

RESOLUTION #2022-071 to not charge a Vital Records search fee for Mr. David Cummings by the Registrar was offered by Council Member Sturgess at the regular monthly meeting of the Caroga Town Board held on Wednesday May 11, 2022.

WHEREAS, Dave Cummings is conducting research on the first Roman Catholic Church in Fulton County and is producing a comprehensive study to be distributed to local museums, and historical societies, and

WHEREAS, the Town of Caroga set the fees for genealogy searches with resolution #2000-055, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Caroga Town Board does hereby move to waive the genealogy search fees for Mr. Cummings to further his efforts to preserve and promote local history.

Seconded by Council Member DeLuca

Adopted by a vote of 5 Ayes; Horton, Glenn, DeLuca, Sturgess, Travis

RESOLUTION #2022-072 to Accept the 2022 Fulton County Highway Department Mowing Contract was offered by Supervisor Horton at the regular monthly meeting of the Caroga Town Board held on Wednesday May 11, 2022.

WHEREAS, the town received the annual contract to undertake the mowing of county right-of-ways once before June 30 and once before September 30th 2022 on County Roads 111, 112, 137S and 137 for a total of 7.28 miles, and

WHEREAS, the price per mile is \$425.00 for a total Contract amount of \$3,094.00, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Caroga Town Board does hereby move to accept the 2022 Fulton County Highway Department Mowing Contract which expires on October 31, 2022.

Seconded by Council Member Sturgess

Adopted by a vote of 5 Ayes; Horton, Glenn, DeLuca, Sturgess, Travis

The board members were asked to sign the contract (in triplicate) before they left.

RESOLUTION #2022-073 to allow required educational credit for ZBA and Planning Board members who attend the seminar on Short Term Rentals was offered by Supervisor Horton at the regular monthly meeting of the Caroga Town Board held on Wednesday May 11, 2022.

WHEREAS, an in house training on Short Term Rentals was recently conducted at Caroga Town Hall facilitated by a one hour slide presentation provided by the Association of Towns followed by a discussion on the topic and how it effects the Town of Caroga, and

WHEREAS, per resolution #2007-070 which resolved that “state law provides that the legislative body of the Town specifies which activities qualify as training to satisfy the state requirements” now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Caroga Town Board does hereby move to give credit to the members of the Planning Board and the Zoning Board that attended the training.

Seconded by Council Member Glenn

Adopted by a vote of 5 Ayes; Horton, Glenn, DeLuca, Sturgess, Travis

RESOLUTION # 2022-074 to appoint Robert Becker to the Caroga Tourism Commission to fill a vacant position expiring on December 31, 2024 was offered by Council Member DeLuca at the regular monthly meeting of the Caroga Town Board held on Wednesday May 11, 2022.

WHEREAS, there are vacancies on the seven person Caroga Tourism Commission, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Caroga Town Board does hereby move to appoint Robert Becker of Caroga Lake NY to the Caroga Tourism Commission to fill a vacant position expiring on December 31, 2024.

Seconded by Council Member Sturgess

Adopted by a vote of 5 Ayes; Horton, Glenn, DeLuca, Sturgess, Travis

RESOLUTION # 2022-075 to make Budget Modifications was offered by Supervisor Horton at the regular monthly meeting of the Caroga Town Board held on Wednesday May 11, 2022.

WHEREAS, the town received a five thousand dollar grant, and does desire to accept the money, and

WHEREAS, there is an expense to put carpeting in the gymnasium for the summer recreation program, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, the following Budget modifications are necessary to have a balanced budget.

TO: Recreation Trails C/E A7145.4		\$5,000
FROM: Cultural & Recreational Grant A4889	\$5,000	
TO: Youth Recreation C/E A7310.41		\$3,000
FROM: Contractual Expenses A1620.4	\$3,000	

Seconded by council Member Sturgess

Adopted by a vote of 5 Ayes; Horton, Glenn, DeLuca, Sturgess, Travis

RESOLUTION #20202-076 to award the quote for carpeting in the gym from JC Flooring was offered by Council Member Travis at the regular monthly meeting of the Caroga Town Board held on Wednesday May 11, 2022.

