

State of New York
County of Fulton
Town of Caroga

Minutes of the Caroga Town Board regular monthly meeting held on September 9, 2026, at 6:30 pm at Town hall with the following board members in attendance by roll call. The salute to the flag followed.

Supervisor John Glenn – Here
Council Member Richard Sturgess - Here
Council Member Matthew Cooper – Here
Council Member Greta Frasier – Here
Council Member Kimberly Walker – Dailey – Here (known as Council Member Walker)

CM before a name shall indicate Council Member.

Also in attendance were Jeremy Manning – Wheelerville Bike Trail Manager, Steve Stedman - Greens Keeper, Mike Kunath BTI – Coordinator, Roy Stock – Highway Superintendent, Former Town Supervisor Scott Horton and his wife, Mike and Michael Voght – highway employees, Marcus Harazin a member of the Lakes Management team, Luke Horst – Weed Harvesting Coordinator, Comprehensive Planning Committee Member/Secretary Anita Long, John Byrnes– Zoning Board of Appeals Members, Christian Manns - Planning Board Member, Angela German a member of the Tourism Committee. There were also 4 members of the public present.

Supervisor Glenn asked everyone to remain standing after the salute to the flag to honor Jack DeWeese, he passed away last Sunday at the age of 87. He gave to the community for many, many years. In December of 1998 he was appointed to serve as the weed harvesting supervisor. He was one of the pioneers. He served in that position for 17 years and brought our Diver Assisted Suction Harvesting (DASH) Program to where it is today. Supervisor Glenn recognized his efforts, as did all of the Town Board Members, various other officials and members of the public in attendance this evening, with a moment of silence.

CM Sturgess made a motion to waive the reading of the minutes of the previous meetings. The motion was seconded by CM Walker. All board members were in favor of the motion: Glenn, Sturgess, Cooper, Frasier, Walker.

Department Reports:

Wheelerville Bike Trail – Mr. Manning reported they began working on connector trail last Monday. This trail will connect from the Irving Pond area behind the golf course ultimately down to downtown Caroga. It is on the southern edge of the town property. Right now, they are about a ½ mile in on that between holes #7 and #8.

The bike festival was by far the biggest yet. That was two weeks ago. He stated there were 1,200 riders on the first day alone. There were more riders from northern New England, Canada and

further to the west than they have had before. As shown on the registration data. There were over 100,000 social media interactions in the days following the festival. Mr. Manning thanked Fulton County Tourism – they sponsored the event. L.L. Bean sponsored the kid's day on the second day. Despite the rain kids and parents showed up and rode anyway. Next year he plans to increase the family activities. Mr. Manning spoke to representatives of Red Bull, and they stated it was one of the best events they have ever attended. They want to come back next year and increase their presence here potentially financially.

Many people are aware that there was a serious accident on the first day. Mr. Manning thanked all the first responders, vendors and bystanders who took charge and helped in a difficult situation. Mr. Manning did not comment on the condition of the person. He did note that a complete safety review of the mountain and venue was conducted to look for any hazards. Signage has increased, outlining liability descriptions. Mr. Manning has also reached out to other bike trails networks about how to handle these types of situations. This is a sport not without risks. It is unfortunate that we had to be reminded of that. Next year's event will be on August 14th, 2027. There were 22 vendors, the most they have ever had. People have already committed to coming back next year.

BTI – Mr. Kunath reported the season is over. It was productive. There are some areas that are historically a problem. He will work on getting those better. They are on the outskirts of town. This year they used 45 gallons. He has ordered and received 40 gallons. They are put away and ready for next season. Mr. Kunath thanked the whole team – Dale Nethaway, John Byrnes, Sarah Wichatowicz, Austin, and Paul Brink. There will be an end of the year meeting to turn in their paperwork this Sunday. He will be discussing knotweed at the meeting. He wants his team to be able to identify it and perhaps create a map of where it is. Mr. Kunath may be doing a school even though the town does not need to hire anybody. He works with the Town of Stratford, and they might need a few people. The Highway Superintendent asked about spraying the knotweed. Mr. Kunath stated that they inject the roots from what he knows.

