

State of New York
County of Fulton
Town of Caroga

Minutes of the regular monthly Caroga Town Board meeting held Wednesday July 9, 2025 at the municipal building located at 1840 State Highway #10 at 6:30 pm with the following persons in attendance by roll call.

Supervisor Ralph J. Palcovic – Here
Council Member John Glenn – Here
Council Member Barbara DeLuca – Absent
Council Member Richard Sturgess – Arrived at 6:35pm
Council Member Matthew Cooper – Here

Department representatives in attendance were: Jeremy Manning – Wheelerville Bike Trail Manager, Mike Kunath – BTI, John Byrnes – Zoning Board of Appeals Member, Steve Stedman – Golf Course Greenskeeper, Walter Hogan – Weed Harvesting Coordinator, Marcus Harazin – Lakes Management, Roy Stock – Highway Superintendent, Mike Voght – Deputy Highway Superintendent, Mike Voght – janitor, Anita Long – Comprehensive Plan Committee Member, and nine members of the public.

Supervisor Palcovic called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm.

Councilmember Glenn made a motion to waive the reading of the previous month's minutes. Councilmember Cooper seconded the motion. All board members were in favor of the motion: Palcovic, Glenn, and Cooper.

Supervisor Palcovic announced the speaker from the Snowmobile Racing Association was unable to attend the meeting tonight as scheduled. January 17th is the proposed date for racing on West Caroga lake, with a backup date of January 24th. The Supervisor noted the board had questions and will meet with him in the future. This is good for tourism but public safety and operational safety is first and foremost.

Wheelerville Bike Trail: Mr. Manning reported all trails are open, it took a few weeks. The trail built last year with the smart growth funding that goes along Irving Pond outlet does have some wet areas. Forever Wild is the most popular downhill trail. People come just to ride that trail. It was all resurfaced with funding from the Smart Growth Grant. The manager of the Vale Colorado Bike Park was on our trails and was raving about the Wheelerville Trails. He did not know that he was talking to Jeremy.

Vendor fees have been set up for the festival this year. The fees will be for the vendors and food booths. The after party will be at Vrooman's the night of August 23rd.

Mr. Manning will be meeting with the Bike Borderlands group, a collaborative network of 20 or so groups which has been established for a long time. The topic of discussion at the meeting will be risk management, insurance, and the challenges facing them.

Mr. Manning stated he is getting low on Tee Shirts so he will be placing an order in the next couple of weeks.

BTI – Mr. Kunath reported they have a few more weeks to treat. Finally, the streams are down to normal levels. Last month they were still high. They will try to treat the streams all one more time. He will be getting the paperwork together to submit to the state.

Sole Assessor – Leigh Anne Loucks submitted a written report which was read by the Supervisor. The assessor is requesting to change her hours to afternoon and evening hours on Wednesday and Thursday's. She has accepted a fill-in position with the USPS for early – mid morning hours. If the board prefers, she can return to an hourly position with a mutually agreeable rate. The supervisor noted she has made herself available on Saturdays and other hours. Being on salary is open to discussion. Councilmember Glenn wanted further discussion. An executive session may be held later.

The assessor has done a lot of work supporting the creation of a fire district. New assessed rate sheets were supplied to each board member.

Routinely the Assessor is filing all paperwork, updating the Short-Term Rental list, and going to the County Real Property department.

Town Clerk/Tax Collector/Registrar/RMO – Linda Gilbert submitted the clerk monthly financial report to the board members. The clerk created a preliminary resolution for the board to begin looking at this evening to be in compliance with New York State Public Officers Law § 87 (6). The law took effect on September 4, 2024 and requires all agencies subject to the Freedom of Information Law (FOIL) to develop a policy to notify public employees when their disciplinary records are being released in response to a FOIL request.

Two employees have notified the clerk that their eyes are burning on certain days at town hall. There is still an issue with the building not being a healthy environment.

The Town Wide Garage Sale is July 26. To have your location on a map contact the town clerk's office before Wednesday July 23.

The Supervisor mentioned he hired a secretary. The clerk noted a resolution was necessary to support that.

Also, in conversation with the Supervisor, both he and the clerk are concerned with pop up events using off premises liquor licenses. In checking with the state liquor authority, a location can only have 4 off site permits per year. Any number over that has to be approved by the town board, not just one individual. Councilmember Cooper stated in the past if they wanted to have an off-site license for X # of events it would come to the board for board approval to go to the liquor authority. It would say that the town accepts it. It was done the first year Pine Lake opened. It was not for a license it was for an event using Stump City Brewery's license.

