

Town of Caroline Town Board Minutes

November 16, 2006

The regular meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Caroline held on November 16, 2006 at the Town Hall was called to order by Supervisor Don Barber at 7:01 p.m.

Present:

Don Barber, Supervisor
Ed Cope, Councilman
Tim Seely, Councilman
Dominic Frongillo, Councilman
Nelly Farnum, Councilwoman

Recording

Secretary: Debra DeAugustine, Town Clerk

Guests: Steve Penningroth (Community Science Institute), Katie Nicholson (Sunnywood Design Cooperative)

Privilege of the Floor

Don Short, 65 Creamery Rd. is concerned that the town will no longer carry workmen's comp for the fire districts. It saved taxpayers money for 25 years. Slaterville getting a double hit because of the ambulance.

Don Barber: This is not our choice. State controllers office said we could be the party of record for 2007 for workers comp at a group rate, which saves the Slaterville fire dist. \$5000, but that it is not appropriate to continue past 2007. The method that is required is that the town pick up the tab and be reimbursed by the fire company. There is no change in cost to the taxpayers. It's just who picks up the tab. Both Brooktondale and Slaterville were quoted \$14,000 or more from another carrier. The carrier we use will continue providing coverage for \$9000. There is a savings to the taxpayers. Supervisor will attend Slaterville Fire Dist. meeting on Monday the 11th at 7 p.m. Will also talk to the state comptroller at the Association of Towns meeting.

Frank Proto talked about flooding. He urges the board to set up a system for the town so we can log in the individual damages to properties so we can qualify as individuals under the federal program. Municipalities qualified for help in last flood, but individuals did not. His bill from the June flooding was over \$40,000. This disaster was not a direct payment from FEMA in Washington; it was a program they let the state oversee, and the state never let Washington know there was individual damage. According to them, we were not listed in their database as a county that had problem.

Presentation on Six Mile Creek monitoring

Steve Penningroth came to answer questions about budget increases to the town for monitoring of Six Mile Creek. Asking for the funding that the project actually costs. He projected that future expenses would not go up. Personnel costs went up \$1000 over last year, but the requests have gone up. Needs more staff because he's started the web site, www.communityscience.org, which includes all of the watersheds, and the cost has gone up for them all. All the municipalities in a watershed are asked to contribute equally. Not everyone chooses to contribute even though they benefit.

Don asked if there's an oversight board that involves reps from the different municipalities. There is not. Don recommends that the watersheds committee collaborate with the three other municipalities in the Six Mile Creek watershed. Baseline data is required by MS4.

Web site report

Katie Nicholson from Sunnywood Design Cooperative gave proposal for web hosting. They have a spam filter. Our current provider has no service, no spam filter. Basic service will provide 25 email addresses.

Monthly Reports

Highway Superintendent's Report

- Finished paving last week, and are still working on damage from last flood.
- Some trucks are ready if it snows. Problem with people parking along the road: Don is checking into what we can do, such as post signs.
- Salary: with 3% increase, she'll be the next to the lowest paid highway superintendent in the county.
- Town is not plowing Harford Road from bridge at town line to Scutt Road; trucks can't go over bridge.
- Logging accident: highway employees carried logger out of woods almost a mile; these guys are untrained and did an amazing job. Would like an agreement authorizing the highway department to assist the fire companies in an emergency situation.
- The large expense to gaggle was a situation that was an emergency and a big liability and had to be taken care of immediately.

County Rep

- Harford Road: trying to get Tioga County to limit access to only one lane of traffic at a time over bridge; then weight limit can be lifted for trucks to pass.
- Public hearing on county budget; they'll vote next Tuesday. Increase is 17 cents per 1000.
- County prepared a full maintenance road program. They've examined roads that have fewer than 300 vehicles per day, and want to maintain those roads less frequently. Net savings to the county would be \$40,000; doesn't make sense to spend a lot of time for this kind of savings.
- WRC is meeting with Cornell to talk about the lake source cooling. Cornell wants to drop the number of sites they monitor; we don't think this is a good idea.
- Lansing sewer district: they want to borrow money from county to raise money. Not a lot of support for it. Even if we can legally do it, and we decide to, we should extend it to the whole county.
- Ag and farmland review is this month. Anyone who wants their land included in the ag district should let Debbie Teeter know. Don noted that three people from Caroline have applied.
- Alternative fuels: we will bring a resolution to the county board that basically says that the county is urging our state leaders to pursue alternative fuel.

