

Caroline Town Board Business Meeting Minutes of April 10, 2019

The Town Board Business meeting held on April 10, 2019 at the Caroline Town Hall was called to order at 7:04 p.m. by Supervisor Mark Witmer.

Attendance: Mark Witmer, Supervisor
John Fracchia, Councilmember
Cal Snow, Councilmember
Tim Murray, Councilmember

Recording Secretary: Becky Jordan, Deputy Clerk

Also Present: 5 Members of the public

Supervisor Mark Witmer led the Pledge Allegiance to the Flag.

Privilege-of -the-Floor:

Mike Collins – Came on behalf of Kate & Archie (out of town), residence of Brooktondale Rd to try & get the town to enact a no parking on “the back street”. Summer time problems when people come from all over even out of town to swim at the mill. Tourist attraction has gotten progressively worse in the last 5 years. The big issue needing to be addressed is the 2nd dam. Mark replied that there has been discussion with Kate and the board regarding Imposing parking restriction.

Ellen Harrison – Beneficiary of Kate and Archie’s generosity for swimming in the Mill and here after becoming aware of the distress of Kate and Archie. Abuse of land (discarding trash), nighttime drinking, and noise from market patrons. It would be helpful to know a timeline for moving forward. Mark replied, awaiting town attorney response.

Additions or Deletions from Agenda - None

Mark Witmer, Town Supervisor – The Supervisor’s Report is as follows:

- Met with T.G Miller and NYSDEC at Ekroos Road/Boyer Creek to reassess Water Quality Improvement Project details. Awaiting reassessment and feedback from DEC.
- Watershed Committee, April 9: Caroline roadside/streamside cleanup planned for Saturday, April 27, 10 am – 12 noon. Participants should convene at either the Town Hall, Brooktondale Community Center, or Speedsville Store at 10 am for collection gear, route assignment, and instructions.
- Working with Mr. Greenhouse and Justices Barr and Reinbolt to move forward with geothermal project for Historic Town Hall.
- Working with Mr. Greenhouse on planning for envelope, insulation, and siding work for the Town Hall.

Brooke Greenhouse, Code Officer – None

Marilou Harrington-Lawson, Town Clerk – None

Cindy Whittaker, Highway Superintendent – shed at town barns that was a concern has been torn down, Buffalo Rd will be paved next month.

Committee Reports:

Irene Weiser, Councilmember – No updates

Tim Murray, Councilmember – No Updates

John Fracchia, Councilmember – Attended Joint Youth Commission meeting last night.

Cal Snow, Councilmember – No Updates

Dan Klein, County Representative Discussion and Action Topics

The County recently contributed \$15,000 towards the purchase by the Finger Lakes Land Trust of a 20-acre parcel on Flat Iron Rd. for the purpose of protection of the Owego Creek headwaters. There is a lot of detail available, including the environmental assessment form, starting on page 33 at <http://tompkinscountyny.igmp2.com/Citizens/FileOpen.aspx?Type=1&ID=3121&Inline=True>

The County will soon be updating the 2014 Multi-Jurisdictional All-Hazard Mitigation Plan. One item that will make this more than just a routine update is the drought we experienced in the summer of 2016. At that time, all 3 public water supplies in Tompkins County were dangerously low. Six-Mile Creek, the drinking supply for the City of Ithaca was in danger of getting too low to function. The update to this plan will put some extra attention on the water supply issue. I don't know if this has any particular implications for Caroline.

(Just for information's sake, the other water supplies are Fall Creek for Cornell and Bolton Point for several of the towns. Bolton Point was not actually "low" except that some of the plant was temporarily closed down during that drought. Also, no infrastructure exists to pump excess water from Bolton Point to the other water systems).

Age-Friendly Communities Update by Wil Lawrence:

Latest workshop schedule hand out

About half way toward her goal with surveys. Will continue to reach out. New York Health Act presentation to provide information to seniors with expanded benefits. Writing a policy statement on 5G due in May, the statewide organization of seniors in NYS..about 5G, the internet, impacts of the coming 5G implantation. Prompted by concerns among StateWide Senior Action Council Members about the effects of emf/radiation exposure on people. Electro magnetic spectrum. Possible health issue. 5 or 6 columns to appear in the Old Mill. Regarding internet access in Caroline.