Supervisor Palcovic stated they seek a letter of support from the town. The clerk read from an email from the ABC permit division. "A location is statutorily limited to 4 one day alcohol permits per year, we will consider up to 12 for a location if a letter of no objection is provided from both the PD and the municipality."

The local law placing the position of Highway Superintendent from elected to appointed on the ballot is currently out of sync with the current legislation on the books. As quoted in the Association of Towns publication the issue is in court and won't be decided until after September 8, 2025. Councilmember Cooper asked if we should change the local law or wait until after September 8th? The clerk thought the board should wait until there is final resolution. The clerk just wanted to put this on the board's radar. The language of the law will have to coincide with the law to be either a one or two-year term.

Councilmember Cooper explained to the public that the state trying to align the terms to all be on even number years coinciding with state officials' terms. To do this a four-year term office voted on this year would only serve 3 years. After that term ends it would go back to four years.

Code Enforcement & Sanitation – Mr. Fancher submitted a written report. Supervisor Palcovic noted 25 permits were issued with a dollar value of \$3,575.00 in fees and valuation of \$3,575.00 (incorrect) *\$262,392.00 (corrected amount*) The code officer conducted 38 inspections, and 2 Short Term Rental inspections. He is moving forward with property maintenance violations letters for yard cleanups and junk vehicles. There is a procedure that has to be followed.

Dog Control – Mr. Dutcher sent a text to the clerk. He responded to 6 calls for the month. Councilmember Sturgess asked if there were any calls re: poop.

Golf Course – Mr. Stedman reported he is using the new blower and plans to use it weekly. It is also good for fall cleanup of pine needles and pine cones. It will help with the aerification process too. This turbine blower will reduce the cleanup time allowing him to do more around the greens and tees. He will put the new piece of equipment in his inventory report.

A couple of weeks ago he spread about 100 – 25 lb. bags of fertilizer on fairways and roughs. We could use some rain. Tee's get fertilized monthly; greens get done anytime the sprayer goes out. Pesticide use has been minimal. Now that the humidity and heat is up there may be more disease. So, more spraying will be done.

The staff has been working pretty hard during the fourth of July weekend. He was giving the staff afternoons off as they were pushed hard in the mornings.

It was noted during the busy weekend by 9 am all of the carts are gone. There is a three-hour period where people have to wait. Even on other weekends now that the weather is nice, there is a half hour to an hour wait. Not saying we need more carts.... Supervisor Palcovic suggested using reserved Tee times. Mr. Stedman stated not many public courses do. He does send people out on both 9's. There is no system currently. He may get one or two calls a day about reserving a time.

There are 15 outings left – two in July, five in August, seven in September and one in October. Golf merchandise is in. Tee Shirts, Golf balls windbreakers, and woman's merchandise is there.

League information play – Monday and Wednesday mornings seniors play there are 30 – 40 players. Monday afternoon is couples league – there are 6 couples. On Tuesday afternoon is the Vrooman's men league with 96 guys. Wednesdays from noon to now the Vroman's Women play. There are 40 players.

Councilmember Sturgess wanted to talk to the board later on about switching the door on the pro shop. He is waiting to get a price.

Highway – Roy Stock Highway Superintendent, reported they put in 80 feet of culvert pipe this month. They have been filling potholes. There have been a couple of breakdowns. There will be a resolution later on that. They have been working on South Shore Road of East Caroga Lake trying to figure out the best way to take care of that road.

Mr. Stock gave the board 4 quotes for paving. He is leaning toward the Heidelberg Materials Northeast NY LLC quote for \$216,645.00. Supervisor Palcovic noted he was going to recommend to the board what is the best price. Heidelberg uses two inches of top instead of an inch and a half and a full inch of T & L. They will do all of the sweeping and putting patch coat down. The roads to be paved are Hutchinson, Old State Road, Lake Ave., Forrest, Balsam, Pine, May and Lakeview. Mr. Stock noted it was higher than everyone else but you are getting more material. They would be using millings on the joints.

Mr. Stock discussed the Empire quote. They are only using a binder – that is a bigger stone. Water will go through the bigger stone. It won't compact as much. Empire is using 19 mm, Heidelberg is using a 5 mm. The smaller stones will compact better and keeps the water out better. They use a top not a binder. Binder is supposed to have a top over top of it.

