

## **Caroline Town Board Meeting Minutes of October 10, 2012**

The Town Board Budget meeting held on October 10, 2012 at the Historic Town Hall was called back to order (continued from the 10/09/2012 meeting) at 7:10 p.m. by Supervisor Donald Barber.

### **Attendance:**

Donald Barber, Supervisor  
Dominic Frongillo, Councilmember  
Linda Adams, Councilmember  
Aaron Snow, Councilmember  
Irene Weiser, Councilmember

### **Recording**

**Secretary:** Marilou Harrington, Town Clerk

**Also present:** Pete Hoyt

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## **Reports**

### **Cindy Whittaker, Highway Superintendents Budget Report**

Highway Superintendent Cindy Whittaker- The budget is the same as previous years, she is not asking for increases. She has been very proactive at keeping the budget “flat” without asking for any major increases. Councilmember Weiser asked about increases for highway employees and Highway Superintendent explained that personal services like wages for the highway employees are under contract and don’t have anything to with the highway budget that she tends. She “trims” in areas that she can help to keep the current budget. See attachment 1; purchase plan for the next few years.

Vehicles-Purchasing the 2010 one ton truck out of this years budget, and Highway Superintendent Whittaker is working on replacing the 2008 pick up truck this year.

Surface Treatment vs. Dust Oil for area roads- Surface Treatment lasts (depending on traffic and weather) will last 3-5 years and sometimes longer, (for example Landon Rd which was treated years ago), whereas Dust Oil needs to be done every year.

Security-Discussed a security system for the town barns. The whole package is about \$4,000.

New Town Barns- (DA5132.4 Garage Contractual expense)

The Town board discussed the budget for the Garage Contractual Expense; how much is in the fund and what would be added in the coming years. They also discussed, Where would the new town barns be built? Look at property not too far away from the current Town Barns? Long-term strategy what options are out there? Check out towns that have replaced their town barns and see what the pros and cons are about each place. Who did they use as a consultant? Highway Superintendent Whittaker is visiting area towns.

Snow Removal- \$213,000 is in the budget for snow removal and the total budget for the highway department is about \$1,000,000, so about 20% of the budget goes for snow removal.

There is \$196,000 in Highway equipment reserve....How much is ideal amount to keep in that fund for 2013? Put in roughly an extra \$100,000 (\$296,000)? The cost of a gradall (the most expensive, and most used piece of equipment). The grate-all is used for roads, ditches and culvert pipes.

The Supervisor predicted the highway Equipment Line would have \$55,000 to add to the Highway Equipment Reserve fund. When added to the existing Reserve Fund amount of \$196,000, the total would be around \$250,000. The Town Board agreed that it would establish a limit on the amount put into the Highway Equipment Reserve Fund equal to the price of the most expensive piece of equipment (currently gradall at \$350,000) less the amount adopted in the budget for DA5130.2 (Highway Equipment).

**General Budget****Resolution 162 of 2012****Budget Amendment:**

Motion by Councilmember Weiser, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilmember Snow

The town board hereby amends the Expense line A1440.406 from \$14,780 to \$14,900 and Revenue line A2389 from \$12,415 to \$12,516. (Net cost of Gauge Station to Caroline = \$2384.)

**Adopted:** Barber: Aye; Frongillo: Absent; Adams: Aye; Snow: Aye; Weiser: Aye

(Dominic Frongillo was absent from this vote).

Discussion: USGS has reassessed the cost of their network and determined that a cost adjustment is necessary.

**Resolution 163 of 2012**

A motion by Irene Weiser and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Dominic Frongillo

2013 Budget resolution: increase line A1620.44 Town Barn from \$0.00 to \$10,000 and increase General fund balance used to reduce tax levy by \$10,000 from \$125,000 to \$135,000

**Adopted:** Barber: Aye; Frongillo: Aye; Adams: Aye; Snow: Aye; Weiser: Aye

**Fire Companies/District Budgets:**

Discussion: Speedsville is asking for a 5.9% increase but they haven't asked for/ received an increase since 2009. Brooktondale wants a 7.5% increase. Supervisor Barber to write a letter asking for clarification for the requested increase by Brooktondale.

No motion brought forward- to address after questions are answered by the Brooktondale Fire District

**Resolution 164 of 2012****2013 Preliminary Budget:**

Don Barber Motion and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Irene Weiser

The 2013 preliminary budget will be brought forward to the public at the November 8<sup>th</sup> meeting.

**Adopted:** Barber: Aye; Frongillo: Aye; Adams: Aye; Snow: Aye; Weiser: Aye

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**Adjourn**

On a motion by Supervisor Barber and seconded by Councilmember Snow, the meeting adjourned at 9:55 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

Marilou Harrington, Town Clerk