

State of New York  
County of Fulton  
Town of Caroga

Minutes of a Caroga Town Board work session held Wednesday March 19, 2008 at the municipal building located at 1840 State Highway #10 at 6:30 pm with the following persons in attendance by Roll Call:

Deputy Supervisor Ralph Palcovic - Here  
Councilman Robert Sprung - Here  
Council Member Valerie Scribner - Here  
Councilman Robert Sullivan - Here

There were 20 members of the public in attendance. The town attorney arrived as the meeting was concluding.

The salute to the pledge was held.

Deputy Supervisor Palcovic gave each candidate five minutes to state why they want to become the supervisor of the Town of Caroga. This is an informal process; if there are questions after their statements the board may direct questions to the candidates. The board will meet next week at another session just to announce their selection for town supervisor.

Mr. Selmser retired two years ago and moved here on a permanent basis. He attended Gloversville schools and has lived here seasonably for 62 years. He lived in Syracuse and worked in a manufacturing environment as a comptroller and supervisor for 35 plus years. He dealt with many people in his work environment at various locations. He had a staff of 10 – 35 people. He has volunteered with local churches on finance committees, served as treasurer, and council president. Other volunteer positions were with the library and scouts. Recently he has approached the chamber of commerce and the United Way to volunteer his services. Mr. Selmser wants to help and utilize any experience he has not to make major changes but to work together with the board to make joint decisions, and work on and fulfill the towns needs. He wants to be involved with the county so the town gets a representation on that level and build a relationship to help our community.

Jack McCarthy – lives on Kasson Drive. He is a retired teacher. He has spent most of his time volunteering at the Caroga Museum, Wilderness Inc., and the County Museum where he is the 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President. He audited all the case records for the Office of the Aging for the past two years. He makes cotton candy at the Rail Trail Festival and has helped out at the Salvation Army. He is involved with many projects with the recreation department in Gloversville. In Caroga he would like to work closely with the council. He was happy to hear that the minutes of the meetings were going to be on the Internet. He thought there were other ways to improve communications. He would like to see an improvement in the appearance to downtown and the approach to the town. The rumor around town is that two of the restaurants are not going to stay open next winter. “I think there are a number of things that we could do.” He has also met with Wally Hart (F. C. Chamber of Commerce) who has agreed to help the businesses in town fix up

their properties. Mr. McCarthy has been in contact and worked closely with the transportation commissioner and other members on the Gloversville Council. He noted that it looks like there is money available to bring a bus up here. There are people who need transportation to doctors and for shopping. A lot of the things the council is already doing are pretty good. He is looking forward to working with the council.

Sarah Burgess has lived in Caroga Lake for 25 years. She was educated in Gloversville schools and at FMCC. She has a RN degree in nursing. She is currently employed by Nathan Littauer Hospital but plans to retire in June. She will have plenty of time to work in the capacity for the town and would like to be part of meetings, improvements, decisions, and hopefully she could be a benefit to the town. Because of her fulltime work she has not been involved in a lot of activities but did serve on the Women's Auxiliary.

Mr. Joseph Breen and Mr. Robert Kane also submitted letters of interest but were not present.

Deputy Supervisor Palcovic thanked everyone for their presentations.

Mrs. Bush asked if the board would be basing their decision on just the people who spoke this evening or would the board take additional names? Deputy Supervisor Palcovic stated that the board would possibly review another individual if one came through via resume. The public selection will be made next week.

Deputy Supervisor Palcovic asked the clerk to explain to the board the reasoning behind making another resolution on the alienation of land process. She noted that the previous resolution was made in the previous Senate and Assembly year calendar. On the previous paperwork the explanation was not filled in.

**RESOLUTION to Exercise Home Rule Rights** **#2008-026**

Offered by Councilman Sprung

Seconded by Councilman Sullivan

**WHEREAS**, the Caroga Town Board held a work session on Wednesday March 19, 2008, and

**WHEREAS**, the Town of Caroga has been working with Senator Hugh Farley and Assemblyman Marc Butler to move forward with legislation to ultimately allow the Town of Caroga to discontinue the use of certain lands as parklands and

**WHEREAS**, the Town of Caroga is prepared to dedicate new town parklands equal to or greater than fair market value for the property being alienated, now therefore be it

**RESOLVED**, that the Town of Caroga does hereby move to exercise it's Home Rule Rights to discontinue the use of parklands per S5288B and A7813B

Deputy Supervisor Ralph Palcovic - aye

Councilman Robert Sprung - aye

Council Member Valerie Scribner - aye

Councilman Robert Sullivan - aye

**RESOLUTION to dispose of town property**

**#2008-027**

Offered by Councilman Sullivan

Seconded by Council Member Scribner

**WHEREAS**, the Caroga Town Board held a work session on Wednesday March 19, 2008, and

**WHEREAS**, Deputy Supervisor Palcovic discussed with the board the need to dispose of scrap metal and unused and unneeded items housed in the old school section of the building which includes lockers, desks, misc. metal items and

**WHEREAS**, disposal would include recycling, donating to not for profit organizations, and the dump, now therefore be it

**RESOLVED**, that the Caroga Town Board does hereby move to dispose of town property as afore mentioned and anything else that is not usable in the old section of the school.