Mr. Stock stated there is another quote from Heidelberg for \$180,000.00. He had them add another ½ inch on the top.

The quote from Callanan they are charging \$7.00 per ton. They did not add in the milling part on their quote and the town would be hauling it out. They also want to put crusher run on two of the roads. That could be another \$6,000.00 to \$10,000.00 in materials. The town also has to supply the gravel.

Mr. Stock stated since we are getting the money from Consolidated Local Street and Highway Improvement Program why not spend the \$216,000.00 for a better thickness on the roads. Two board members noted plus the topcoat. There will be a total of 3 inches on the road.

Councilmember Sturgess thought some of the CHIP'S money was being used for something else. The response was they found it couldn't be used.

Mr. Stock suggested using Heidelberg which will put down 3 inches instead of 2 ½. That is additional to what the other quotes have. Councilmember Sturgess noted we are not comparing apples to apples. Supervisor Palcovic agreed. We are not getting the same from each company.

Councilmember Glenn asked about S. Shore Rd. of East Caroga why did it fall apart? It never had a topcoat was the response. An inhouse repair is being talked about. In the areas where it is falling apart is because water lays under the road and the road is shaded. The road was marked complete and so CHIPS money can't be used on it for ten years. Mr. Stock noted at the schooling he attended they recommend using all of the CHIP'S money.

Councilmember Cooper noted there is a problem with the quote from Heidelberg the unit price is off \$1.00. Which is a lot - \$2,300.00. The quote was done today and has to be corrected.

RESOLUTION #2025-069 to go with the Heidelberg Materials Northeast – NY LLC quote was offered by Councilmember Glenn at the regular monthly meeting of the Caroga Town Board held on July 9, 2025.

WHEREAS, the Highway Superintendent Roy Stock did submit the 284 paperwork to the town board in June, and

WHEREAS, Mr. Stock obtained quotes from three companies for paving various roads in the town of Caroga as follows:

Heidelberg Materials NE – NY LLC 4800 Jamesville Rd Jamesville NY	\$214,500.00
Empire Paving 1900 Duanesburg Rd Duanesburg NY	\$177,789.00
Callanan Industries Inc. 516-374-2222	\$173,950.00

And **WHEREAS**, the quote from Heidelberg was corrected for one inch course and two-inch topcoat and the price was refigured by Councilmember Sturgess, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Caroga Town Board does hereby move to contract with Heidelberg Materials NE – NY LLC 4800 Jamesville Rd Jamesville NY 13078 at the price of \$214,500.00.

Seconded by Councilmember Cooper

Adopted by a vote of four Ayes; Palcovic, Glenn, Sturgess, Cooper

Highway Superintendent Stock noted the need to spend \$27,000.00 on the garbage truck after treatment system. It is part of the DF – all sensors run into that computer. It is the two big round canisters under the truck that act like a catalytic converter. They are very expensive. One part can be replaced but you don't

know if the second part is going to be good. We are borrowing a garbage truck from the City of Gloversville right now. On Monday 13 tons of garbage were picked. It is unusable right now, Councilmember Cooper explained. Basically, the emissions system for the truck and the components are clamped together. Because we run the truck three days a week in the winter all of the clamps and mounts are gone. It might be less than this. If nothing comes apart you have to replace it all. Mr. Stock noted the same parts were replaced on the Freightliner last year.

RESOLUTION #2025-070 to repair the garbage truck in house with parts from H L Gage was offered by Councilmember Cooper at the regular monthly meeting of the Caroga Town Board held on July 9, 2025.

WHEREAS, the Highway Superintendent Roy Stock notified the board that the garbage truck is inoperable and in need of repair, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Caroga Town Board does hereby move to have repair the garbage truck at a cost of up to \$27,000.00, with the funds coming out of the reserve account with the repairs being done in house.

Seconded by Councilmember Glenn

Adopted by a vote of four Ayes; Palcovic, Glenn, Sturgess, Cooper

Supervisor Palcovic thanked the City of Gloversville for the intermunicipal cooperation. Councilmember Sturgess wondered if they wanted to sell it to us.

