

## **Caroline Town Board Meeting Minutes of August 3, 2021**

The Town Board Agenda Meeting held on August 3, 2021, at the Caroline Town Hall and electronically via zoom teleconference was called to order at 7:03 p.m.

### **Attendance:**

Supervisor Mark Witmer  
Councilmember John Fracchia – via zoom  
Councilmember Tim Murray  
Councilmember Cal Snow  
Councilmember Katherine Goldberg - Absent

### **Recording Secretary:**

Jessica L. Townsend, Town Clerk

**Also Present:** 0 members of the public in-person; Barry Goodrich via zoom

Supervisor Witmer began the meeting by stated the masking and distancing requirements are in place for any of those attending the meetings in person, regardless of vaccination status. The Town Board set this policy with COVID precautions in mind, for all attendees, to avoid a potential stigma surrounding vaccination status.

Pledge of Allegiance was led by Supr. Witmer

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### **Privilege-of-the-Floor**

None

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### **Committee Reports**

**John Fracchia, Councilmember – JYC** - Bridget Nugent sent in the 2022 budget proposal. Noted that they are asking for a 2% increase, if possible. **Court** - Judge Barr has provided him with documents related to a Grant application that they will be submitted for security system. Those documents include a diagram of where they envision the cameras being set, and an itemized cost estimate for same. He will forward to the rest of the Board for their review. He anticipates offering a Resolution to support their Grant request at next week's business meeting. Clm. Murray believes that this process should have included the Supervisor since such application requires his signature. Supv. Witmer asked if the proposal included the possibility of integrating the current AV System that's there. Clm. Fracchia answered no, the monitoring is for the security of the building, more particularly, the front door, who's entering and exiting the building. Supv. also wants to understand how the electronic entry of the building will not interfere with the other town operations in that building. He suggested and encouraged the Justices to come speak with the Board, and Clm. Fracchia will pass that along to the Justices.

**Councilmember Snow – None**

**Councilmember Murray – Zoning Commission** – Met last Tuesday, July 27<sup>th</sup> and had discussions about 4 prototypes of zoning maps that were drafted by the Planner. Further discussions on those maps will continue at their next meeting on Tuesday, August 10<sup>th</sup>, in person at the Historic Town Hall and via zoom beginning at 7:30 p.m.

**Councilmember Goldberg – Absent**

**Supv. Witmer** – Has received a request from the Caroline History Club that the Town Board name the History Room after Barbara Kone, naming it the “Kone History Room”. Further discussion regarding that process.

Working with the Clerk to resume the Community Service Award. There was a plaque at the Town Hall that had a list of prior award receivers, and is now gone, Supv. Witmer and Clerk Townsend wish to restore said plaque and continue the service award. Town Clerk will continue to examine Minute Books and reach out to community members for more information on past recipients.

Town has received the first payment of ARPA Funds, approximately \$167,000. The second payment to come next year. The Board agrees that they should start discussions on how and when to allocate those funds. Supv. Witmer, like many others, agree that broadband is at the top of the list, but would like to see what comes of the broadband study and that should be completed within the next month or so. Clm. Murray recommended discussing other alternatives in case broadband can’t be attained.

Budget requests went out to department heads and committee liaisons last week. He hopes to begin having budget discussions early and plans to have a preliminary done by the end of this month.

Supv. Witmer and his assistant are currently working on the stair lift that will be installed for access to the History Room. He is researching the difference between a residential stair lift or a commercial grade lift and which one fits the Town’s need. He will also verify any needs from the insurance company.

Streetlights – Supv. has asked for an update from the installation company and has not been able to get a clear answer. He has told them they need to get some streetlights replaced if the installation is not happening soon. He had been told previously that the project would be completed by the end of August. Expressed his frustration and hopes to get a date soon.

Clm. Snow inquired about air filtration and whether an assessment is necessary for town buildings. Brief discussion on different systems that several Councilmembers have at home. They plan to compare notes and Clm. Snow will get the dimensions of the buildings and the pricing of the systems needed for each building. Further discussion to follow.

A recommendation was given to the Supv. regarding contacting the probation office and arranging to have a crew come paint the front deck of the Historic Town Hall. Clm. Snow has a contact and will get more information.

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### **Agenda items for August 11<sup>th</sup> Business Meeting**

Discussion on process for allocation of ARPA Funds  
Discussion on process for naming town buildings  
Resolution to support the Court grant application  
Resolution for Capital Planning Committee for Highway Dept.

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A motion made by Supervisor Witmer and seconded by Councilmember Murray to at 7:54 p.m.

**---Adjourn the meeting ---**

Respectfully Submitted,

Jessica L. Townsend, Town Clerk