

State of New York
County of Fulton
Town of Caroga

Minutes of the Regular monthly Caroga Town Board meeting held Wednesday January 11, 2017 at the municipal building located at 1840 State Highway #10 at 7:00 pm with the following persons in attendance by Roll Call:

Supervisor Beth Morris- Here
Council Member John Glenn – Here
Council Member Anthony Sturchio - Here
Council Member Jeremy Manning – Here

Others in attendance were, Steve Jennings – Manager of the Nick Stoner Golf Course, Steve Putman – Highway Superintendent, Don Travis – Janitor, & John Duesler -Code Officer,

Supervisor Morris called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and asked for the roll to be called. The flag salute followed. Supervisor Morris made a motion to waive the reading of the minutes of the December meeting. Council Member Sturchio seconded the motion.

The Supervisor set ground rules for the public session. Each person called on will have 2 -3 minutes to speak. After everyone has had ample time to speak, she will close the public speaking session and the board will then conduct business.

Public:

Mr. Putman stated he recently toured the Sherman's property with the Code Officer. He has also attended a recent meeting on it. He is amazed and wanted every taxpayer to pay attention to the proposals he heard the other night. They are only going to cost the taxpayers money. One building is defunct. This property is also off the tax rolls. He is not saying not to have music groups here or have popcorn sold there. He would like to see it back on the tax rolls and off being a burden to the taxpayers. Everything he heard at the meeting is going to cost the taxpayers money. Someone else besides the town needs to own it. He described his construction background and stated the buildings are mighty tired and need a lot. At the very least an engineering study should be done, a couple of the buildings need to come down. The bumper car building is bad. He did not feel the taxpayers should foot any of the bills for it.

Mr. Putman stated again that he felt the town should log their property. He can identify 5 parcels which have survived cutting in the past. He doesn't feel any of the lakes will be harmed by logging. He would like an honest opinion on the value of the timber. As the Highway Superintendent he noted the town needs a salt shed. He is concerned for the environment and has to be mindful of where his material is housed in the winter. He thinks the town should look at the things the town needs now.

Rick Ruby – President of the Caroga Arts Collective a non for profit umbrella group that the Caroga Lake Music Festival is a part of thanked the town board and the community for the support they have given to the music festival. It started in 2012 with three concerts and grew to a 4 week series with 24 concerts and over 50 musicians. The musicians were housed by the people in the community. Once you hear them you become hooked. He recommended that anyone that has not heard them to avail themselves of the free concerts.

Mr. Ruby noted The National Cello Institute will hold its meeting June 11 – 25th in Caroga Lake at the Nick Stoner Inn. Becky and Charlie Ward are renovating the property. There will be between 20 – 30 musicians. There will be faculty from the Eastman School of Music and Juilliard in NYC along with their friends and family. They will be eating in our restaurants and walking our trails – enjoying the beauty we have here in Caroga Lake. He believes they will come back year after year. The music festival will be expanded to 5 weeks from July 17 to August 20th. There will be more musicians, more types of music, and more free concerts. In addition to concerts in 2016 there were classes at FMCC and the Paul Nigra Center for Creative Arts. For the first time there will be a film festival the 24 – 27 of August. He noted through the kindness of Bruce and Dick Veghte the My Hill property was donated to the Music Festival as a home. It is planned to be a retreat for artists of all types and a camp for young people. The revival series with 4 – 6 concerts is to be held outdoors at Sherman's. It will have Blues, Country and Western music. Mr. Ruby passed out business cards so people can contact him with any questions they may have about the group. Kyle Price wants to do so much good for Caroga Lake.

James Selmser noted at a previous meeting there was a question about insurance and liability – access to Sherman's. He hopes the board has an update on where we stand on that. He noted other events go in town with our golf course. He wondered if the town had the proper forms to reduce our liability, risk, and cost. He noted the snowmobilers are here from out of town and could be potentially parking at Sherman's. It was plowed today. Is that a problem with access or liability?

