

Caroline Town Board Meeting of January 14, 2015

The Town Board Business meeting held on January 14, 2015 at the Caroline Town Hall was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Supervisor Don Barber.

Attendance:

Don Barber, Supervisor
John Fracchia, Councilmember
Irene Weiser, Councilmember
Mark Witmer, Councilmember
Tim Seely, Deputy Supervisor

Recording

Secretary: Marilou Harrington-Lawson, Town Clerk

Also present: Pat Dubin

Supervisor Barber started the meeting at 7:00 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

Privilege of the Floor

Pat Dubin- Thanked Councilmember Witmer for bringing forward the resolution Opposing Expansion of Natural Gas (LNG) Storage and Development of Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG) Storage in Underground Salt Caverns at Seneca Lake. Councilmember Witmer will bring this resolution forward later in the meeting for board review and vote.

Reports

Cindy Whittaker, Highway Superintendent

No report

Don Barber, Town Supervisor

Correspondence of Note:

1. Letter from NYS PSC announcing Reforming the Energy Vision straw proposal seeking comments
2. Code Officer report shows \$29,677 received in permit fees for 2014
3. Clean report from NYMIR regarding risk review

Report:

1. TCCOG arranged meeting with Assemblywoman Lifton and Senator O'Mara to discuss property tax cap and freeze. O'Mara stated that in his opinion the Governor is looking to crush local government. We received much consensus on the source of high property tax but both felt constrained by political theater.
2. Still no contract with Clarity Connect. Personnel changes with subcontractor Finger Lakes Technology Group have changed expectation which Clarity is trying to resolve
3. Health Consortium's MCA is due for 5 year review. Changes need to be submitted by 3/1.

Steve Nicholson, Chair of the EMC

State wide conference will be in Ithaca at the end of October 2015 is regional Carolyn Peterson and Gary Stewart will be directors. 2 years boundary revisions looked at 77 unique natural areas

increased boundaries total 2% 13. 7% Shindagin Hollow Updated aerial photography. How will land owners be notified, will work with planning department to notify the land owners. Town will receives papers to put in the binders. Sapsuckers woods expand by 10 acres. Cornell does not want to expand sanctuary because they want to use area for Technology Park. March 12 public meeting at the Public Library about the bee colony collapse

Tim Seely, Town Board

The Joint Youth Commission

Meeting was 1/12/15 at the Human Services Building

Dale Schumacher and Ilana Polak from the Learning Web attended and presented a summary of the services and level of participation from 2014. They are thankful for the level of funding they received for 2015, but are still operating at reduced levels. They also reviewed the career and mentorship opportunities they are pursuing for this year.

Rich DePaolo did not attend the meeting, therefore we were unable to review the revised Bylaws. The revised Bylaws will be reviewed in February

The Commission discussed tracking of Program Manager hours and how much of those are spent with kids as compared to programing. Several Commission members are concerned with the low numbers of participants they have seen on recent program reports provided by the coordinators. This will be an ongoing discussion between the commission, the program managers and their supervisor.

Tompkins County Recreation Partnership

No report

Buildings and Grounds

Town Hall trees:

Soliciting for three bids to remove one tree and trim the remaining two. Will present these numbers at the February agenda meeting.

Councilperson Tim Seely report:

I have met with a resident who lives on Yaple Road to discuss several items they were concerned about. The first issue was the lack of access to broadband and the timing of when this may reach their area in the town. I explained that this was in process and should be complete by the end of 2015.

There bigger concern is the lack of cell service in many parts of the town and what we as a board can possibly do to improve this. This resident spends a lot of time in the woods doing potentially dangerous work and feels having cellular 911 access should be a top priority.

I would like to know from the supervisor if this has ever been looked into by the board in the past and if so the results.