Lakes Management Program – Walter (Jim) Hogan reported he is waiting for approval of the format he submitted for the ProcellaCOR Grant reimbursement. The harvester has been on the lakes for about 2 weeks. ProcellaCOR positively has done an effective job, far better than anticipated. They have found some milfoil of West Caroga Lake where it was not treated. They are moving into the rapid response phase system. This is where the lakes management boat will be back the end of this week or next with the sonar system in it. This will enable the lake to be surveyed and milfoil identified before it becomes a major problem.

Mr. Hogan is asking for a dock. There has never been one for the lakes management invasive species program. The reason the harvester had to be repaired last year is because the staff had to step from the shore onto the pontoons. He would like approval for the dock tonight. It will be placed at Kowalski Point which may not always be available for the program. Mr. Hogan gave the board a written quote from Canada Lake Marine installed. The cost is \$3,079.80.

RESOLUTION #2025-071 to purchase a dock was offered by Councilmember Glenn at the regular monthly meeting of the Caroga Town Board held on July 9, 2025.

WHEREAS, Mr. Hogan has indicated the need to have a dock for the invasive weed harvesting program, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the purchase of a dock from Canada Lake Marine is approved at a cost of \$3,079.80 with funds being transferred/used from the contractual account.

Seconded by Supervisor Palcovic

Discussion: Councilmember Sturgess asked about the purchase because there is only one bid. Mr. Hogan has a copy of the procurement policy, which was then reviewed. He thought it said the purchase could be

with one written or one verbal quote. He misread the document. The procurement policy states less than \$5,000 but greater than \$1,000 requires oral requests for bids from two vendors. The matter was going to be tabled when Mr. Hogan stated he did have an oral quote from another vendor – it was higher.

The second quote was from Adirondack Floating Dock Shop in Edinburg. The cost for two ten-foot sections not installed was \$4,000.00. The dock from Canada Lake Marine is 21 feet long and the installed cost is \$3079.80.

Based on the two quotes received by the weed harvesting director the board approved going with the bid from Canada Lake Marine.

Adopted by a vote of four Ayes; Palcovic, Glenn, Sturgess, Cooper

Marcus Harazin reviewed the report submitted by Mr. Olm. It noted there were 619 watercrafts inspected at West Lake Fishing Access site launch. The NYSDEC East Caroga Lake Campground launch there were a total of 157 inspected, and 90 watercrafts were referred to the boat wash station with 68 being decontaminated. Zebra mussels were found in one boat.

Work was done on the shut off valve on the equipment. Mr. Stock and his staff helped fix that. In the past the back up power washer was used. That should also have a tune-up. The grant money would be used to repair it.

More signs will also be purchased. That did generate some more business.

Mr. Harazin has been working with Caroga Marine to set up their reporting system so they can officially begin entering data and inspecting boats. Councilmember Cooper asked when they will be online. Soon was the response. Sue O'Reilly of Adirondack Water Shed Institute is assisting with the setup. It is an app on a cell phone but if that doesn't work then perhaps an iPad will be purchased.

Mr. Harazin reported the data from CSLAP and ALAP will be reviewed by the lakes management committee. A member of the Canada Lake Conservation Association will help comb through the data. They would like to create a five-year comparison and provide it to all of the lake associations. He did not believe there has been a lot of change.

Mr. Harazin did participate in the West Caroga Lake Association June 28th meeting. They talked about the blue/green algae. Blue/green algae are in every lake. It can be tripped by temperature, nutrient levels in the lake and heavy rains. The algae can affect dogs. It is important to educate people on good lakes management practices.

Supervisor Palcovic was contacted by a West Lake attendant about purchasing a fire extinguisher up there for safety reasons. That would probably be covered under the grant. There was one there before.

Mr. Potocar noted if anyone sees anything funky (algae like) in the lake – report it to your association. An algae bloom happened in East Caroga three times in the last ten years. Oneida Lake is shut down right now.

Town Hall Building – Councilmember Cooper reported that part of the septic pump system was repaired. Components were replaced instead of changing out the whole thing as we don't know what the longevity of this building is. There has been no decline in performance of the system.

Councilmember Cooper noted now that the sump pump is fixed and we are still having problems, we will revisit having some sort of survey done of the building with employees saying their eyes are burning. Supervisor Palcovic has the name of a company in Johnstown sitting on his computer.

Caroga Tourism Committee – no report but Mr. Harazin noted there was a planning meeting for the Kane Mountain 100th Anniversary. There is a display at the museum. There will be a speaking event for kids and families. Shirts are available at Canada Lake Store.