Barbara Lee – is another member of the board of the Caroga Arts Council. She has been hearing rumors as it relates to a sense of fear of insurance liability in town by using the Sherman's property. Also a concern about the property not on the tax roll. She stated with the Shine property donation the town lost less than \$2,000.00 a year on that. It will be a viable place to draw people in to be consumers in the area. She related her life experience with negativity and fears and looking at what the worst is that could happen. You have to research it and think about the potential. As for holding concerts at Sherman's the worst thing could be a building falling on a person – She "would not want to step into one of those buildings myself." If there are no other alternatives she believes you should give it a shot. She noted the CAC has insurance and can get riders to cover any event. She does not see a down side. It is only for one summer – without a guarantee that it won't rain and then the concerts would not happen. She welcomed questions as a board member/grownup. She noted Kyle is not a grownup he is not a business man. He is a student, a musician, the inspiration.

Karen Kirsch – Has a concern that the town board may stay as a four person board. She noted with all the decisions that need to be made a fourth board members needs to be appointed. She believes there are some obvious choices from the November election.

Randy Snyder – stated Sherman's is a dead horse – we all have a stake in it. How do we afford it? Many people want to sell this dead horse – what is it worth? Is it sellable? Legally can the town sell it? Supervisor Morris stated it is an option. This has to be discussed with the Town Attorney in an executive session. She stated the property has to be appraised. First the board and the town has to decide if they want to market the property. In her opinion (and that of the attorney) it should go to permissive referendum.

Mrs. Barrett stated as far as the festival at Sherman's "the town will be getting ½ of the income and it will be from the top it won't be after expenses." This could go toward the \$7,500.00 budget the town has. Supervisor Morris stated that is something to be discussed – is the payment. "We never accepted or made a resolution as far as payment goes." Mrs. Barrett stated Sherman's even without its buildings is a piece of heaven in Caroga Lake. There isn't another area like it – it encourages people to come. If it has houses built on it how would that make Caroga nicer for people who want to visit? She is afraid of run off too.

Karen Kirsch stated that she thought this was public comment and didn't realize the Supervisor would give responses to comments. She asked for a response to filling the council seat. Supervisor Morris stated the members have to come up with some names as discussed at the meeting last month. She stated this can be controversial. The Assoc. of Towns (AOT) recommends the seat remain vacant. The board has to decide how it wants to proceed. There will be elections this year. There will be four open seats. She did not want to be considered for the opening. Mrs. Kirsch thought James Long should be appointed to the seat.

Nancy Purcell – seconded the recommendation. She thought the voters spoke very loudly and noted the importance to break any tie in a board. She noted AOT has only made a recommendation – not a law. She asked others here to speak up if they thought Mr. Long could be a representative on this council. The music festival opened up another world here in Caroga, "Don't let it get away."

Barbara Lee thought the CMC were going to donate ½ of the take of each concert to the town. Supervisor Morris stated the board was not sure if they wanted a flat rate or if they would accept 50% of the donation. The board has to decide this. Mrs. Lee asked if the board has the authority to rent the property out. Supervisor Morris stated the board did. She wanted confirmation that the concert series was going to occur on the Sherman's property. Supervisor Morris noted the code officer has a few public safety issues with having the concerts there. Mrs. Lee hoped the town is consulting with the town attorney every step of the way for legality purposes. All board members should be asking questions. She hopes the board will keep the CAC updated they have a huge logistics to be figured out. Musicians are being invited to play these concerts. She is sure they can find other places to have them play but are hoping for more than cooperation from the board – a sign of good faith. The kids won't go away. They need to know if this is legally not feasible.

Mrs. Barrett thought the concerts were already approved, but now this has to go by the code. Supervisor Morris wants to make sure the public is safe above everything.

Barbara Lee wondered if there was an issue when the block party was held during the term of Ralph Ottuso. Supervisor Morris could not comment to what went on previously. She wants to have the property evaluated.

James Selmer – as far as the vacancy back in 2008 when the supervisor resigned. The board at that time advertised for anyone interested in the position to send a letter of interest. They spoke to the board and that is how it was handled. Council Member Sturchio noted at the last meeting he brought it to the table that he wants the 5th seat filled. He agreed with Karen Kirsch and noted

that 245 people voted for Jamie Long to be on this board. He agreed with Karen Kirsch and Nancy Purcell. This will be discussed at the end of the meeting.

