

## June Notes from the Supervisor

We passed the Moratorium on Actions Subject to Site Plan or Subdivision Review for a period of up to 180 days, effective July 1. This will give us an appropriate pause while we consider revisions to these two local land use laws.

We purchased a new Gradall for the Highway Department for \$365,311. The old machine was 23 years old and Superintendent Whittaker felt that it was at a point where it would require significant investments in repairs that would be better spent on a new Gradall. With a reserve fund designated for this purpose and a healthy highway fund balance, we were able to purchase the new Gradall without borrowing.

We passed a resolution recognizing June as LGBT Pride Month and the rainbow flag will fly at the Town Hall during June to recognize the past and continuing struggles of gay people and our commitment to nondiscrimination and inclusiveness. The month of June was first recognized as LGBT Pride Month in 2000 by presidential proclamation. Tragically, this past week, Josie Berrios, a transgender woman, was found murdered in Ithaca. Our deepest condolences go out to her family and friends. I hope our statement will help all of us remember to consider the lives and perspectives of people different from ourselves, and underscore the spirit of togetherness that is a hallmark of the Caroline community.

Last month I wrote about our work to complete four of NYSERDA's "high impact action items" that will qualify us for clean energy grant funds. We've now completed three of four action items: Benchmarking (quantifying energy use of municipal buildings), completion of a community Solarize Program, and at our June Business Meeting, adoption of New York State's Unified Solar Permit that will streamline the permitting process for residential solar projects. We are now working on our fourth action item - Energy Code Training - with our code officer, Kevin McMahan. We expect to complete that in the next month or two, and then we will be eligible for the grant. NYSERDA is looking for original projects that will reduce greenhouse gas emissions, can be transferred to other municipalities, that mobilize private funds, and that build local jobs, among other criteria. We welcome your ideas.

We received notice from the DEC that they will be conducting monitoring and control of giant hogweed in our area this summer. This plant is a member of the carrot family and can grow to 14 feet in height. But that is not the problem. Giant hogweed is Federally listed as a noxious weed as contact with the sap can cause severe burns. The DEC website (<http://www.dec.ny.gov/animals/39809.html>) has information on identification and how to document and report suspected infestations.

We received a courtesy notice from NYPIRG (New York Public Interest Research Group) that they will be conducting door-to-door surveys this summer in Caroline.

Cornell student, Sam Coons, provided us his Historic Structures Report on the Historic Town Hall that he wrote this spring for a class in Building Materials Conservation. His report provides nice historical information and excellent guidelines for upkeep of the town hall. Thanks Sam. We will be making his report available on the town website.

Working with Energy Independent Caroline, Cornell engineering students, Tim Coda, Kartikay Gupta, and Josh Robbins, produced a report on the potential for small scale (micro-hydro) hydroelectric power generation on Six Mile Creek. Thanks to Ann Harch for meeting with the students and showing them the stream on her property. We will be examining that report and plotting next steps toward a viable micro-

hydro project. This report will be available on the Energy Independent Caroline page at the town website. Thanks Josh, Tim, and Kartikay.

Please let us know if you'd like to serve as a representative on either the Joint Youth Commission or the Recreational Partnership. There are opportunities!

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Christian, can you put the following in the Old Mill as a separate notice:

The Town invites applications for its Planning and Subdivision Review Boards. The Volunteer Application Form can be found under Contacts at the Town website ([www.townofcaroline.org](http://www.townofcaroline.org)). We plan to interview applicants at our July meetings.

**Planning Board:** The Planning Board advises the Town of development and land use. It also is responsible for development and implementation of the Town's Comprehensive Plan. The Planning Board consists of five members appointed to staggered 5-year terms. The Planning Board meets once each month.

**Subdivision Review Board:** The Subdivision Review Board reviews projects submitted to the Town subject to Subdivision Review Local Law of 2000 or Site Plan Review Local Law of 2014. The Subdivision Review Board consists of five members and an alternate appointed to staggered 5-year terms. The Subdivision Review Board meets only when needed for review of development projects.

And another notice:

The Town Board Agenda Meeting for July has been rescheduled for 7 pm on Wednesday, July 5th.