WHEREAS, Council Member Travis received two quotes for carpeting in the gym, one from The Galleria 161 East State St. Johnstown NY 518-762-9010 in the amount of \$3,935.00 and a second quote from JC Flooring 123 Fancher Rd. Gloversville NY 518-366-7410 for new carpet glued down in the 33 x 42 area. Now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the town board does hereby move to award to the lowest bidder JC Flooring in the amount of \$2,850.00 for the protection of the youth in the summer program.

Seconded by Council Member Sturgess

Adopted by a vote of 5 Ayes; Horton, Glenn, DeLuca, Sturgess, Travis

Supervisor Horton discussed with the board a contract he received from CT Male. The Supervisor spoke to a former Council Member who noted the other attempts to get public support for replacing the Town hall building. This is an important project and the Supervisor wanted the public to have trust and faith in the board that they have done their due diligence. The Supervisor did not like the idea of having to do this but that is why he is discussing with the board a proposal to contract with CT Male for \$9,500.00 to update the assessment of the current town hall building the expense would come out of A1440.4. The Supervisor stated there was \$350,000.00 in that line.

RESOLUTION #2022-077 to contract with CT Male for \$9,500.00 to update the assessment of the current town hall building was offered by Supervisor Horton at the regular monthly meeting of the Caroga Town Board held on Wednesday May 11, 2022.

WHEREAS, Supervisor Horton noted the importance of the new Town hall project and noted his desire to have public's trust and faith in the board that they have done their due diligence regarding the need to have a new town hall, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Caroga Town Board does hereby move to contract with CT Male for \$9,500.00 to update the assessment of the current town hall building.

Seconded by Council Member Travis

Discussion: Supervisor Horton wants the town's people to know that the board has done everything possible to be honest and open about what is going on with the town hall. CT Male has no financial interest in the project. They have done three studies beginning in 2007, one on the roof, one on the structural condition of the building and one asbestos survey. They would do an updated estimate on what it would cost to address just those three items. It would not include updating the heating system. Currently we only have 2 of the 3 boilers working. This contract would not address the energy code – the replacement of windows, insulation in the walls or ceiling. It won't address the American's with Disabilities requirements or the electrical or mechanical systems.

Council Member Sturgess stated it would address everything we already know. Council Member DeLuca asked why we have to do this if we already have had three reports. Why do we have to prove to the taxpayers that the building is falling down and we need a new one? Supervisor Horton replied the reports were done at a time when the cost was much less than what is it now. Council Member Sturgess did not want to waste the money on this. Council Member DeLuca agreed with Council Member Sturgess. The Supervisor wanted this on public record that he went to the town board on this. Supervisor Horton noted since the reports were done the town has done nothing to the building. Council Member Glenn stated we don't need to spend the money. Supervisor Horton stated there was a comment and some confusion when someone said there was asbestos tiles in the building. A member of the public said we just wanted a new town hall. Those statements hurt. The Supervisor has been working on this for two years. He has a civil engineering degree and has spent his life in construction and facilities management.

There was a roll call vote as follows:

Council Member John Glenn - No

Council Member Barbara DeLuca - No

Council Member Richard Sturgess - No

Council Member Donald Travis - Yes

Supervisor Scott Horton – Yes

The resolution fails.

Council Member DeLuca made the motion to pay bills as presented for audit. The motion was seconded by Council Member Sturgess. All Board members were in favor of the motion.

RESOLUTION #2022-078 to amend the adopted budget Resolution #2021-118 amended to 2021-138 was offered by Council Member DeLuca at the regular monthly meeting of the Caroga Town Board held on Wednesday May 11, 2022.

WHEREAS, the clerk noted in her monthly report to the board the need to amend the 2022 budget due to the width of the field on the budget, presented as the official copy, by the bookkeeper was not large enough to accommodate all of the numbers on certain line items on page 18 of the budget when printed, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the line items be amended to read correctly and wholly in the 2022 budget as follows:

Drug Testing DA9060.81
Bond Principal DA9720.61 and
Bond Interest DA9720.71

Seconded by Council Member Glenn

Discussion: Supervisor Horton stated the budget will have to be refiled with the County.

Adopted by a vote of 5 Ayes; Horton, Glenn, DeLuca, Sturgess, Travis

All Board members were in favor of the motion.

Supervisor Horton made a motion to accept the minutes of the April 13th meeting. The motion was seconded by Council Member Glenn. All Board members were in favor of the motion.

At 7:52 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.

Submitted by Linda Gilbert RMC, CMC
Caroga Town Clerk