The public portion of the meeting was closed.

Department Reports:

Assessor's Report – Supervisor Morris read a letter from Victoria Hayner. She thanked the board for approval to order items she felt necessary to function well. She has met with the County Director, assistants, and mappers. She has a new laptop computer with the Town's files on it with her at all times. Jennifer Blowers will staff the office on Thursdays and can contact the Assessor as necessary. In December 8 sales were processed of which 4 were valid sales and 4 were in-valid. Seven were residential sales and one commercial. She has been reviewing and receiving exemption applications. She has been coordinating with the building department. Mrs. Hayner noted the town will have to enact a Local Law to change Grievance Day. She is in the office between 8 am and 2 pm on Tuesdays.

BTI – a written report from Mr. Delesky was read by Supervisor Morris. He thanked Beth, Lita, & Linda for helping to get the new technicians licensed with the state. He supplied information on what documents (passing grades) needed to be signed and how many checks for \$450.00 (for a three year license) sent to the state for each technician.

Clerk/Collector –Linda Gilbert presented the 2016 Town Clerk books for the board to audit. Taxes collected to date \$234,301.85 and to date unpaid are \$2,844,856.86. Recycling Calendars were available to the public this evening.

Code Enforcement & Sanitation – Mr. Duesler noted there wasn't a lot of building going on for the month of December. He is trying to get up to date with previous permits and Certificates of Occupancy and Certificates of Compliance. He stated he should be up to speed by the time building season happens in April.

His job is to ensure the safety and general welfare of the people. He called the Department of State about the Sherman's property. He has some jurisdiction on the property other than the structures – meaning the whole area. It was recommended to him to get a structural evaluation from a licensed engineer (Charles Acherbauer and Fred Franko were suggested) and have an electrical inspection of all the buildings. He needs to make sure the property is secure – windows shut, doors locked. The Ferris Wheel and ice cream stand should be secured one way or another – a fence around them. These things need to be done. His doesn't care who comes in it doesn't weigh on his decisions one way or another. Council Member Sturchio asked if people can be allowed on the roof to shovel them. Mr. Duesler recommended they be shoveled and noted the town has insurance to cover people on the property. OSHA regulations should be followed for safety. Correll Roofing has their own insurance. Names of engineers to hire were discussed. These evaluations will cost between \$500 and \$4,000.00. The electrical inspection will cost \$300 - \$400. The supervisor wanted to go out to bids for these services. The clerk noted the procurement policy and it was decided that sealed bids were not necessary. A more accurate quote will be obtained. They have two names for the structural inspection. Supervisor Morris wanted one more quote.

Council Member Glenn wanted to get the general structural integrity of these buildings and the property. Council Member Manning seconded the motion. All board members were in favor of this action.

Mr. Duesler spoke to the town attorney about letters for unsafe buildings in town. This will be discussed in an executive session.

The board discussed obtaining a quote for an electrical inspection from Brian Sweet and Fulton County Electric.

Blight – Council Member Glenn wants to resurrect the program sometime in March or April to have meetings. If anyone is interested let him know at the next board meeting.

Dog Control – No Report from Mr. Dutcher, The clerk reported 18 delinquent dog licenses from last year. According to the most recent Local Law tickets need to be issued.

Golf Course – Mr. Jennings had a reminder that DEC will be sending out our three year permit. The current permit is up in April. He will be doing a two week golf session with the kids at the Wheelerville School from Feb. 27 to March 10th. He wondered if he needed approval. He signed something last year but did not remember what. It was suggested he discuss this with Mr. Ruberti at the school. On Feb. 1st he wants to begin working on the reels and needs one of his workers –Bill Baxter to help him part time for a month.

Highway – Mr. Putman reiterated that plans for the Salt Shed need to be returned. He received payment for the garbage truck from Auctions International. He has had a lot of overtime and had tremendous salt and sand use. The two county roads are getting bare. The next road to be worked on will be S. Shore Road East Caroga for the busses.