Sole Assessor – Leah Anne Loucks submitted a written report. The assessor asked the board to put out to the public a request for letters of interest for the Board of Assessment Review as requested for the last several months that the town board has not acted on. There is a term ending on September 30th, 2026. She noted that Mr. Livingston had put in an email that he has spoken to Supervisor Glenn personally about being reappointed. Due to several years of unethical behavior and actions along with blatantly breaking the law with regard to a particular person previous grievance proceedings and Mr. Livingstons illegal actions regarding his own filed grievance the board would be better served asking for letters of interest from the public. At this time Ralph Palcovic and Jeff McGillis have voiced their interest. The appointment should be tabled to allow for others to submit.

The assessor requested legal guidance on a building exemption to the town attorney. To date, just like last month, she has received no response from the town attorney. The applicant is not eligible

for the exemption he has applied for, but since there are two different completion documents with two different dates issued by the Town of Caroga, along with other defects in the application the income producing agricultural business (as specified by NYS) the assessor would prefer to have written legal guidance. This gentleman has stated that he will be attending the upcoming Grievance proceedings and will request to be heard in another municipality. She noted that the law does not allow this, Mr. Livingston has a history of skirting the law during these proceedings, and the board should be aware.

Key points and updates: The Board of Assessment Review (BAR) budget form was given to the assessor for completion, but they are for a board under the direction and discretion of the town board. They are to be separated from the Assessor (no ensure a non-biased Board) therefore it would not be under her purview for their budget. The Assessor noted she will be attending continuing education classes remotely to meet the requirements by NYS.

The clerk noted the assessor was in her office earlier and talked about the need to use the town vehicle to go out and survey the town. The clerk asked if that was in her report to which she replied yes.

The assessor's report continued on another sheet to say she travels to the county for paperwork every two weeks. She is updating the property record cards using the Beason program offered by Fulton County. The assessor noted here updated phone number 518-848-8681.

The clerk stated the assessor noted one of the reasons the Beacon records are not being updated is because she doesn't have a vehicle. Supervisor Glenn stated that they would have to address that as a board. Council Member Sturgess asked how was this done in the past. The clerk noted she used the vehicle the town owned years ago. The photos on the county website are out of date by 8 – 9 years. Council Member Cooper noted his photo on the site is 17 years old. Council Member Sturgess stated there have always been vehicles available.

Town Clerk/Tax Collector/Registrar/RMO – The monthly town clerk report was submitted. The clerk received a letter from the NYS Retirement today there is a problem with the retirement reporting that was submitted. The clerk will review it with the bookkeeper. The bookkeeper and the Town Supervisor also received this notice.

This morning the janitor came in and found the north door propped open. The cameras were reviewed by Mr. McIntosh of Canada Lake Computers. The source was discovered. The clerk asked everyone entering or leaving the building to make sure it is secure.

Power outages cause the meeting room and supervisor's copiers to throw an error code which needs to be serviced by Derby. Notes will be placed on the copiers to turn them off after use so there aren't reoccurring service calls.

After last month's meeting and the comment on how much it costs to run this building, the clerk did a six-year review. At first just two years were reviewed but after showing the data to Supervisor Glenn he suggested a 5-year review. Brick and mortar – not electricity, not heat, not

computers, not internet, not the water system. Suburban propane is the biggest expense - \$14,000.00, \$13,000.00 per year to heat this building. Basically, just the roof to the floors and walls the physical repairs to maintain the building averaged out to about \$13,000.00. Those repairs include septic, roof, heating, plumbing. It was eye opening to the clerk. The information is available if anyone wanted to review it.

Yesterday the clerk was talking to a Deputy Sheriff he stated that after the Nashville Day there was a call for a naked man in the middle of the road down past Dollar General. Private property was destroyed. The man was picked up by a passing vehicle after putting on his pants and driven away.

CM Frasier was contacted by Colleen Ricciardi who is looking for records for her retirement. Colleen believes she was first hired in 2013 as a summer schoolteacher for summer recreation. CM Frasier stated the bookkeeper could not find the records from 2013-2017. The clerk/Records Manage Officer will again search for the records. CM Sturgess stated the town should have the W2 records. The clerk noted those records were reviewed and neither the name Colleen Graves nor Colleen Ricciardi was found. CM Sturgess thought maybe she was paid through the school. The program used to be at the school. The clerk noted Ms. Ricciardi did check with the school for other records. The clerk will continue to look and didn't realize the bookkeeper stated she didn't have any records for that time period. The town has (payroll) records going back to the 50's.

