

Caroga News Flash


Town Board Meeting Highlights

January 14, 2026


<https://TownOfCaroga.com> contains all issues of the *Caroga News Flash*.

This monthly meeting began at 6:30 PM and lasted 90 minutes at Town Hall. Supervisor Jack Glenn and Council Members Rick Sturgess, Matt Cooper, Kim Walker, and Greta Frasier were joined by Town Clerk Linda Gilbert, Highway Superintendent Roy Stock, and 11 other people.

The meeting began with a presentation initiated by Community Planner Sara Bouillon of the Mohawk Valley Economic Development District (see <https://mvedd.org/comprehensive-planning>).



Quick Guide to Comprehensive Planning
Mohawk Valley Economic Development District, Inc.



Community Workbook

Comprehensive Planning Step-by-Step

Source: Department of State (DOS) Comprehensive Planning Website
DOS Comprehensive Planning Webinar (Step-by-Step at 55:10)

- 1 Identify Issues**
Complete a SWOT Analysis for your Community.
 - Strengths
 - Weaknesses
 - Opportunities
 - Threats
- 2 Community Inventory / Survey**
Take a community inventory of assets within the community, not paper survey. Topics can include:
 - Agriculture
 - Historic / Cultural / Archeological
 - Park & Recreation
 - Environment
 - Demographics
 - Housing
 - Economy
 - Public Services
 - Transportation
- 3 Identify Goals**
 - Based on Identified Issues (SWOTs)
 - Goals become priorities for future policy development
 - Goals are measurable and achievable
 - SMART Goals (Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Relevant, and Time-bound)

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- 4 Draft Plan**
 - When do you have enough research to begin writing
 - Primary concerns are addressed
 - Public meetings held (statutorily required and others)
 - All special board meetings are open to the public
 - Planning Committee
 - Public meeting within 90 days of receiving draft plan
 - Monitor consultant's progress
 - Review to ensure consistency with community's vision
- 5 Evaluate Alternatives**
 - Are goals achievable financially?
 - Are there more attainable/sustainable alternatives?
 - What are cost effective ways to achieve goals?
- 6 Adopt Plan**
 - Governing Board adopts plan by resolution or other local enactment
 - Adopted plan must be considered by other governmental agencies when planning for capital projects.
- 7 Implement Plan**
 - Suggestions to promote concepts outlines in plan
 - Amend land use regulations
 - Develop design guidelines
 - Budget for capital improvements
 - Implementation matrix
- 8 Evaluate Plan**
 - Plan must include maximum intervals for review
 - Amend plan as needed

Resolutions:

1. Tourism —

- For the Caroga Winter Carnival, the Board voted 5-0 to authorize an American Fireworks display on Saturday, January 31 at dusk (6:00 PM) on West Caroga Lake. The cost will be covered by the County Tourism Department.
- Council Member Greta Frasier reported that the Caroga Winter Carnival is a 3-day townwide celebration from Friday, January 30 through Sunday, February 1, 2026.
- Instead of specific events planned and insured by the Town, she suggested hosting townwide weekend themes (e.g., Winter Carnival, Lumberjack, Nashville Weekends).
- The Town Board accepted Diana Ackerknecht's resignation from Caroga Tourism effective 1/1/2026 and thanked her for her volunteer service to the community.



<https://www.44lakes.com/the-caroga-winter-carnival-is-back-for-2026/>

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2. **Town Hall Building** — (5-0 vote)
 - The Board reviewed construction bids to repair the Town Hall gym door and approved the \$4,880.00 low bid submitted by Jim Hale of Adirondack Landscaping.
 - The Town's Frontier telephone system currently fails with ATT phones, and work is underway.
3. **Transfer Station** — (5-0 vote)
 - Approved increasing transfer station permits to \$20 for cars and \$40 for trucks or trailers.
4. **Other Town Business** — (5-0 votes)
 - Approved Anthony Fancher's Code Officer training and payments of \$1,061.00 (\$485 + \$576).
 - Approved the 2026 Contract with the James A. Brennan Humane Society for \$825.00.
 - For golf, the green barn has been renovated as the new Golf Shop and Golf Maintenance Building, and all golf carts and other equipment have been moved out of the rented space.
 - For lakes management, Supervisor Glenn suggested a new format. Instead of a full team and supervisor for Diver Assisted Suction Harvesting (DASH), the program will use technology to map invasive Eurasian Watermilfoil in East and West Caroga Lakes for targeted identification and eradication. Supervisor Glenn authorized advertising for the open Lead Diver position.
 - Approved bills and meeting minutes for 12/10/2025, 12/30/2025, and 01/08/2026.

Announcements:

- ❖ The next monthly Town Board meeting will be Wednesday, February 11, 2026 at 6:30 PM.
- ❖ The Annual Wheelerville Bike Festival will be August 22 and 23, 2026 (wheelervilletrails.com).
- ❖ The Second Annual Town-wide Caroga Winter Carnival will be January 30 to February 1, 2026.
- ❖ Winter trails for cross-country skiing are marked and open on the Nick Stoner Golf Course.
- ❖ Thanks to Leigh Anne Loucks for coordinating efforts to secure NYS *Pro-Housing Certification*.