Since Mr. Selmser threw him under the bus about plowing the Sherman's parking lot he asked the board if they wanted to keep it open for the snowmobilers and ice fisherman. They cannot park on the roads due to plowing. That is why it was opened up. We have a winter this year. Mr. Duesler wondered if would be fair that anyone should be allowed to be on the property under the current issue we are handling now. Council Member Manning wondered if the parking lot was a separate parcel. Council Member Sturchio did not want to chase people away. Supervisor Morris stated we have to be fair to all groups potentially going on the Sherman's property. Mr. Ruby interjected that the music festival would have no objection for people to come in and use the parking. "We would never come back at you and say you let the snowmobiles park there why can't we have our concert series." The board discussed this issue and decided to allow parking since it did not give access to the buildings. More signage was suggested by Supervisor Morris.

Mr. Putman noted the 350 Ford pickup he drives will have to go in the shop again. It is under warranty. He is about to hit 50,000 miles for a 2012 truck. The 2013 Freightliner was towed off of Green Lake Road on New Year's Eve. It just came off warranty so he had to repair it. These are two trucks which will now begin to start costing the town money. He needs to work on the Capitol Plan with Supervisor Morris and Budget Director. He will put out an ad for part time people. He has had two people out. They have to go through the county.

At the next meeting Mr. Putman wants to review the Local Law on winter parking on town roads. Currently it runs from October 1st to April 30th that is too long. He wants to shorten it to December 1st to April 1st. We don't get the winters we used to.

Lake Steward Program –Mike Durkee gave an update from his report in October. Paul Smiths did not receive some of our reporting from the IPad. He noted the West Lake inspections count was 1199 and 218 were done across the road at the Boat Washing Station. He attended a meeting at Keene Valley on Adirondack Invasive Plant Program. They see the town as doing a good job and noted the town's partnership with Canada Lake volunteers to supplement the paid stewards. Thanks to the work of Lita Hillier, Marcus Harrizon, and Linda Gilbert we were able to get a reimbursement of \$19,009.46 for the operation of the boat wash station. We are still awaiting payment for the sprayer from the Dept. of State.

Town Hall Building – Mr. Travis reported A-Tech came and looked at the boilers. A written report/evaluation has not been received yet. Supervisor Morris will call them tomorrow. The staff at the Nathan Littauer Hospital Clinic were complaining of being cold. They called a contractor in to look at the heating situation. Bruce Busch gave an estimate to insulate the ceiling in the two rooms of the clerk's office of \$1,000. Initially the cost of the insulation was \$450.00 with labor at \$500.00 and he recommended doing up the walls above the suspended ceiling for an additional \$50.00. Council Member Sturchio suggested insulating the clinic. The clerk stated one of the contractors thought when the roof air unit was installed by the hospital for the exam rooms it should have been a heat/air unit. Council Member Sturchio thought it also had a heating component to the unit. Council Member Glenn suggested their buildings person should be contacted.

Weeds – No Report

Youth – No Report

Sherman's Advisory Committee – Kent Kirsch commended the board and the Supervisor for the positive tone and productive way the meetings are being run. He reminded everyone that the advisory committee is here to help generate proposals for the use of Sherman's and make recommendations to the board. Even though the town decided not to list the property as recommended by the committee to generate more proposals- they did receive two proposals submitted on December 31st. There was a meeting this past Monday with authors of the proposals joined the meeting and responded to questions. They did not present them. He thought the highway superintendent may have misunderstood. The principal the committee is using is that the town shouldn't have to invest a lot of money into any solution. That the whole point is to avoid that. He did not think either of the proposals entailed for the town to make a big investment. He stated right now they can't be made public as they are sort of a bid in a sense. Until finalized they can't be made public. One is a purchase arrangement with a developer who wants to put in a multi-use facility. Housing, restaurant hotel type facility – we would sell the property to that developer. The Arts Collective submitted a revised proposal based on feedback the committee gave them. It is a 46 page document. Mr. Kirsch stated both proposals still need work. The committee decided to give both entities more feedback and ask them to review, revise, and resubmit and the committee would look at them the end of next month. At some point the proposals will be presented at a meeting such as this. He stated the public will have questions especially if this goes to a referendum.