John Fracchia, Town Board

Emergency Services

Volunteer Shortage Project:

- Interviewed by Ithaca Journal for article about potential loss of Slaterville Ambulance. Article ran on December 29, 2014.
- Developed new website for Slaterville Fire Department and Slaterville Ambulance to help them better brand for volunteer effort.

ES/Code Enforcement - Joint Areas of Concern:

- Discussed proposed protocols with Slaterville and Speedsville squads. No response from Brooktondale. There is not consensus on the necessity of protocols, but from town perspective we should likely move forward.

Other:

- Developing resolution for February meeting to urging Congress to put forth a 2015 version of H.R. 5811 Volunteer Emergency Responders Tax Deduction Act.
- Developing a resolution (February) to establish a Town of Caroline Emergency Services day, in May, between International Fire Fighters Day and EMS week, to thank those who serve our community and to honor milestone anniversaries in each of the squads.

Greater Tompkins County Municipal Health Insurance Consortium

- The Municipal Cooperation Agreement is due to be renewed every 5 years and we are at that point. I will be reviewing the document in advance of the February board meeting and bringing forth a resolution to either a) renew without changes, or b) bring proposed changes to the GTCMHIC board. The deadline to do so is March 1, 2015.

Wellness Committee

- No update

Emergency Preparedness

- No update

Irene Weiser, Town Board

Other Topics of Interest:

Dryden Pipeline - NYSEG will attend Town of Dryden Board Meeting Thurs 1/15 7pm to answer questions about proposed West Dryden Rd Pipeline – a 10 inch steel pipeline that they say is for gas distribution to residents and new subdivisions, but independent engineers say will provide enough gas for 35,000 – 55,000 homes – more than all homes in Tompkins Co. Many suspect the pipeline will be used to supply the Cayuga power plant with gas. Caroline, Dryden, Ulysses, and Town of Ithaca have passed resolutions opposing conversion of the plant to burn gas. The pipeline, if allowed, will derail the County's commitment to reducing greenhouse gas footprint.

Coalition for Sustainable Economic Development - I have been involved in forming the Coalition for Sustainable Economic Development, an alliance of environmental groups, social justice organizations, business leaders, labor representatives and elected officials united in recognition of the inextricable connection between economic development, environmental protection and social justice.

CSED advocates for public policies, including tax abatements as incentives for business, that protect the ecosystem as well as the people who live and work here; policies that enrich the community not just monetarily but also socially, and that are based on a recognition that all life is intertwined and inherently valuable.

We believe we can no longer pursue business as usual when it comes to economic development in our county. The problems we face as a community and society are significant: the planet's future health is endangered and fragile, economic inequality is worsening, racial and ethnic divisions are still being exploited, and the shared visions that bind us together as humans are threatened.

CSED members include:

Don Barber, Caroline Town Supervisor

Peter Bardaglio, Black Oak Wind Farm, Tompkins County Climate Protection Initiative

Stacy Black, IBEW Local 241

Jeremy Brotz, Carpenters Local 277

Brian Eden, Tompkins County Environmental Management Council

Kirby Edmonds, Building Bridges Initiative

Lesley Finch, UAW Local

Jeff Furman, Community leader

Jaimi Hendrix, Community leader

Sara Hess, Community leader

Dan Hoffman, Community leader

Pete Myers, Tompkins County Workers' Center

Gay Nicholson, Sustainable Tompkins Director of Programs

Brian Noteboom, Carpenters Local 277

Carolyn Peterson, Tompkins County Environmental Management Council

Kathy Russell, Tompkins County Workers' Center

Chuck Smith, Carpenters Local 277

Irene Weiser, Caroline Town Council

Marcus Williamee, UA Local 267

Mark Witmer, Town Board

Report last week

Dan Klein, County Representative

Absent

Town Business

Health Insurance: the board discussed Health Insurance and the cost if it was offered to the Town Supervisor. Code Officer and Court Clerk. The discussion involved fulltime employees , elected and appointed officials and what percentage the employee should contribute. This included the Town Clerk.

