

Caroline Town Board Business Meeting of November 17, 2017

The Town Board Business meeting held on November 17, 2017 at the Caroline Town Hall was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Supervisor Mark Witmer.

Recording

Secretary: Marilou Harrington-Lawson, Town Clerk

Attendance:

Mark Witmer, Supervisor
John Fracchia, Councilmember
Irene Weiser, Councilmember
Gary Reinbolt, Councilmember
Calvin Snow, Councilmember

Also present: 2 members of the public attended the meeting; High School students for their Government class.

Privilege of the Floor

No members of the public spoke.

Agenda

Salute to the Flag (6:00)

Privilege-of-the-Floor: Opportunity for citizens to bring forward matters of concern

Please be prepared to make one statement not to exceed 3 minutes in length

Additions or Deletions from Agenda

Highway Superintendent's Report (6:10)

Supervisor's Report (6:20)

Town Clerk's Report (6:25)

County Representative's Report (6:30)

Department, Committee, & Liaison Updates (6:40)

Discussion and Action Topics

- Approve Abstracts (6:50)
- Review Minutes of August 1, August 9, September 5, and September 13 (6:55)
- Vote to Adopt 2018 Caroline Town Budget (7:10)
- Resolution to authorize the Supervisor to submit Clean Energy Communities grant application (7:20)
- Establish process to fill Councilmember Reinbolt's seat on the town board (7:30)
- Set Year-end and 2018 Organizational Meeting Dates (7:40)

- Discussion of AFLAC vendor proposal (7:50)

Reports

Cindy Whittaker, Highway Superintendent

Mark Witmer, Town Supervisor

Correspondence of Note:

- Note Cayuga Lake Watershed Network's Position Statement in support of full environmental review of Cargill Salt Mine modifications and expansion, acknowledging motivation from the Town of Caroline's resolution.
- Dog Control: Received letters of Nov 3 from NYS Ag & Markets reporting for the SPCA of Tompkins County "Unsatisfactory" ratings for Dog Officer Inspection Reports and the Municipal Shelter Inspection. Received email of Nov 11 from Jim Bouderau, Director of SPCA, explaining that deficiencies were immediately addressed.
- Code Office: October report filed. I created summary document for 2017 Code Office reports presented at Oct 30 Budget Work meeting and will continue to update that monthly. Kevin will be pulling together and providing us an inventory of the Safety Inspections that he manages on a multi-year schedule: Public Assembly (1-year), Businesses (2-yr), Multifamily (3-yr).
- NYMIR Coverage Summary proposed for 2018.
- EOPNY (Elected Officials to Protect NY): received and signed-on to letter urging PSC to lower fixed Delivery costs for electricity. New York's are very high, which does not encourage energy conservation and established financial hardship for lower income.

Supervisor's Notes:

- Ithaca Green Building Policy meeting convened by Nick Goldsmith, 10/20/17. Discussion centered on providing affordable housing development and employing bold building guidelines to meet GHG reduction goals. Nick mentioned that California has a net-zero building policy with a target of 2020.
- Attended TCAD Economic Development Collaborative meeting on 26 October. Martha Robertson presented a proposal for the establishment of a Housing Capital Reserve Fund to provide financial support for measures to support livable, affordable housing developments.
- Received 2018 NYMIR insurance policies from Bailey Place.
- EV Charging Station at town hall: Highway trenched and set concrete pier for the charging station. We will be adding gravel to new area planned for perpendicular parking along Midline Road, adding parking stops and signage for Park-n-Ride and EV Station. I propose we contact Chrys Gardener about developing a beautification grant to enhance and provide pervious walkway to Annex.
- Planning Board: The committee provided feedback on first drafts of revisions to Subdivision and Site Plan Laws.
- Energy Independent Caroline: Five meetings in October and November to develop Clean Energy Communities grant proposal. Current proposal: Assessment and LED Streetlight conversion for Caroline Streetlights, community contest/survey to facilitate energy and economic improvements. I have requested a one-month extension from NYSERDA to January 5th.
- Watershed Committee: Received final engineering plans for Buffalo Road Stream Stabilization II from T.G. Miller. DHSES quickly approved. NYSDEC and ACOE permit approvals expected soon. Once those are obtained, will proceed with bidding the project.

