Caroga News Flash

Town Board Meeting Highlights

October 19, 2026

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This Caroga Town Board public hearing on the 2027 Preliminary Budget began at 6:00 PM and lasted 50 minutes at Town Hall. The meeting was led by Supervisor Jack Glenn. Council Members Rick Sturgess, Matt Cooper, Kim Walker, and Greta Cronin were present, along with Budget Director Joanne Young, Town Clerk Linda Gilbert, Highway Superintendent Roy Stock, Trail Manager Jeremy Manning, four members of the Caroga Lake Volunteer Fire Company, and one member of the public.

The Board discussed the **2027 Fire Contract**. Council Member Sturgess reported that sales tax revenues have added to the fund balance. Thus, without increasing the preliminary 2027 Tax Rate per Thousand, the Board can change the General Townwide and Fire Contract Amounts to be raised by tax. By doing so, they can fund the full $258,373 Fire Contract, as proposed by the Caroga Lake Volunteer Fire Company.

The Board also discussed the **Code Enforcement Office**. Supervisor Glenn noted "some issues right now with codes." Given those controversies, the Supervisor suggested no salary increase for the code officer. (See https://townofcaroga.com/news_flashes/flash_2026-10-14.pdf ***DOS Administrative Hearing Defense***.) Councilman Sturgess countered (and the Board agreed) to support the code officer's 2% salary increase to $63,015, plus add $11,700 for his new administrative support with a code secretary and FEMA director.

Resolutions:

1. The Board voted 5-0 to move the preliminary budget to the adopted budget with noted changes.

For the 2027 Adopted Budget, see https://townofcaroga.com/finances/2027-caroga-adopted-budget.pdf

SUMMARY OF THE 2027 BUDGET TAX RATE SCHEDULE (Adopted 10/19/2026)

FUND	Appropriations Adopted 2027	Less Est. Revenues	Less Fund Balance & Appropriated Reserves	Amount to be raised by tax	Taxable Assessed Value	2026 Tax rate per Thousand	2027 Tax Rate per Thousand
General Townwide	$2,233,893	$1,844,519	$191,712	$197,662	$164,718,429	$1.47	$1.20
Highway Townwide	$1,447,600	$288,000	$220,705	$938,895	$164,718,429	$5.62	$5.70
Fire Contract	$258,373	$0	$0	$259,062	$167,136,838	$1.02	$1.55
TOTALS	$3,939,866	$2,132,519	$412,417	$1,395,619		$8.11	$8.45

The adopted budget included the Fire Contract for $258,373, as proposed by the Fire Company.

2. The Board reviewed quotes and voted 5-0 to switch the propane carrier for town hall to A-Tech.

3. The Board reviewed quotes and voted 5-0 to give the Highway Superintendent authority to purchase steel for the Cape Horn Bridge repair in the amount of $55,013 from DI Highway Sign & Structure.

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