

CAROLINE TOWN BOARD PUBLIC HEARING AND BUSINESS MEETING
Wednesday, April 14, 2021, 7 pm

Because of the COVID-19 Emergency and pursuant to Governor Cuomo's Executive Order suspending the in-person meeting requirement of Open Meetings Law, the April 14, 2021 (7 pm) Caroline Town Board Business Meeting will be held via Zoom teleconference. Members of the public may attend by following the instructions below. Meeting minutes will be posted on the [Town of Caroline website](#). Comments to the Board may be provided at Privilege of the Floor during the Zoom meeting, by email (clerk@townofcaroline.org), or by mail (P.O. Box 136, Slaterville Springs, NY 14881).

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

Direct Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86148710458>

Without a Zoom account: <https://zoom.us/join>; enter **Meeting ID: 861 4871 0458**

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

Find your local number (if not NY): <https://us04web.zoom.us/u/fmNjGEmu4>

By phone press *6 to mute/unmute, *9 to raise hand during meeting

Please note that WiFi at the Town Hall is open (not password protected) and can be accessed from the Town Hall parking lot

Business Meeting

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

Proposal for a Caroline Clean Heating & Cooling Campaign by Lisa Marshall (7:10)

Supervisor's Report

Town Clerk's Report

Highway Superintendent's Report

County Representative's Report

Department, Committee, & Liaison Updates

Discussion and Action Topics

- Resolution authorizing Town participation in HeatSmart Tompkins Clean Heating & Cooling Campaign¹
- Resolution in support of the *New York Health Act*² (see [Campaign for NY Health](#))
- Discussion of [Local Food and Self-governance Ordinance-Town of Brownfield, Maine](#)
- Review of [draft Town of Caroline Solar Energy Siting Law](#)
- Transfers
- Resolution to approve vouchers for payment of town bills³
- Approval of [minutes of April 6](#)

——Adjourn——

¹Resolution ____ of 2021. Authorizing Town of Caroline Clean Heating & Cooling Campaign to Lower Residents' Energy Costs.

Whereas, NYSERDA is currently offering generous incentives for low-to-moderate income households for insulation and air sealing, energy efficient heat pumps, and heat pump water heaters; and

Whereas, some incentives are time limited; and

Whereas, HeatSmart Tompkins is offering municipalities the opportunity to participate in a Campaign for Clean Heating and Cooling to provide information and coordinate resident sign-ups for these services; and

Whereas, the campaign offers residents free assessments for home energy improvements; and

Whereas, successful participation in this campaign will result in greater comfort and energy savings for participating households and potential grant funding for the Town; and

Whereas, the Town of Caroline wishes to partner with HeatSmart Tompkins on this campaign; and

Whereas, the Campaign will include a Clean Heating and Cooling Webinar in early May that will be open to all residents; and

Whereas, the Town of Caroline wishes to help residents lower their energy costs and obtain clean, comfortable year-round heating and cooling; therefore be it

Resolved, the Caroline Town Board hereby approves Town participation in the HeatSmart Tompkins Campaign for Clean Heating and Cooling from April 15th through July 31, 2021.

²Resolution ____ of 2021. In Support of the New York Health Act (A6058/S5474)

Whereas, after more than one year of the current global pandemic, it is clear that universal, guaranteed healthcare is not only sound public health policy, but a necessity for a just economic recovery that centers racial and economic justice; and

Whereas, the pandemic has revealed a healthcare system that is structurally flawed, leaving millions of people uninsured when they lost their jobs, with the impact especially severe for lower-income essential workers at higher risk, while private health insurance companies made record profits; and

Whereas, the current private health insurance system leaves many people uninsured; and

Whereas, the New York Health Act will guarantee coverage to every resident, providing the healthcare New Yorkers need, including vision, dental, hearing, reproductive health, substance use treatment, mental health and long-term care and support services, removing means-testing and financial barriers to healthcare; and

Whereas, according to a study by the RAND Corporation, the plan eliminates the wasteful spending and business practices of private health insurance companies, so that 90% of New Yorkers will pay less than they do now for healthcare, while the wealthiest New Yorkers will pay a little more; and

Whereas, the New York Health Act will guarantee that every resident and full-time worker is covered, regardless of immigration status; and

Whereas, the New York Health Act will benefit women by guaranteeing access to the comprehensive coverage, including maternity care and family planning services, while eliminating the financial burden associated with care; and

Whereas, those who are currently on Medicare will see increased benefits with the NY Health plan because it will cover benefits that Medicare currently does not (vision, dental, hearing, long-term care and support services), while lowering costs for seniors because of the progressive financing structure and the elimination of out-of-pocket costs; and

Whereas, the New York Health Act will eliminate the burdensome paperwork and complexity associated with billing, allowing doctors and nurses to focus on health care, not administration of insurance; and

Whereas, New York can guarantee healthcare to all residents through a state-funded program like the NY Health Act, regardless of the status of the Affordable Care Act or federal waivers; therefore be it

Resolved, the Caroline Town Board enthusiastically supports the passage of the New York Health Act; and

Further Resolved, certified copies of this resolution shall be sent to New York State Senate Majority Leader Andrea Stewart-Cousins (scousins@nysenate.org), New York State Assembly Speaker Carl Heastie (speaker@nyassembly.gov), Assemblymember Anna Kelles for the 125th District (kellesa@nyassembly.gov), and the Campaign for New York Health (info@nyhcampaign.org).

³Resolution ____ of 2021. 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, and \$_____ for the Streetlight Fund.