Fund Transfers

Resolution 48 of 2015

Motion made by Don Barber and seconded by Tim Seely

Be It Resolved the Caroline Town Board makes the following 2015 Fund Transfers

\$ 0.00 from General Fund Account A 1990.4 Contingency to General Fund Account A 1220.2 Supervisor EQ.

\$ 0.00 from Highway Fund Account DA 5112.1 Cap Imp PS to Highway Fund Account DA 5130.11 Machinery PS OT

Be It Further Resolved that the Caroline Town Board makes the following Budget

Amendment: Increase Highway Unappropriated Fund Balance Line DA599 by \$63,000 and Decrease Highway Appropriation Line DA 5110.4 Repairs CE by \$63,000

Adopted Barber: Aye; Fracchia: Aye; Witmer: Aye; Weiser: Aye Seely: Aye

Approval of Abstracts

**Resolution 49 of 2015
Streetlight Fund Abstract**

A motion was made by Mr. Barber and seconded by Mr. Seely to approve payment for the Streetlight Fund voucher number 1 and 2 for \$594.68.

Adopted Barber: Aye; Fracchia: Aye; Witmer: Aye; Weiser: Aye Seely: Aye

**Resolution 50 of 2015
General Fund Abstract**

A motion was made by Mr. Barber and seconded by Mr. Wimer to approve payment for the General Fund voucher numbers 1 through 30 for \$89,777.95

Adopted Barber: Aye; Fracchia: Aye; Witmer: Aye; Weiser: Aye Seely: Aye

**Resolution 51 of 2015
Highway Fund Abstract**

A motion was made by Mr. Witmer and seconded by Mr. Fracchia to approve payment for the Highway Fund voucher numbers 1 through 15 for \$157,930.40.

Adopted Barber: Aye; Fracchia: Aye; Witmer: Aye; Weiser: Aye Seely: Aye

**Resolution 52 of 2015
Fire protection District**

A motion was made by Mr. Barber and seconded by Mr. Fracchia to approve payment for the Fire Protection District voucher numbers 1 through 3 for \$75,425.00.

Adopted Barber: Aye; Fracchia: Aye; Witmer: Aye; Weiser: Aye Seely: Aye

Resolutions

Resolution 53 of 2015 (Replace Resolution #24)

Establishing Standard Work Day and Reporting and Pay Rates for Elected and Appointed Personnel

A motion was made by Mr. Barber and seconded by Mr. Fracchia

Resolved, the Town Board hereby establishes the following standard workdays, as required for determination of retirement benefits for Town Officials, and their annual salaries: **Participates in**

Position Name	Days/month	St'd workday	Term	Ends	Salary	Reporting System
Supervisor, Donald L. Barber,	20	6 hours	12/31/2015	\$ 17,682.00	ROA	
Town Justice, Harold Phoenix	4	6 hours	12/31/2017	\$ 10,855.00	ROA	
Town Justice, Susan Barr	4	6 hours	12/31/2017	\$ 10,855.00	ROA	
Highway Supt, Cindy Whittaker	20	8 hours	12/31/2015	\$ 57,084.00	ROA	
Town Clerk, Marilou Harrington-Lawson	20	6 hours	12/31/2015	\$ 31,535.00	ROA	
Kevin McMahon	20	6 hours	12/31/2015	\$ 41,732.00	ROA	

And Be It Further Resolved that, the Town shall require, for each position where the employee is part of the NYS Retirement System, a "Record of Activity" of actual time worked or, in the case where actual hour record is not required, the official holding the office shall submit to the Town Clerk a record of his or her activities for a period of three consecutive months at least once during their term of appointment.

Adopted Barber: Aye; Fracchia: Aye; Witmer: Aye; Weiser: Aye Seely: Aye

Resolution 54 of 2015

Organization Resolution to Honor Deceased Town Officials

A motion was made by Mr. Barber and seconded by Mr. Fracchia

RESOLVED that the flag of the United States located at the Town Hall shall be flown at half-staff for a period of 48 hours in memoriam beginning on the day immediately following notification.

