

Caroline Town Board Agenda Meeting, August 7, 2012 – Minutes

The Town Board Agenda Meeting held at the Caroline Town Hall was called to order at 7:00 PM by Supervisor Don Barber.

ATTENDANCE: Don Barber, Supervisor
Dominic Frongillo, Councilmember
Linda Adams, Councilmember
Aaron Snow, Councilmember
Irene Weiser, Councilmember

Recording

Secretary: Rachel Brown, Deputy Town Clerk

At 7:00 PM, Supervisor Barber led the Pledge Allegiance to the Flag.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR:

Andy Zepp, Finger Lakes Land Trust came to discuss the Liken project on South Road. They are seeking support from Town of Caroline to obtain funding from Tompkins County's Capital Reserve Fund for Open Space. He provided brochures, newsletters, etc. on the Land Trust which has been in existence for 20+ years.

They are working with Liken family on a conservation easement for the 240 acre property which adjoins Shindagin Hollow State Forest and is close to Finger Lakes Trail on South Road. Currently there are no homes on property. Easement would allow for parcel to be split into two parcels. Each parcel would have allowance for one home. Agricultural use would be continued as well as timbering/forest management. Surface drilling for natural gas would be prohibited. Subsurface drilling can not be controlled. Easement would be binding for future owners. Tax incentives are given to owners in form of gifts/charity/income tax deduction as well as a NYS property tax credit of up to twenty five percent (25%). Currently 30 acres of the property are leased for agriculture; no structures are on property. Survey will be completed and paid for by property owners. Land Trust is seeking funding from County Capital Reserve Fund in amount of \$13,250. An additional \$13,250 will be matched through fundraising. No monies are paid to owners for easement. Funding is estimate needed for oversight/monitoring of property.

They are seeking endorsement from Town of Caroline to Tompkins County to obtain the funding. Time frame is September to initiate with Planning Advisory Board and sometime in the fall to present to County Legislature. Board will review materials and discuss further at next board meeting.

REPORTS:

Aaron Snow:

- Recreation Partnership will be meeting in September.

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- Youth Commission will be meeting with Don and Aaron to discuss the Brooktondale Community Center to redefine organization and roles. State funding which comes through County continues to decrease.
- Has met with Cindy and discussed recent thefts that have been occurring. Cindy is working with police. Patching and trimming work are being done.

Irene Weiser: See Ms. Weiser's written report attached to these minutes.

Rachel Brown from Court discussed plan to apply for Justice Court Assistance Program (JCAP) grant. Have applied and received funds through NYS for several years. Funds have allowed us to update courtroom with carpeting, painting, benches/pews, window treatments, etc. Plans are to request funds for shredding. Just finished NYS Archives Records Management Grant and have approximately 70 cubic feet of records approved for destruction. Additionally will include costs of security system, an amplified microphone system and thinking of some sort of air conditioning/cooling system. Grant requires board resolution. Timeframe is September.

Supervisor Barber's comments to Ms. Weiser's report: related to Watershed Committee report and speaking of Banks Road remediation.

DEC comments on permit due 8/16/12 – until comments received and reviewed, no guarantees will receive permit.

Funding is 75% from FEMA 25% from State – remediation work done – contractor is ready and contract signed by SWCD for Mitigation work – original PW mentioned specific plan to armor wall of stream – State requiring Town to apply for change in scope of work – has been six weeks since application – no progress has been made yet. They are attempting to move along and asking for assistance to make it happen.

A motion was made by Ms. Weiser to go into Executive Session to discuss security concerns; seconded by Mr. Snow. Carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Mr. Barber to end Executive Session. Seconded by Mr. Frongillo. Carried unanimously.

RESOLUTION 136 of 2012: Motion made by Mr. Barber:

“Resolution Classifying Action, Declaring Lead Agency, Identifying Involved and Interested Agencies, and Scheduling Public Hearing for input upon Town Board Environmental and SEQRA Review of Proposed Local Law to effect a Prohibition Within The Town of Caroline Of Natural Gas And Petroleum Exploration And Extraction Activities, The Underground Storage Of Natural Gas, And The Disposal Of Natural Gas Or Petroleum Extraction, Exploration, And Production Wastes.”

