

Caroline Town Board Meeting Minutes of October 12, 2010

The Town Board agenda meeting held on Tuesday October 12, 2010 at the Caroline Town Hall was called to order at 7:06 p.m. by Supervisor Don Barber.

Attendance:

Don Barber, Supervisor
Dominic Frongillo, Councilman
Linda Adams, Councilwoman
Toby McDonald, Councilman
Pete Hoyt, Councilman

Recording

Secretary: Marilou Harrington, Town Clerk

Also Present: Pat Brhel, Rick Morgan, Speedsville Fire Department, Cindy Whitaker, Highway Superintendent

Privilege of the Floor

Pat Brehl-Representing the Caroline food Pantry is asking the Town Board to continue providing funds for the food pantry. The money she is asking the Town board for (\$2500) is about a month's worth of food for the people they serve. Last month the pantry served 1009 people. Some of the people were new to the food pantry. Pat's experience is that people need the extra help. She sees many seniors over 65 and people under the age of 18 who use the service. A disability will cause a hardship. The pantry tries other ways to get funding by writing grants and fundraising. They receive donations from Town's residents, and out of Town residents along with area food markets, and much of the food in the summer time is homegrown. They do a distribution every 1st and 3rd Monday of the month and emergency distributions if someone calls and has no food. They supply food, clothing and kitchen supplies. Every dollar they receive from the Town of Caroline goes directly to food. For every \$25 – \$30 dollars worth of food they take in, costs the pantry about \$3. Don asked about other municipalities who don't contribute to their local food bank, and how they raise their funds to be able to remain open. Pat said people go hungry, the amount of food they distribute is cut down and sometimes they close. Don said they use the same sources, as Caroline does like contributions, funding, etc. Pat said pantries use every source available; grant writing, fundraising, asking for donations etc. but many times, they come up short. Pat said with limited funds, two pantries only had bread and cans of soup to distribute. Pete questioned why no one came to the budget meeting who uses the pantry to ask for support. Pat said many people like to remain anonymous. Cindy Whittaker said pride, embarrassment can keep people from coming forward in a public forum. Linda said if the Town's people knew no taxes were going to support the pantry then she believed people would make a commitment to help. Local government doesn't want their taxes raised, hoping that people will step up and give to the pantry. Pat there is always a struggle with no reserve. Numbers (people that come to the pantry) are up by 20 %. The clients are taxpayers too, and many are homeowners. Linda said if the public money were taken out of the equation then local people would step and give more money to the food pantry. Pete agrees with Linda. Pat said the 40 volunteers are stretched to the limit and trying to go out and raise money would be too much to ask of them to commit to doing.

Rick Morgan: Speedsville Fire Department- Speedsville is having a Halloween party Saturday October 30th. Everyone is invited to come for the party and to see the new truck. Pat Brehl will put the information in the "Town Talk" column in the Ithaca Journal.

Town Business

Animal Population Control Program – the Town will be collecting the funds, there is a minimum the Town is required to collect for every dog license fee. If the money isn't turned over to the County then it is still collected and is turned over to the State. The board agreed they would rather have the funds stay local (Tompkins County) instead of go to the State. The Town Clerk would collect the funds and forward them to the appropriate places.

Local Law discussion about the dog licensing system - Basically, all municipalities must follow the guidelines of the NYS Ag and Market Law – see attachment 1 Proposed Local Law . The Groton Town Clerk, April Scheffler consolidated the 30+ page law down to 10 pages. The board will review the law and pass a resolution next month.

Level Green Rd- Documentation was received from Cindy Whittaker about making a section of Level Green Road minimum maintenance. The documentation shows Level Green Road complies with the criteria for a minimum maintenance road. Rick Morgan asked about Ekroos and Smith road, if there were minimum maintenance or seasonal and the difference between the two classifications. Don explained to Rick that seasonal roads are not plowed in the winter but that it doesn't mean they are not maintained in the summer. Minimum Maintenance roads are maintained but at a lower standard than a major road that is used continuously, like one you can drive 55mph. The biggest change in making a road minimum maintenance is you cannot get a building permit to build a house or business without a decision by the board to pass a local law to undo this portion of road. Cindy will maintain the road and her plan is to plow it through the winter. John Morgan offered to have snow fence put up along the roadway. The Town board will set up date for a public hearing for discussion of the local law in November 9, 2010.

Reports

Toby McDonald, Report

Cindy Whittaker, Highway Superintendent's Report

See attachment 1

Finishing up summer work.

Don Barber, Supervisors Report

Correspondence of Note:

1. Letter from NYSEG that Town can install street light fixtures and only compensate NYSEG for electricity used
2. Copy of Request for Legal Opinion of NYS Attorney general regarding Fireworks display permitting process

Report:

1. Health Insurance Consortium: Receive our Certificate of authority; holding press conference on 10/28, Hope to finish up Teamster Ancillary Benefits within the week
2. Spending time on Budget
3. Anticipate heavy duty regulations from EPA with regards to stormwater mgmt. for Susquehanna, SWCD will provide dates for public comment and talking points.
4. Discussed easement location for gas line to Fountain Manor- Guy Krogh, the town attorney has reviewed and is Ok with easement as written
5. Sent in final accounting for Barille II to SEMO.

