

December 8, 2015

Minutes of the Town Board Meeting held Tuesday, December 8, 2015, at 7:00 PM, at the Keene Town Hall. The following Town Board Members were present: William B. Ferebee, Supervisor, Paul R. Martin, Robert M. Biesemeyer, Michael J. Buysse and Jerry D. Smith, Members of Council. Also present were: 3 Residents, Deb Whitson, Town Attorney, Gary Manley, Highway Superintendent and Ellen Estes, Town Clerk.

The Chairman, Mr. Ferebee, called the meeting to order at 7:25 PM and invited everyone present to join in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Resolution No. 198 – 15

Mr. Smith offered a resolution and moved its adoption. Be it resolved, that the Town Board accept the Minutes of the Public Hearing held November 5th, the Minutes of the Town Board Meeting held November 10th, the Minutes of the Special Town Board Meeting held November 17th and the Minutes of the Town Board Meeting held November 24th, all as presented. This resolution was seconded by Mr. Biesemeyer.

Roll Call Vote:

Mr. Ferebee:	Yes
Mr. Martin:	Yes
Mr. Biesemeyer:	Yes
Mr. Buysse:	Yes
Mr. Smith:	Yes

Privilege of the floor was offered.

Martha Gallagher was present; she handed out a “New Park Possibility in Keene” information sheet for the former Linda Deyo property saying that Paul Martin had asked her to put her ideas in writing.

Mr. Ferebee confirmed with her that she had put together a committee and asked if she was willing to chair it. She answered that she has and she would.

Mr. Ferebee said the next item to be discussed was the Comp Time request made by the highway. He said when it was discussed by the Board they had asked for the men to consider making this request for a lesser amount of time. He said that they have done that saying they are now asking to be allowed to bank 54 overtime hours to be used as 81 hours off. He said there would be no time carried over from year to year saying that any of these hours left over on December 31st would be paid for.

He said the way it would work is if two employees wanted the same time, the most senior would get it the first time and then they would alternate after that.

He said if approved a policy would need to be set.

Mr. Biesemeyer said that his concern has been that with such a small staff, this could make the crew short staffed during periods when projects could be worked on.

Mr. Ferebee suggested trying it for a year on a trial basis; the Board all seemed in agreement to trying this.

Mr. Ferebee said he would work on a policy saying that this would not start until January.

Mr. Ferebee said the next thing he wanted to discuss was the Health Insurance pay out. He said he didn't realize it had been addressed saying that he has recently been made aware of the following statement in the Annual Resolutions and the Policy Handbook, he read the phrase out loud, “Also, Resolved, that the Town may opt to reimburse eligible employees or elected officials for insurance coverage paid by that individual when that coverage is equal to or better than the Town insurance and is available at a rate costing less than the Town's plan.” He said he felt it should be capped, he said he has a couple employees being reimbursed and said one of them is receiving about \$3,200, he said that he recommended capping it at \$3,500.00.

When asked if this needed to be decided tonight it was agreed that this issue would be discussed again at the December 29th meeting.

The next discussion was in regards to the tree at the Holt House that is lit for Christmas. Mr. Ferebee informed the Board that following the last Town Board Meeting, he has ordered new L.E.D. lights and strings for the tree. He said he has spoken with Northline Utilities about helping to put them up. He said they had recommended using a man lift instead of a bucket truck, but said the problem is that the Town has no one trained in using that type of equipment. He went on to say that Northline would supply a man to operate the lift. He said the total cost of this project will be approximately \$3,400 or \$3,500 with this coming out of this year's budget.

Mr. Ferebee asked the Board for a resolution authorizing A Request for No-Cost Time Extension of Local/Miscellaneous Contract for the High Peaks Byway and Holt House Project. He said the extension completion date would then be December 31, 2016.

Resolution No. 199 – 15

Mr. Biesemeyer offered a resolution and moved its adoption. Be it resolved, that the Town Board authorize Mr. Ferebee to submit a Request for No-Cost Time Extension of Local/Miscellaneous Contract. This resolution was seconded by Mr. Buysse.

Roll Call Vote:

Mr. Ferebee:	Yes
Mr. Martin:	Yes
Mr. Biesemeyer:	Yes
Mr. Buysse:	Yes
Mr. Smith:	Yes

Mr. Ferebee asked for a resolution to accept the following surplus bids as opened on Tuesday, December 1st:

For the 2008 Ford Super Duty Truck w/ Extended Cab, V/10, Automatic, 110,307 Miles, w/ 9' Western Snow Plow

- Village Truck Sales bid \$3,490.00
- Ryan Hall bid \$500.00
- John Champine bid \$1,000.00
- John Ruggiero bid \$576.99
- Matt Porter bid \$2,005.00
- Darrin Dickerson bid \$2,876.00

And on the 2003 Bobcat 553 Skid Steer w/ Heated Cab & Bucket, 745.5 Hours, includes 2015 SB150 48" Snow Blower

- Village Truck Sales bid \$4,790.00
- Matt Porter bid \$2,500.50
- Ryan Hall bid \$1,500.75
- Darrin Dickerson bid \$3,876.00

Resolution No. 200 – 15

Mr. Biesemeyer offered a resolution and moved its adoption. Be it resolved, that the Town Board accept the above listed surplus bids opened Tuesday, December 1st. This resolution was seconded by Mr. Smith.

Roll Call Vote:

Mr. Ferebee:	Yes
Mr. Martin:	Yes
Mr. Biesemeyer:	Yes
Mr. Buysse:	Yes
Mr. Smith:	Yes

The Board discussed the bids.

Mr. Ferebee informed them that although the high bid on the Bobcat was \$4,790, Mountain View Equipment has agreed to allow \$5,000 on a trade in.