Supervisor's Report

Supervisor Morris stated the main entrance to Town Hall is to be used by the public from now on. The north end to be locked at all times. She has her door closed most times as she is on the phone or meeting with various people. Supervisor Morris would like a convex mirror for outside her office so she can see any activity. The insurance company has recommended the door be locked. It is an exit at all times. Signs will be posted. There is one exception on Monday night when Court is in session. Mary Lou Patterson was concerned about the seniors having access for their meetings. Some can't walk the distance of the building. The Supervisor noted some of the attendees have walkers and canes and there is a safety issue with them on the stairs. It was thought the change would impact about 4 seniors who attend the meetings. It was suggested to have another senior open the door as people need to come in.

RESOLUTION #2017-007 to purchase a convex mirror was offered by Supervisor Morris at the regular monthly meeting of the Caroga Town Board held on Wednesday January 11, 2017. **WHEREAS**, the board discussed some building safety issues at Town hall, and **WHEREAS**, Supervisor Morris closes her door for phone calls and meetings, now therefore be it **RESOLVED**, that the Caroga Town Board does hereby move to approve the purchase of a concave mirror for outside the Supervisors office. The motion was seconded by Council Member Sturchio.

Adopted by a vote of 4 Ayes, Morris, Glenn, Sturchio, Manning

Supervisor Morris spoke to an adjacent property owner to town hall. Mrs. Busch would like a street light put in near her home. It is very dark. Council Member Sturchio suggested moving the one red capped on Pine Lake Road. Council Member Sturchio will look into the request.

Office of the Aging Agreement resolution will be done at the end of the meeting.

Supervisor Morris stated there has been a lot of talk about the need to adopt new laws. Recently the Dangerous Dog Law and Junk Laws were being discussed. She noted public hearings need to be held on new laws. She wanted the board to review the laws on the books right now. Supervisor Morris suggested starting with enforcing the laws we have on the books. If need be... then they can tweak and make adjustments. She knows there is wording like "When feasible" in the junk law that is open to interpretation. These words need to be removed to tighten up the law. Council Member Manning wanted another draft of a chiseled down Junk Law. Attorney Ferlazzo can work on that but Supervisor Morris would like the board to sit down and look at what is on record now. Council Member Glenn noted this was something the blight committee could do. Supervisor Morris wanted the board to work on this. This will be discussed in March again.

The town clerk noted our current dangerous dog law is three paragraphs and references Article 7 Section 121 of the Ag. & Markets Law which is 4 pages.

Supervisor Morris stated there is a request from herself, the Bookkeeper, Town Clerk & Deputy Town Clerk to encourage department heads to not make any extraneous appointments on monthly board meeting days. Everyone is busy getting things ready for the meeting. Extra tasks can't be fit into the day.

RESOLUTION #2017-008 to Contract with the Fulton County Planning Department was offered by Supervisor Morris at the regular monthly meeting of the Caroga Town Board held on Wednesday January 11, 2017. **WHEREAS**, the town desire the county to provide services from the Planning Department during 2017, and **WHEREAS**, the parties hereto mutually agree as follows to Articles I thru IV of the Agreement drawn up by the County and on file in the Town Clerks Office, now therefore be it **RESOLVED**, that the Caroga Town Board does hereby move to direct the Supervisor to sign the contract, and be it further **RESOLVED**, that the Town Attorney has reviewed the document and does approve it as to form, and be it further **RESOLVED**, that article II states the town shall not compensate the County in an amount not to exceed \$1,500.00 in 2017 The motion was seconded by Council Member Sturchio.

