

# ***Caroga News Flash***

## ***Town Board Meeting Highlights***

### **December 10, 2025**

<https://TownOfCaroga.com> contains all issues of the ***Caroga News Flash***.

This monthly meeting began at 6:30 PM and lasted 91 minutes. In addition to the Board, Clerk, and Highway Superintendent, 9 people attended this meeting at Caroga Town Hall.

This was the final monthly meeting for Supervisor Ralph Palcovic and Board Member Barb DeLuca. They thanked people for the opportunity to serve the Town. Supervisor Palcovic also noted teamwork to advance municipal building planning. He looks forward to seeing continued momentum with the engineering planning, budget specification, and project bid process in 2026.

#### **Resolutions:**

##### **1. Nick Stoner Municipal Golf Course —**

- In a 4-1 vote, the Board approved adding a \$3,000 stipend for Anthony Fancher as “Project Liaison” for the Golf Pole Barn Renovation, noting “all the change order reviews” were “not within the scope of duties” for his \$61,787.00 salary as Caroga Code Enforcement Officer.
- In a 5-0 vote, they cancelled the golf storage contract at the old Fire House 1785 St Hwy 10.
- In a 5-0 vote, they adjusted 2026 Golf Rates for Individual Memberships (\$700 Standard and \$575 for Seniors, Miliary Veterans, Law Enforcement Officers, and First Responders).

##### **2. Town of Caroga Zoning Map Updates —**

- The Adirondack Park Agency (APA) approved rezoning from Conservation to Caroga Hamlet:
  - 68.5-4-6      Old Firehouse at 1785 State Highway 10
  - 68.6-1-2      Current Town Highway Garage at 1795 State Highway 10
  - 68.5-2-1.1      Prior Town Golf Clubhouse at 1801 State Highway 10
  - 68.5-2-15      Town parcel purchased from Foster at 1796 State Highway 10

- The Fulton County Planning Department will be updating the *Town of Caroga Zoning Map*.

##### **3. Wheelerville Trails — (5-0 vote)**

- Approved \$1,940.00 contract with DMR Civil Engineering to design a pedestrian/bicyclist log-stringer style bridge for Caroga Recreational Trails, as budgeted and needed for the grant.

##### **4. Caroga Lake Volunteer Fire Company — (5-0 votes)**

- Canceled the five (5) year fire contract with CLVFC and accepted 1 (one) year fire contract.

##### **5. Highway Department — (5-0 vote)**

- Appointed Roy Stock as “Deputy Highway Superintendent” until he takes office 1/1/2026.
- Approved \$2,300.00 light tower purchase from Abele Tractor & Equipment Company.

##### **6. Lakes Management —**

- Lakes Management Co-Chair Marcus Harazin volunteered to write and submit a DEC Aquatic Invasive Species Grant application for Caroga’s 2027 and 2027 Steward Program, see <https://dec.ny.gov/nature/invasive-species/resources-regulations/invasive-species-grant-program>.

- Lakes Management Co-Chair and Supervisor-Elect Jack Glenn noted that he is working with County HR on a job description for **Caroga’s Weed/DASH Program Director** and expects in 4 to 6 weeks (i.e., early 2026) to post an invitation for applications for that open job position,

see also [https://townofcaroga.com/news\\_flash/flash\\_2025-10-08.pdf](https://townofcaroga.com/news_flash/flash_2025-10-08.pdf) .

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### 7. Budget Transfers — (5-0 vote)

The Board approved the following transfers:

From: A8090.13 WEED/DASH Diver/Tender	\$ 17,000.00	To: A1440.4 Engineers	\$ 17,000.00
From: A8090.13 WEED/DASH Diver/tender	\$ 1,500.00	To: A1620.4 Building C/E	\$ 1,500.00
From: A1990.4 Contingency	\$ 135.00	To: A1450.4 Elections	\$ 135.00
From: A1670.41+6410.41 GC Print/Publicity	\$ 1,500.00	To: A1620.42 Golf Bldg.	\$ 1,500.00
From: A5010.40 Highway Supt C/E	\$ 330.00	To: A3310.40 Traffic Cnt.	\$ 330.00
From: A1990.4 Contingency	\$ 50.00	To: A6770.42 Pgms Aging	\$ 50.00
From: A9060.8 Health Ins	\$ 2,400.00	To: A9010.80 Retirement	\$ 2,400.00
From: DA5141.1 Snow Removal P/S	\$ 1,150.00	To: DA5110.11 Gen Repair	\$ 1,150.00
From: DA5141.1 Snow Removal P/S	\$ 7,400.00	To: DA9010.8 Retirement	\$ 7,400.00

### 8. Budget Reserves — (5-0 vote)

The Board funded the following reserves as set up in the 2025 Town of Caroga Budget:

Capital Reserve Fund	\$20,000.00	Golf Equip Reserve	\$25,000.00
Garbage Truck Reserve	\$20,000.00	Golf Improvement Reserve	\$20,000.00
Highway Equip Reserve	\$25,000.00		

### 9. Local Businesses & Community Organizations — (5-0 votes)

- After debate, the Board supported Stump City Brewery's application for 2026 taproom events at Pine Lake Lodge (1/31, 2/7, 2/14, 2/21, & 2/28) and Sherman's Park (21 specified dates).
- With a win-lose mindset, Council Member Sturgess initially considered denying approval, exclaiming, *"This is going to sound terrible, but...They're taking away from other business!"*
- Council Member Matt Cooper turned focus to local needs for year-round strategic growth.
- Rick Ruby and Stephanie Price-Wong supported year-round growth, but to benefit everyone.
- Supervisor Palcovic advocated for all local businesses and groups, and he congratulated Stump City's Matt Sherman on top honors at the *Gazette's 2025 Battle of the Brews*, see

[https://www.dailygazette.com/food/pint-sized/reflecting-on-a-year-of-capital-region-brews---and-looking-ahead-to/article\\_c5800137-377b-4037-bfea-b1f44411de31.html](https://www.dailygazette.com/food/pint-sized/reflecting-on-a-year-of-capital-region-brews---and-looking-ahead-to/article_c5800137-377b-4037-bfea-b1f44411de31.html) .

### 10. Other Town Business — (5-0 votes)

- Noted ongoing public legal expenses of another costly tax dispute filed by Northern Pine Cove, LLC against the Town for TaxID Parcel 68.5-2-2 (see <https://townofcaroga.com/notes/npa.pdf> ).
- Reappointed Karen Wheeler to the Board of Assessment Review with term ending 9/30/2030.
- The Town received notice from the Town of Bleecker terminating the 2026 Garbage Contract.
- Approved 11/12/2025 meeting minutes and approved bills as presented with 1 amendment.
- Set the Town of Caroga Year-End Meeting for Monday, December 29, 2025 at 6:00 PM.
- The next monthly Town Board meeting will be Wednesday, January 14, 2026 at 6:30 PM.



<https://www.44lakes.com/the-caroga-winter-carnival-is-back-for-2026/>