Supervisor's Report

Correspondence

1. Positive and favorable response from TC Planning regarding Comp Plan and town being lead agency
2. Letter from Teamsters dropping request for arbitration
3. Notice from CCETC regarding Ag District designation – Comment period ends 12/27 - 3 parcels have asked to be included in Ag district – Planning Board so they can get back to board by next meeting
4. Mortgage Tax Distribution: \$27,263 - 7% decrease from same period in 2005 – total \$30K above budget
5. Notice from USDA has grant a loan program with 4.375 loan rate (possible source for Annex)
6. Letter from Sara Barker – requesting closure on Bald Hill School Rd property sale process. Don will put something together and ask board members to look at it before he sends.
7. Letter from TCPL review of library services to outlying libraries

Report

- FEMA: all checks are in for approved projects except "Big Otis"; expect funds soon. Cindy is working with DEC to identify a scope of work that FEMA can support on Central Chapel and Brearley Hill Road.
- Grievance: Ed and Don met with Bill Arnault and agreed to terminate R. Russell's employment, but continue to follow the procedures described in Section 71 of Civil Service law, which allows Russell to come back to work for a period of 1 year if he has doctor's permission and a vacancy exists.
- Workers Comp: Don will attend next meeting of Slaterville Fire Company
- Emergency Services Comm Tower is up, but not the antennae. CoG will discuss radios at next mtg 11/30
- TCMOA – will remain, but be less active and give CoG a chance to do its job
- CoG – Minutes in Correspondence File

Department, Committee, & Liaison Reports

Cope

- Will give the Town of Ithaca Transportation Plan to Planning Board.

Nelly

- 19 people met of the emergency preparedness committee. Next meeting will be March 22 at the Caroline Community church. Highest priority is for Nelly to pick up the lead in creating a plan. Also still looking for funding source for fluorescent numbers for everybody's house. Don: remember that what the town agreed to spend money on is mitigation.
- Finger lakes land trust property: has had two meetings with them. They really don't want to receive the land and would prefer that the town take an interest.

Dominic

Matt Podolsky came to the watershed committee meeting with an update. He's getting input from the committee, and is going forward with the understanding that the watershed committee will seek funding.

Seely

Tim left the meeting at this point due to another commitment.

Action Topics

Transfers

Motion to Authorize Transfer of Funds

A motion was made by Supervisor Barber and seconded by Councilwoman Farnum to authorize the following transfer:

\$ 500.00	from General Fund Account A1110.2 Municipal Court EQ to General Fund Account A1110.4 Municipal Court CE
\$ 500.00	from General Fund Account A1110.103 Municipal Court Typist PS to General Fund Account A1110.4 Municipal Court CE
\$ 240.00	from General Fund Account A1990.4 Contingency to General Fund Account A1920.4 Municipal Dues
\$ 8,000.00	from Highway Fund Account DA 5142.1 Snow and Ice PS to Highway Fund Account DA 5110.4 Repairs CE

And make the following budget adjustment:

Increase revenue line DA 2770 Unclassified Revenues by \$ 52,752.93 and Increase Appropriation line DA 5110.4 Repairs CE by \$52,752.93

Increase revenue line A 2770 Unclassified Revenues by \$ 43,543.25 and Increase Appropriation line A 8710.4 Creek Maintenance CE by \$43,543.25

Adopted	Don Barber	Aye
	Ed Cope	Aye
	Tim Seely	Absent
	Nelly Farnum	Aye
	Dominic Frongillo	Aye

Approval of Abstracts

Approval of General Fund Abstract

A motion was made by Councilman Cope and seconded by Councilman Frongillo to approve payment for the General Fund voucher numbers 289 through 328 in the amount of \$19,457.99.

Adopted	Don Barber	Aye
	Ed Cope	Aye
	Tim Seely	Absent

Nelly Farnum Aye
 Dominic Frongillo Aye

Approval of Highway Fund Abstract

A motion was made by Councilman Cope and seconded by Councilwoman Farnum to approve payment for the Highway Fund voucher numbers 205 through 230 in the amount of \$55,567.69.

Adopted Don Barber Aye
 Ed Cope Aye
 Tim Seely Absent
 Nelly Farnum Aye
 Dominic Frongillo Aye

Approval of Streetlight Fund Abstract

A motion was made by Councilman Cope and seconded by Councilwoman Farnum to approve payment for the Streetlight Fund voucher numbers 020 and 021 in the amount of \$708.61.

Adopted Don Barber Aye
 Ed Cope Aye
 Tim Seely Absent
 Nelly Farnum Aye
 Dominic Frongillo Aye

Minutes

Approval of Minutes from October 3, 2006

A motion was made by Councilman Cope and seconded by Supervisor Barber to accept the minutes of October 3, 2006 as submitted by the deputy town clerk.

Adopted Don Barber Aye
 Ed Cope Aye
 Tim Seely Absent
 Nelly Farnum Aye
 Dominic Frongillo Aye

Approval of Minutes from October 12, 2006

A motion was made by Councilman Cope and seconded by Councilman Frongillo to accept the minutes of October 12, 2006 with the following amendment.