Supervisor Palcovic noted that parking capacities were also talked about and calculated. There is a tourism commission meeting tomorrow night to do the final plans for transportation. The use of a school bus was discussed. Mr. Harazin stated there were 400 people on Kane Mt. on Saturday and Sunday. The

road and parking area is overcrowded. Improvements to the parking area helped. Various overflow parking locations were discussed. The highway department will be posting some No Parking signs.

Supervisor's Report:

The Supervisor thought the clerk already reviewed this in her report. But the clerk explained that this was the wording for ballot. The board should approve the following wording that will be placed on the November ballot. The supervisor was not aware that board approval was needed. "Shall the elected position of Town of Caroga Superintendent of Highways be changed to an appointed position, to be appointed by the Town Board at the conclusion of the present Highway Superintendent's current elected term and thereafter?" The statement was written by the town attorney.

RESOLUTION # 2025-072 to specify the wording for the proposition to be placed on the November Ballot was offered by Supervisor Palcovic at the regular monthly meeting of the Caroga Town Board held on July 9, 2025.

WHEREAS, Local Law #1 was adopted by the Caroga Town Board on June 11, 2025 and filed with the New York State Department of State, and

WHEREAS, the Town Attorney Christopher Langlois drew up the wording, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Caroga Town Board does hereby move to specify the wording to be placed on the November ballot as follows:

"Shall the elected position of Town of Caroga Superintendent of Highways be changed to an appointed position, to be appointed by the Town Board at the conclusion of the present Highway Superintendent's current elected term and thereafter?"

Seconded by Councilmember Cooper

Adopted by a vote of four Ayes; Palcovic, Glenn, Sturgess, Cooper

****Public Comments and Questions**

Paul Kidder noticed there are stakes and paint on the proposed site for the club house. He asked what the next step was. Supervisor Palcovic couldn't tell him. He noted the topographical survey will be taking place. That is the geo -plotting and contours, there will also be sub surface analysis will take place next week. It was noted that results from the work done that the town paid for hasn't been received yet.

Anita Long from the Comprehensive Planning Committee is currently doing phase one. She reminded everyone to do the community survey on survey monkey or via a paper copy in the clerk's office or post office. The deadline is August 15th for people's input. Phase two is a grant application to be submitted by the end of the month. There is no cost to the town because it is being done by the comprehensive plan committee volunteers. If successful the committee could work with a consultant planner as well as an engineering planner. There is already \$30,000.00 in the budget for the match. Additional costs will only be spent if the grant is awarded. Grant money would be used to deliver the best possible process and deliver the best possible written comprehensive plan. The idea is to present the town in a way to help carry forward investments, future grant applications, and to address infrastructure challenges and other priority projects that come up. The committee thanked the board for their support last month and thanked all of the

people who wrote letters of support. There have been letters from local officials, organizations, and businesses. Currently there have been 500 responses which may be put into the grant itself.

Councilmember Sturgess asked if the board would receive results of the survey. Sure, was the response.

Supervisor Palcovic asked for budget purposes, when was the award date. Ms. Long suggested putting money into the 2026 budget that would be allocated next year from the grant.

Councilmember Sturgess asked about the \$30,000.00 in the 2025 budget. Ms. Long stated the larger amount is for planning on infrastructure projects. The town budget already has planning expenses with CT Male. Ms. Long stated it would be really neat to have the consultant work with the planners.

Jed Potocar thought the plan was a great idea. His suggestion was to put teeth in it. Come up with a ten-year plan, you should have deliverables, every two years there should be reviews and a report card. The last ten-year plan not a lot of deliverables were hit, and there weren't any repercussions.

Marcia Johnson complimented Councilmember Glenn and Mr. Hogan. The use of ProcellaCOR has made an awesome difference from last year to this year. She appreciated it.

Mr. Finke asked if there was a plan B or second phase in the use of ProcellaCOR? Councilmember Glenn noted the lake is constantly being surveyed. When will we know, how will we know if it is time to use it again. Supervisor Palcovic noted we are spending a lot of money on a sonar underwater system that will detect a problem. Mr. Hogan noted now we move to the rapid response system. This is where the lakes are being monitored closely. If something is spotted, they go after it quickly to get rid of it. After five years Minerva Lake had to go in and reapply in a few areas. It took five years to come back. We are moving into a monitoring phase.