Frank Proto, County Representatives Report

absent

Dominic Frongillo, Town Board

Energy Committee is recommending that TC Community Action provide the services for the energy upgrade at the Historic Town Hall and the Town Highway building.

Linda, Adams, Town Board

Watershed Committee Report -Sept. 21, 2010 John Daniels, Barry Goodrich, and Linda Adams attended the The NY State DEC Phase II Stormwater Presentation. Steve Cook of DEC was the speaker. The Stormwater design manual has been updated. It is available online www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/8468.html

Oct. 6, 2010 Linda Adams attended a County budget hearing where Tompkins Soil & Water presented their accomplishments for this past budget cycle. It gave Linda an opportunity to thank the County for their partnership investing \$10,000 toward re-vegetation. Linda also made it clear that the project would not have been possible without TCSW as the Lead Agency investing 5 years of staff time writing grants, providing professional field tests, stream design input, and implementation of construction.

Oct. 8, 2010 Senator James Seward toured the Barrille II site. S. Seward helped in the 1st quarter of this year secure NY State funding for the project. The Caroline Watershed Committee thanks the Senator for his involvement.

Oct. 12, 2010 The DEC approved an extension (to Oct. 30, 2010) for the Six Mile Stream / Pipeline Restoration Project. Enterprise Products Company (formally known as Tep.)

Discussion and Action Topics**Department, Committee, & Liaison Reports:**

- Transfers
- Approve Abstracts: Highway, General, Lighting
- Approve Minutes September 7 and September 13
- Resolution Authorizing Supervisor to Contract with TC Action for Energy Conservation Work at Town Hall and Town Barns
- Introduce Local Law to Establish Minimum Maintenance Designation for a portion of Level Green Road and Establish a date for Public hearing of the Law
- Resolution Designating Tompkins County to receive Spay-Neuter Funds from Dog Licenses
- Resolution appointing Representative to Health Consortium Joint Benefits Committee
- Resolution Authorizing Supervisor to Execute Easement with NYSEG for gas line to Fountain Manor
- Budget Deliberations

Transfers**Resolution 10-2 of 2010**

A motion was made by Mr. Barber and seconded by Mr. McDonald to make the following transfers:

Resolved, the Caroline Town Board hereby authorizes the Supervisor to transfer 2010 funds as follows:

\$ 475.00 from General Fund Account A 1990.4 Contingency to
General Fund Account A 1920.4 Municipal Dues

\$ 4,000.00 from General Fund Account A 5132.4 Garage CE to
General Fund Account A5010.4 Highway Admin CE

\$ 4,000.00 from Highway Fund Account DA 5110.4 Repairs CE to
Highway Fund Account DA 5112.4 Improvements CE

\$ 2,000.00 from Highway Fund Account DA 5110.4 Repairs CE to
Highway Fund Account DA 5140.4 Misc CE

Adopted Barber: Aye; Frongillo: Absent; Adams: Aye; McDonald: Aye; Hoyt: Aye

Approval of Abstracts

Resolution 10-3 of 2010

General Fund Abstract

A motion was made by Mr. Barber and seconded by Ms. Adams to approve payment for the General Fund voucher numbers 348 through 380 in the amount of \$53,389.84

Adopted Barber: Aye; Frongillo: Aye; Adams: Aye; McDonald: Aye; Hoyt: Aye

Highway Fund Abstract

A motion was made by Mr. Barber and seconded by McDonald to approve payment for the Highway Fund voucher numbers 182 through 194 in the amount of \$28,521.41.

Adopted Barber: Aye; Frongillo: Aye; Adams: Aye; McDonald: Aye; Hoyt: Aye

Streetlight Fund Abstract

A motion was made by Mr. Barber and seconded by Mr. Frongillo to approve payment for the Streetlight Fund voucher numbers 20 in the amount of \$428.99.

Adopted Barber: Aye; Frongillo: Aye; Adams: Aye; McDonald: Aye; Hoyt: Aye

Approval of Minutes

Resolution 10-4 of 2010

Approval of Minutes of Agenda Meeting September 7, 2010

A motion was made by Mr. Barber and seconded by Mr. Frongillo to accept the minutes of September 7, 2010 as submitted by the Town clerk.

Adopted Barber: Aye; Frongillo: Aye; Adams: Aye; McDonald: Aye; Hoyt: Aye

Resolution 10-5 of 2010

Approval of Minutes of Business Meeting September 13, 2010

Minutes of Business Meeting

A motion was made by Mr. Barber and seconded by Mr. McDonald to accept the minutes of September 13, 2010 as submitted and amended by the Town Clerk.

Adopted Barber: Aye; Frongillo: Aye; Adams: Aye; McDonald: Aye; Hoyt: Aye

Resolutions

Resolution 10-6 of 2010

Moved by Mr. Barber; Seconded by Mr. Frongillo

Contract with TC Action for Energy Conservation Work at Town Hall and Town Barns

The Town Board authorizes the Supervisor to sign the contract with Tompkins Community Action for the Energy Conservation work at Historic Town Hall and Highway Town Barns.

