October 25, 2016

Minutes of the Town Board Meeting held Tuesday, October 25, 2016 at 5:30 PM at the Keene Town Hall. The following Town Board Members were present: William Ferebee, Supervisor, Paul Martin, Michael Buysse and Jerry Smith, Members of the Council. Absent: Robert Biesemeyer, Councilman (arrived late). Also present: One resident and Donna Reed Austin, Acting Secretary.

The Chairman, Mr. Ferebee, called the meeting to order at 5:31 PM. Mr. Ferebee began the meeting by advising the Board that the health insurance costs for 2017 would increase by 7.9% and Medicare would increase by 1.2%. There would be no increase in the dental coverage premium.

He stated that due to Obamacare requirements there are several mandatory modifications to the existing benefit levels for Copays as follows:

Hospital Inpatient changed from $150. to $250.
Hospital Outpatient changed from $75. to $150.
Emergency Room changed from $75. to $150.

New ID cards reflecting these changes will be sent to employees in December. Effective January 1, 2017, Excellus has contracted with Express Scripts to administer the drug plan.

Regarding the 2017 Town Budget, Mr. Ferebee indicated that there is an increase of 1.5% over last year or an increase amounting to $28,347. He said that he would work to get it closer to a 1% increase.

Mr. Martin felt that a letter should be written to the State asking for no increase in the medical or investment in the pension plan portion of the County budget. Mr. Ferebee said he would mention this to the County.

Mr. Ferebee complimented Susan Whitney, Clerk to the Supervisor and Ellen Estes, Town Clerk for a "great job" in preparing the budget.

Mr. Ferebee indicated that he would be out of the office on a previously planned absence from November 7 – 21. This was scheduled prior to announcing his resignation as Town Supervisor. He said he intends to be available to the new Supervisor and Town Board after leaving office.

Mr. Ferebee informed the Board that Ryan Hall has done a good job at shutting off water and putting away equipment before winter arrives. He said the current summer crew is the best he has seen since being in office.

Mr. Smith felt that they all work well together.

Mr. Ferebee said that the summer personnel had finished and Roger Preston will be returning to the transfer station. He said he hopes that Brandon Preston would be returning next year. He also stated that a pad would be poured at the Assessors Office for handicap accessibility to her new office which has been moved to the skating rink garage. Regarding the skating rink, Mr. Ferebee indicated that Roger Preston agreed to work at the skating rink to make the ice if needed.

Resolution No. 212-16
Mr. Ferebee offered a resolution and moved its adoption to convene to Executive Session. Mr. Smith seconded that motion. Be it resolved that the Town Board enter into Executive Session.
Roll Call Vote:

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

The Town Board entered into Executive Session at 5:41 PM.
Mr. Biesemeyer entered into Executive Session at 5:50 PM.

Resolution No. 213-16
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. Buysse.
Roll Call Vote:

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

The Town Board reconvened into regular session at 6:40 PM. Mr. Ferebee indicated that there were no decisions made in the Executive Session.

Mr. Buysse said that he wished to thank Mr. Ferebee for his years of dedication. The other Board Members were in unanimous agreement.

Mr. Biesemeyer felt that now would be the time to reduce the salary of the Supervisor. A few brief comments were expressed but no decision made.

Resolution No. 214 – 16
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. Buysse.

Roll Call Vote:

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

Multi-Fund Vouchers Numbered 647 to 683 totaling $50,979.87 and one Capital Project Fund voucher #4 totaling $8600. These vouchers are as follows:

General Fund Bills	-	$30,671.19
Highway Fund Bills	-	17,987.29
Library Fund Bills	-	1,037.16
Water District #1 Bills	-	607.03
Water District #2 Bills	-	677.20

And CPF – High Peaks Byway (Holt House) voucher #4 totaling $8600.

Resolution No. 215 – 16
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	Yes
Mr. Buysse	Yes
Mr. Smith	Yes

The meeting was adjourned at 6:50 PM.

Donna Reed Austin

Donna Reed Austin, Acting Secretary
November 1, 2016

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