Code Enforcement & Sanitation – Mr. Fancher submitted a written report – 35 permits issued for \$4,550.00 in fees collected and a valuation of \$948,175.00. He reported that 38 inspections were done.

Dog Control – the clerk did not receive a report from Mr. Dutcher. Council Member Cooper noted there was a dog bite case that required stitches and an unlicensed dog. The clerk noted a ticket was issued.

Golf Course – Mr. Stedman thanked Mr. Stock for delivering sand. They are mowing and the fairways were fertilized last week. This Monday they will start Tee seed/sand aerification and then they will get the fall fertilization. Aerification on the greens will be on October 6 after the Falling Leaves Tournament on October 5th which is open to the public. No major issues with the clubhouse. Kyle reported to Mr. Stedman that all of the new merchandise is in – hoodies, windbreakers, and long sleeve shirts. He will review the budget with Kyle on Friday.

CM Sturgess reported the revenues on the golf course so far year to date as of August were about \$32,000.00 short of hitting the budgeted numbers for the season. Still have two months to go but he predicted we would “blow it out of the water.” He thanked Mr. Stedman.

CM Frasier asked if the tournament was on the website. Mr. Stedman stated it might be on their Facebook page. The clerk asked for a list so the tournaments could be posted on the town website too. Mr. Stedman replied next year.

Highway – Roy Stock noted no one was here from the school to discuss the bus turn around so the matter was tabled until next month. The crew is filling potholes and did some culvert work today and yesterday. New grates for the sanders were made so the screen plant doesn't have to be run all winter – save money. They have been painting the trucks getting them ready for winter.

Mr. Stock noted the contract for ice and snow removal for the county needs to be signed. He calculated it cost the town about \$9,000.00 not including the fuel which he estimated at another \$2,000 - \$3,000 for fuel. We are under \$31,806.00 they are paying the town this year. Mr. Stock noted last year he took a truck down empty and weighed it, ran down Beach Ridge Road sanded the road, went back down to the county and weighed the truck again to see how many tons they were putting on the road. They figured out the hourly cost and of the overtime to come up with the figures. CM Sturgess stated there are a lot of things that aren't in that number - wear and tear on vehicles. CM Cooper noted that Mr. Stock said they made the grates for the sanders that were destroyed and cut up and used for other things over the years. To buy them new it would be \$5,000.00 per set. Mr. Stock bought raw steel for \$1,300.00 and made them in house probably better than the grates you can buy. The deputy and the mechanic built them.

CM Sturgess asked about the new truck. It will be here in January, it was ordered on May 13, 2025. CM Cooper stated they are predicting it will take two years now. He talked about the life cycle with the supervisor this afternoon. Essentially all of our trucks are beyond the useful life cycle except the new one. Years of neglect... we never had a plan to life cycle our vehicles. CM Cooper noted the state sets 10 years for a big truck. Mr. Stock has quotes from two vendors now and is waiting for a third. He will have a packet for the board members. It was suggested that the town order another truck. Future town boards need to plan that every two years for the next four years would be the start of the life cycle.

Supervisor Glenn spoke with Renee, a representative of a financing company who would like to meet with Mr. Stock and a few of the board members. CM Cooper didn't have time to review the resolution when the truck was ordered to see if financing was discussed. CM Sturgess remembers a minimum deposit and wanted to review the financing. The clerk noted the bookkeeper mentioned to her that there was a reserve of \$60,000.00 for the truck. Supervisor Glenn noted that \$90,000.00 is put away in reserve for equipment. Funds were used from the reserve for the box for one of the trucks. Mr. Stock has information from Community Bank on the financing.

Lakes Management Program –Mr. Horst reported the program was wrapped up for the year. Last week they put everything away. He feels good about where the program went this year. There were very little weeds found in West Caroga in two or three concentrated areas. There were maybe 3 – 5 bushels total all summer. East Caroga, the main body of the lake was minimal. When Mr. Sullivan came and did the survey on August 4th he pointed out a couple places. The main concerns were over by the marina – the bay coming out of there. They took out a bushel at the most of plants out of there. The rest of the plants removed were from three different bays. Two over by the channel – they took 100 – 125 bushels from those two bays. He noted that there wasn't a flow

