

May 12, 2015

Minutes of the Town Board Meeting held Tuesday, May 12, 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 and Jerry D. Smith, Members of Council. Absent: Michael J. Buysse, Councilman. Also present were: 2 residents, John Hudson, Building Code Officer, Debra Whitson, Town Attorney, Gary Manley, Highway Superintendent and Ellen Estes, Town Clerk.

The Chairman, Mr. Ferebee, called the meeting to order at 7:03 PM and invited everyone present to join in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Resolution No. 116 – 15

Mr. Biesemeyer offered a resolution and moved its adoption. Be it resolved, that the Town Board accept the Minutes of the Special Town Board Meeting held Thursday, April 9th, the Minutes of the Town Board Meeting held Tuesday, April 14th, the Notes from the Truck Bid Opening held Wednesday, April 15th and the Minutes of the Town Board Meeting held Tuesday, April 28th, as presented. This resolution was seconded by Mr. Smith.

Roll Call Vote:

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

There were no comments or questions during privilege of the floor.

Mr. Ferebee gave updates on bridge constructions happening in Town. He said that the deck had been poured on the bridge near the Post Office in Keene. He said there is a 14 day period for curing and said the men are working under the other side of the bridge in the meantime. He said they are still on track to be done with that project by the end of June.

He said that on the Little Johns Brook Bridge, the plans which were approved by NYSEG and the State didn't call for pilings put in with a power driver, though that was done. He said 2 of the pilings are in, but the 3rd can't be put in yet because of NYSEG wires.

He said the plans for the "One Lane Section" of Hulls Falls is being rewritten and will need FEMA approval when complete.

He said the bridge in AuSable Forks that will be used as a footbridge on Hulls Falls is done being used in AuSable. He said it will be taken to the County where it will be narrowed down. He said all he has for a date of completion for that project is 2015.

Mr. Martin said it would be nice if the Town could get a schedule for all the bridge construction being planned and advertise when they will occur.

Mr. Ferebee said that information is not available right now, but he will watch for it.

The Board did a quick review of the anticipated water rents for both districts for 2015 billing.

Resolution No. 117 – 15

Mr. Biesemeyer offered a resolution and moved its adoption. Be it resolved, that the 2015 Anticipated Water Rents be accepted as discussed. (These lists have been attached to and made a part of these minutes.) This resolution was seconded by Mr. Martin.

Roll Call Vote:

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

Mr. Ferebee explained to the Board that a resolution was adopted in 2013 to have a referendum put on the ballot to extend the Town Supervisor term from 2 years to 4 years. He said this was not followed through and in preparation of bringing it to the voters, Dan Manning, the County Attorney, has suggested that the verbage be changed, thus Mr. Ferebee shared a new resolution with the Board.

Mr. Biesemeyer said that when the Town has a good Supervisor like now, a four year term is good, however, he said sometimes a two year term is better. He said sometimes a two year term can be an incentive to be on top of your game.

Mr. Ferebee spoke of the security it can offer.

Mr. Martin said he likes the idea.

Mr. Biesemeyer said he could live with it either way.

The Board agreed to leave it up to the voters to decide.

Resolution No. 118 – 15

The Town Board adopted Resolution No. 118- 15, a Resolution of the Town Board of the Town of Keene Providing for a Four Year Term for the Elective Office of Town Supervisor of the Town of Keene. This resolution, in its entirety, is attached to and made a part of these minutes.

Mr. Ferebee informed the Board that they would notice in tonight's vouchers to be signed that the Town is paying off the B.A.N. for most recent phase of the Gulf Brook Project. He said the Town got every penny spent back including the interest.

Resolution No. 119 – 15

Mr. Biesemeyer offered a resolution and moved its adoption. Be it resolved, that at the request of Suellen McMillen, authorization be given for the Artists & Crafters to hold a craft fair on Marcy Field on Saturday, September 5th. This resolution was seconded by Mr. Martin.

Roll Call Vote:

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

Mr. Ferebee informed the Board that they had been supplied with a copy of John Hudson's letter of resignation from his position as Code Enforcement Officer, effective June 11th. He said that John has agreed to be around to help out the new appointee. Mr. Hudson was present to say that he has submitted a new fee schedule saying he feels the old schedule is outdated.

The Board all thanked Mr. Hudson for his service expressing that he had done a good job.

There was a brief discussion regarding the job in the future.

Mr. Biesemeyer suggested contracting with Commonwealth for this service.