Next week Glenn Sullivan will be coming in to do a survey. The Supervisor noted we could never do away with the DASH program (Diver Assisted Suction Harvesting) He stated you would not get a grant for ProcellaCOR without DASH and a continuous monitoring program.

Old Business:

The Supervisor noted the Fire District is still tabled for further action.

New Business:

Just an FYI a Bridge group will again play on Thursdays in meeting room

Mrs. Ackernecht of tourism committee noted need for insurance on bus for Kane Mt. event. The supervisor thought there was already a certificate naming an additionally insured.

Correspondence:

Notice of land use agreement on file with Nick Stoner Trailers in effect until no longer approved. The clerk noted the town received the yearly proof of insurance from the club. The town is notified yearly.

A letter was received from Denny Fincke re: the 100th anniversary date of golf course. Supervisor Palcovic stated "not in agreement with all of the facts."

Councilmember Sturgess apologized for being late. He asked the clerk if more people (the bridge group) should be introduced into the building since people are reporting their eyes burning. The bridge group has meet here for several years. They've never complained or commented about the conditions in the building. The Assessor and the Deputy Town Clerk reported burning eyes. The clerk noted we have a gym full of kids. If the board doesn't want the bridge group to use the building they can be notified.

RESOLUTIONS:

Proclamation for the 100th Anniversary of Kane Mountain Fire Tower

RESOLUTION #2025-073 Recognizing the 100th Anniversary of the Construction of the Kane Mountain Forest Fire Lookout Tower and the Staff and Volunteers Who Worked There was offered by Supervisor Palcovic and unanimously seconded by the entire board, at the regular monthly meeting of the Caroga Town Board held on July 9, 2025

WHEREAS, The Kane Mountain Tower, a 60' Aermotor LS 40 steel tower, was erected in District 10 by New York State in 1925 and began operations in 1926 to help protect the southern Adirondack region against fires. The Conservation Commission declared this was needed because of: "the accessibility of the forests in the vicinity of this station, and the large number of lakes and ponds, there is probably no area of equal size in the Adirondacks that is more used by the public for camping, hunting, and fishing. The existing observation stations were too far away to cover this area, and therefore, the Kane Mountain station was established"; and

WHEREAS dedicated observers and rangers staffed the Tower during its operation from 1926-1988 identifying fires and educating thousands of visitors each year; and

WHEREAS the Kane Tower was officially decommissioned in 1989 and saved from demolition by area volunteers with a rallying cry of "Don't Raise Kane- Save the Fire Tower"; and

WHEREAS, the iconic Kane Tower has continued to serve as a major attraction for thousands of young and old visitors to the area each year; and

WHEREAS the Tower and Trails were adopted by the Canada Lakes Conservation Association in 1993 in cooperation with the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC); and

WHEREAS the 2022 New York State Chapter of the Forest Fire Lookout Association began a volunteer steward program with DEC and Canada Lakes Conservation Association to help educate visitors and promote Leave No Trace Principles; and

WHEREAS, in 2001 the tower was added to the National Register of Historical Places; and

WHEREAS the entire community recognizes the importance of the Kane Mountain Tower. **NOW THEREFORE be it**

RESOLVED, that the Town of Caroga in partnership with the Caroga Museum, the DEC, the New York Chapter of the Forest Fire Lookout Association, the Fulton County Visitors Bureau, and the Canada Lakes Conservation Association hereby proclaim August 14-17 as the official Kane Mountain Centennial Celebration in honor of the Kane Mountain Tower and the dedicated observers and rangers and stewards who have worked at the Tower.

This resolution has received the unanimous affirmative vote of the Board of the Town of Caroga, as signed below and such a resolution is hereby approved BY ORDER OF THE TOWN BOARD

Adopted by a vote of four Ayes: Supervisor Palcovic, Councilmembers Glenn, Sturgess, and Cooper.

RESOLUTION #2025-074 to make a budget Transfer was offered by Supervisor Palcovic at the regular monthly meeting of the Caroga Town Board held on July 9, 2025.

WHEREAS, the budget director Joanne Young has identified a need to make the following transfers as necessary to maintain a balanced budget: now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Caroga Town board does hereby move to make the following transfer:

To A8090.13 Invasive species divers	\$ 6,000.00	
From A8090.14 Invasive Species Director		\$ 6,000.00

Seconded by Councilmember Glenn

Adopted by a vote of four Ayes; Palcovic, Glenn, Sturgess, Cooper

The highway Superintendent asked if the board has to sign the contract with Heidelberg for paving. The board stated it was his job to do according to the 284 forms.