Amendment

page 1, Privilege of the Floor, under Karen Johnson's commentary, change Don's response to read, "The noise committee was not charged to take input from the public." and the last sentence to read, "The Town Board meeting is the forum for comments."

Adopted Don Barber Aye
 Ed Cope Aye
 Tim Seely Absent
 Nelly Farnum Aye
 Dominic Frongillo Aye

Approval of Minutes from October 23, 2006

A motion was made by Councilman Frongillo and seconded by Councilman Cope to accept the minutes of October 23, 2006 as submitted by the town clerk.

Adopted Don Barber Aye
 Ed Cope Aye
 Tim Seely Absent
 Nelly Farnum Aye
 Dominic Frongillo Aye

Town Business

Local Law Introductions

- Councilman Cope introduced the Local Law for Administration of NYS Uniform Building Code
- Councilman Frongillo introduced the Local Law for Storm Water Management and Erosion and Sediment Control

Diminishing Lien Agreements

The board agrees that it is not considered a transfer of property if the owner dies and the property goes to his or her spouse or minor children.

Resolutions

Resolution 11-2 of 2006 Adopt 2007 Town Budget

By Supervisor Barber; Seconded by Councilwoman Farnum

RESOLVED, the Caroline Town Board hereby adopts the 2007 town budget with the following adjustments.

Adopted	Don Barber	Aye
	Ed Cope	Aye
	Tim Seely	Absent
	Nelly Farnum	Aye
	Dominic Frongillo	Aye

Budget Adjustments

By Supervisor Barber; Seconded by Councilwoman Farnum

Increase line A1910.4 from \$26,875 to 28,475

Passed Barber/Cope/Farnum/Frongillo: Aye
Seely: Absent

By Supervisor Barber; Seconded by Councilwoman Farnum

Add \$40,000 to line A8710.4 Creek Maintenance and add \$40,000 to Used Fund Balance

Passed Barber/Cope/Farnum/Frongillo: Aye
Seely: Absent

By Councilman Frongillo; Seconded by Councilman Cope

Increase line A8710.4 from 29,677 to \$30,339

Passed Barber/Cope/Farnum/Frongillo: Aye
Seely: Absent

By Councilman Frongillo; Seconded by Councilman Cope

Increase line A5010.1 from \$46,144 to \$46,945

Defeated Barber/Cope/Farnum/Frongillo: Nay
Seely: Absent

Resolution 11-3 of 2006 Adopt 2007 Fire Protection District Budget

By Supervisor Barber; Seconded by Councilman Cope

RESOLVED, the Caroline Town Board hereby adopts the 2007 fire protection district budget.

Adopted	Don Barber	Aye
	Ed Cope	Aye
	Tim Seely	Absent
	Nelly Farnum	Aye
	Dominic Frongillo	Aye

Resolution 11-4 of 2006
Adopt 2007 Lighting District Budget

By Supervisor Barber; Seconded by Councilman Cope

RESOLVED, the Caroline Town Board hereby adopts the 2007 lighting district budget.

Adopted	Don Barber	Aye
	Ed Cope	Aye
	Tim Seely	Absent
	Nelly Farnum	Aye
	Dominic Frongillo	Aye

Resolution 11-5 of 2006
Establish position of highway clerk

By Supervisor Barber; Seconded by Councilman Frongillo

RESOLVED, the Caroline Town Board hereby establishes the full-time Civil Service position of Typist to assist the Highway Superintendent in administrative duties, and be it further

RESOLVED, that the rate of pay for this position will be \$10.50.

Adopted	Don Barber	Aye
	Ed Cope	Aye
	Tim Seely	Absent
	Nelly Farnum	Aye
	Dominic Frongillo	Aye

Resolution 11-6 of 2006
Adopt Shared Services Agreement for highway operation

By Councilman Cope; Seconded by Supervisor Barber

RESOLVED, the town board authorizes the supervisor to sign the shared services agreement.

Adopted	Don Barber	Aye
	Ed Cope	Aye
	Tim Seely	Absent
	Nelly Farnum	Aye
	Dominic Frongillo	Aye

Resolution 11-7 of 2006
Public hearing on Local Law on NYS Uniform Building Code

By Supervisor Barber; Seconded by Councilman Cope

RESOLVED, the town board will hold a public hearing on December 14 at 7 p.m. at the town hall regarding the Local Law Providing for the Administration and Enforcement of the New York State Uniform Fire Prevention and Building Code.

Adopted	Don Barber	Aye
	Ed Cope	Aye
	Tim Seely	Absent
	Nelly Farnum	Aye
	Dominic Frongillo	Aye

Resolution 11-8 of 2006
Agreement with Brooktondale Fire District for Cooperative Procurement and Reimbursement of Insurance Premiums

By Supervisor Barber; Seconded by Councilman Farnum

RESOLVED, the town board authorizes the supervisor to sign the agreement.