of traffic in that main part of the lake. When we have to treat the lake again those areas should be done. Another spot was on the back side of Bennett's Bay. Mr. Horst noted if the residents in that area wanted to be proactive not just with the milfoil but with the other stuff legally you can clear 32 feet from your dock space and the whole bay would be cleaned up. Mr. Sullivan when he came back wanted to treat that area. In talking to Glen Sullivan about the future – it is an unknown, but he thinks in probably two years the town will want to do a more detailed survey and perhaps have to treat again in three years. Other than that, the lake is very, very clean. Mr. Horst felt less was taken out this year than last with the exception of those isolated bays. He thanked Barb Donnally for the use of the point. He thanked Canada Lake and Caroga Lake marina's, the highway department. He thanked the other two divers, especially Hanna. She is fantastic at finding the plant. The motors were taken to be serviced at Canada Lake the boat will be shrink wrapped. Caroga Lake marina will acid wash and shrink wrap the pontoon boat. Everything is back in the shed. The dock is out of the water.

Supervisor Glenn asked if Mr. Sullivan gave any idea of the cost. Mr. Horst noted he could not give an exact amount. But to treat again in two or three years would be about \$75,000 to \$80,000.00 for the two lakes but that could be based on what was treated last time. This could be pushed back based on the findings in the next couple of years. He didn't believe there were any grants as this was not a first-time thing. There may be other grants available. Supervisor Glenn thought there should be money set aside for this.

Mr. Harazin reported that Mr. Olm submitted a written report. In the last month of the decontamination program, they were up to 2815 watercraft inspected, which is similar to last year. The final numbers won't be in until after Columbus Day. At the Caroga Boat wash so far, there were 283 boats were decontaminated but they inspected 327 boats. At the DEC 337 inspected, at West Lake 2088 watercraft were inspected and at Caroga Marine there were 63 inspected. They have found some invasive species this season. At West Lake they found some milfoil with some zebra mussels on it. Previously they have found zebra mussels at the boat wash station. They require a high calcium content, and our lakes are relatively low. The risk is low. They reported they came from the Sacandaga Lake, Mr. Harazin assumed they meant the Sacandaga reservoir, but neither of those lakes report zebra mussels. A lot of the boats being inspected were coming from lakes that have spiny water fleas. Those boats we want to decontaminate.

The lakes management meeting will be on October 6th at 5:30 pm at town hall. The results of the water samples for bacteria will be reviewed. The sampling was done by John Byrnes for Canada Lake, Rick Mendetta for East Caroga, and John Forquor for West Caroga. They did find some levels of E. coli. They will check for trends and if there are issues, they will investigate to try and find the source.

Mr. Harazin noted there was a terrestrial invasive species presentation in July with over 50 people there. An injector was left with Mr. Harazin, and he has worked with two homeowners so far. In addition, you can do cutting and bagging. This will be talked about at the lakes management

meeting. He would like to work with the BTI program and the highway department too. Also to be discussed with Scott Henze from Fulton County on the funds for septic systems and wastewater. He hopes he can attend the meeting. He hopes to have more information on this at the October Town Board meeting.

Mr. Harazin reiterated that the contributions that Mr. DeWeese made to the invasive species program. He was always willing to come to a lake association meeting. He was also always willing to train others about the Eurasian Milfoil and to share information.

Supervisor Glenn asked if the injectable chemical was readily available. Mr. Harazin replied that it was but there are issues about how, who, and where it is applied. We can all go buy roundup but on state or town land you have to be licensed to do it. There is a certification program but first you have to be an apprentice. A homeowner can use the injector (like a darning needle going through the stem of a plant) and be given information on how to remove terrestrials. The highway superintendent noted he is seeing knotweed. Mr. Harazin noted it was up near Pine Lake Lodge and Sawdust Creek which over time could end up in Canada Lake. It blocks out visibility on roads and can affect fish and other wildlife in the lakes. Mr. Stock noted if you cut it leave it there to dry. Mr. Kunath would have to take a different class to be certified. Mr. Harazin wanted to see if there was funding for that. He noted in Hamilton County their Soil and Water department does it. Supervisor Glenn was sure the town would help out getting individuals certified.

Town Hall Building – Council Member Walker- Dailey reported when the power went out it fried the pump switch over at the clinic. This is the fourth time. The code officer was concerned they may not keep paying for that. CM Sturgess stated that we can't control the weather. CM Walker noted that eventually the town will need a new pump according to Mr. Rector – a plumber.

