

# ***Caroga News Flash***

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

### **January 10, 2024 Monthly Meeting**

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

This monthly meeting began at 6:30 PM and lasted 105 minutes, including 22 minutes in executive session to discuss “personnel” issues. Fifteen citizens attended at Town Hall.

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

- 1. Official Undertaking of Municipal Officers** — Officials elected on November 7, 2023— Supervisor Ralph Palcovic, Highway Superintendent Larry Voght, and Council Members Matthew Cooper and Richard Sturgess—signed an oath of undertaking with the Town:  
*“[W]e 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, \$250,000.00 for the Highway Superintendent, and \$250,000.00 for all other employees.”*
- 2. Short-Term Residential Rental Law** — (5-0 votes)
  - Approved content of Proposed Local Law #1-2024: Short-Term Residential Rental Law
  - Scheduled a Public Hearing at 6:30 PM February 14 on this Proposed Local Law #1  
([https://www.townofcaroga.com/notes/2024\\_short\\_term\\_residential\\_rental\\_law\\_1.pdf](https://www.townofcaroga.com/notes/2024_short_term_residential_rental_law_1.pdf))
- 3. Wheelerville Trails** — (5-0 votes)
  - Approved personnel and terms of master contract with the Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation (OPRHP) under the US DOT Recreational Trails Program for the Wheelerville-Caroga Connector Trail Project with grant funds not to exceed \$88,600.00
  - Separately conditioned approval, so “no funds are expended or work takes place on this new OPRHP grant connector trail until the finalized trail plan is approved by the Board”
  - Designated Council Member Barb DeLuca as Board Liaison to Wheelerville Trails
- 4. US Department of Transportation Thriving Communities Program (TCP)** — (5-0 vote)
  - Approved Supervisor Palcovic sending a Letter-of-Commitment for the TCP Grant — if selected as a finalist for this application as approved by the Board on 11/8/23 — despite the Town Clerk slanderously directing the Board to reject this grant opportunity  
([https://www.townofcaroga.com/notes/2024-01-10\\_gilbert-tcp.m4a](https://www.townofcaroga.com/notes/2024-01-10_gilbert-tcp.m4a))
- 5. Zoning and Planning** — (5-0 votes)
  - Appointed Jennifer Blowers to the ZBA with term ending 12/31/2024
  - Appointed Doug Purcell as ZBA alternate with term ending 12/31/2024
  - Appointed George Hamilton to the Planning Board with term ending 12/31/2026
  - Approved Christine Putman as Planning and Zoning Secretary and Board of Assessment Review Clerk and set the pay rate at \$20.00 per hour

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6. **Upstate Cellular Coverage** — Supported Empire State Development's designation of a point person for state coordination to enhance cellular coverage (4-0 vote, Mr. Sturgess abstained)
7. **Technical Issues to Resume Zoom Meeting Access** — (5-0 votes)
  - Approved \$849 purchase of an Acer 15.6 FHD Intel Core i5 2.5 GHZ *Windows* laptop
  - Created a technical support position at \$15.00 per hour, and hired Zack Vosburgh
8. **Other Business** — (5-0 votes)
  - Appointed Richard Nilsen as Town Historian with term approved until 12/31/2025
  - Hired Gordon Baker as Town custodian at budgeted rate
  - Approved Supervisor Palcovic and Council Member Cooper's attendance and expense reimbursement for Newly Elected Officials Training in Albany January 17 to 19, 2024
  - Approved training for newly appointed Planning and ZBA members and alternates
  - Authorized signing annual agreement between the Town and Fulton County Planning
  - Authorized signing \$408.00 2024 agreement with St. Mary's Employee Assistance Program
  - Approved bills as presented for audit
  - Approved minutes of 12/13/2023, 12/28/2023, and 1/4/2024 Board Meetings

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