Resolution 87 of 2019 General Fund Abstract

A motion was made by Mark Witmer and seconded by Tim Murray to approve payment for the General Fund voucher number 52 through 53, 71, 73, and 77 through 100 for \$27,201.74

With expectation of further clarification of charges for voucher 71 & 73

Adopted: Witmer: Aye; Fracchia: Aye; Weiser: Absent; Snow: Aye; Murray: Aye

Resolution 88 of 2019 Highway Fund Abstract

A motion was made by Mark Witmer and seconded by Cal Snow to approve payment for the Highway Fund voucher number 31 through 32 & 54 through 64 for \$37,741.82

Adopted: Witmer: Aye; Fracchia: Aye; Weiser: Absent; Snow: Aye; Murray: Aye

Resolution 89 of 2019 Streetlight Fund Abstract

A motion was made by Mark Witmer and seconded by John Fracchia to approve payment for the Streetlight Fund voucher number 5 through 6 for \$699.58

Adopted: Witmer: Aye; Fracchia: Aye; Weiser: Absent; Snow: Aye; Murray: Aye

Resolution 90 of 2019 Caroline Fire Protection Services Abstract

A motion was made by Mark Witmer and seconded by John Fracchia to approve payment for the Caroline Fire Protection Service voucher number 2 through 3 for \$75,893.00.

2019 Budget Amendment Resolutions

Resolution 91 of 2019

Resolved, the Caroline Town Board makes the following budget amendments for funds received for the Town Hall Bioretention Project:

\$6,000 Increase DA3061 State Aid – Town Hall Bioretention Feature

\$6,000 Increase DA5110.43 Bioretention Feature

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Motion made by Mr. Witmer and seconded by Councilmember Fracchia

Adopted: Witmer: Aye; Fracchia: Aye; Weiser: Absent; Snow: Aye; Murray: Aye

Resolution 92 of 2019 Budget Amendment

Resolved, the Caroline Town Board makes the following budget amendments for final payment from FEMA for Buffalo Road Creek Phase II:

\$177,828.62 Increase DA 3589 FEMA Grant

\$177,828.62 Increase DA5110.41 FEMA Grant

Motion made by Mr. Witmer and seconded by Councilmember Murray

Adopted: Witmer: Aye; Fracchia: Aye; Weiser: Absent; Snow: Aye; Murray: Aye

Resolution 93 of 2019 Transfer of funds to utilize Health Insurance Reserve Funds

The Caroline Town Board hereby agrees to utilize health insurance reserve funds from DA234 Health Insurance Reserve Fund to pay for Employee Health Care

Whereas, Reserve Fund DA234 was established to provide funds for health insurance costs to the town with highway employee retirements; and

Whereas, those anticipated retirements have occurred; therefore

Be it Resolved, the Caroline Town Board hereby authorizes the transfer of all funds from DA234 Health Insurance Reserve Fund (\$34,323.43 as of 3/31/19 Trial Balance) to Expenditure Account DA9060.8 Employee Benefits Medical Insurance for the purpose of paying Health Insurance for Town Employees. The establishment of the transfer becomes official upon completion of permissive referendum. This resolution is subject to permissive referendum pursuant to the Local Finance Law and Town Law Article 7, and the funds so identified will be so expended for such reason unless a petition signed by the required number of qualified electors of the Town of Caroline is received on or before 9:00 A.M. May 15, 2019, protesting such resolution and requesting a referendum thereupon.

Motion made by Mr. Witmer and seconded by Councilmember Fracchia

Adopted: Witmer: Aye; Fracchia: Aye; Weiser: Absent; Snow: Aye; Murray: Aye

Discussion:

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Old Business

Streetlights assessment. Possible removal of streetlight(s) on "the Back Street". Clean Energies Grant. LED replacement

New Business

Review of AUD & March Trial Balances

Received 2nd flag display application.

Resolution 94 of 2019 Approval the application to fly the Gay Pride/LGBT flag in the month of June

Motion made by Mr. Witmer and seconded by Councilmember Fracchia

Adopted: Witmer: Aye; Fracchia: Aye; Weiser: Absent; Snow: Aye; Murray: Aye

A motion to move to executive session at 8:13 PM to discuss personnel matters offered by Mr. Witmer and seconded by John Fracchia.

The meeting adjourned on a motion by Mark Witmer and seconded by Councilmember Murray at 9:30 p.m.

---Adjourn---

Respectfully Submitted,

Becky Jordan, Deputy Clerk