

# ***Caroga News Flash***

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

**November 19, 2022**

[TownOfCaroga.com](http://TownOfCaroga.com) contains all issues of the ***Caroga News Flash***.

This special meeting at Town Hall started at 9:30 AM. Supervisor Horton, Council Members Glenn, Sturgess, and Travis, Clerk Gilbert, and local citizens were present for the meeting.

The meeting included executive session to discuss personnel and legal issues. Supervisor Horton declared, "We're being sued by Anita Long" and the court date is December 16. (Judicial intervention was requested to review the town's November 9 rejection of October 11 bond referendum petitions.)

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

- 1. Salt/Sand Storage Building** — The board voted 4-0 to rescind the September 14 \$107,000.00 bond resolution for the Salt/Sand Storage Building (Resolution #2022-135). Discussion noted expected completion of the Salt/Sand Storage Building in December 2022, and Supervisor Horton said the town cannot use borrowed bond funds for a completed structure. He reiterated some points made at the October 12 monthly meeting. He also clarified that the board previously voted (on July 13, 2022) to pay for this capital project with existing revenues. No details of any capital plans or capital budgets (for this or other building projects) were provided to the public.
- 2. Code Enforcement** — The board terminated Jennifer Blowers as Code Officer with six-week severance pay and insurance through the end of 2022 (4-0 vote). Discussion noted that reasons were "not based on performance" and claimed to be "budgetary issues." Town Clerk Linda Gilbert will help to "service" code-related programs. This leaves Anthony Fancher as the only town code enforcement officer. No mention was made of numerous public complaints about Mr. Fancher's many failures to address building code violations and public nuisances with health/safety risks.
- 3. Restore New York Grant** — Approved and endorsed a private grant application by Supervisor Horton (3-0 vote, 1 recusal). Supervisor Horton described plans for his private purchase of Shutt's gas station at 2114 State Highway 10 in Caroga Town Center. He now seeks approval to explore his qualification for a \$155,000.00 historic restoration grant with 10% public funding. Supervisor Horton recused himself from voting given his acknowledged "conflict of interest." No response was made to the suggestion to refer this matter to the Fulton County Ethics Board.
- 4. NYS Association of Town Clerks** — Approved seminar training for Town Clerk (4-0 vote)

### **Announcements:**

Thank you to Code Officer Jennifer Blowers for many years of diligent and honorable town service.

### **Next Monthly Board Meeting:**

Wednesday, December 14, 2022 6:00 PM at Town Hall