- Final numbers and deliberations for 2018 Caroline Town Budget

Dan Klein, County Representative - Absent

Marilou Harrington-Lawson, Town Clerk

The Town Clerk's office will be taking online payments for taxes starting in January 2018. The Clerk's office will also be taking credit and debit cards for payment of taxes, dog licenses, marriage licenses, code officer and hunting licenses.

Cal Snow, Town Board - No Report

Gary Reinbolt, Town Board - No Report

Irene Weiser, Town Board - No Report

John Fracchia, Town Board - No Report

Town Business

There was a board discussion of replacing LED lights in the Town of Caroline. Is there any street lights that do not need to be replaced (eliminated) or places where new street lights should be placed?

Councilmember Fracchia talked about offering LED household lights to the Town of Caroline community. He also had an idea to do a raffle where the prize would be an electric car.

The Town Supervisor Mark Witmer spoke about putting an ad for a new Councilmember on the Caroline Town Announcements and on the Town website. Applications would be available on the website and in the Town Clerk's office to apply for the remainder of Councilmember Gary Reinbolt's position on the Town Board. Councilmember Gary Reinbolt will be resigning his position as Town Councilmember as he has been elected as the new Town Justice starting January 1, 2018. Councilmember Gary Reinbolt will be replacing Town Justice Harold Phoenix who is retiring December 31, 2017.

Last Town Board meeting of 2017-The Board discussed a tentative time of 10:00 a.m. on Thursday, December 28th 2017 for the end of year meeting, The end of year meeting is to finish Town business of 2017; mainly to pay end of 2017 bills.

The Board discussed changing the 2 monthly Town Board meetings from the 1st Tuesday of the month and the 2nd Wednesday of the month. Councilmember Gary Reinbolt, when taking the position of Town Justice, would like to work with the local District Attorneys who said either a Tuesday or Thursday evening would be better than Monday nights (as it is currently) to conduct court. Councilmember Gary Reinbolt requested the Town board consider a change from the current Tuesday night Agenda meetings, as to preside over Court, Tuesdays would be more than Thursday nights. Councilmember John Fracchia couldn't be available Wednesday or Thursday nights in 2018. Councilmember Irene Weiser also had a problem with one of the evenings talked about. Mondays were considered, but the Town Clerk Marilou Harrington-Lawson, reminded the Town Board that many Federal Holidays, (Memorial Day, Labor Day, Columbus Day, Presidents Day, Martin Luther King Jr. Day, Veteran's Day, etc,) fall on Mondays so the meeting would have to change those weeks if they fell on the 1st Monday of the month. In 2018 January 1st falls on the first Monday of the month.

AFLAC- There was a discussion of AFLAC as the Town Clerk, Marilou Harrington-Lawson would like to advantage of the supplementary insurance and there is no cost to the Town but it

would be taken out of the employee's paycheck before taxes. There has been concern expressed by some Town Board members to make sure it was known the Town Board was not endorsing the insurance. There was also concern if other employees would like to take advantage of it, with Councilmember Irene Weiser expressing concern whether or not the insurance should be discussed during work hours, etc, as she felt tax payers shouldn't have to pay for the time to discuss supplemental insurance that the Town was not endorsing. It would take 3 employees to take advantage of the supplementary insurance (at their own cost) and Councilmember Gary Reinbolt said he thought it went a long way toward goodwill to offer it to employees. As he stated it does not cost the Town any money, the employees pay for it themselves. Councilmember John Fracchia, noted that AFLAC was offering a discount to municipalities until December 31, 2017. He requested that it possible that it would be brought to a vote before the end of December.