Adopted Barber: Aye; Fracchia: Aye; Witmer: Aye; Weiser: Aye Seely: Aye

Resolution 55 of 2015

Tompkins Trust Company Bank Account

A motion was made by Mr. Barber and seconded by Tim Seely

RESOLVED The Caroline Town Board hereby authorizes Mark Witmer, Councilmember and Deputy Supervisor to be a signatory on the Tompkins Trust Company Supervisors account.

Adopted Barber: Aye; Fracchia: Aye; Witmer: Aye; Weiser: Aye Seely: Aye

Resolution 56 of 2015

Legal Services with Thaler and Thaler

A motion was made by Mr. Baber and seconded by Ms. Weiser

Resolved, that the Caroline Town Board authorizes the Town Supervisor to sign the Contract for Town legal services for 2015 with Thaler and Thaler.

Adopted Barber: Aye; Fracchia: Aye; Witmer: Aye; Weiser: Aye Seely: Aye

Resolution 57 of 2015

Storm Water Technical Assistance with TCSWCD

A motion was made by Mr. Barber and seconded by Mr. Fracchia

Resolved, that the Caroline Town Board authorizes the Town Supervisor to sign the Contract for Storm Water Erosion Technical Assistance with Tompkins County Soil and Water Conservation District for 2015.

Adopted Barber: Aye; Fracchia: Aye; Witmer: Aye; Weiser: Aye Seely: Aye

Resolution 58 of 2015

Speedsville Volunteer Fire Company

A motion was made by Mr. Barber and seconded by Mr. Fracchia

Resolved, that the Caroline Town Board authorizes the Town Supervisor to sign the Contract for Speedsville Volunteer Fire Company for 2015.

Adopted Barber: Aye; Fracchia: Aye; Witmer: Aye; Weiser: Aye Seely: Aye

Resolution 59 of 2015

Town of Harford

A motion was made by Mr. Barber and seconded by Mr. Seely

Resolved, that the Caroline Town Board authorizes the Town Supervisor to sign the Contract for

the Code Officer with the Town of Harford for 2015.

Adopted Barber: Aye; Fracchia: Aye; Witmer: Aye; Weiser: Aye Seely: Aye

Resolution 60 of 2015

Integrys

A motion was made by Mr. Barber and seconded by Mr. Fracchia

Resolved, that the Caroline Town Board authorizes the Town Supervisor to sign the Contract with Integrys for 5.1 cents for 3 years.

Adopted Barber: Aye; Fracchia: Aye; Witmer: Aye; Weiser: Aye Seely: Aye

Resolution 61 of 2015

Resolution Opposing Expansion of Natural Gas (LNG) Storage and Development of Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG) Storage in Underground Salt Caverns at Seneca Lake

A motion was made by Mr. Witmer and seconded Ms. Weiser

Resolution Opposing Expansion of Natural Gas (LNG) Storage and Development of Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG) Storage in Underground Salt Caverns at Seneca Lake

A motion was made by Mr. Witmer and seconded Ms. Weiser

Whereas, Crestwood Midstream Partners LP is planning to develop LPG and expand LNG storage near Seneca Lake at Reading, NY

Whereas, storage of hydrocarbons in salt caverns clearly poses unacceptable risks^{1,2}

Whereas, salt caverns in New York are unstable because of faults, earthquakes, and dissolution in groundwater^{3,4}

Whereas, persistent uncontrolled discharges of brine from LPG-storage salt caverns reveals their lack of integrity, posing risks to human safety and water quality⁵

Whereas, salt formations occur throughout New York State, including an active salt mine near Cayuga Lake in Lansing⁶

Whereas, industrialization of the Finger Lakes region from expansion of gas storage in salt caverns threatens the thriving agrarian livelihoods of our region and our vibrant tourism industry⁷