Caroga Tourism Committee – Council Member Frasier stated that she would have like an informal get together on the 21st with individual left on the committee. She will be reaching out to the businesses for the winter carnival. She had car racers reach out to her about races on the lake. She asked them for some dates and insurance papers together.

CM Frasier asked about the Summer Rec. Director and if it could be brought up now. Verna Snell sent in a letter of interest. CM Frasier reviewed various points in her resume. CM Sturgess wanted to make the appointment at the beginning of the year. Ms. Long noted that Colleen asked that this be done in the fall. It takes time to do the paperwork with the state. CM Frasier thought that the appointment needed to be done sooner. CM Sturgess wanted to know if the position is paid throughout the course of the year or just the weeks the program happens. CM Frasier thought they were paid during the six weeks of the program. CM Sturgess noted we pay the director to take care of the paperwork. When the paperwork is filed with the state it has to be in the new person's name.

Supervisor Glenn offered to make a resolution to hire Verna Snell.

Discussion: CM Frasier noted the board was not going to pay both of them at the same time. Colleen's job title would end at the end of the year. It was noted that Colleen is working on the budget. CM Sturgess wondered about anything that happens in 2026 for that position. CM Frasier replied that Colleen stated she would do it. CM Sturgess just wanted it noted that the town did not budget for two people to get paid. CM Frasier didn't believe it was a matter of pay but whose name is on the paperwork for next year.

RESOLUTION #2026-088 to hire Verna Snell as the Recreation Director was offered by Council Member Frasier at the regular monthly meeting of the Caroga Town Board held on September 9, 2026.

WHEREAS, the town received a resignation letter from Colleen Ricciard as the director of the Summer Youth Program, and

WHEREAS, the town did post the opening on the town website listing the qualifications, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Caroga Town Board does hereby move to hire Verna Snell of County Highway 137 Johnstown NY as the Recreation Director effective January 1st, 2027.

Seconded by Council Member Sturgess

Adopted by a vote of five (5) Ayes: Glenn, Sturgess, Cooper, Walker, Frasier

Supervisor's Report:

Supervisor Glenn noted last month the board did not follow up after public hearing to change the zoning of parcels 68.14-1-6, 68.-1-27, 68.-1-26, & 68.-1-27.9999. He noted the Caroga Planning Board approved the change as did the County Planning Board.

RESOLUTION #2026-089 to change the zoning on parcels 68.14-1-6, 68.-1-27, 68.-1-26, & 68.-1-27.9999 was offered by Supervisor Glenn at the regular monthly meeting of the Caroga Town Board held on September 9, 2026. The motion was seconded by Council Member Sturgess for the purpose of holding a discussion.

Discussion: CM Sturgess stated there was a reason why this wasn't moved forward. He thought it was because of one parcel for where the barn is and not changing that whole parcel as it pertained to being X amount of feet off the road. The Supervisor was supposed to look into that he thought. CM Sturgess suggested tabling it for this meeting.

CM Cooper noted that it needs to be looked at for the next meeting. This has to come to a resolution and move forward.

Supervisor Glenn noted he and CM Cooper will be meeting with Wilson Engineering the company that built the Broadalbin Highway Barn in the near future.

Supervisor Glenn spoke to Mr. VanGorder about the insurance for the town to cover the equipment and all of the other policies necessary to do with the town. There were a couple of things Mr. Stock had him change. The paperwork had to be changed. He will get the paperwork back soon.

The Supervisor explained about the change work order with CT Male and the monitoring at the landfill. They do it four times per year. The quote was for 2027. The change was \$6,303.00. He wanted to find out when this goes to bi-annually. CM Sturgess thought it was already switched to twice a year. The supervisor will get back in touch with them.

Supervisor Glenn received notice from Bob Carrie the town's health insurance will have an increase of 16.1%. CDPHP that they would no longer be covering Fulton County in 2027. Various other plans were given to each board member to review. CM Frasier asked why Fidelus was not listed. Supervisor Glenn will ask him to come to a meeting. Mr. Stock suggested talking to the union insurance representative. Supervisor Glenn noted the Teamsters insurance required every town employee to take it. CM Sturgess noted that if you opt out of it one time and get paid one time. The supervisor noted another source stated there would be an increase of 4 - 5%. The Supervisor wanted to settle this by the end of October.

