

Caroga News Flash

Town Board Meeting Highlights

April 14, 2021

TownOfCaroga.com contains all issues of the ***Caroga News Flash***.

This monthly meeting lasted 182 minutes at Town Hall and via zoom.

Supervisor Horton briefly reported on the Nick Stoner Golf Course (NSGC) and the Parks, Lakes, Recreation, and Tourism (PLRT) "commission" committee. The Board created the PLRTC with Resolution 2020-035. The Supervisor said it needs "updating." Notably, a law is required to transfer powers from the elected Town Board. Councilmember Glenn acknowledged needs for public hearing and voter referendum. The Board is working with the attorney on a draft law about the PLRTC.

Resolutions / Local Laws:

1. Golf Course —

- The Board announced a goal to open the golf course during the week of April 19, 2021. PLRT Chair Mr. Centi said that he plans to announce the specific opening date next week on Facebook.
- The Board tabled a proposal for Town employees and elected officials to get "free golf privileges", given prior problems with taxable compensation and equitable distribution. Mr. Centi publicly admitted that he published unauthorized job ads with such benefits, and he will now stop.
- Mr. Centi emphasized "urgent" needs for more golf technician employees, higher wages, and another \$9,400.00 budget increase. Mr. Fincke suggested college interns. The Board approved wage increases for grounds technicians: \$16/hour full-time and \$15/hour part-time. (4-1 vote).
- Approved purchasing Grassland \$3,500.00 used walk-behind fairway/rough mower (5-0 vote)
- Set **NSGC 2021 Fees for 2021** (5-0 vote)
Membership Incentive Rates (before May 1): Individual \$525, Senior (>=65y) \$450, Couple \$1,000, Junior (<=20y) \$125, Cart \$550; *Membership Regular Rates* (starting May 1): Individual \$600, Senior \$450, Couple \$1,100, Junior \$125, Cart \$550; *Daily Use Fees*: 18-Holes Golf (Walking) \$23, 18-Holes Cart \$12/person; 9-Holes Golf (Walking) \$13, 9-Holes Cart \$10/person; Pull Cart \$5; *Cart Fees for Golf Club Members*: Member 18-Holes Cart \$10/person, Member 9-Holes Cart \$7/person; *Non-member Cart Fees for Leagues*: 18-Holes Cart \$11/person, 9-Holes Cart \$8/person
- Tabled a proposal to combine the Glenn Harris Park (parcel 68.-1-22) with the NSGC front 9-holes grounds (parcel 68.-1-24), due to use restrictions

2. Town Hall Building —

- Requested a no-additional-fee proposal from Phinney Design Group to review 2010 Town Hall reports by C.T. Male Associates and complete floor / roof reinspection (5-0 vote)
- Authorized Supervisor Horton to get costs to convert the Town Hall women's rest room to handicapped accessible unisex bathroom due to renting the existing handicapped space (5-0 vote)
- Approved former Nathan Littauer Clinic space rental to Bette-Cring for \$650/month from May to November 2021, as arranged and presented by Councilmember Sturgess (5-0 vote)
- Councilmember Travis reported, "The Town Hall heat exchanger is ready to blow out." Supervisor Horton noted that a boiler is leaking and will cost more than \$18,000.00 to replace. Another option is to pay more than \$50,000 to install a roof-mounted HVAC system with building duct work and individual room temperature controls. He plans to get quotes for Town Hall heating and AC system.

3. Highway Department —

- Authorized trade-in of 21-year-old Gradall excavator for \$20,000.00 (5-0 vote)
- Authorized purchase of new Wacker Neuson excavator (5-0 vote)
- Authorized excavator financing with a 10-year \$18,139.57 annual lease agreement through Municipal Leasing Consultants to be paid from Account DA5130.2 (5-0 vote)

Caroga News Flash

Town Board Meeting Highlights

4. **Town Meetings During Pandemic** — Up to 12 people will be allowed into Town Hall public meetings with advance reservations (4-1 vote). All others may attend via zoom. The Board debated pandemic precautions, NYS Law, CDC Health Guidelines, and common-sense safety practices.
5. **Board of Assessment Review** — Reappointed Karen Wheeler to BAR, term to 09/30/25 (5-0 vote)
6. **Nick Stoner Trailers** — Authorized the Supervisor to sign a grant-application form authorizing the club to use their new snowmobile grooming equipment for trails on Town-owned property (5-0 vote)
7. **Website** — Rescinded TownOfCaroga.com (managed by James Long) and adopted Caroga.Town (managed by Linda Gilbert) as the Town of Caroga's official website, effective 04/19/2021 (4-1 vote) Councilmember Long's move to table received no second. Clerk Gilbert's site is currently in "maintenance mode". Councilmembers approved the change, sight unseen with no live review.
8. **Board Meeting Minutes** — Approved 3/10/21 minutes, without advance Board review (4-1 vote)
9. **Bills** — Approved bills as presented for audit (4-0 vote, 1 abstention)

Clerk Gilbert reported that the Supervisor's 2020 Annual Report to the State Comptroller—due March 1, 2021—has not been filed and is now long overdue.

Announcements:

- ❖ **Fulton County COVID-19 infections** remain at a "very high risk level." Since January 2020, at least 1 in 13 county residents have been infected, and at least 1 in 621 have died. More than 560,000 Americans have lost their lives to COVID-19. Pandemic safety precautions remain essential. *Please wash or sanitize your hands regularly, maintain social distancing, and wear a mask in public.*
- ❖ **Caroga Transfer Station 2021 Summer Hours:**
Monday & Friday 8:00am-4:00pm, Wednesday 4:00-8:00pm, Saturday 8:00am-Noon
- ❖ **Town Clerk Hours:** Mon-Tues-Wed-Fri 9:00am-3:00pm, Saturday 9:00am-Noon, or by appointment

Next Public Meetings:

To enter Town Hall for the next public meeting, you must get a **confirmed advance reservation** from Clerk Linda Gilbert. Others may attend via zoom. Given required pandemic precautions, in-person attendance is limited to 12 people with socially-distanced seating. NYS Law (Section 66-3.2) states, "Any person who is over age two and able to medically tolerate a face-covering shall be required to cover their nose and mouth with a mask or face-covering when in a public place." With ongoing COVID-19 contagion and major health risks, the law applies to all people, both vaccinated and unvaccinated.

Golf Clubhouse Steering Committee Meetings

Wednesday, April 28, 2021 6:00pm & May 12, 2021 6:00pm

Join zoom.us or dial 929-205-6099 Meeting ID: 687 640 4445 Passcode: 427903

Monthly Town Board Meeting

Wednesday, May 12, 2021 7:00pm

Join zoom.us or dial 929-205-6099 Meeting ID: 687 640 4445 Passcode: 427903