At 7:54 pm Supervisor Palcovic called for an executive session. The clerk interjected: “to discuss the medical, financial, credit or employment history of a particular person or corporation, or matters leading to the appointment, employment, promotion, demotion, discipline, suspension, dismissal or removal of a particular person or corporation.” The clerk asked if that fit? Supervisor Palcovic wanted the clerk to come to the board of supervisors meeting and tell the county attorney.... The clerk replied she had already sent them a letter. It was the clerks understanding the board would be discussing someone’s salary – that is public, unless the board was going into negotiations with them. The Supervisor stated he asked for an executive session in regards to personnel. The clerk noted the word personnel does not appear the Committee on Open Government Booklet. Councilmember Glenn seconded the motion. All board members were in favor of the motion: Palcovic, Glenn, Sturgess, Cooper.

At 8:15 pm Councilmember Sturgess made a motion to exit from the executive session. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Cooper. All board members were in favor of the motion: Palcovic, Glenn, Sturgess, Cooper.

The clerk was asked if there were any more resolutions. The clerk asked if the Supervisor was going to appoint a secretary. The clerk thought that was the reason for the executive session.

RESOLUTION #2025-075 to appoint Leigh Anne Loucks as the Confidential Secretary to the Supervisor was offered by Supervisor Palcovic at the regular monthly meeting of the Caroga Town Board held on July 9, 2025.

WHEREAS, Supervisor Palcovic desires to hire a confidential secretary, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that Leigh Anne Loucks is hereby appointed as the Confidential Secretary to the Supervisor.

Seconded by Councilmember Cooper

Discussion: Councilmember Sturgess questioned why this was being done. He didn’t believe the board could tell the Supervisor who he could hire or not for his secretary. The clerk stated

the Supervisor can hire the bookkeeper. Supervisor Palcovic stated in the past Tor and Lita Hillier were confidential secretaries. The clerk replied Lita was a secretary to the supervisor.

Adopted by a vote of four Ayes; Palcovic, Glenn, Sturgess, Cooper

The clerk asked the salary. The supervisor replied at the rate that was established. The clerk didn't know what that was. The bookkeeper will be asked about the salary. Supervisor Palcovic stated it was the same as Tor's.

The Highway Superintendent wanted to give the board a report on the Cape Horn Bridge. Mr. Stock stated the bridge has a red flag on it. He changed the weight limit signs from 17 tons to 5 tons. The State says there is a problem with girder 4. Mr. Stock talked to the engineer today. He is calling the state about the report. He doesn't know why #4 is bad and the others are not.

Councilmember Cooper noted the report has detailed data for each of the four girders and what their weigh carrying capacity is. Based off the mean average of that the state said the weight rating had to change to X. The town went under what the State said. If the weight limit didn't change immediately the bridge would have been shut off. An interim weight limit of 5 tons was placed on the bridge. It was noted there is a space on girder one between the subcompact the concrete and the girder itself. Councilmember Cooper noted we should be looking at our bridges at budget time. At this time the bus can't go over the Cape Horn Bridge. The bus has to make a large loop and this is adding miles onto the trip. The question is why wasn't this found last year? Last year the State found a problem with the guardrails. The rails that were repaired last year will be thrown away to do this repair.

Supervisor Palcovic made a motion to approve the minutes of the June 11th and 25th Town Board meetings. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Sturgess. **Discussion:** Councilmember Sturgess asked the clerk about a comment he made at the last meeting about the golf course money making interest. He did not see it in the minutes. (after the meeting the clerk showed Councilmember Sturgess his comment on page 17 of the June 11th meeting) All board members were in favor of the motion: Palcovic, Glenn, Sturgess, Cooper.

Supervisor Palcovic made a motion to approve the bills as presented for audit. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Cooper. All board members were in favor of the motion: Palcovic, Glenn, Sturgess, Cooper.

At 8:23 pm Supervisor Palcovic made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Cooper. All board members were in favor of the motion: Palcovic, Glenn, Sturgess, Cooper.

Submitted by Town Clerk

Linda Gilbert, RMC, CMC

General #'s 239 to 270 \$36,081.85

Highway #'s 98 to 115 \$11,342.43

Prepaid #s 172 to 202 \$49,045.79

General Park #'s 37 to 44 \$5,852.54