****Public Comments and Questions**

Barbara Donnally was golfing today and stated there was a lot of noise out on the golf course. She was very concerned about how close the trails are going to be to the golfer course.

She also had a photo of East Caroga Lake she would like someone to look at. Supervisor Glenn suggested contacting Jed Potocar.

Anita Long wanted to give the board an update about grants. She went to their monthly meeting today in Cobleskill and expects results to come out in December. She noted the 583-page grant proposal is on the town website.

Ms. Long brought the board a brick and noted there is a program called NY BRICKS – Building, Recreation, Infrastructure, for Communities Kids and Seniors. They are looking for community centers sponsored by municipalities or non – profits. She thought Caroga should apply for this in the amount of four million dollars to bridge the gaps for that project. She printed out a summary and thought the town fit into the middle category by taking the 20% using the insurance money and request \$4 -5 million to do the rest of the project. This is based on community need. She noted that Caroga was not a disadvantaged community (lose points) . Ms. Long stated that the whole census parcel is in a moderately distressed area (gain points). She noted the second part is on construction readiness. To the extent the town can show we are shovel ready more points apply. She noted that the town would require quotes on the mechanicals and engineering. She suggested partnering with Jim Thatcher and Millie Krouse of CT Male. She urged the board to give this serious consideration and offered her help. It was noted that the town should start now with the SEQR. The portal for this project opens in November and the final deadline is December 7th. Ideally the paperwork should be done by Thanksgiving. CM Sturgess read an email from Mr. Thatcher who stated the town would be a good candidate. He wishes he had responded with an estimated cost for them to partner up with us. Ms. Long noted that the attorney recommended doing a SEQR for the whole project. Part one has been completed. The attorney is working on the process to have the town be the lead agency on this. Ms. Long noted a follow up with the

Adirondack Park Agency was needed. She suggested reaching out to the Planning Chairman on this. Ms. Long asked if the board wanted to pass a resolution to pursue this. CM Frasier asked if last time the supervisor was given authority to go ahead and approve the proposal up to a dollar amount. CM Sturgess noted the town only budgeted for \$10,000.00 for grant writing. Seven thousand dollars have already been spent from that line. CM Sturgess suggested pulling the remainder out of fund balance. Ms. Long also noted there was an engineering line. CM Sturgess wondered how we could go out to contract for something we haven't... CM Cooper stated to request a proposal from CT Male. CM Sturgess thought we had time to reach out to CT Male for a price. CM Sturgess thought the town attorney should be contacted also.

RESOLUTION #2026-090 to move forward with the NY BRICKS Grant Application with CT Male was offered by Council Member Sturgess at the regular monthly meeting of the Caroga Town Board held on September 9, 2026.

WHEREAS, the board received information from Anita Long about a new grant opportunity, and

WHEREAS, Jim Thayer from CT Male sent an email to the Caroga Town Board members stating that he thought this was a good fit, and

WHEREAS, the board would like to request a proposal from CT Male to help with the grant writing process, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Caroga Town board does hereby move to move forward with the NY BRICKS Grant Application with CT Male.

Seconded by Council Member Cooper

Discussion: Since the resolution was made during the public portion of the meeting Former Supervisor Horton noted if the board was inclined to apply for this grant and wants to use CT Male because they were successful before in applying for a grant. The board could just easily make a resolution to request a proposal from them to keep this going forward. Then attach a fee at the next meeting. Then the timeline would move forward as time is of the essence.

Adopted by a vote of five (5) Ayes: Glenn, Sturgess, Cooper, Walker, Frasier

Anita was thanked.

Public – continued

Marcus Harazin of Canada Lake wanted to make a couple of comments on the positive side. He thought the highway department looked exceptionally good. The building has been painted, it looks better, more professional.

In spite of the rain, it has been a great summer for the town. He noted the number of people using the golf course and bike path. The music we have here is better than anywhere in upstate as far as he is concerned. He noted the rodeo and other events that take place are a lot of fun for people who visit. He thanked the town for the support they give to these programs. He also listed was

the Summer Recreation program. He thanked the staff and board who make the programs work well.