2018 Budget Amendments

A motion was made by Mark Witmer and seconded by John Fracchia

Resolution xx of 2017

Be It Resolved the Caroline Town Board makes the following changes to the 2018 Preliminary Budget:

Decrease A9040.8 Workers Comp by \$918
Decrease DA9040.8 Workers Comp by \$1,096
Decrease SF9040.8 Workers Comp by \$274

Adopted Witmer: Aye; Fracchia: Aye; Reinbolt: Aye; Weiser: Aye; Snow: Aye

Resolutions

Resolution xx of 2017

A motion was made by Mark Witmer and seconded by Cal Snow
Resolved, The Caroline Town Board hereby passes the 2018 budget as amended by Resolution #.

Adopted Witmer: Aye; Fracchia: Aye; Reinbolt: Aye; Weiser: Aye; Snow: Aye

Resolution xx of 2017

A motion was made by Mark Witmer and seconded by Gary Reinbolt

A tentative time and date for the "End of Year" meeting is set for 10:00 a.m. on Thursday, December 28th 2017 at the Historic Town Hall.

Adopted Witmer: Aye; Fracchia: Aye; Reinbolt: Aye; Weiser: Aye; Snow: Aye

Resolution xx of 2017

A motion was made by Mark Witmer and seconded by Irene Weiser

Resolved, the Caroline Town Board authorizes the Town Supervisor Mark Witmer to sign and submit the Clean Energy Communities grant application.

Adopted Witmer: Aye; Fracchia: Aye; Reinbolt: Aye; Weiser: Aye; Snow:

Approval of Abstracts

Resolution xx of 2017

Streetlight Fund Abstract

A motion was made by Mark Witmer and seconded by Gary Reinbolt to approve payment for the Streetlight Fund voucher number 21 through 22 for \$664.98

Adopted Witmer: Aye; Fracchia: Aye; Reinbolt: Aye; Weiser: Aye Snow: Aye

Resolution xx of 2017

General Fund Abstract

A motion was made by Mark Witmer and seconded by John Fracchia to approve payment for the General Fund voucher numbers 296 through 325 for \$12,305.92.

Adopted Witmer: Aye; Fracchia: Aye; Reinbolt: Aye; Weiser: Aye Snow: Aye

Resolution xx of 2017

Highway Fund Abstract

A motion was made by Mark Witmer and seconded by Irene Weiser to approve payment for the Highway Fund voucher numbers 179 through 199 for \$ 46,090.60.

Adopted Witmer: Aye; Fracchia: Aye; Reinbolt: Aye; Weiser: Aye Snow: Aye

Minutes

Resolution xx of 2017

Minutes of August 1, August 9, September 5 and September 13, 2017:

A motion was made by Gary Reinbolt and Cal Snow seconded to accept the minutes of the August 1, 2017 Agenda Meeting, as submitted by the Deputy Town Clerk Becky Jordan; the minutes of the August 9, 2017 Business Meeting, as submitted by the Town Clerk, Marilou Harrington-Lawson;

to accept the minutes of the September 5, 2017 Agenda Meeting, as submitted by the Deputy Town Clerk Becky Jordan and the minutes of the September 13, 2017 Business Meeting, as submitted by the Town Clerk, Marilou Harrington-Lawson. All the minutes were approved with minor corrections and changes.

Adopted Witmer: Aye; Fracchia: Aye; Reinbolt: Aye; Weiser: Aye Snow: Aye

Councilmember John Fracchia called for Executive Session to discuss personnel matters with the Town Clerk, Marilou Harrington-Lawson.

Executive Session ended at x:xx p.m.

----Adjourn----

The meeting adjourned on a motion by Mark Witmer and seconded by Councilmember xxxxxxxx at x:xx p.m.

John Fracchia

Respectfully Submitted,

Marilou Harrington-Lawson, Town Clerk