WHEREAS, pursuant to New York State Environmental Quality Review Act, the Town Board must conduct a SEQRA review for the action of adopting a land use regulation, must schedule a Public hearing to receive input on the significance of any environmental impacts of adopting such a local law, and upon

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due deliberation upon all of the foregoing determine whether or not this action will have significant environmental impact, now therefore be it

RESOLVED AND DETERMINED, that

1. This action is classified as an Unlisted Action pursuant to 6 NYCRR Part 617.4;
2. The Town Board of the Town of Caroline proposes to be the Lead Agency for coordinated environmental review, subject to consent or any requests regarding such coordinated review by any Involved or Interested Agency, as applicable;
3. The Interested Agency's are determined to be Tompkins County Planning Department, Towns of: Ithaca, Danby, Candor, Richford, Dryden, Tioga County, NYS Department of Environmental Conservation, and NYS Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation;

and it is further;

RESOLVED, that the Town Clerk issue a Notice of Intent to each and all of the following Interested Agencies, including therewith a copy of the proposed Local Law, the Environmental Assessment Short Form; and it is further

RESOLVED, that a public hearing to consider the environmental impacts of the proposed Local Law is hereby scheduled for the 11th day of September, 2012, at 7:00 P.M., at the Caroline Town Hall, 2670 Slaterville Road, Slaterville Springs, New York, and to thereat hear all persons interested in the subject thereof, and concerning the same, and to take such action thereon as is required or permitted by law; and it is further

RESOLVED, that the Town Clerk of the Town of Caroline, Tompkins County, New York, is hereby authorized and directed to cause a Notice of Public Hearing to be published and posted in accord with law.

Noted that this is the same process that was just done by the Sub-Division Review Board for the Boiceville Road Project

Seconded by Mr. Frongillo.

ADOPTED: Barber: Aye Adams: Nay Frongillo: Aye Snow: Aye Weiser: Aye

AGENDA FOR NEXT BOARD MEETING:

- Finger Lakes Land Trust Resolution
- Subdivision Review Board candidate – Mark Witmer – will appear next week for Question/Answer. Committee is currently working with only 3 members.
- Date change for November meeting
- Budget Discussion

CORRESPONDENCE FOLDER:

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Mr. Snow had a question on Speedsville Fire Department insurance binder – Mr. Barber indicated that we cover fire insurance company for workers' compensation; fire companies would incur an additional fee for obtaining their own separate policy for workers' comp.; Town and fire companies have agreements that any claims up to \$500 will be covered by fire company without submitting to workers' comp. Less claims will result in reduced costs.

Short Environmental Assessment Form is required for Public Hearing. DEC website contains background information; Ms. Weiser has prepared form with assistance for Resolution.

Don Barber:

Better Housing is applying for Rehabilitation Grant. He just became aware of this which needs immediate decision due to deadline. Town of Caroline has \$ 20,500 in a fund designated specifically for this use. Previously we provided grant monies to community members as part of a grant. Requirements of grant were that homeowners retain ownership of house for five years and lien would diminish. Funds we hold are from early sales of homes. Options for expending funds are to do something on our own; could combine with Better Housing or work with Tompkins Community Action. Administration of program isn't role town wants to assume on our own due to time commitments, etc. Low Income and energy savings measures were discussed as values. Discussion of limiting to energy efficiency/savings when other needs such as mobility might prevent ability to obtain grant. It was decided that Mr. Barber will write a letter to Better Housing offering to partner up with them and contributing our fund of \$20,500 and indicate that low income and energy conservation are values we have but that we would entrust them to make determinations.

Budget for 2013 will be forthcoming. Mr. Barber requests that everyone read the white section in *Association of Towns* magazine which just came out before next meeting. Mr. Barber will be sending out information to Department Heads/Boards – mid September will be date due. Mr. Barber then prepares a tentative budget for submission to Town Clerk by the end of September. The Clerk presents the Tentative Budget by October 1st. Will need to meet property tax cap. Public Hearing will be held the Thursday after Election Day. Work sessions will be conducted in September/October. If budget isn't approved the tentative budget becomes the final budget.

RESOLUTION 137 of 2012: Minutes of Agenda Meeting held on July 3, 2012:

A motion was made by Mr. Barber and seconded by Mr. Snow to accept the minutes as submitted by the Clerk.

ADOPTED: Barber: Aye; Frongillo: Aye; Adams: Aye; Snow: Aye; Weiser: Aye.

RESOLUTION 138 OF 2012: Minutes of Business Meeting held on July 10, 2012:

A motion was made by Mr. Barber and seconded by Mr. Frongillo to accept the minutes as submitted by the Clerk.

ADOPTED: Barber: Aye; Frongillo: Aye; Adams: Aye; Snow: Aye; Weiser: Aye.

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RESOLUTION 139 OF 2012: Minutes of Meeting held on July 23, 2012

A motion was made by Mr. Barber and seconded by Ms. Weiser to accept the minutes as submitted by the Clerk.

ADOPTED: Barber: Aye; Frongillo: Aye; Adams: Aye; Snow: Aye; Weiser: Aye. Adopted

Hearing no other business Mr. Barber made a motion to adjourn. Seconded by Mr. Frongillo. Carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 10:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Rachel Brown, Deputy Town Clerk