Whereas, New York State has banned horizontal high-volume hydraulic fracturing for natural gas and natural gas that would be stored in the salt caverns would come from HVHF operations in other parts of the country

Whereas, renewable energy technologies currently exist and are flourishing that can and must replace natural gas, LPG, and other fossil fuels in order to avert catastrophic climate disruption⁸

Therefore, be it Resolved that the Caroline Town Board opposes expansion of gas storage in salt caverns at Seneca Lake because of the threat to the welfare of Seneca Lake communities, and ultimately other Finger Lakes communities, and because buildout of gas storage infrastructure is an irresponsible course given the clear imperative of society to transition swiftly to renewable energy sources.

Be it further Resolved that this resolution be sent to Gas Free Seneca (P.O. Box 333, Watkins Glen, NY 14891; gasfreeseneca@gmail.com) indicating that the Town of Caroline is signatory to their petition opposing development of salt-cavern gas-storage at Seneca Lake (http://gasfreeseneca.com/?page_id=682).

Be it further Resolved that this resolution be sent to Commissioner Joseph Martens, New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, as well as U.S. Senators Charles Schumer and Kirstin Gillibrand, New York State Senator James Seward, New York State Assemblywoman Barbara Lifton, New York Governor Andrew Cuomo, President Barack Obama, Administrator Gina McCarthy, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, and Hon. Kathleen H. Burgess, Secretary, New York State Public Service Commission.

Sources

¹Between 1972 and 2004 all 10 catastrophic accidents at gas storage facilities in the U.S. occurred in association with underground salt caverns; salt caverns represented only 7% of the nation's 407 underground gas storage sites (Hopper, J.M. Gas storage and single-point failure risk. Natural Gas: www.documbase.com/Gas-Storage-And-Single-Point-Failure-Risk.pdf). Industry analysis and summary of gas storage methods and history of catastrophic failures at salt caverns in the U.S.

²An independent risk-assessment of gas storage at Seneca Lake has concluded that there would be > 50% chance of a moderate to extremely serious accident from LPG storage within the next 25 years (Mackenzie, D.R. 2014. Independent High-Level Quantitative Risk Analysis Schuyler County Liquid Petroleum Gas Storage Proposal (revised for amended transportation expectations).

³NYSDEC projects that gas-storage salt caverns will enlarge by 67% over 25 years

(www.dec.ny.gov/enb2006/20060419/Reg7.html).

4 A geological study found that a 400,000-ton chunk of cavern roof had fallen at Seneca Lake cavern (Jacoby, C.H., 1969, Storage of Hydrocarbons in Bedded Salt Deposits Formed by Hydraulic Fracturing, Proceedings of the Third Symposium on Salt, Cleveland, Ohio, 463-469.)

5 Similar to the situation at Seneca Lake, the nearby LPG gas storage facility at Harford Mills, NY has frequently exceeded its discharge limits for chlorides and total solids (Community Science Institute: <http://communityscience.org/wp-content/uploads/2012/08/Owego-Creek-Report-final.pdf>)

6 Edelstein, K. Salt mining and gas production: how are they related?: <http://www.fractracker.org/2011/02/salt-mining-and-gas-production-how-are-they-related/>. Concise summary of salt mining in New York State and the use of salt caverns for gas storage.

7 Farms maintain 30% of the land in Tompkins County and contribute \$100 million annually to our local economy, while tourism generates \$156 million annually (Tompkins County Council of Governments: www.tompkins-co.org/tccog/)

8 Jacobson, M.Z., et al. 2013. Examining the feasibility of converting New York State's all-purpose energy infrastructure to one using wind, water, and sunlight. Energy Policy 57: 585-601. <http://web.stanford.edu/group/efmh/jacobson/Articles/I/NewYorkWWSEnPolicy.pdf>. Analysis finds that New York State could transition entirely to renewables within the next 16 years using existing technologies.

