**Caroline Town Board Meeting Minutes of June 22, 2023**

The Town Board Business Meeting was held hybrid at the Caroline Town Hall on June 22, 2023, and was called to order at 7:02 p.m. by Supr. Witmer

**Attendance**:

Supervisor Mark Witmer

Councilmember Cal Snow

Councilmember Tim Murray

Councilmember Kate Kelley-Mackenzie

**Recording Secretary**:

Jessie Townsend, Town Clerk

**Public Present:**  16 **Zoom**: 7

Supr. Witmer opened the meeting with Pledge to the Flag.

He then recommended that people read pages 14-17 of the Final Report from the Zoning Commission. This helps connect the goals of the Comprehensive Plan to the aspects of zoning. Also, the Reader’s Guide (pages 19-27) describes each Article of the proposed law and what it does.

## Privilege-of-the-Floor

*RC Quick –* Read former Clm. Katherine Goldberg’s resignation letter.

*Matt Mix –* Shared concern regarding town ditches being recognized as intermittent streams and also the water overlay buffers. Would like to hear more dialogue on each section before making final decisions.

*Holly Magee –* Inquired about a Complaint filed against Supr. Witmer. Supr. gave no comment.

*John Morse* – Shared concern regarding internal issues between town officials and other town staff.

*Bill Podulka –* Concerned that there is a lot of misunderstanding about the law. Agreed that the reader’s guide helps explain the law. The Uses and Dimension requirements in Districts can be tailored to fit different neighborhoods in town. Supports the Commission’s recommended dimensions in the draft law.

Supr. Witmer responded to Mr. Mix’s comment stating that the law is a work in progress and the water overlay is still being considered.

*Nelson Mix* – had a question concerning Section 6.3 under B.1 and Supr. Witmer clarified it is in connection to Trademark Architecture.

Ms. Kelley-Mackenzie – Noted that Tompkins Weekly offered an apology for publishing Ms. Goldberg’s resignation letter without her knowledge. Found it inappropriate that a letter, public record or not, be read/published without the writer’s knowledge.

## Committee Reports

**Supr. Mark Witmer** – Supr. Witmer provided the following:

* Code Officer Babson and I attended round table discussion for countywide code enforcement study with other county municipalities on May 31. LaBerge will be synthesizing the information and providing a list of priority recommendations.
* Second 2023 town newsletter was mailed with a short broadband survey for our broadband feasibility study with Hunt Engineering. The survey is also on the town website. Please conduct your own speed test and complete the survey either online or on paper!
* Attended Shared Services meeting on 30 May. Mr. Stitley from T.C. Dept. of Emergency Response put forward countywide EMS support proposal as a suggestion for a shared services proposal to NYS.
* Submitted final invoicing to NYSERDA for Brighten Up Caroline: LED streetlights, community LED distribution, LED lights in fire halls.
* Held Informational Meeting on Feasibility Study for Thermal Energy Network in Speedsville at the Speedsville Community Center on June 19th. Egg Geothermal presented information and answered questions. About 25 people attended.
* Watershed Committee met on June 13th. Discussed riparian buffers. There was support for making buffers as simple as possible. Watershed Committee meetings have been changed to the second Wednesday of the month at 4 pm. Next meeting will be Tuesday, July 11, at 4 pm via town Zoom.

**Town Clerk, Jessie Townsend** – Summer Hours (Jun. 1 – Sept. 1) are Mondays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays from 8AM to 2PM.

**Clm. Kate Kelley-Mackenzie –** Continues meeting with County Municipalities on Safe Street for All grant and on broadband funding opportunities.

**Clm. Snow –** Grant submission for the Historic Town Hall project deadline is July 28th.

## Discussion of Proposed Zoning Law

Continued discussion on the Uses and Dimensions (page 45) beginning at Industrial Use, Light.

Motion 1 -TM 2nd MW – Change Use School, Private from X to SPR

By: Witmer – 2nd: Murray - PASSED

The Board read through the remaining Uses and decided to pause further review until after they evaluate Dimensions. Discussed Table 2. Schedule of Area and Dimensions. Gathered questions for the Zoning Planner. Upon recommendation by Supr. Witmer, the Board will consider eliminating the Caroline Hamlet and having it part of the Ag/Rural District.

**Resolution 92 of 2023. Reschedule July Agenda Meeting**

Motion by: Witmer Second: Snow

Resolved, after consideration of the July 4th holiday, the Caroline Town Board hereby sets the July Agenda Meeting for Thursday, July 6th beginning at 7:00PM

**Motion carried.**

**Ayes: Witmer, Snow, Murray, Kelley-Mackenzie**

**Nays: None**

## A motion to enter Executive Session to discuss personnel wages by Supr. Witmer and seconded by Clm. Kelley-Mackenzie at 8:53PM and ended at 9:15PM. A motion to exit Executive Session and adjourn the meeting was made by Supr. Witmer and seconded by Clm. Murray and carried unanimously at 9:16PM.

----**Meeting Adjourned----**

Respectfully Submitted,

Jessie Townsend, Town Clerk