

## **Caroline Town Board Meeting Minutes of June 2, 2009**

The Town Board agenda meeting held on Tuesday, June 2, 2009 at the Caroline Town Hall was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Supervisor Don Barber.

### **Attendance:**

Don Barber, Supervisor  
Dominic Frongillo, Councilman (arrived at 7:10pm)  
Linda Adams, Councilwoman  
Toby McDonald, Councilman  
Pete Hoyt, Councilman (arrived at 8:20pm)

### **Recording**

**Secretary:** Marilou Harrington, Deputy Town Clerk

Also present: Ruth and Bob Larry, Chad Novelli, and Barry Goodrich

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### **Privilege of the Floor**

**Ruth and Bob Larry** representing Caroline Seniors travel group spoke in regards to an increase in their budget for future trips. Their budget for 2009 is \$2,000. The estimated trip totals for 2009 will be \$2190 for 3 trips (\$600, \$600 and \$990), and they are asking for an extra \$190.00 to cover the increase in the cost of the buses per trip. Supr Barber explained the process of the budget increase by resolution through the town board. The bus carries 47 people, and the Caroline Seniors do ask people from other municipalities to fill any open seats on the bus and include an extra \$5.00 charge per person. The Caroline Seniors are only asking for transportation costs, seniors pay for their own tickets and food on these trips.

**Chad Novelli**, discussed his resume and request for appointment to the planning board. He has lived in Caroline for 20 years, and is impressed with how the town works but feels it should not be taken for granted. He also feels his children find a sense of community here. In his business he works with building design and planning for his clients. He works with a well thought out plan, a lot of listening and asking questions. Spending the time planning and listening to the client's real wants and needs makes the end product much more satisfying for the client and in the end the client is much happier.

Linda asked what he felt was dear to the town. Sense of community, he feels, and that his friends could move in and they would feel comfortable and welcome being new to the area. The culture feels positive to him. He thinks the area is beautiful and easy to access and he appreciates that. He feels a community respect.

Toby asked if he was aware of controversy around the committee and that people aren't always supportive and it can be stressful at times. Chad said he is willing to listen to whatever people have to say, negative and positive. Toby explained it can be very decisive and you have to sort through and find the best solution to address the people.

Dominic- talked about being able to lead the conversation, taking information and representing people by bringing their concerns to the table.

Chad likes to gather all the information in each situation as he feels having all the information presented and not making preconceived judgments about how the process should be or what it should follow is the ways to a positive end

Linda- asked about familiarity with Speedsville. They discussed whether the residents of Speedsville felt as represented as the centers the Town Slaterville and Brooktondale.

Don asked about the comprehensive plan, the vision. Chad feels it is the frame work phase and having a plan for the people to respond to is imperative. He can see an enormous amount of work has gone into the plan but that is a framework that can be added to, modified and adjusted. The discussion was to address concerns brought forth by the community. Linda talked about having a broader view before implementing any plans.

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## Reports

**Dominic Frongillo, Town Board-** Energy Independent Caroline. Brooke and Finlo; opportunity for the contractor and builder to meet and discuss the project. Finlo has a draft contract. Don said Finlo wants a lien on property. Don explained that it wouldn't be in the best interest of the Town having to pay for a lawyer in regards to a lien. It doesn't make sense to put a lien on a property that has no mortgage and is not going to be sold.

**Website-** renewing the domain and asking Kay Nicholson for an invoice so she can be paid.

**EIC-** Dominic said intern Anosh is very committed and he is helping Don in coordinating an application for Geothermal.

**Linda Adams, Town Board-** Barrille II project; (see spreadsheet of the projected timeline for the project-attachment a). The Linda Shockey property; some work has been done to remove the roofing, and a buyer has been found for the timbers. Don commended Linda on her work on the project.

**Lebanon-** (Refer to letter as attachment b, and e-mail attachment c). In Lebanon, 55 wells were drilled in the last 2 years- Don said you would be hard pressed to find any economic increase in the whole town. All that could go wrong, did go wrong. There was not much DEC oversight there. Linda sent a letter to Gov. Paterson to ask for time for research the process for the town of Caroline so the same mistakes are not made as were made in Lebanon, (see Gov. Paterson letter, attachment d )

**Toby McDonald, Town Board-** Toby will meet with Dave Herrick about the Valley Rd project, and the county right of way. The survey shows a 210 ft slope; needing a 120 ft retaining wall that will be in the county right of way. The Town will need a maintenance agreement and work permit before we can proceed. We need the County to sign off on the work area before the work can begin. NYSEG, nobody believes, wants to move the electric poles because of the huge expense involved. Bids for the project are do on the 16<sup>th</sup> of June and the board will have to approve them.

**Don Barber, Town Supervisor-** The solar panels to be installed on the new building roof can only be 12 panels because of lack of room to place more. It is possible to add more behind the building, however Don was concerned about vandalism by installing the extra panels in an easily accessible place. Barry Goodrich commented that a member of the Fountain Manor community expressed concern about what the residents would be viewing on the back of the building. Having the panels on the ground can be unsightly.

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## Town Business

**Subject- Geothermal-** look at the soil (soil profiles) where the trenches are to be placed. To hear back from the department of State, which should happen in the near future and then a test hole can be dug.

Barry Goodrich was saying if the geothermal is not viable, depending on the soil conditions and the heat transfer, that it could change where the building may be placed, etc. Linda was saying the finding of water in the test hole will be an asset.

**Penny's (Caroline) Youth Group-** Caleb Scott is offering time and materials at cost. He is also giving input on how to make planters and raised beds.

**Gas Drilling-**Toby discussed to 2 main concerns, frac water and roadway damage. Don was saying there is really only one way a town can control the damage to the roadways; take roadway pictures before and after, and the amount charged for the bond. Don is working with the Subcommittee of Council of Government about the process; how you can add bonds, which you have to be careful to whom and how you apply the fines; and that you have to be careful about what would be considered discrimination against one business verses another. If the town allows local business to travel at a certain weight we have to afford the same courtesy to the gas companies. All businesses would have to apply for only one permit, example a milk truck may follow the same route 5-6 times a week and the permit would cover that travel. However, if the route changes or the travel increases then the permit would change too. The gas company vehicle would also purchase the same permit however would pay a bond for the use of the road and be responsible for paying and repairing the road they damage. Don was

expressing the town needs to have a process in place. The Town board basically agrees that the revenue would be good for the town but that their has to be measures in place to make sure everything goes well so that everyone profits without major expenses to the town.

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**Agenda Items**

- Budget transfer to add \$190 to Line A7610.4 Programs for Aging CE
- Appointment Chad Novelli to Planning Board to fill term expiring 12/31/2012
- Authorize Supervisor to sign Contract for Photovoltaic Panels to be installed on Town Office Building
- Authorize Supervisor to sign Municipal Cooperation Agreement with the Greater Tompkins County Municipal Health Insurance Consortium
- Resolution urging 90 day comment period on draft Supplemental Generic Environmental Impact Statement for hydrofracturing of gas wells
- Resolution urging Governor not to sign Legislation to Change process for consolidation of local governments.

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**Adjourn**

On a motion by Toby MacDonald, and seconded by Dominic Frongillo, the meeting adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Marilou Harrington, Deputy Town Clerk