Resolution No. 201 – 15

Mr. Buysse offered a resolution and moved its adoption. Be it resolved, that the Town Board award the truck to the highest bidder, Village Truck Sales, for \$3,490.00 and wait on the bobcat to get a firm number in writing on a trade in allowance from Mountain View Equipment. This resolution was seconded by Mr. Martin.

Roll Call Vote:

Mr. Ferebee:	Yes
Mr. Martin:	Yes
Mr. Biesemeyer:	Yes
Mr. Buysse:	Yes
Mr. Smith:	Yes

The next discussion was in regards to the B.A.N. principal and interest due December 18th on the Gulf Brook Project. Mr. Ferebee said to roll this B.A.N. over the Town would still need to pay \$121,000.00 this year or to pay it off with Town money borrowed from unexpended fund balance saying this amount would be \$247,385.74. He said there is money in CLASS to do this and when the project money comes in from FEMA, the fund would be paid back.

Resolution No. 202 – 15

Mr. Biesemeyer offered a resolution and moved its adoption. Be it resolved, that the Town Board authorize the pay off of the Gulf Brook Project B.A.N. in the amount of \$247,385.74 with money borrowed from unexpended fund balance to be repaid when the funds are received from FEMA. This resolution was seconded by Mr. Martin.

Roll Call Vote:

Mr. Ferebee:	Yes
Mr. Martin:	Yes
Mr. Biesemeyer:	Yes
Mr. Buysse:	Yes
Mr. Smith:	Yes

Resolution No. 203 – 15

Mr. Biesemeyer offered a resolution and moved its adoption. Be it resolved, that the Annual Accounting of Employees and Officers be held at 5:00 PM, on Tuesday, January 26th, to precede the Bi-Monthly Town Board Meeting. This resolution was seconded by Mr. Buysse.

Roll Call Vote:

Mr. Ferebee:	Yes
Mr. Martin:	Yes
Mr. Biesemeyer:	Yes
Mr. Buysse:	Yes
Mr. Smith:	Yes

Resolution No. 204 – 15

Mr. Martin offered a resolution and moved its adoption. Be it resolved, that the Town Board accept the Supervisor's Financial Monthly Report for September and have it placed on file with the Town Clerk. This resolution was seconded by Mr. Biesemeyer.

Roll Call Vote:

Mr. Ferebee:	Yes
Mr. Martin:	Yes
Mr. Biesemeyer:	Yes
Mr. Buysse:	Yes
Mr. Smith:	Yes

Resolution No. 205 – 15

Mr. Martin offered a resolution and moved its adoption. Be it resolved, that the Town Board approve the following bills for payment, including those that were prepaid. This resolution was seconded by Mr. Biesemeyer.

Roll Call Vote:

Mr. Ferebee: Yes
Mr. Martin: Yes
Mr. Biesemeyer: Yes
Mr. Buysse: Yes
Mr. Smith: Yes

Multi-Fund Vouchers No. 771 to 802, totaling \$15,626.34, as follows:

General Fund bills	\$ 5,950.05
Highway Fund bills	7,853.19
Library Fund bills	285.44
Water District #1 bills	467.03
Water District #2 bills	1,070.63

Deb Whitson asked the Board to call an Executive Session saying she needed to discuss litigation.

Resolution No. 206 – 15

Mr. Martin offered a resolution and moved its adoption. Be it resolved, that the Town Board enter into Executive Session to discuss litigation. This resolution was seconded by Mr. Smith.

Roll Call Vote:

Mr. Ferebee: Yes
Mr. Martin: Yes
Mr. Biesemeyer: Yes
Mr. Buysse: Yes
Mr. Smith: Yes

The Town Board entered into Executive Session at 8:00 PM.

Resolution No. 207 – 15

Mr. Smith offered a resolution and moved its adoption. Be it resolved, that the Town Board reconvene into regular session. This resolution was seconded by Mr. Biesemeyer.

Roll Call Vote:

Mr. Ferebee: Yes
Mr. Martin: Yes
Mr. Biesemeyer: Yes
Mr. Buysse: Yes
Mr. Smith: Yes

The Board reconvened into regular session at 8:05 PM.

Mr. Ferebee said he had received 3 letters of interest for the vacant position on the Planning Board. He said he had received one from someone who said he was putting in a letter of interest since at that time there had been no other responses, saying after that two more letters were received. He said he had talked to 3 Planning Board Members who were all in favor of appointing Larry House. The Town Board held a brief discussion before taking the following action.

Resolution No. 208 - 15

Mr. Martin offered a resolution and moved its adoption. Be it resolved, that the Town Board appoint Larry House to the Planning Board to fill the vacancy on that board that will expire December 31, 2017. This resolution was seconded by Mr. Buysse.

Roll Call Vote:

Mr. Ferebee:	Yes
Mr. Martin:	Yes
Mr. Biesemeyer:	Yes
Mr. Buysse:	Yes
Mr. Smith:	Yes

Resolution No. 209 – 15

Mr. Biesemeyer offered a resolution and moved its adoption. Be it resolved, that with all business having been transacted, this meeting be adjourned. This resolution was seconded by Mr. Smith.

Roll Call Vote:

Mr. Ferebee:	Yes
Mr. Martin:	Yes
Mr. Biesemeyer:	Yes
Mr. Buysse:	Yes
Mr. Smith:	Yes

The meeting was adjourned at 8:08 PM.

Ellen S. Estes, Town Clerk
December 11, 2015

William B. Ferebee, Supervisor
Paul R. Martin, Councilman
Robert M. Biesemeyer, Councilman
Michael J. Buysse, Councilman
Jerry D. Smith, Councilman