

## **Caroline Town Board Meeting Minutes of May 6, 2014**

The Town Board Business meeting held on May 6, 2014 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, Councilmember

### **Recording**

**Secretary:** Marilou Harrington-Lawson, Town Clerk

**Also present:** Eleven members of the public were in attendance.

Mr. Barber started the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

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## **Public Hearing**

### **The Public Hearing Opened at 7:02 p.m**

Slide show of Site Plan Review. Supervisor Barber gave a presentation of what the local Site Plan Review law is about.

A few people expressed being “leery” of the revisions to the Site Plan Review local law and spoke of their concerns and asked questions of the board. Pete Hoyt and Tony Tavelli asked if the law wouldn’t effect the average land owner or agriculture farming except (CAFOS and certain industrial and/or commercial type business depending on size, land use, hazardous waste, etc....) then why have the law in the first place? They questioned if there are certain standards one has to follow on a Federal or State level, why did the Town of Caroline have to be involved too? Frank Proto also asked questions about various sections of the law that he wanted clarification. Kathy Mix asked what fell under “Institutional” type businesses and did this effect Fire Departments, Churches and Schools? Cal Snow talked about economic development to the Town and said he was worried about whether the law should be kept simpler and with less Town involvement.

Supervisor Barber said that the role of the Site Plan Review is to “review” and not “regulate”. That the law will set minimum thresholds for development that will require review. It is to help the Town grow in a safe and economical value.

Nelly Farnham and Bruce Murray spoke in favor of having the Town review various commercial or industrial sites that may have a community impact either positive or negative. That they saw the local law as more information gathering then stifling growth in the town.

Chad Novelli, Chair to the Site Plan review committee also spoke about the intention of the law and it was suggested and agreed upon with the Town Board that the section naming what kind of “Institution” fell under the law should be more clearly identified. (Referring back to Kathy Mix did it include not for profits like Fire Departments, Ambulance Companies. Churches, Schools.....)

Please note the proposed amended Site Plan Review Local law can be viewed online at [www.townofcaroline.org](http://www.townofcaroline.org) or at the Town Clerk’s office.

**The public hearing closed at 8:03p.m.**

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## **Reports**

**Cindy Whittaker, Highway Superintendent**

**Don Barber, Town Supervisor**

**Tim Seely, Town Board**

**Community Service Award**

The nomination period will be open until May 23<sup>rd</sup>.

The selection committee consists of Lezlie Kennedy, Sandy Schoenfeldt and Tim Seely.

We will be meeting on May 27, 2014 to select the recipients.

The awards will be given before the June 3<sup>rd</sup> board meeting.

**The Joint Youth Commission**

Meeting on April 8th, 2014

Program Report: Beth shared her report with the group. She is starting to do interviews with youth as well as starting some employment this spring.

- Beth is working in partnership with the Racker Centers to get a participant in the Youth Farm who has special needs.

- Met with youth to get group feedback on youth employment strategies for furthering their career path (past participants)

- 17 youth currently on the list for Spring and Summer employment (9 have returned applications)

- Working on building relationships with employment sites, year round relationships, Ithaca Youth Bureau

Youth Pottery Camp, NYSERDA Employment,

- Summer Training Opportunities: Professional Behaviors at work, Calling In, Payroll System, Build a youth

training for skills for success

- Youth Interest Forms are being collected right now

- Working on site development: Hoping to maintain sites and expand

Linda shared that it is National Volunteer Week and thanked the group for their work as volunteers

Linda also shared the first budget report for the year.

Community Power Point:

Commission members discussed advocating with their municipalities and attending local town and village board meetings to share the annual reports and discuss the importance of programming. Lorraine agreed to attend the Village of Lansing with Henriette which Henriette will set up. Allison will attend a Village of Cayuga Heights meeting which she will set up.

The powerpoint and style of presentation will be tweaked for each municipality.

We will need to discuss our attendance at a Caroline meeting with our Caroline Reps.

By-law Review:

The following changes were identified. Amie will update the bylaws and send to the boards for approval.

#### RESPONSIBILITIES

4. Reassess programming annually to assure that it is, in fact, meeting the needs for with it is originally designed.

11. Vitality checklist/board annual accountability

#### MEMBERSHIP

The Youth Commission shall be comprised of 10 voting members:

#### COMMITTEES:

Shall be constituted as needed by the Chair of the Commission

#### REPRESENTATION

The Town of Ithaca Board shall be represented by four members of the Youth Commission. Members shall be

appointed annually by the Town Board to a year term. One of the four members may be a representative from

the Village of Cayuga Heights.

#### MEETINGS/PROCEDURES

4. The Tompkins County Youth Services Department will provide If this the Youth Services Department is unable to provide support

Next Meeting on May 13, 2014

#### **Tompkins County Recreation Partnership**

No meeting in April

The next meeting will be June 24, 2014

### **Mark Witmer, Town Board**

**Planning Board.** April 10. Present: Chad Novelli, Ed Wurtz, Chris Payne, Lois Lounsbery, Bruce Murray. I missed this meeting.

*\*Site Plan Review Local Law* to Town Board. Discussion of moving forward with revision of Comprehensive Plan, including chairpersonship.

**Watershed Committee.** April 15, 7-9 pm Town Hall. Present: Jackie Cassiniti, Barry Goodrich, Carol Barra, Justine, me.

