

November 24, 2015

Minutes of the Bi-Monthly Town Board Meeting held Tuesday, November 24, 2015, at 5:30 PM, at the Keene Town Hall. The following Town Board Members were present: William B. Ferebee, Supervisor, Robert M. Biesemeyer, Michael J. Buysse and Jerry D. Smith, Councilmen. Absent: Paul R. Martin, Councilman. Also present were: 1 Resident, Gary Manley, Highway Superintendent and Ellen Estes, Town Clerk.

Privilege of the floor was offered to Donna Austin.

Ms. Austin said that during her recent collection hours for school tax, she had the opportunity to talk to many taxpayers. She said that many of them were lacking understanding regarding how their assessments are arrived at. She said that many of them felt in need of a “refresher” course and asked the Board if it would be possible to have a public forum inviting State, County and local assessing experts to go over the assessment process again.

Mr. Ferebee said that this was an excellent idea and that he had been thinking it was time to do this.

The Board discussed when and where to hold this forum, it was agreed to try to schedule one for January.

Mr. Ferebee asked the Board whether they would like to see the 2016 Organizational Town Board Meeting held on Monday, January 4th or Tuesday, January 5th. Everyone agreed in keeping with Tuesday night meetings and the time of 5:30 PM was set.

Mr. Ferebee informed the Board Members that the Town of Jay has elected to partner with Wilmington to use their transfer station. He said that Wilmington has accepted partnering for \$5,000, ½ of what they were paying Keene. He said the question he has for the Board is whether to continue to sell tickets to Town of Jay residents interested in using our facility or turning them away. The Board discussed this issue and agreed to continue allowing them to use our facility saying they pay for what they get rid off and it makes no sense to stop this revenue.

Mr. Ferebee gave the Board a heads up that there is a voucher in tonight’s bills for 2 truck snow plows; one for the new water truck and one for the new Superintendent’s truck. He said that \$5,000 of the Superintendent’s plow has been charged to “parks” in exchange for the Kioti tractor from highway equipment that has been turned over to parks for mowing. The balance of that plow will be paid for from highway equipment.

Mr. Ferebee shared the 2016 Budget Analysis with the Board saying that the tax rate was \$4.04 per thousand last year and would be \$4.07 this year for the general fund and was \$3.82 per thousand last year for the highway and would be \$3.81 this year.

Mr. Ferebee thanked everyone who attended the “Pedestrian” Bridge opening on Saturday.

Mr. Ferebee explained that a few changes and updates were necessary to the Town’s Standard Workday and Retirement Reporting Resolution following an audit performed by New York State Retirement on our previous one.

Resolution No. 195 – 15

Mr. Biesemeyer offered a resolution and moved its adoption. Be it resolved, that the Town Board adopt the Standard Workday and Retirement Reporting Resolution, as presented. This resolution, in its entirety, has been attached to and made a part of these minutes. This resolution was seconded by Mr. Smith.

Roll Call Vote:

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

While signing vouchers, Mr. Biesemeyer asked Mr. Manley if \$80 per ton was the going rate for the purchase of salt.

Mr. Manley said that was State contract price.

Mr. Ferebee gave a couple quick updates on bridge construction saying that next summer's plans for the Shaw Bridge construction calls for a temporary bridge to be installed.

He also said that the Bartlett Road bridge is done except for the guardrails.

The next discussion was about the Town's Christmas lighting that is done at the Holt House. Mr. Biesemeyer suggested that the Town look into the cost of new full size light bulbs, like Lake Placid uses, for the Holt House tree.

Mr. Manley talked to the Town Board about the possibility of purchasing a new chipper for the highway with money left over in this year's highway budget. When asked, he responded that the one he had priced would be \$30,000 to \$35,000.

Mr. Biesemeyer questioned purchasing second hand but said a new one might be worth considering.

Resolution No. 196 – 15

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

Roll Call Vote:

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

Multi-Fund Vouchers No. 735 to 770, totaling \$184,016.90, as follows:

General Fund bills	- \$79,258.32
Highway Fund bills	- 87,450.97
Library Fund bills	- 5,641.44
Water District No. 1 bills	- 4,867.30
Water District No. 2 bills	- 6,798.87

Resolution No. 197 - 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:	Absent
Mr. Biesemeyer:	Yes
Mr. Buysse:	Yes
Mr. Smith:	Yes

The meeting was adjourned at 5:55 PM.

Ellen S. Estes, Town Clerk
December 3, 2015

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

