

Town of Caroline
Town Board Minutes
September 15, 2005

The regular meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Caroline held on September 15, 2005 at the Town Hall was called to order by Supervisor Don Barber at 7:02 p.m.

Present: Don Barber, Supervisor
Ed Cope, Councilman
Barry Goodrich, Councilman
Tim Seely, Councilman
Todd Schmit, Councilman

Recording Secretary: Debra DeAugustine, Town Clerk

Visitors: Kim Whetzel

Monthly Reports

Planning Board

Susan Barr spoke about the meeting taking place in Town Hall next Thursday at 7 p.m. They plan to present scenarios, and ask people not to think about themselves as a landowner, but as a neighbor to a property owner. What do you think about this dog kennel, for example, and how would you feel if it was put up next to your property? They anticipate a crowd. Will start putting up signs tomorrow. Based on the townspeople's input, they'll write Part II of the plan, which is the implementation phase. They're still finalizing changes to Part I, and will finish in October.

Supervisor's Report

Correspondence of Note

1. HAVA Resolution from County; some questions on language.
2. Letter from county Finance changing date that towns end tax collection. Who will collect the late fees? How the county pay for this tax collection that is now free?
3. Property tax history from County Administrator for the last ten years.
4. TCMOA meeting will take place 9/20
5. Letter from assessment notifying limit changes and opportunities for these PT exemptions:
 - a. Historic barns
 - b. Property improvements for disabled
 - c. Veterans
6. MS4 Stormwater CD from DEC.

Report

- We were not successful in Small Cities Grant Application. Better Housing of Tompkins County will ask for scoring, then together we'll ask GOSC for advice on how to upgrade grant. Our last grant proposal was also turned down the first time; we met with them and they told us how to proceed, and we were successful the second time around.
- Documents have been prepared and signed for land swap with CU. Expect deeds within a week.
- Brooktondale Bridge is supposed to be open within the week.

- EMC appointment, WRC appointment, ITCTC Planning appointment – all need to be on the agenda for next month.
- Budget discussion:
 - Revenues, Barrille: grants should occur by the end of the year or shortly thereafter. Raising revenues by means other than property tax
 - Youth self evaluation and presentation of program plans & web site
 - Building & grounds & Town Barn maintenance
 - Midnight Sun, structural analysis cost
 - Ambulance contract
 - Another GOSC grant application; supervisor will ask Stacey Crawford what we might have to do to upgrade our proposal

County Legislator's Report

- County Budget had third information meeting yesterday; seven or eight more sessions are scheduled.
- County's involvement in trying to place 50 evacuees of New Orleans. FEMA is aware, and we're just waiting for word.
- Board of health: open burning amendment to the sanitary code. Media has been calling it a local law; it is not. It is a change in the sanitary code. There is an open burning ordinance in place now. This proposal tightens up what's there, and transfers enforcement to the Board of Health.
- Empire zones: previously, the business that applied for an exemption paid their property taxes (all of them) and the state reimbursed them. There is no more property tax exemption. Now employers have to identify by employment: how many people they employ, longevity. They will get credit based on those criteria.
- Warrants now collected in March instead of May. Rep. Proto suggested that the county share the interest from the second installments. The clerks need to talk to David Squires, CEO of the county, about it. If there's a cash flow problem, they could ask us to submit payments more often, like every two weeks.
- TCAT: still no contract
- AG and Farmland board, hope to have something to present to the county legislature by the first of the year.

Department, Committee, & Liaison Reports

Councilman Goodrich

Working on structure #29; will be done in the morning. 30 & 31 will be done by tomorrow night. There are 11 working days left to finish up through #35. Working with Prof. Tom Whitlow on revegetation plan his class will be doing this fall. Town should hold a recognition ceremony or some way to recognize all who worked so hard on this project.

Councilman Schmit

Barille. Handed out an updated project budget summary.

Grant disbursement agreement from CCAP, received last week. We need a resolution authorizing supervisor to sign the agreement, and signature of the attorney saying he reviewed the agreement. Once the town gets the paperwork in, we can begin requisitioning funds.

Action Topics

Transfers

Motion to Authorize Transfer of Funds

A motion was made by Supervisor Barber and seconded by Councilman Schmit to authorize the following transfer:

	From	To
\$450.00	General Fund Account A 1220.4 Supervisor CE	General Fund A 8989.4 Community Services CE
\$500.00	General Fund Account A 3310.4 Traffic Control CE	General Fund A 3620.4 Safety Inspection CE
\$150.00	General Fund Account A 1410.2 Clerk EQ	General Fund A 1410.4 Clerk CE
\$841.05	Highway Fund Account DA 5112.1 Improvement PS	Highway Fund DA 5112.2 Improvement CO
\$800.00	Highway Fund Account DA 5110.4 General Repairs CE	Highway Fund DA 5130.4 Machinery CE

And Be it Further Resolved that the Caroline Town Board makes the following budget adjustments:

\$1250.00	added to General Revenue Fund Account A 2705
\$1250.00	added to General Appropriation Fund Account A 8989.4

Adopted	Don Barber	Aye
	Ed Cope	Aye
	Barry Goodrich	Aye
	Tim Seely	Aye
	Todd Schmit	Aye

Approval of Abstracts

Approval of General Fund Abstract

A motion was made by Councilman Seely and seconded by Councilman Schmit to approve payment for the General Fund voucher numbers 346 through 395 in the amount of \$72,699.78.

Adopted	Don Barber	Aye
	Ed Cope	Aye
	Barry Goodrich	Aye
	Tim Seely	Aye
	Todd Schmit	Aye

Approval of Highway Fund Abstract

A motion was made by Councilman Cope and seconded by Councilman Goodrich to approve payment for the Highway Fund voucher numbers 176 through 195 in the amount of \$17,502.66.

