

## **Caroline Town Board Agenda Meeting Minutes of September 4, 2012**

The Town Board Agenda Meeting held on September 4, 2012 at the Historic Town Hall was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Supervisor Donald Barber.

### **Attendance:**

Donald Barber, Supervisor  
Dominic Frongillo, Councilmember  
Linda Adams, Councilmember  
Aaron Snow, Councilmember  
Irene Weiser, Councilmember

### **Recording**

**Secretary:** Christine M. Wilbur, Deputy Town Clerk

**Also present:** 3 Members of the Public

At 7 PM Supervisor Barber opened the meeting and led the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

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### **Privilege of the Floor**

Nellie Farnam – spoke in favor of using a \$1,300 Stewardship Reserve Fund to support the Likens conservation easement that will ensure that approximately 250 acres in the Town of Caroline will be permanently protected – a significant natural resource, and that this action is supported by the Comprehensive Plan.

Supervisor Barber read the resolution that was adopted (Stewardship Reserve Fund Establishment) and believes that this use is in compliance with the original resolution.

Ms. Farnam also requested that the Board view a demonstration project for a solar park (request for an agenda item). Supervisor Barber indicated this item should be brought to the Energy Committee and that group could request a presentation to the Board.

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### **Reports**

#### **Don Barber, Supervisor:**

##### **Agenda items:**

- Town Barns and support of new facility development;
- Compromise for gas development (Ms. Adams' presentation)
  
- Discussion of the Stewardship Reserve Fund – the Board agrees this is a good use of the funds and discussed when the appropriate time would be to let the County know (since the County has not yet voted on their piece).
  
- Frontier has offered a deal on phone service, which could save about \$40/month. Mr. Snow and Ms. Weiser will look at the history of current phone costs and report back possibly in October.
  
- Public hearing about Environmental Assessment Form – prior to next week's business meeting;
- Declaration of Significance – requirement prior to any vote on the ban – a negative finding;
- Vote on ban will be on agenda – can be postponed if enough information is received that requires further consideration;

- After discussion of possible high attendance at the business meeting next week due to the possible vote on the ban, the Board decided to hold the meeting at the regular location of the Historic Town Hall;
- After discussion of 2013 budget work sessions, Supervisor Barber made a motion to hold work sessions at the Agenda Meeting on October 2<sup>nd</sup>, the Business Meeting on October 9<sup>th</sup>, as well as October 10<sup>th</sup> and October 24<sup>th</sup>. Seconded by Ms. Adams. Carried unanimously.

**Linda Adams, Town Board:**

- Ms. Adams met with Cindy & Scott Whittaker last week to start talking about a new highway facility - building or complex in general. Checking with other townships that have similar budgets and new facilities is one way to network to get ideas and see what our capability might be. The idea of looking at alternate sites was discussed – the current site is between two tributaries, and the town also owns property on Perkins Rd. Ms. Adams will prepare information and possible resolution for consideration at next week's meeting regarding the Board and Town's commitments regarding a new facility and strategies involved in the planning process. She spoke of the timing for this commitment in that it's the most inexpensive time in 20 years to borrow money. This item has been on the radar for the past 6 town boards and she feels it is time to bring it forward. Our highway department maintains 70 miles of town roads, and 33 miles of county roads.

Supervisor Barber indicated the site on Perkins Rd. is an interesting idea; it is the site of the current gravel pit and we would need to find a site for another gravel pit. He also reported that the BAN on the Town Hall annex will be paid off next year and after that there would be roughly \$70,000 to begin with; also the County would love to have a satellite location - which would make for a more interesting and fruitful arrangement in the future.

- Ms. Adams next reported on 3 compromise proposals that she has researched in regard to the gas ban. She distributed written reports. (See attachment to the minutes). She would like the board to consider and discuss the proposals prior to a potential vote on ban next week – looking for a balanced approach. Some of the information is new and new information is received every day; many sources involved with this; the concept of establishing a special improvement district; a local development corporation (LDC); there is a possibility of marrying an economic development concept with an LDC – she explained how that option could be incorporated. Another option is if Speedsville created a village – various criteria that is well mapped out that has been done in other areas of the State. Please read and have opportunity to have an agenda item next week to discuss.