Adopted by a vote of 4 Ayes, Morris, Glenn, Sturchio, Manning

Old Business:

Council Member Manning reported on the Wilderness Property Management idea for a mountain Bike Trail System behind the existing fire house on the 113 acres town owned property. He noted the trails could be for multi- use. A cost of \$1,500.00 would be for a map and site analysis of how the property can be used. He has contacted the town's insurance agency to make sure everything is OK as far as liability with the property. Mr. VanGorder is waiting to hear back from the carrier. He does not foresee any issues. Council Member Manning stated he is trying to do this without any burden to the taxpayers. He is working with Mrs. Hillier to possibly set up another checking account – outside funding could be used for this project.

Supervisor Morris had a concern about mountain bikers being in the woods during hunting season. Council Member Manning has looked at how other clubs deal with this. Some close the trails during specific dates. It would be evaluated year to year. Supervisor Morris noted this has become a big sport recently. The county and governor are talking about it. The goal is to have trails with overlapping loops with different levels of difficulty. Council Member Manning talked to the snowmobile club about use of their trails. They want to get involved with this as there is more money available to them if they allow bikes on trails. Supervisor Morris asked if Mr. VanGorder would come up to a meeting to address the board on this matter. Council Member Manning stated he will ask Mr. VanGorder to come to the next meeting. Council Member Glenn also wanted to talk to the designer of the trails. Council Member Sturchio has a college friend whose daughter placed 7th in last year Olympics in mountain biking and before that place 6th. They are going to try to help the town out with design maybe and with the lending of their name. Mr. Briot from the snowmobile club asked about motorized use on the trail. Council Member Manning stated the multiple use would be snowshoeing, and hiking. He stated the trials are tight and motorized vehicles would not work. It is expensive to build a trail system like this. Initially it would be free for people to use. The Southern Adirondack Club has offered to maintain it forever for free. They host work weekends.

Supervisor Morris asked about doing a waiver for Pine Lake Lodge she called by did not talk to anyone.

The board members were given information on opting out of Real Property tax (487) exemption for solar, wind and farm waste energy systems. Supervisor Morris suggested tabling this matter till the board can review it.

New Business:

Supervisor Morris asked if Mr. Purcell wished to be Re-appointed to the ZBA. He was willing to serve another 5 years.

Canada Lake Computer has one more antivirus license which Mrs. Hillier's computer can use.

Correspondence:

- 1) Steve Thomas sent a letter containing info. on a dangerous dog law in Auburn WA.
- 2) A thank you note was received from the Samantha Johnson & Long Family for use of the pavilion across the street for a sledding birthday party.
- 3) Charter (formerly Time Warner) is making tech. changes - residents may need to run a scan.
- 4) 2017 Workers Compensation Insurance \$16,421.36

At 8:40 pm Supervisor Morris made a motion to enter into an executive session to discuss pending litigation in the Morey Road issue and Sherman's. Council Member Glenn seconded the motion. All board members were in favor of the motion.

At 9:30 pm Superivsor Morris made a motion to exit from the executive session. Council Member Manning seconded the motion. All board members were in favor of the motion. There were no decisions as a result of the executive session. (There were six members of the public remaining at the meeting)

Resolutions:

RESOLUTION #2017-009 to commemorate Bruce H. Busch

Offered by Supervisor Beth Y. Morris **Seconded** by the entire Town Board

WHEREAS, the Town of Caroga Town Board did hold its regular monthly meeting on January 11, 2017, and

WHEREAS, Mr. Bruce H. Busch did serve as Supervisor of the Town of Caroga January 1, 1986 until December 31, 1993, and

WHEREAS, Mr. Bruce H. Bush was a member of the Caroga Volunteer Fire Department and also served as Fire Chief for many years, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Caroga for themselves and for the people of the Town of Caroga do hereby express its deepest regrets and profound sympathy in the passing of Mr. Bruce H. Busch, who will be missed by his family, friends and the community as a whole, and be it further

RESOLVED, that a respective moment of silence was observed by the Board and a copy of this resolution shall be furnished to the members of the Busch family.

Adopted by the following vote:

Supervisor Morris - Aye

Deputy Supervisor Glenn - Aye

Councilman Sturchio - Aye
Councilman Manning - Aye

RESOLUTION #2017-010 to Authorize Supervisor Morris to sign American Tower

Agreement which is subject to public referendum was offered by Supervisor Morris at the regular monthly meeting of the Caroga Town Board held on Wednesday January 11, 2017.

