

PUBLIC HEARING AND TOWN BOARD BUSINESS MEETING

Wednesday, February 15, 2023, 7:00 pm

A Public Hearing to hear comments on a Town of Caroline Property Tax Exemptions Local Law will be held at 7:00 pm on February 15, 2023 at the Caroline Town Hall by Zoom videoconference. This Local Law restates, updates, and/or adds new property tax exemptions for the Town of Caroline, including Volunteer Firefighters and Ambulance Workers (RPTL §466-a), Capital Improvements to Residential Buildings (RPTL §421-f), Capital Improvements for the Disabled (RPTL §459-a), Veterans Exemptions (§458, §458-a, §458-b), Low-income Disability (RPTL §459-c), Low-income Seniors (RPTL §467), Living Quarters for Parent or Grandparent (RPTL §469), Green Building Exemption (RPTL §470), and Historic Barn Exemption (RPTL §483-b). The proposed Local Law is on the town's website (www.townofcaroline.org; see Feb 15 Agenda on Minutes Page, Documents tab, [HERE](#)).

Following the Public Hearing the Town Board will hold its February Business meeting. Members of the public may attend these meetings in-person or by Zoom. Masks are strongly advised. Comments may be provided at Privilege of the Floor during the meeting, by email (clerk@townofcaroline.org), or by mail (P.O. Box 136, Slaterville Springs, NY 14881). Minutes and video recordings will be posted on the [Town of Caroline website](#).

INSTRUCTIONS TO ATTEND THE ZOOM MEETING (<https://zoom.us>)

You do not need to have a Zoom account to join. Options 2 and 3 are easiest without an account. You may need the Meeting ID for any of these methods.

Direct: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/7142580644>

Meeting ID: 714 258 0644

One tap mobile: +19292056099,,7142580644#

Phone dial-in: +1 929 205 6099 US (New York)

*by phone press *6 to mute/unmute, *9 to raise hand*

PUBLIC HEARING

Public Hearing on Caroline Property Tax Exemption Local Law

BUSINESS MEETING

First Business:

- Resolution to adopt [Town of Caroline Property Tax Exemption Local Law](#)¹
- Resolution to contract with Global LED Solutions for LED conversion of Fire Station lights²

Reports:

Supervisor's Report, Town Clerk's Report, Code Officer's Report, Committee Updates

Continuing Business:

- Resolution of appreciation to Karyn Scott for her dedicated service as the Town's representative to the Tompkins County Recreational Partnership and Joint Youth Commission³

- Resolution authorizing Supervisor to sign Agreement with Tompkins County for Tompkins County Community Recovery Funds Award to Support Caroline Municipal Broadband Planning and Buildout⁴
- Discussion of proposed improvements to the Historic Town Hall for Historic Preservation Grant proposal
- Discussion of town Covid policy
- Resolution to approve vouchers for payment of town bills⁵
- Approval of minutes of January 18 and February 1

—————**Adjourn**—————

- Privilege-of-the-Floor is offered at the beginning of town meetings as an opportunity for individuals to provide input to the town board. Speakers have up to three minutes, subject to modification depending upon time constraints of a particular meeting. Each citizen is provided one speaking opportunity per meeting and unused time may not be transferred to another speaker. Written input is also welcome.
- Speakers agree not to speak about Town staff personnel matters. Personnel matter should be directed to the appropriate Supervisor or Department Head.
- Comments should be directed to the town board. The Supervisor or Councilpersons may answer questions brought forward or defer to allow for further research and thought.
- Respectful discourse is required.

¹Resolution ____ of 2023. Resolution Adopting the Town of Caroline Property Tax Exemptions Local Law

Whereas, on December 9, 2022, New York State adopted legislation allowing a property tax exemption for Volunteer Firefighters and Ambulance Workers; and

Whereas, the Caroline Town Board wishes to update the limit on the Low-income Senior & Disability Property Tax Exemption; and

Whereas, the Caroline Town Board wishes to provide additional property tax exemptions to support the town's goals; therefore be it

Resolved, having held a Public Hearing on the Town of Caroline Property Tax Exemption Local Law on February 15, 2023, the Caroline Town Board hereby adopts this local law.

²Resolution ____ of 2023. Resolution to Contract for LED Light Conversion at Caroline Fire Stations

Whereas, the Town received a NYSERDA grant for town-wide LED conversion (Brighten Up Caroline) that includes fire stations; and

Whereas, the Town has obtained two proposals for LED lighting conversion at the Slaterville and Brooktondale Fire Stations; and

Whereas, Global LED Solutions has provided the Town the lowest cost proposal of \$13,827.65; therefore be it

Resolved, the Caroline Town Board hereby authorizes the Supervisor to sign a contract with Global LED Solutions for LED lighting conversion at Slaterville and Brooktondale Fire Stations.

³Resolution ____ of 2023. Appreciation to Karyn Scott for Service on Town Youth Commissions

Whereas, Karyn Scott has ably served as the Town's representative to the Tompkins County Recreational Partnership and Joint Youth Commission for the past 6 years with commitment to youth programs; and

Whereas, Karyn is stepping down because of other commitments; therefore be it

Resolved, the Caroline Town Board extends its sincere appreciation to Karyn for superb service to the youth of Caroline.

⁴Resolution ____ of 2023. Resolution authorizing Supervisor to sign Agreement with Tompkins County for Tompkins County Community Recovery Funds Award to Support Caroline Municipal Broadband Planning and Buildout.

Whereas, the Town of Caroline was awarded a grant of \$132,333 for the Tompkins County Community Recovery Fund (Tompkins County ARPA funds) for development of a feasibility study and partial buildout of Dryden's municipal broadband project into Caroline; and

Whereas, provision of reliable internet access in all areas of Caroline is a well recognized need and identified as a priority in the American Rescue Plan; and

Whereas, the grant proposal for the feasibility study and partial buildout from Yellow Barn Road to Slaterville Springs is \$583,050; and

Whereas, this project will prepare the Town to apply for additional funding to complete a town-wide municipal broadband project; therefore be it

Resolved, the Caroline Town Board commits its ARPA funds totaling \$338,050 towards the municipal broadband feasibility study and partial buildout; and further be it

Resolved, the Caroline Town Board authorizes the Supervisor to sign the Agreement with Tompkins County for the Tompkins County Community Recovery Funds Award for this project.

⁵Resolution ____ of 2023. Approval of Vouchers for Payment of Town Bills

RESOLVED, the Caroline Town Board approves payment of vouchers for bills in the amounts of _____ for the General Fund, _____ for the Highway Fund, _____ for the Streetlight Fund, and _____ for the Fire District Fund.