Ms. Weiser asked for clarification on a couple of the items and about legal advice. The Town Attorney was copied on the e-mail but not involved in development of the ideas. Ms. Weiser does not feel she could be conversant by next week and asked if the discussion could happen in October. Ms. Adams requests the discussion happen before the vote.

Mr. Snow asked if the alternatives could be put in place after the ban is passed. Any situation can be considered by the Board at any time regardless of the outcome of the vote.

Mr. Frongillo asked for more clarification on the alternatives suggested.

**Aaron Snow, Town Board:**

- Spoke favorably about a new highway facility as reported by Ms. Adams earlier in the meeting;
- Fresh gravel on Speed Hill Rd. & Valley Rd.
- Rec. Partnership – meeting next week
- Youth Commission will meet Sept. 12 – Mr. Barber suggested to reach out to the community to get ideas – maybe put back under the Community Center umbrella – finding a process to move forward – probably will not be finalized by budget time – need to get more people involved.
- Overweight trucks on White Church Rd. – meet with the Sheriff to discuss options.

**Dominic Frongillo, Town Board:**

- Planning Board going through site plan review – 24 different action items
- Energy Independent Caroline and Get your Green Back Presentation – started in Caroline – described the program; Climate Smart Communities – what are goals, possible projects – a goals retreat being planned
- TCOG – Cable sub-committee looking for reps. The group had an initial discussion of a shared maintenance facility for highway departments. A Medication Safe Disposal Event is planned for Sept. 29<sup>th</sup> – 10 AM to 2 PM at the Slaterville Fire Station.

**Irene Weiser, Town Board:**

- Watershed Committee – work on Boice Creek is almost complete; work on Old 600 Rd. is done or almost done; well under way to see work on 6 Mile Creek/Banks Road remediation –reviewed map; Mr. Barber reported on funding for this FEMA approved project – more than enough money but the funds have not yet been received and the contractor wants to be paid. He discussed the complex arrangements being made to cover costs and thinks we should not be committing any funds that we do not have already for this project. We have made it clear that we are not paying if funding is not secured.
- Aquifer Protection Committee – met last month – this month (tomorrow) meets – principals of aquifer protection and things appropriate to do here. Reviewing laws of other towns.
- CIT – no meeting; will meet Thurs. – budget work;
- Emerg. Preparedness – later this month – County resuming discussion on Haz. Mit. Sept. 24; there will be a meeting this Thurs. in Binghamton to talk about various policy approaches to watershed and aquifer management;
- The S&W group is organizing a green infrastructure tour in the County to mitigate water runoff i.e. permeable sidewalks rain barrels, water gardens, etc. – any board member and others can attend. September 13<sup>th</sup> – meet at 4 PM at DeWitt MS – 2 hr. driving tour – carpool.
- Security issues – continuing to look at – will discuss at budget meeting.

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**Approval of Minutes**
**Resolution 137 of 2012: Minutes of Agenda Meeting held August 7, 2012:**

A motion was made by Mr.Frongillo and seconded by Mr. Snow to accept the minutes of the August 7, 2012 meeting as submitted by the Deputy Clerk.

Some minor clarifications were made by Supervisor Barber.

**Adopted:** Barber: Aye; Frongillo: Aye; Adams: Aye; Snow: Aye; Weiser: Aye

**Resolution 138 of 2012: Minutes of Business Meeting held August 14, 2012:**

A motion was made by Mr. Barber and seconded by Mr. Frongillo to accept the minutes of the August 14, 2012 meeting as submitted by the Town Clerk.

**Adopted:** Barber: Aye; Frongillo: Aye; Adams: Aye; Snow: Aye; Weiser: Aye

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**Adjourn**

On a motion by Mr. Barber and seconded by Mr. Frongillo, the meeting adjourned at 8:30 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

Christine M. Wilbur, Deputy Clerk