Adopted Barber: Aye; Fracchia: Aye; Witmer: Aye; Weiser: Aye Seely: Aye

Resolution 62 of 2015 Living Wage Certification

A motion was made by Mr. Barber and seconded by Mr. Seely

Resolved, that the Caroline Town Board authorizes the Town Supervisor to submit Living Wage Certification.

Adopted Barber: Aye; Fracchia: Aye; Witmer: Aye; Weiser: Aye Seely: Aye

Resolution 63 of 2015

Association of Towns Bylaws resolution

A motion was made by Mr. Barber and seconded by Mr. Seely

Association of Towns Bylaws resolution

Whereas, Association of Towns member town have only five actions they can take: pay dues, attend Annual meeting and vote on Legislative agenda, budget, Officers, and amendments to Constitution and Bylaws, and

Whereas, the Constitution and Bylaws are adopted and owned by the member towns and

create the structure for accomplishing the stated Purpose, and

Whereas, prior to 2010 the 1993 bylaws had not been read or referred to by a member of the Executive Committee for at least a decade, and

Whereas, without reference to the bylaws AoT operations had strayed from the structure adopted by the members in 1993, and

Whereas, at the time of being made aware of the discrepancy between operations and by-laws (2010) the Executive Committee chose not to comply with the bylaws but did create a Bylaw Review Committee composed only of Executive Committee members, and

Whereas, the Executive Committee did not make AoT members aware of the discrepancy and did not ask for interested AoT members to assist in their revision, and

Whereas, the revised bylaws were “introduced”, as required by the current bylaws, at the 2012 Annual meeting without notice of the contents of the revision being made known to the membership, and

Whereas, the revised bylaws were moved for adoption at the 2013 Annual meeting but many questions were asked including the lack of an outside audit and the amended bylaws package was tabled for lack of information and deliberative discussion, and

Whereas, at the 2013 Annual meeting one member town delegate announced to the membership and duly brought forward 3 separate amendments to the bylaws for voting at 2014 Annual meeting, and

Whereas, at the November 2013 Executive Committee meeting a Bylaws Committee was formed; consisting of a majority of Executive Committee members, several Resolution Committee members, and the delegate who proposed amendments in 2013. The Bylaws Committee only met once (in February 2014 just prior to the 2014 Annual meeting), and

Whereas, the 2011 amended bylaws were not be considered at the 2014 Annual meeting and the three amendments were considered not relevant because they were amendments to the 2011 revision, and

Whereas, at the 2014 Annual meeting six delegates presented 21 amendments to the Bylaws, and

Whereas, the appointed 2013 bylaws committee met only once more (October 2014) to consider the full package amendments of 2011 and the 21 amendments of 2014 prior to the Resolutions recommendations that were mailed to members in December 2014, and

Whereas, the Caroline Town Board has the opinion based on the chronology above that a majority of the Executive Committee, the Executive Director, By-laws Committee, which was only met twice in sixteen months, have little concern that the Association of Towns conducts business that does not comply with the member adopted bylaws, and

Now Therefore Be It Resolved that the Caroline Town Board requests that the Association of

Towns staff, Executive Committee, and all other Association of Town Committees conducted business in accordance with the member current adopted bylaws of 1993 without exception.

Adopted Barber: Aye; Fracchia: Aye; Witmer: Aye; Weiser: Aye Seely: Aye

Resolution 64 of 2015

Amendments to Proposed Association of Towns Resolutions 2015 Legislative Program package:

A motion was made by Mr. Barber and seconded by Mr. Seely

1. Resolution No. 1 Property Tax Cap

a. Add a new, first, "RESOLVED, that the tax cap program not be renewed beyond June 25, 2016"

b. Change the (now) second RESOLVED to read "If the tax cap continues reforms will need to be made, such as but not limited to..." The phrase, "that in order to make the property tax cap work for all New Yorkers" is eliminated.