Adopted	Don Barber	Aye
	Ed Cope	Aye
	Barry Goodrich	Aye

Tim Seely	Aye
Todd Schmit	Aye

Approval of Streetlight Fund Abstract

A motion was made by Councilman Goodrich and seconded by Councilman Cope to approve payment for the Streetlight Fund voucher numbers 017 through 018 in the amount of \$617.21.

Adopted	Don Barber	Aye
	Ed Cope	Aye
	Barry Goodrich	Aye
	Tim Seely	Aye
	Todd Schmit	Aye

Approval of Minutes

Approval of Minutes from August 2, 2005

A motion was made by Councilman Goodrich and seconded by Supervisor Barber to accept the minutes of August 2, amended as follows:

Amendments:

Seely: is both present and absent; he was truly absent

Adopted	Don Barber	Aye
	Barry Goodrich	Aye
	Tim Seely	Abstain
	Ed Cope	Aye
	Todd Schmit	Aye

Approval of Minutes from August 11, 2005

A motion was made by Supervisor Barber and seconded by Councilman Seely to accept the minutes of August 11, amended as follows:

Amendments:

Seely: Privilege of the Floor, should read that Amanda Wooden spoke on behalf of the Middaugh farm.

Adopted	Don Barber	Aye
	Barry Goodrich	Aye
	Tim Seely	Aye
	Ed Cope	Aye
	Todd Schmit	Aye

Town Business

Buck Labs Report

Phase II environmental study. There were seven holes drilled, between 8 and 12 feet deep. Data shows that borings 1, 2, 3 were in the area of the tanks. Site 2 & 3 found a chemical at quantities below the threshold NYS sets as acceptable for groundwater. No contamination in other sites.

Presentation of Possible Tower Project

Kim Whetzel wanted to make the town aware of his business in the community. He operates a fleet of 10 class-A trucks and in excess of 20 pieces of construction equipment between two companies (Gaggle and Sultana). Their present communication system (two-way radio between their vehicles and personnel) needs to be improved.

They'll be applying to the town within the parameters of Local Law #2 of 1998 to construct a new tower. Tower would be 198 ft tall (structure = 178 ft with a 20-ft antenna and a 35-ft footprint). They have a

proposal for a guide tower and a freestanding tower. The proposed site is away from the road in a wooded area, 1000 feet from nearest other structure, like a house. Trees in the area are 70 ft tall. Parcel is 60 acres.

They want to locate the tower on their property so they can hardwire it to their office, and so they own it (no fees incurred from the phone company). Access would be from Buffalo Hill Rd. This will be at considerable expense to them, so they would like to make it available (to provide service) to up to four co-locaters 4 to help defray the cost. This would enhance the service for cell-phone providers.

Application process is very involved; they expect to begin process of application next month; would like to start construction in November. The tower is pre-engineered and comes with all the specs etc.

Supervisor noted that Lee Knuppenberg gets the application and the town board votes on it, so asked Mr. Whetzel to keep him informed. Will need to hold a special meeting. The town would have an engineer review the plan and advise the board.

Resolutions

Resolution 9-1 of 2005 284 Highway Agreement Addendum

By Supervisor Barber; Seconded by Councilman Seely

RESOLVED, that the Town Board enter into agreement with the Highway Superintendent for the 284 agreement for capital improvement funds.

Adopted	Don Barber	Aye
	Ed Cope	Aye
	Barry Goodrich	Aye
	Tim Seely	Aye
	Todd Schmit	Aye

Resolution 9-2 of 2005 Safety Committee

By Supervisor Barber; Seconded by Councilman Schmit

WHEREAS, the Town of Caroline purchases its Property/Casualty and Liability Insurance through NY Municipal Insurance Reciprocal. (NYMIR),

And WHEREAS, NYMIR requires its owner/members to be proactive in identifying and eliminating or preventing personal injury loss and property damage by establishing a Safety Committee,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Caroline Town Board hereby establishes the Town of Caroline Safety Committee,

And BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the responsibilities of the Town Of Caroline Safety Committee are:

- Identify loss exposures and recommend means of eliminating, abating, transferring or retaining these exposures, after consultation with their respective governing bodies and the management company.
- Make prompt initial investigation of all occurrences, notify law enforcement officials when appropriate, and assist the claims department of the management company in follow up investigations.
- Maintain accident/incident reports an all occurrences, in a form to be approved by the Board of Governors.

- Provide loss data and reports in accordance with procedures enacted by the Board of Governors.

And BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Caroline Town Board hereby appoints the Town Supervisor, Town Highway Superintendent, and the Town Code Enforcement Officer to the Town of Caroline Safety Committee.

And BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the membership of the Town of Caroline Safety Committee may be expanded as the need arises.

Adopted	Don Barber	Aye
	Ed Cope	Aye
	Barry Goodrich	Aye
	Tim Seely	Aye
	Todd Schmit	Aye

**Resolution 9-3 of 2005
CCAP Disbursement**

By Councilman Schmit; Seconded by Supervisor Barber

RESOLVED, that the Town Board authorizes the supervisor to sign the grant disbursement agreement contingent on review and acceptance of the agreement by the town attorney.

Adopted	Don Barber	Aye
	Ed Cope	Aye
	Barry Goodrich	Aye
	Tim Seely	Aye
	Todd Schmit	Aye

Adjourn

On a motion, the regular board meeting adjourned at 9:21 p.m.

On a motion the board went into executive session at 9:21.

Respectfully Submitted,

Debra DeAugustine, Town Clerk