Adopted	Don Barber	Aye
	Ed Cope	Aye
	Tim Seely	Absent
	Nelly Farnum	Aye
	Dominic Frongillo	Aye

Resolution 11-9 of 2006
Extension of Rec Partnership

By Councilman Frongillo; Seconded by Councilman Farnum

WHEREAS, the Intermunicipal Recreation Partnership has successfully served thousands of young people throughout Tompkins County operating under a five-year agreement that expires December 2006, and

WHEREAS, the Recreation Partnership's governing board has begun but not yet concluded its internal reflection and process of seeking input from all municipal partners to evaluate and update the partnership agreement for the next five-year period, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Town of Caroline agrees to extend the current Intermunicipal Recreation Partnership Agreement through December 31, 2007, and be it further

RESOLVED, that all terms, conditions, and financial commitments related to the agreement remain in force through December 2007, and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Town of Caroline will take prompt action on the proposed agreement for the period 2008-2012 to be prepared by the Recreation Partnership's governing board by May 2007.

Adopted	Don Barber	Aye
	Ed Cope	Aye
	Tim Seely	Absent
	Nelly Farnum	Aye
	Dominic Frongillo	Aye

Resolution 11-10 of 2006
Shared Municipal Services Incentive Grant

By Councilman Frongillo; Seconded by Councilman Farnum

WHEREAS, in order to comply with NYS Phase II Stormwater regulations, the Towns of Ulysses, Caroline, and Newfield wish to study the feasibility of and take the initial steps to establish a shared full-time position to enforce state and local stormwater regulations, and

WHEREAS, such a shared service arrangement would reduce costs for all three municipalities and would increase efficacy, and

WHEREAS, the Towns of Ulysses, Caroline, and Newfield agreed to collaborate to apply for the NYS Department of State Shared Municipal Services Incentive Grant Program for this purpose, and

WHEREAS, the Town Board of the Town of Caroline has reviewed the proposal to the NYS Department of State Shared Municipal Services Incentive Grant Program and found it acceptable, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Caroline approve and lend its support for the proposal to the NYS Department of State Shared Municipal Services Incentive Grant Program proposal.

Adopted	Don Barber	Aye
	Ed Cope	Aye
	Tim Seely	Absent
	Nelly Farnum	Aye
	Dominic Frongillo	Aye

Resolution 11-11 of 2006
Approve funding for documentary for Barrile project

By Councilman Frongillo; Seconded by Supervisor Barber

WHEREAS, the Barrile Stream Restoration Project was a major successful project by the Town of Caroline, with numerous Caroline residents contributing their time and energy towards its completion, and represented an unprecedented collaboration among the Town and numerous partner agencies, and

WHEREAS, a video documentary would serve as a valuable remembrance and educational tool for Caroline residents and as a future planning tool for the Town and partner agencies, and there exists many hours of raw footage of project operations and interviews with project personnel, and

WHEREAS, the Caroline Watersheds Committee has and will continue to offer guidance and input towards the production of a video documentary, and

WHEREAS, the Cayuga Lake Watershed Intermunicipal Organization has committed \$500 and the Tompkins County Soil & Water District has committed \$1,500 towards the completion of a video documentary of the Barrile Stream Restoration Project, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Caroline authorizes Matt Podolsky to produce a video documentary of the Barrile project with the following deliverables:

1. DVD of final edited documentary, approximately 1 hour in length (6 copies)
2. One copy of original video tape and photos taken during project
3. Written summary and description of final product, and be it further

RESOLVED, billable hours for this project shall not exceed 180 hours (6 weeks @ 10 hrs/week and 4 weeks @ 30 hrs/week), and total compensation shall not exceed \$2,500, payable upon satisfactory completion of the project, and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Town of Caroline will invoice Cayuga Lake Watershed Intermunicipal Organization and the Tompkins County Soil & Water District for their respective contributions to this documentary project, and be it further

RESOLVED that the project partners will retain the rights to distribution.

Adopted	Don Barber	Aye
	Ed Cope	Aye
	Tim Seely	Absent
	Nelly Farnum	Aye
	Dominic Frongillo	Aye

**Resolution 11-12 of 2006
Well-drilling bids**

By Councilman Cope; Seconded by Councilwoman Farnum

RESOLVED, the town board accepts the well-drilling bid of Randolph Well & Pump for test well drilling in Willseyville Creek.

Adopted	Don Barber	Aye
	Ed Cope	Aye
	Tim Seely	Absent
	Nelly Farnum	Aye
	Dominic Frongillo	Aye

Adjourn

On a motion, the meeting adjourned at 10:57 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Debra DeAugustine, Town Clerk