

Caroga News Flash

Town Board Meeting Highlights

February 8, 2023

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

This monthly Board meeting at Town Hall and via zoom began at 6:00 PM and lasted 90 minutes.

Supervisor Horton's report focused on virtual meeting access via zoom. He emphasized, "Virtual access is good and provides benefit, but it is not required by law. I think it is a disservice to the Town conducting business if we have a bunch of anonymous people up there." He proposed a policy, "in the future, if people come on to zoom and they do not identify themselves and who they are, then we do not allow them into the meeting." Board discussion for 22 minutes included respectful disagreement and legal questions. A vote on the policy was tabled pending legal input.

Resolutions / Local Laws:

1. **Lakes Management** — (5-0 vote)
 - Approved submitting DEC grant application proposing a pilot program with ProcellaCOR herbicide to reduce aquatic invasive species in East and West Caroga Lakes
2. **Golf Course** — (5-0 vote)
 - Approved renting 10 additional golf carts from W&B for \$8,100 per year from 2023 to 2027
3. **Highway Department** — (5-0 vote)
 - Approved posting for sale with Auctions International the broken loader (\$12,000 min)
4. **Caroga Tourism** — (5-0 vote)
 - Reappointed Ralph Palcovic to CTC for 5-year term (1/1/2023 to 12/31/2027)
5. **Budget Modifications** — (5-0 vote)

From: A1420.4 Attorney C/E	\$ 20.00	To: A1410.4 Town Clerk C/E	\$ 20.00
From A4050.11 BTI Techs	\$ 35.00	To: A4010.4 Board of Health	\$ 35.00
From A4050.11 BTI Techs	\$110.00	To: A4050.4 BTI C/E	\$110.00
6. **Other Business** — (5-0 votes)
 - Approved landowner management agreement with Nick Stoner Trailers
 - Accepted 2022 court records from Town Justice Subik as presented for audit
 - Approved paying bills as presented for audit
 - Approved 1/28/23 and 1/11/2023 minutes (noting Lynne Delesky's term ends 12/31/29)
7. **Deferred Actions** — The Board discussed additional proposals but did not act on them.
 - Local benefits and challenges involving properties with **short-term rentals**, e.g., AirBNB
 - Local authorization of state law to **honor Volunteer Fire Fighters and EMS Personnel** with a 10% property tax reduction for their primary residence (needed before April 2023)

Announcements:

- ❖ As a fundraiser, the Town seeks sponsors for 2023 golf course tee boxes for \$150 each.
- ❖ The BTI team needs more people to help treat streams to reduce black flies in Caroga.
- ❖ Thank you to all who donate to the Town and volunteer their time to support the community.

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Upcoming Meetings and Events: <https://TownOfCaroga.com/calendar>

**Monthly Town Board Meetings currently include participation
in-person at Town Hall and virtually via zoom.**

- To join a meeting virtually, citizens are invited to go to zoom.us and login with name and
 - Meeting ID: 687 640 4445
 - Passcode: 427903
- Mr. Shekerjian said he has login names and disallows people from re-naming themselves.
- To address the Board during the public-speaking section of the meeting, participants can:
 - go to the bottom toolbar and click the *Reactions* icon and then tap *Raise Hand* or
 - with phone dial-in, press *9 to *Raise Hand* and *6 to *Unmute*.
- Whether in-person or via zoom, public speakers are asked to give their name and address to introduce themselves to the Board.
- Supervisor Horton invites the virtual audience to act like they are in-person at Town Hall, so that the Board can see and know who is watching and participating in their meetings.