WHEREAS, The town board has worked closely with Town Attorney Sal Ferlazzo of Girvin & Ferlazzo of 20 Corporate Woods Blvd, Albany, NY 12211 to review and negotiate a contract with American Tower for the sale of the town owned PARCEL #68.-1-27, and **WHEREAS**, the town would receive a one-time payment of \$230,000.00 in consideration for payment of the Pre-Paid Rental Amount with the term of the lease extended to that date which is Forty Nine (49) years after the effective date. Now therefore be it **RESOLVED**, that the Caroga Town Board does hereby move to authorize the Town Supervisor to sign the agreement. The motion was seconded by Council Member Manning.

Discussion: Council Member Sturchio noted the town needs a salt shed and hoped the town would put some of this money towards the shed. Council Member Glen suggested not putting this in the general fund. Supervisor Morris stated there had to be a full board approval as to what they do with the money.

Adopted by a vote of 4 Ayes, Morris, Glenn, Sturchio, Manning

RESOLUTION #2017-011 to appoint Planning Board Member was offered by Supervisor Morris at the regular monthly meeting of the Caroga Town Board held on Wednesday January 11, 2017. **WHEREAS**, the term of Scott Horton ended on December 31, 2017, and **WHEREAS**, the Board is appreciative of his many years of service on the board, and **WHEREAS**, Mr. Horton has decided not to serve another term on the Planning Board, and **WHEREAS**, James Long was recently appointed as an alternate to the Planning Board, now therefore be it **RESOLVED**, that James Long of 335 Kasson Drive Caroga Lake NY 12032 is hereby appointed to serve as a member of the Planning Board until December 31, 2023. The motion was seconded by Council Member Manning.

Adopted by a vote of 4 Ayes, Morris, Glenn, Sturchio, Manning

RESOLUTION #2017-012 Authorize Supervisor Morris to sign the Contract with the Office of Aging Meals Agreement was offered by Supervisor Morris at the regular monthly meeting of the Caroga Town Board held on Wednesday January 11, 2017. **WHEREAS**, the Fulton County Office of the Aging receives funding from the Older Americans Act and the New York State Office for Aging to administer a meals program in Fulton County, and **WHEREAS**, Section I through III set the guidelines and responsibilities for the program with the County and the Town, now therefore be it **RESOLVED**, that the Supervisor is hereby authorized to sign the Contract with the Office of the Aging. The motion was seconded by Council Member Glenn.

Adopted by a vote of 4 Ayes, Morris, Glenn, Sturchio, Manning

Council Member Sturchio talked about the salt shed and noted that poured forms would be better than blocks of concrete. This would be more expensive.

RESOLUTION #2017-013 an Introduction of Local Law #1 2017 to set Grievance Day in the Town of Caroga was offered by Supervisor Morris at the regular monthly meeting of the Caroga Town Board held on Wednesday January 11, 2017. **WHEREAS**, the Assessor Victoria Hayner has informed the board that she will not be available on the fourth Tuesday of May 2017 to hold grievance Day in the Town of Caroga, Now therefore be it **RESOLVED**, that the Caroga Town Board does hereby move introduce Local Law #1 of 2017 to change the date of Grievance Day to the first Wednesday after the fourth Tuesday in May and be it further **RESOLVED**, that the public hearing shall be held on Wednesday February 8, 2017 at 7 pm. The motion was seconded by Council Member Manning.

Adopted by a vote of 4 Ayes, Morris, Glenn, Sturchio, Manning

RESOLUTION #2017-014 to Reappoint Doug Purcell to the Zoning Board of Appeals was offered by Supervisor Morris at the regular monthly meeting of the Caroga Town Board held on Wednesday January 11, 2017. **WHEREAS**, Douglas Purcell of 604 S. Shore Road East Caroga Lake NY 12032 has served as a member of the Zoning Board of appeals since 2008 and does desire to serve another 5 year term, Now therefore be it **RESOLVED**, that the Caroga Town Board does reappoint Mr. Purcell to another term which shall run until December 31, 2020. The motion was seconded by Council Member Glenn.