Ms. Germain stated she knows they (Tourism Committee) are not meeting until the 21st. She asked if it was OK to run the Trunk or Treat flyer of Town of Caroga Tourism and CAC as they had in the past. CM Frasier and CM Walker didn't have a problem with that. Ms. Germain asked the board about contributing \$200 from the tourism line for 3 – 4 \$30 - \$50 gift cards for the best costume and the best trunk prizes, and the girl that does crafts. CM Sturgess thought those could be purchased with the Town's debit card. Ms. Germain stated she usually just turns in receipts. CM Sturgess stated there is \$750.00 in the budget for tourism and nothing has been used from it. He thought the board gave \$250.00 per event. There is also the Tree Lighting event. Ms. Germain stated for Trunk or Treat they only need \$200.00 from tourism. The clerk noted they usually purchase pumpkins and apple cider. In the past CM Sturgess has donated donuts. CM Sturgess figured that \$375.00 could be spent for each remaining event. Ms. Germain stated that the CAC also pitches in.

Ms. Germain suggested that somewhere on the main road like between Vrooman's, Lakeview Store, ADK Taproom, and the Post office area there should be a crosswalk. CM Sturgess noted it took him 7 years to get a crosswalk near his business to the State Campground. The Supervisor noted that the Department of Transportation (DOT) would have to approve that. It was noted they wouldn't lower the speed limit. Mr. Manning noted he gets a permit from DOT for the bike festival. He noted you can get a crosswalk installed with 30 days advanced notice. The town could do it but not non-profits or individuals. He explained there are barriers for the day.

Barb Donnally noted she had a couple fawns killed in front of her property this past week. It took three days and six phone calls to get them moved. No one would come to shoot the injured one. She asked if there was a policy. It is a state road DOT that takes care of it. She waited for three hours for the Sheriff. Anyone local would have helped.

The public portion of the meeting was closed at 8 pm.

Old Business:

Supervisor Glenn reviewed the old business. Email from Frontier that Verizon will be transitioning Service from Copper to VOIP voice or OneTalk. The clerk replied we have a couple of months for that.

Snow Removal and Ice control contract with Fulton County. Highway Superintendent Stock noted a resolution was needed for this.

RESOLUTION #2026-091 to accept the Fulton County Snow Removal Contract was offered by Council Member Sturgess at the regular monthly meeting of the Caroga Town Board held on September 9, 2026.

WHEREAS, the Fulton County Highway Department sent over the annual snow removal and ice control contract for the year 2026 -2027, and

WHEREAS, the Caroga Highway Department would facilitate the contract for county roads 111 aka London Bridge Road and County Highway 137 aka Beech Ridge Road a total of 5.13 miles at a price of \$6,200.00 per mile for a total contract price of \$31,806.00, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Caroga Town Board does hereby move to contract with the County of Fulton per the agreement to undertake snow removal and ice control for the 2026-2027 winter on County roads 111 and 137 at the price so stated in the agreement.

Seconded by Council Member Cooper

Adopted by a vote of five (5) Ayes: Glenn, Sturgess, Cooper, Walker, Frasier

Supervisor Glenn noted the board discussed the open seat on the Board of Assessment Review. Letters on interest will be asked for. The clerk will post the opening on the town website.

New Business:

Supervisor Glenn set a budget work session for September 25th. He stated he had talked to Joanne and that was the only time she was available. It is on a Friday. The time was set at 2pm at town hall. CM Walker asked how long would this take. Supervisor Glenn noted the other meetings would be set at that time. He explained there were generally three sessions, you get the Christmas wish list first then you whittle it down then you fight over \$100.00 at the end.

John Byrnes from the CLVFC has a SEQR Form to be signed. It is a formality - a legislative action that is needed between the CLVFC and the town board. He suggested that the board could talk about it at the meeting tomorrow at the work session.

CM Frasier noted there is a problem with the work session. Four Council Members stated they could not attend tomorrow – CM Sturgess, CM Cooper, CM Walker and CM Frasier. Chief Howard Dutcher needs to be there. The board set Tuesday September 15th at 6 pm for the next meeting.

Correspondence:

9/1 Email from Jesse Bucenec request to discuss East Caroga Lk Outlet dredging – feasibility, permits, access.

There was an anonymous letter re: the organization and promotion of this year's bike festival opening event not in Caroga. Supervisor Glenn stated he had no idea what that means.

The Fulton County Solid Waste sent a notification to the town that the winter hours at the Caroga Transfer Station begin October 1st.