Mr. Ferebee said that the Town of Wilmington is advertising the same position with the possibility of sharing services with the Town of Keene; he said he would like to advertise the same.

The Board agreed to advertise the position as shared services with the Town of Wilmington and to research contracting with Commonwealth.

Resolution No. 120 – 15

Mr. Biesemeyer offered a resolution and moved it adoption. Be it resolved, that the Town Board accept the Letter of Resignation from John Hudson from his position as Code Enforcement Officer, effective June 11th. This resolution was seconded by Mr. Smith.

Roll Call Vote:

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

Mr. Ferebee gave those present a reminder that the Town's Clean Up Day is set for Saturday, May 30th. He said that lunch will be provided for the volunteers.

Resolution No. 121 – 15

Mr. Biesemeyer offered a resolution and moved its adoption. Be it resolved, that the Town Board authorize the Agreement to Spend Town Highway Funds (CHiPs) by signing the application submitted by Gary Manley, Highway Superintendent. This resolution was seconded by Mr. Martin.

Roll Call Vote:

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

The next discussion was initiated by Paul Martin who said he would like to see the State approached regarding the need to have the field at the bottom of Spruce Hill mowed. He said he felt the Town had an obligation in talking to the State asking for the Town to be allowed to take over the maintenance of that field.

Mr. Biesemeyer said the Town shouldn't have to pay for mowing State land.

Mr. Ferebee said he has been to DEC 3 times since he has been in office, but said he would be more than happy to address the issue again. He said he would reach out to DEC saying that Dan Plumley may be able to set up a meeting.

Mr. Ferebee said the white trailer at the transfer station that was purchased for recyclable plastics is going to be used for recyclable electronics saying that as of January 1st the Town is required by State Law to accept them. He shared a list of accepted electronics with the Board.

Barbara Strowger was present and asked the Board if a maintained compost pile could be started at the transfer station.

Mr. Ferebee said he would need to look into liability, smell, etc. before giving an answer. Ellen DuBois was present and said that Keene Central School has one.

Mr. Martin questioned whether this was a possibility for at the community garden.

Mr. Biesemeyer felt that if done, this would have to be done in a maintained area or people would throw in their garbage.

Ms. Strowger also spoke about the solar panels being planned for Lewis.

Mr. Ferebee said that someone had come to the Town Board who seemed interested in building a solar project in Keene. He said he is watching the County's progress thinking maybe the Town of Keene will be able to follow suit.

Resolution No. 122 – 15

Mr. Smith offered a resolution and moved its adoption. Be it resolved, that the Town Board accept the Supervisor's Monthly Financial Statements for February and March, as presented, and have them 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:	Yes
Mr. Buysse:	Absent
Mr. Smith:	Yes

Resolution No. 123 – 15

Mr. Biesemeyer offered a resolution and moved its adoption. Be it resolved, that the Town Board accept the following bills 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:	Yes
Mr. Buysse:	Absent
Mr. Smith:	Yes

Multi-Fund Vouchers Numbered #272 to 313, totaling \$749,070.34, as follows:

General Fund Vouchers	\$ 19,335.17
Highway Fund Vouchers	7,964.83
Library Fund Vouchers	730.53
Water District No. 1 Fund Vouchers	44,844.15
Water District No. 2 Fund Vouchers	104,514.56
Gulf Brook West Capital Project	571,681.10

Mr. Ferebee informed the Board that there is approximately 160 feet of sidewalk from the school to the back corner of Market Street that needs replacing. He said that Kirk Bassarab broke down the costs and said it would cost approximately \$35,000 to replace them. He said he thinks the Board should consider this at budget time.

Mr. Ferebee said he had gotten a quote of \$20,000 for concrete to replace the wall behind the metal bin at the transfer station. He said if this were done, it would be done using an engineered plan. He said the cost for ready rock block was priced out in 2014 at the cost of \$13,000 and that didn't include footers, crushed stone, etc.

Mr. Ferebee said that the zero-sort recycling is working fine.

Mr. Martin asked when Cliff LaRose's vacation ends, Mr. Ferebee said Cliff would be back to work on the 18th.

Barbara Stowger asked if there would be a Hazardous Waste Day. Mr. Ferebee said the County offers a couple in the summer, but he didn't have the dates yet.

Resolution No. 124 – 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:	Absent
Mr. Smith:	Yes

The meeting adjourned at 7:44 PM.

Ellen S. Estes, Town Clerk
May 14, 2015

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