Adopted Barber: Aye; Frongillo: Aye; Adams: Aye; McDonald: Aye; Hoyt: Aye

Discussion: Pete asked for clarification of how the process worked. We are contracted for \$30,000, we pay the amount and then we will get 80% reimbursed from this grant that we have already been given. Don said that was his understanding of this grant, unlike others, has an engineering firm that is overseeing this project. The firm is in weekly contact with both Dominic and me. He also said with NYSERDA, every time we have applied for funding in the past we have received it within a month. Dominic said this is stimulus money, not State.

Resolution 10-07 of 2010

Motion by Mr. Barber ; Seconded by Mr. McDonald

Public Hearing Date for Level Green Road a Minimum Maintenance Local Law

Supervisor Barber introduced a Local Law declaring a section of Level Green Road a Minimum Maintenance Highway. The Town Board set a public hearing for Nov 9th at 7 PM to hear any and all comments concerning the proposed local law.

Adopted Barber: Aye; Frongillo: Aye; Adams: Aye; McDonald: Aye; Hoyt: Aye

The Town board sets a public hearing date for November 9, 2010 at 7p.m. to hear and all comments about the proposed local law to make Level Green Road minimum maintenance.

Adopted Barber: Aye; Frongillo: Aye; Adams: Aye; McDonald: Aye; Hoyt: Aye

Resolution 10-08 of 2010

Moved by Mr. Barber; Seconded by Mr. Frongillo

Support for Creation of a County Animal Population Control program

WHEREAS, the New York State 2011 Budget contains new legislation concerning dog licensing and Animal Population Control Funds, and

WHEREAS, the new legislation gives a county the authority to create its own Animal Population Control Program, thereby receiving the Animal Population Control Funds collected within such county, and

WHEREAS, the Tompkins County SPCA and the Tompkins County Town Clerks Association have expressed a desire to create a plan for Tompkins County Animal Population Control , and

WHEREAS, the Tompkins County Administrator has indicated that the County would be in favor of such a plan, and

WHEREAS, the Town of Caroline is in favor of such a plan, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Caroline designates, Marilou Harrington, Town Clerk, to represent the interests of the Town of Caroline in the creation of a Tompkins County Animal Population Control Program, with the understanding that final determination and approval rests with the Town Board.

Adopted Barber: Aye; Frongillo: Aye; Adams: Aye; McDonald: Aye; Hoyt: Aye

Resolution 10-9 of 2010

Moved by Mr. Hoyt; Seconded by Mr. McDonald

Resolution appointing a Representative to Health Consortium Joint Benefits Committee

The Town Board appoints Supervisor Don Barber as the Representative to Health Consortium Joint Benefits

Committee.

Resolution 10-10 of 2010

Moved by Mr. Barber; Seconded by Mr. Hoyt

Authorizing Supervisor to Execute Easement with NYSEG for gas line to Fountain Manor.

The Town Board authorizes Supervisor Don Barber to Execute an Easement with NYSEG for gas line to Fountain Manor.

Adopted Barber: Aye; Frongillo: Aye; Adams: Aye; McDonald: Aye; Hoyt: Aye

Resolution 10-11 of 2010

Motion by Mr. Barber, Seconded by Ms. Adams

Resolved, the Town Board makes the following adjustment to the preliminary budget.

Decrease General Fund Account Revenue Line A23389 by \$25,000 to \$12,783.

Increase General Fund line A2770 by \$16,000

Increase Highway Fund Appropriation Line A9010.8 Retirement by \$23,356 to \$56,851

Decrease Unreserved Fund Balance for General Fund \$20,000 to \$180,000

Increase Unreserved Fund Balance for Highway Fund by \$70,000 to \$100,000

Decrease General Fund A9040.8 Workers' Compensation to \$25,000

Increase Highway Fund DA 9040.8 Workers' Compensation to \$28,000

Decrease Fire District Line SF9040.8 to \$8,000

Adopted Barber: Aye; Frongillo: Aye; Adams: Aye; McDonald: Aye; Hoyt: Aye

Budget Amendments

Resolution 10-12 of 2010

Motion by Mr. Barber ; Seconded by Mr. McDonald

Decrease line A6989.418 to \$2000

Ayes: Barber; Frongillo; Hoyt

Nays: Adams; McDonald

Motion by Mr. Hoyt; Seconded by Mr. Frongillo

Decrease line A1010.1 to \$8000

Ayes: Barber; Frongillo; Adams; McDonald; Hoyt

Nays:

Motion by Ms. Adams; Seconded by Mr. Barber

Decrease line A1410.101 to \$9446

Ayes: Barber; Frongillo; Adams; McDonald;

Nay: Hoyt

Adjourn

On a motion by Mr. Barber and seconded by Mr. Hoyt, the meeting adjourned at 10:22 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Marilou Harrington, Town Clerk