Adopted by the following vote:

Deputy Supervisor Ralph Palcovic - aye

Councilman Robert Sprung - aye

Council Member Valerie Scribner - aye

Councilman Robert Sullivan - aye

**RESOLUTION to Authorize Payment to the acting Supervisor**

**#2008-028**

Offered by Councilman Sullivan

Seconded by Councilman Sprung

**WHEREAS**, the Caroga Town Board held a work session on Wednesday March 19, 2008, and

**WHEREAS**, Gary W. Gifford Sr. did recently resign as Supervisor of the Town of Caroga and

**WHEREAS**, Councilman Palcovic also serves as Deputy Supervisor, now therefore be it

**RESOLVED**, that Deputy Supervisor Palcovic shall receive compensation during the period of time he serves as Supervisor of the Town of Caroga at the rate the Supervisor would have been paid until such time that a supervisor is appointed.

Adopted by the following vote:

Deputy Supervisor Ralph Palcovic - abstained

Councilman Robert Sprung - aye

Council Member Valerie Scribner - aye

Councilman Robert Sullivan - aye

**RESOLUTION to waive waiting period for a N.Y. S. Liquor License #2008-029**

Offered by Councilman Sprung

Seconded by Council Member Scribner

**WHEREAS**, the Caroga Town Board held a work session on Tuesday March 18, 2008, and

**WHEREAS**, the Town Board receive notice from Larry J Eckler, owner of the Pinnacle Restaurant and Motel 1669 State Highway 10 Caroga Lake NY that it is his intent to open the Pinnacle Restaurant and motel for the 2008 season on April 1, 2008 and that he will be selling alcohol, and

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Eckler would like to expedite the process in obtaining his liquor license renewal, and has asked the town board to waive the 30-day waiting period for a New York State on premises liquor license enabling the establishment to move forward with the application process, now therefore be it

**RESOLVED**, that the Caroga Town Board does hereby move to accept the application for the liquor license and does hereby move to waive the 30-day waiting period for the above stated property.

Adopted by the following vote:

Deputy Supervisor Ralph Palcovic - aye  
Councilman Robert Sprung - aye  
Council Member Valerie Scribner - aye  
Councilman Robert Sullivan - aye

Robert Kane was given time to address the board as a candidate for supervisor. He stated that he has been a resident of Caroga Lake for 50 years. He served as treasurer of the Wheelerville Free School for 4 years and a 35-year member of the fire department. He is well versed on all town activities and thinks he can do first class job.

Bill VanGorder and Chris Smonaker, a new agent, from Mang Insurance gave the board an overview of the town's policies and coverage. About a month ago Mr. VanGorder gave a presentation to the previous supervisor. He has put together a packet for the board. The town has coverage through NYMIR New York Municipal Insurance Recipical. Back in the late 80's the insurance markets were in a liability crisis. The Town of Caroga is one of the 15 charter members who worked with the Associations of Towns and Doug Jones a local insurance agent to create this insurance group. Jon Stead Clerk of the Fulton County Board is a NYMIR representative. The packet includes NYMIR's proposal for coverage. Deb Smith works in the local office, Diane Edwards handles claims. He explained there is 1.5-million blanket property coverage. There is also a general liability policy, which covers suits and claims against the town, as well as a bodily, personal and public officials policy. The town has a land use, auto, inland marine, and an OCP (for performing maintenance in a NYS right of way) policies. There is an additional 3 million dollar policy, which is on top of all the liabilities. A loss run report was included with the packet.

The My Wave Program (an intra net program) was demonstrated when they came up several weeks ago. This is a comprehensive tool to help the town with OSHA compliance programs, vehicle and property safety and protection. The town has access to it now on Mrs. Hillier's computer. There is an 80-page template for an employee handbook for the board to review. He recommended that the board go through it as a group. He noted that the town attorney should approve it before a policy is implemented. There are many safety handbooks in the program. Mr. VanGorder would be happy to come back to work with the board on this.

Deputy Supervisor Palcovic asked if NYMIR provided an onsite technical safety instructor to come up and meet with our employees? Mr. Van Gorder responded that they would be available to speak more directly to a specific situation associated to DPW safety – or pertinent issues directly associated to an insurance claim. The information is all free.

The board set the next work session for Tuesday March 25<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm. Deputy Supervisor Palcovic thanked everyone for coming to the meeting especially the candidates.

At 7:05 pm Councilman Sprung made a motion to adjourn. Councilman Sullivan seconded the motion. All board members were in favor of the motion.

Respectfully Submitted,

Linda M. Gilbert – RMC  
Town Clerk