

March 31, 2015

Minutes of the Bi-Monthly Town Board Meeting held Tuesday, March 31, 2015, at 5:30 PM, at the Keene Town Hall. The following Town Board Members were present: William B. Ferebee, Supervisor, Paul R. Martin, Michael J. Buysse and Jerry D. Smith, Members of Council. Absent: Robert M. Biesemeyer, Councilman. Also present were: 4 - 6th Grade Students and their teacher, Meghan Wellford, 6 parents, 1 resident and Ellen Estes, Town Clerk.

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

Mr. Ferebee handed the floor over to the 6th Grade Students, who he said were here tonight to make a presentation to the Board.

The students took turns making their proposal for the installation of four dog mess pick up stations at two sites in Keene Valley to prevent this waste from being washed into our watershed and/or stepped in. They proposed that the locations of these stations be one at Point Park and three on KCS grounds. They spoke of the environmental impact of this waste, explained where the pick-up stations may be purchased, discussed a maintenance plan, gave their conclusion and thanked the Town Board for considering their request.

The Board thanked the students for their presentation, Mr. Ferebee said the Board would discuss whether funds could be found in the current budget, he also asked if there seemed to be the need in the Hamlet of Keene.

Mr. Martin asked whether the problem was dogs running at large or if their handlers were present.

Mr. Ferebee suggested looking into a shared program with the school and said this request would be discussed.

The next discussion was a request made by Sheila Ferebee, who was present to get feedback from the Board regarding the purchase of lighted Christmas decorations to be hung in the Hamlets on street poles.

She said she is one of a few people who would like to hold fundraisers to help get the hamlets "up to speed" with the neighboring Towns. She said the cost would be around \$8 to \$10,000 to put up 10 LED decorations in each hamlet.

Mr. Ferebee said he has done some research saying the Town would have to buy the timer boxes and some wire to hook these decorations up. He said once hooked up, NYSEG does not charge for seasonal lighting.

He said now is the time to purchase these decorations at a reduced price. He said he had checked and was told that it was legal to make this purchase from the unexpended fund balance and then pay the money back with fundraisers.

He said that at this point, this group is looking for Town Board approval to continue researching this project.

Resolution No. 95 – 15

Mr. Buysse offered a resolution and moved its adoption. Be it resolved, that the Town Board approve the continuance of researching Christmas lighting decorations for the Hamlets of Keene and Keene Valley. This resolution was seconded by Mr. Martin.

Roll Call Vote:

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

Mr. Ferebee gave an update on the Route 73 bridge construction near the Keene Post Office.

He said traffic lights would be installed early next week. He said these lights will work on 2 systems of timing and said there will be a panic button on each side for someone trying to exit their driveways.

He said that construction should start the week after next.

He said the company would like to work 12 hour days and could be done by Ironman, if this is not approved, it could take another month and a half.

The next update that Mr. Ferebee gave was on the Dr. Ray pedestrian bridge. He said the County has received the FEMA "blue book" on it. He said that Carl Schroder is in the final stage of abutment design. He said the bridge is still being used in Jay, it will then be moved to Lewis to be modified before being installed here by the end of 2015.

Mr. Ferebee gave an update on the Hulls Falls Road (the single lane at the Gorge). He said that FEMA has rejected that project again, he said there will be no immediate progress although some tree cutting had been done to beat the deadline of March 31st for cutting.

Mr. Ferebee said he will be attending a meeting in Albany tomorrow regarding the other 7 bridge projects coming up in Town. When asked, he said the same contractor will be doing all 7.

The next discussion was in regards to brush disposal. Mr. Ferebee said he went to Charlie Platt, who went to DEC about getting a special permit to burn brush. He said Charlie came back to him to say that DEC will not give any exemptions. He asked the Board if they had any thoughts on how to handle the brush when the question comes up. Different options for chipping were discussed. Mr. Ferebee said if chipping is done, the Town employees would have to do it. There was also discussion about renting a commercial chipper. Mr. Ferebee said the one he priced to rent was \$3,000 a day. The Board agreed to continue to do more research on this.

Resolution No. 96 – 15

Mr. Martin offered a resolution and moved its adoption. Be it resolved, that the Town Board accept the resignation turned in by John DeZalia from his appointed position on the Board of Assessment Review. This resolution was seconded by Mr. Buysse.

Roll Call Vote:

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

Mr. Smith asked how things were going at the transfer station. Mr. Ferebee said that the feedback on the recycling seems okay. Mr. Smith asked if a second person would be hired there this summer. Mr. Ferebee said the money is still in the budget, but he doesn't think with the change to zero-sort that it will be necessary. He said that Julius would be coming back to work this year, but would work as the second person on grounds.

Mr. Martin said he would like to see a little design put into the building that will house the generators at the transfer station.

Mr. Ferebee informed the Board that bulky days will be held April 22nd, 24th and 25th.

Mr. Ferebee said that Carolyn and Peter Fish had offered to stain the Library using volunteer labor. He said they had almost enough stain left over from staining their own house to do it, saying the Town would probably need to buy about a gallon of stain and supply a few cedar shingles.

Mr. Buysse said he might have the shingles.

The Board thought this sounded great.

Mr. Ferebee said when Julius comes back to work he would have him pressure wash the front of the Town Hall.

He said that Sean is using this down time to build 4 new picnic tables.

He also said he was going to have the new chimney on the back of the Town Hall boxed in.

Resolution No. 97 – 15

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

Roll Call Vote:

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

Multi-fund vouchers numbered 165 to 207, totaling \$53,082.47, as follows;

General Fund	- \$15,758.92
Highway Fund	- 29,717.85
Library Fund	- 991.64
Water District #1 Fund	- 430.44
Gulf Brook West Capital Project	- 6,183.62

Resolution No. 98 – 15

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

Roll Call Vote:

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

Resolution No. 99 – 15

Mr. Smith 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. Martin.

Roll Call Vote:

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

The meeting was adjourned at 6:26 PM.

Ellen S. Estes, Town Clerk
April 3, 2015

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

