

Caroga News Flash

Town Board Meeting Highlights

October 7, 2024

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This 2025 Tentative Budget work session began at 6:00 PM and lasted 90 minutes at Town Hall. In attendance were the five Town Board Members, Bookkeeper, Clerk, and four members of the public. The meeting was not accessible to the public via zoom.

The Town Board reviewed detailed year-to-date (YTD) 2024 Golf Course Revenues and Expenditures. They noted recent impacts of public input, stating, "Thank you for bringing to light budgetary issues from the Golf Course last year. We hope you understand that change takes time. We are working every day." Despite budgeted operating losses, they showed that current 2024 actual Golf Revenues now exceed Expenses. Golf Course budgeting and YTD spending are summarized below and itemized on page 2.

Nick Stoner Municipal Golf Course Budget Summary					
		Actual 2023	Budget 2024	YTD 03-Oct-2024	Budget 2025
TOTAL REVENUE		\$315,966.53	\$290,000.00	\$346,381.45	\$325,000.00
TOTAL EXPENDITURES		\$352,938.51	\$384,140.00	\$280,180.25	\$378,100.00
(Min. Yet To Be Expended)				\$17,953.80	
				\$298,134.05	
Revenue — Expenditures		-\$36,971.98	-\$94,140.00	\$48,247.40	-\$53,100.00
TOTAL RESERVES		\$30,000.00	\$45,000.00	\$45,000.00 ?	\$45,000.00
Revenue — (Exp+Reserves)		-\$66,971.98	-\$139,140.00	+\$3,247.40 ? •	-\$98,100.00

- **If the Board chooses to halt 2024 spending (except Salary & Reserves yet to be expended), Nick Stoner Municipal Golf Course could possibly show a 2024 operating profit of +\$3,247.40.**
- Questions exist about exactly how much will be allocated in December 2024 for Golf Reserves.
- Questions also remain about October expenses from discretionary tree cutting and excavation. As noted on 9/11/2024, spending is planned to remove the natural tree buffer between golfers and bicyclists — near holes 4, 5, 6 and the nearby boundary of the "forever wild" State Forest Preserve.

During this meeting, the Board approved requested and justified budget changes for the Golf Course, Recreational Trails, and Comprehensive Plan without changing the previously proposed Tax Levy. No budget numbers were publicly given for Golf Clubhouse fire recovery capital building project, except for tax-funded A1440.4 Engineer Contractual Expenses of \$100,000.00 proposed for the 2025 Budget.

Resolutions:

1. 2025 Preliminary Budget —

The Board voted 5-0 to adopt the revised 2025 Tentative Budget as the 2025 Preliminary Budget (see <https://townofcaroga.com/finances/budget.htm>). The summary remained unchanged as follows:

Tax Rate (Per Thousand)	2024	2025 (Preliminary)	1-Year Increase
General Townwide	\$1.25	\$1.53	22.4 %
Highway Townwide	\$5.19	\$5.42	4.4 %
Fire Contract	\$0.95	\$0.98	3.1 %
Fire Truck Purchase	\$0.52	(\$0.00)	(-100 %)
Total	\$7.91	\$7.93	0.2 %

2. 2025 Budget Hearing —

The Board voted 5-0 to hold the Public Hearing for the final 2025 Town Budget at Town Hall on **Wednesday, November 6 beginning at 6:30 PM**. They were ambiguous about zoom access.

Upcoming Meetings and Events: <https://TownOfCaroga.com/calendar>

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Nick Stoner Municipal Golf Course Itemized Budget					
Golf Clubhouse Recovery		Actual 2023			Budget 2025
Fire Insurance Revenue		\$1,592,730.53			
Tax-Funded Expenditures	A1440.4				\$100,000.00
Revenue		Actual 2023	Budget 2024	YTD 03-Oct-2024	Budget 2025
GC Fees	A2025	\$221,955.25	\$200,000.00	\$246,577.91	\$225,000.00
GC Rentals	A2025.1	\$70,546.03	\$70,000.00	\$77,852.50	\$80,000.00
GC Merch	A2025.2	\$22,990.25	\$20,000.00	\$16,535.04	\$20,000.00
GC Ads	A2025.3	\$475.00	\$0.00	\$5,416.00	\$0.00
TOTAL REVENUE		\$315,966.53	\$290,000.00	\$346,381.45	\$325,000.00
Expenditures		Actual 2023	Budget 2024	YTD 03-Oct-2024	Budget 2025
Building	A1620.42	\$30,750.12	\$40,000.00	\$27,055.98	\$40,000.00
GC Print/Mail	A1670.41	\$162.60	\$2,000.00	\$72.00	\$1,000.00
GC Unallocated Ins	A1910.41	\$2,519.80	\$2,750.00	\$2,750.00	\$3,000.00
GC Publicity	A6410.41	\$1,758.00	\$3,000.00	\$3,575.00	\$4,000.00
GC Superintendent	A7180.10	\$68,960.00	\$68,960.00	\$53,046.20	\$71,000.00
GC Club House Manager	A7180.11	\$33,576.30	\$32,000.00	\$26,459.50	\$26,000.00
GC P/S	A7180.12	\$60,384.24	\$60,000.00	\$48,555.83	\$63,000.00
Club House P/S	A7180.13	\$22,309.11	\$26,000.00	\$22,038.75	\$27,000.00
GC Equipment	A7180.21	\$14,418.99	\$10,000.00	\$0.00	\$16,600.00
Golf Carts	A7180.21	\$32,788.00	\$30,000.00	\$27,350.00	\$31,000.00
Golf Course C/E	A7180.40	\$35,402.06	\$44,000.00	\$26,320.33	\$44,000.00
Port a John	A7180.41	\$1,160.00	\$2,000.00	\$580.00	\$2,000.00
GC Merch	A7180.42	\$14,658.32	\$15,000.00	\$10,276.98	\$15,000.00
SUBTOTAL		\$318,847.54	\$335,710.00	\$248,080.57	\$343,600.00
GC Workers Comp	A9040.81	\$1,330.00	\$1,330.00	\$1,330.00	\$1,500.00
GC Unemployment	A9050.81	\$8,453.20	\$11,000.00	\$15,347.44	\$20,000.00
GC Health Ins	A9060.81	\$14,230.97	\$26,000.00	\$5,345.44	\$13,000.00
Installment Purch Mower	A9785.60	\$10,076.80	\$10,100.00	\$10,076.80	\$0.00
TOTAL EXPENDITURES		\$352,938.51	\$384,140.00	\$280,180.25	\$378,100.00
(Min Salary To Be Expended)				\$17,953.80	
				\$298,134.05	
Revenue — Expenditures		-\$36,971.98	-\$94,140.00	\$48,247.40	-\$53,100.00
Reserves		Actual 2023	Budget 2024	YTD 03-Oct-2024	Budget 2025
GC Equip	A9950.93	\$15,000.00	\$35,000.00	\$0.00	\$25,000.00
GC Improvement	A9950.94	\$15,000.00	\$10,000.00	\$0.00	\$20,000.00
TOTAL RESERVES		\$30,000.00	\$45,000.00	\$45,000.00?	\$45,000.00
Revenue — (Exp+Reserves)		-\$66,971.98	-\$139,140.00	+\$3,247.40? •	-\$98,100.00

- With no 2024 added expenses (except Salary and Reserves), the Municipal Golf Course is on track for Revenues to exceed Expenses by +\$3,247.40 for the current year. Questions remain about whether possible future allocations — including \$45,000.00 Golf Reserves plus additional discretionary tree cutting / excavation — will result in a Golf Course loss for 2024.