April 15, 3-4 pm Caroline Town Hall. Public Hearing on Old 600 stream project. Robin Alpaugh (Senior Project Manager for Southern Tier Regional Office of Empire State Development), lawyer, and stenographer held public hearing regarding Old 600 stream project. Barry, as field manager, provided information on status. No public comments were offered. Old 600 work was flood mitigation project from Hurricane Irene/Tropical Storm Lee. 13 K from ESD for project. Rest is from NRCS (58 K total?). Project is complete except for hydroseeding, slated for week after next.

*\*Stream Gauge Agreement* with USGS, 3-year contract needs renewal this year. Partners: USGS (1/3), TC Soil&Water, Caroline, Dryden, Ithaca (town/city?). USGS contact: Lyn Szabo. We support - steam gauge data critical. Need to confirm with other towns and execute agreement. Update of 5 May: Lyn Szabo forwarded new contract agreement. Need previous agreement and to contact Dryden and City of Ithaca, re. their commitment.

**Energy Independent Caroline.** April 21, 7-9 pm, Comstock/Kobler residence. Present: Jonathan Comstock, Mary Alyce Kobler, Cyrus Umrigar, me. Planning for Caroline local effort for Solar Tompkins 2014. Solar Tours: Mary Alyce will contact Pat Brehl re. Brooktondale Community Center for one workshop. Mark will make contact at Speedsville Community Center for other date.

### **John Fracchia, Town Board**

#### Emergency Services

- Question from Doug Keefe of Speedsville Fire Department regarding whether an occupant can re-occupy premises after a fire prior to the building inspector conducting a review. Wrote to NYS Department of State, Division of Building Standards and Codes for information on code enforcement laws. Section 110.1 addresses the issue as follows, "110.1 Fire department notification. The fire chief shall notify the code enforcement official of any fire or explosion involving any structural damage, fuel-burning appliance, chimney, flue or gas vent," but does not specify the timing for such notification. Will research local laws and speak with Code Enforcement Officer.

- Question from Doug Keefe (Speedsville Fire Department) re; private Hare Scramble (Dirt Bike Racing) event and role of EMS given the large number participants (possibly in excess of 1,000 individuals). No local law or permitting process exists to address this issue. Am currently researching to see what other towns are doing in this area. Thus far, most permitting laws seem to address the use of

public property.

#### Emergency Preparedness

- No Report

#### Additional Projects

##### HOME Rehabilitation Grants

- Update from Christine Carreiro, re; HOME Rehabilitation grants. Received another applicant from Caroline, but did not qualify because they don't meet the program requirement of carrying homeowners insurance. Still trying to find someone, but there is another year left on the grant. Will do outreach to Old Mill and churches to see if they can spread the word.

##### Beautification Grant

- Have not received follow-up information from Chrys Gardener and have followed-up to find out about the status of the site drawings.

##### CIT Committee

- Wrote the draft for the Legacy Foundation Grant in the amount of \$20,000 and shared with Supervisor Barber and Councilmember Weiser for their input. Contacted Mr. Scott Russell of the Legacy Foundation to discuss our application and learned that the application was now an online process. The grant was completed and submitted in advance of the application deadline.

### **Irene Weiser, Town Board**

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#### **Town Business**

The Town Board discussed the Site Plan Review Local Law- What is an institution? What type of company falls under an institution? Agriculture businesses already "in business" fall under the "grandfather clause" and are not affected by the Site Plan Review local law.

Blue Wing Engineer- There is billing issue pertaining to what was discussed as available in the budget verses what the company is charging for work done. There is a difference of about \$4,000. The budget was for \$10,000 with Councilmember Weiser speaking with Blue Wing about charges extending to \$11,000 and the actual bill being close to \$15,000. The board talked about how to address the charges and what information might or might not be gained from the work that was done. (Would it address the 2 relay poles that Chuck Bartosh is saying is needed for uninterrupted broadband on a section of Coddington Rd? Are the 2 relay poles redundant according to information provided by Blue Wing?)

Collective Bargaining Unit – The board discussed the agreement plan for the Town Highway Department wages. The suggested contract for the Town to consider-There will be (what is equivalent to) 15% (capped) of the Health Care premium charged to each employee (2014-12/31/2016) and the employees will receive a raise for about the same amount. There would also be a \$.25 -\$.30 per hour wage increase on top of the raise. A contract would need to be signed by the Town Supervisor as agreed upon by the Town Board.

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#### **Resolutions**

### Collective Bargaining Unit-Highway Department Teamsters Contract

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

Resolved, the Caroline Town Board hereby accepts the changes to the Collective Bargaining Unit-Highway Department Teamsters Contract as presented at the Town Board meeting

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

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### Approval of Minutes

#### Resolution 103 of 2014

##### Minutes of the Agenda Meeting held April 1, 2014:

A motion was made by Mr. Barber and seconded Mr. Seely to accept the minutes of the April 1, 2014 meeting as submitted by the Town Clerk.

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

#### Resolution 104 of 2014

##### Minutes of the Agenda Meeting held April 9, 2014:

A motion was made by Mr. Barber and seconded Mr. Witmer to accept the minutes of the April 9, 2014 meeting as submitted by the Town Clerk.

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

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### Town Business

#### ---Adjourn---

Adjourned on a motion by Mr. Barber and seconded by Mr. Seely the meeting adjourned at 9:50 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Marilou Harrington-Lawson, Town Clerk