Adopted by a vote of 4 Ayes, Morris, Glenn, Sturchio, Manning

RESOLUTION #2017-015 to authorize a building expenditure was offered by Supervisor Morris at the regular monthly meeting of the Caroga Town Board held on Wednesday January 11, 2017. **WHEREAS**, there has been an ongoing heating problem in the office of the town clerk, and **WHEREAS**, Bruce Busch of Green Lake Road has evaluated the area and made a recommendation to insulate the ceilings in the clerk's office above the dropped ceilings for a cost of \$1,000.00, now therefore be it **RESOLVED**, that the Caroga Town board does hereby authorize this expenditure. The motion was seconded by Council Member Sturchio.

Adopted by a vote of 4 Ayes, Morris, Glenn, Sturchio, Manning

Supervisor Morris stated the task at hand was filling the vacant board seat. Council Member Sturchio presented three names – James Long received 245 votes from the town's people and he feels he should be appointed to the board. That is 40% of the population of the town stating he should be on there. Several residents told him it was a disservice not to have Mr. Long on the board. Both Howard Dutcher, and Rick Sturgess from Campers Corner have not agreed to fill the seat but he felt these people had a lot to offer.

Council Member Manning – Stated his first is James Long as he received 242 votes in the most recent election for supervisor. He stated this is a board seat. The voice of the people should be listened to. Mr. Long has devoted a lot of time and commitment over the last several months. Other names as he looks around the room were Kent Kirsch – but was not sure if he would be interested. He indicated he was not.

Council Member Glenn had three names – Rick from the Red Store, Shannon Wager, and Frank Malagisi. Council Member Sturchio asked if Mrs. Wager could serve as her husband is Deputy Highway Superintendent. Supervisor Morris stated she would have to recuse herself from voting

on anything for the highway. Council Member Manning stated the town has a nepotism law. He believes no one can serve as the spouse of someone who is in a subordinate position in the town. Supervisor Morris will check with the Assoc. of Towns again on this.

Supervisor Morris suggested Frank Malagisi who has served on the Zoning Board. He is also a member of the Republican Committee in town. He is community focused. Shannon Wager is very sharp with insurance, and cares about the town. Anthony Toskas wanted to be considered as did Kathy Ellerby. She is one of the owners of the Sportsman's.

The tireless effort by Mr. Long were noted. Supervisor Morris called for a vote. Council Member Manning stated looking off the recent election is the best way to get an idea of who the town wants in this position. He received more votes than Council Members, Glenn and Manning when they ran for office. Supervisor Morris called for a vote. Discussion continued. She has her reasons for not putting an opponent in the vacated seat. It is not easy. She is not questioning his integrity. She feels he is an asset to the Planning Board. She would not cast her vote for him. Council Members Sturchio and Manning voted yes for Mr. Long, Council Member Glenn voted no. He thought he had a vested interest in issues to come before the board.

The other people the board members thought might be interested in filling the seat were being discussed. The clerk asked if there were any motions a board member wanted to make.

Supervisor Morris made a motion to appoint Frank Malagisi to the vacant councilman seat. Council Member Glenn seconded the motion.

All in favor – Supervisor Morris, Council Member Glenn
Opposed – Council Member Sturchio, and Council Member Manning

The public then began to engage with the Supervisor and Board Members.

Supervisor Morris stated that Mr. Long has a special interest which may show bias.

Supervisor Morris made a motion to pay the bills as presented for audit, accept the minutes of the December 14 Town Board, Dec. 29th work session and the January 4th reorganizational meeting. Council Member Glenn seconded the motion. All board members were in favor of the motion.

At 10:01 pm Council Member Glenn made a motion to adjourn. Supervisor Morris seconded the motion. All board members were in favor of the motion.

Respectfully Submitted,

Linda M. Gilbert, RMC, CMC
Caroga Town Clerk

General Bills # 1- \$ Highway \$ Prepaid \$ Gen. Park \$ _____.