c. Add a new bullet under the (now) second RESOLVED to read "Tax cap be considered on its own merits, separate from residential rent in New York City or other unrelated matters"

Adopted Barber: Aye; Fracchia: Aye; Witmer: Aye; Weiser: Aye Seely: Aye

Resolution 65 of 2015

A motion was made by Don Barber and seconded by John Fracchia

Amendments to Proposed Association of Towns Resolution No. 1 Property Tax Cap of the 2015 Legislative Program package:

1. a. Add a new, first, "RESOLVED, that the tax cap program not be renewed beyond June 25, 2016"

b. Change the (now) second RESOLVED to read "If the tax cap continues reforms will need to be made, such as but not limited to..." The phrase, "that in order to make the property tax cap work for all New Yorkers" is eliminated.

c. Add a new bullet under the (now) second RESOLVED to read "Tax cap be considered on its own merits, separate from residential rent in New York City or other unrelated matters"

The new resolution reads as follows:

Whereas, New York State enacted a temporary tax cap program, which is scheduled to sunset on June 15, 2016 unless the state extends legislation regulating residential rent in New York city, which is scheduled to sunset on June 15, 2015; and

Whereas, towns responsibly manage their finances, with the majority of towns levying at or below the allowable levy limit annually despite limited revenue sources, stagnant state/federal aid and increasing expenses; and

Whereas, New York State governs the manner in which towns raise revenue; and

Whereas, New York State has primarily provided real property tax relief through ad hoc property tax exemptions rather than comprehensive property tax reform, resulting in tax shift rather than a tax reduction, as well as additional administrative and litigation costs; **NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the tax cap program not be renewed beyond June 25, 2016;**

and be it further RESOLVED, If the tax cap continues, reforms will need to be made, such as but not limited to:

- Tax cap be considered on its own merits, separate from residential rent in New York City or other unrelated matters;
- Exemptions for structured costs such as pension contributions, health insurance, debt service and contract obligations – including but not limited to ambulance, fire and emergency services;
- Exemptions for costs associated with roads maintenance, repair, renovation and snow removal, which are required to make our streets safe for travel and to grow and to grow our economy;
- Exemptions associated with capital projects and infrastructure improvements in utilities, transportation and communications, which are required to improve our quality of life and grow our economy;
- Exemptions for extraordinary expenses required to respond to public health emergencies, such as a pandemic;
- Amendments to the tax cap formula to address disincentives to offer PILOTs, and

- Amendments to the tax cap formula to address disincentives to consolidates services; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Association of Towns calls upon Governor and state legislature to fund and/or eliminate state mandates, provide meaningful state aid, reform the real property tax system and address cost drivers in the provision of local government services/operations in order to provide lower property taxes for all New Yorkers.

Adopted Barber: Aye; Fracchia: Aye; Witmer: Aye; Weiser: Aye Seely: Aye

Resolution 66 of 2015

A motion was made by Mr. Barber and seconded by Mr. Seely

2. Resolution No. 5 Strengthening NYS's Partnership with Local Governments

- a. Add these 3 whereas between the current 4th and 5th:

“Whereas, Section 54 of NYS Finance Law requires that NYS share 8% of its total income tax revenue with local governments, and

Whereas, every NYS budget since 1989, has not met this legal requirement, and

Whereas the 2014-2015 NYS budget shares less than 0.75% of its total income tax revenue with local governments; and”

And insert this language in the first resolved after “...the Governor and Legislature to”

“...Comply with Section 54 of NYS Finance Law and share 8% of income tax revenue with local governments,”

Adopted Barber: Aye; Fracchia: Aye; Witmer: Aye; Weiser: Aye Seely: Aye

----**Adjourn**----

Adjourned on a motion by Mr. Barber and seconded Mr. Fracchia at **9:07** p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Marilou Harrington-Lawson, Town Clerk