RESOLUTIONS:

RESOLUTION #2026-092 to Authorize the Planning Consultant Firm Agreement with Highland Planning to Assist in Developing the Town of Caroga Smart Growth Comprehensive Plan was offered by Supervisor Glenn at the regular monthly meeting of the Caroga Town Board held on September 9, 2026.

WHEREAS, the Town of Caroga was awarded the Smart Growth Community Planning Grant in the amount of \$130,500.00 from the NYS Department of State (2025CFA # 151664; Contract # C1003602) that requires the town to provide a \$14,500 match (or 10 percent of the \$145,000 total project cost): and

WHEREAS, the funding supports redeveloping the Comprehensive Plan oriented around Smart Growth principles to drive targeted community reinvestments and reclaim Caroga as a great destination and attractive place to live, by building on community character, recreational assets, environmental stewardship, and downtown revitalization; and

WHEREAS, the Town will use the grant funding for consultant services necessary for the coordination of the planning process and preparation of the comprehensive plan; and

WHEREAS, a Request for Proposals (RFP) was issued April 9, 2026 seeking proposals from qualified planning consultant firms to perform program delivery and administrative services; and

WHEREAS, the Town received seven (7) responses that were reviewed and evaluated by the Town of Caroga Comprehensive Plan Committee; and

WHEREAS, after reviewing, evaluating, and interviewing firms, the Committee voted without objection to recommend awarding the Highland team the *Planning Consultant Firm Agreement* for the *Town of Caroga Comprehensive Plan Project*; **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT**

RESOLVED, that the Town Board hereby accept Highland Planning's Proposal and Revised Cost Estimate and authorize Supervisor Glenn to execute the Agreement in the amount not to exceed \$134,000.00 with the firm and complete any documents necessary to fulfill the NYS Smart Growth Community Planning Grant.

Seconded by Council Member Sturgess

Adopted by a vote of five (5) Ayes: Glenn, Sturgess, Cooper, Walker, Frasier

RESOLUTION #2026-093 to approve spending \$1,500.00 to stripe the town parking lot and to mark a crosswalk with signs on East Shore Road was offered by Supervisor Glenn at the regular monthly meeting of the Caroga Town Board held on September 9, 2026.

WHEREAS, the town board discussed various ways to make crossing East Shore Road in the vicinity of Sherman's more visible to those that attend events at that venue, and

WHEREAS, Highway Superintendent Roy Stock worked in conjunction with Montgomery County to work together to stripe the parking lot at Caroga Town Hall and the adjacent medical building now occupied by Nathan Littauer Hospital, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Caroga Town Board does hereby move to approve the expenditure of \$1,500.00 for both projects.

Seconded by Council Member Sturgess

Adopted by a vote of five (5) Ayes: Glenn, Sturgess, Cooper, Walker, Frasier

Supervisor Glenn made a motion to approve the minutes of the July 8, 15, 29 August 12 & 26 Town Board meetings. The motion was seconded by Council Member Sturgess. All board members were in favor of the motion: Glenn, Sturgess, Cooper, Walker, Frasier.

Supervisor Glenn made a motion to approve the bills as presented for audit. The motion was seconded by Council Member Sturgess. All board members were in favor of the motion: Glenn, Sturgess, Cooper, Walker, Frasier.

Council Member Frasier thanked Colleen Riccardi for her eight years as the Director of the Summer Recreation Program. (Applause) She noted that we were very, very fortunate to have that program because not a lot of towns do. Ms. Germain stated that is why she bought her house here. They were looking for a place to move and free summer recreation was... CM Sturgess stated unheard of. CM Frasier stated we do it with style. Ms. Germain stated she thought Verna was going to be a great takeover for Colleen.

Council Member Walker stated she adjourned at 8:15 pm. Council Member Sturgess also made the motion to adjourn. Council Member Cooper seconded the motion. All board members were in favor of the motion: Glenn, Sturgess, Cooper, Walker, Frasier.

Submitted by Linda Gilbert RMC, CMC

Caroga Town Clerk

General voucher #'s 270 -302 \$130,848.27

Highway voucher #'s 161 – 173 \$10,340.54

Prepaid voucher #'s 218 – 243 \$27,989.90

General Park voucher #'s 84 – 96 \$8,305.91