

December 12, 2017

Minutes of the Town Board Meeting held Tuesday, December 12, 2017, at 7:00 PM, at the Keene Town Hall. The following Town Board Members were present: Joseph P. Wilson, Jr., Supervisor, Paul R. Martin, Robert M. Biesemeyer, Michael J. Buysse and Jerry D. Smith, Members of Council. Also present were: 3 Residents, Teresa Cheetam-Palen, Council Member Elect, Scott Smith, Highway Superintendent Elect, Ryan Hall, Water Superintendent, Debra Whitson, Town Attorney and Ellen Estes, Town Clerk.

The Chairman, Mr. Wilson, called the meeting to order at 7:06 PM and invited everyone present to join in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Resolution No. 240 – 17

Mr. Biesemeyer offered a resolution and moved its adoption. Be it resolved, that the Town Board accept the Minutes of the Public Hearing held Thursday, November 9th, the Minutes of the Public Hearing held Tuesday, November 14th, the Minutes of the Town Board Meeting held Tuesday, November 14th, the Minutes of the Special Town Board Meeting held Tuesday, November 21st and the Minutes of the Bi-Monthly Town Board Meeting held Tuesday, November 28th, as presented. This resolution was seconded by Mr. Smith.

Roll Call Vote:

| | |
|-----------------|-----|
| Mr. Wilson: | Yes |
| Mr. Martin: | Yes |
| Mr. Biesemeyer: | Yes |
| Mr. Buysse: | Yes |
| Mr. Smith: | Yes |

Privilege of the floor was offered, there were no comments or questions.

Mr. Wilson gave an update on the Keene Clean Energy Committee.

He said the only thing still needed was to get the energy code enforcement training; he said that Derrick Martineau is working on getting that scheduled. He said when that is complete, the Committee will apply for the \$50,000 energy grant.

He also said an energy audit is being scheduled which will supply advise and funding for lighting in the Town buildings.

Mr. Wilson said that bids were opened this morning for the van as spec'd out and advertised.

Ryan Hall said that 2 sealed bids were received; he said that Egglefield Ford bid \$33,385 and Marchese Ford bid \$33,989.

Mr. Biesemeyer said he has heard there are some people concerned that a van will not be accessible for Senior Citizens.

Mr. Wilson asked if the bids had been compared to the specs; Mr. Hall said yes.

Mr. Hall said the Town will have to add a side step under the sliding door.

Mr. Smith commented that this vehicle would not be used for the handicapped.

Mr. Wilson replied no, but said a new shuttle bus would have cost \$125,000 saying that is \$90,000 more than the cost of this van. He said he feels this is the way to go due to the primary use being a hiker shuttle and the difference in cost.

Mr. Martin said he doesn't recall ever needing to be outfitted for the handi-capped.

Mr. Smith asked if the current shuttle bus would be fixed and kept up for the Senior Citizens while the van is used for hikers.

Mr. Wilson said it may be but could not keep going up and down the Garden Road.

Resolution No. 241 – 17

Mr. Buysse offered a resolution and moved its adoption. Be it resolved, that the Town Board accept the bids as opened on the 2018 - 15 passenger van. This resolution was seconded by Mr. Martin.

Roll Call Vote:

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| Mr. Wilson: | Yes |
| Mr. Martin: | Yes |
| Mr. Biesemeyer: | Yes |
| Mr. Buysse: | Yes |
| Mr. Smith: | Yes |

Resolution No. 242 – 17

Mr. Martin offered a resolution and moved its adoption. Be it resolved, that the Town Board award the bid for the purchase of a New 2018 Passenger Van to the lowest bidder, Egglefield Ford at the bid price of \$33,385. This resolution was seconded by Mr. Buysse.

Roll Call Vote:

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

Mr. Wilson informed the Board that he has received notice from FEMA that the second appeal on project worksheet number 2380 has been denied. He said this was due to a change in the scope of work in the brook near the curve behind the old fire house. He said that permission was given verbally for this change, but FEMA is denying reimbursement in the amount of \$130,000 because nothing is in writing. He said the 1st appeal was denied in 2016 and this is the second and final appeal.

Mr. Biesemeyer said it seemed funny that this was the first he as a Town Board Member had heard about this.

Mr. Biesemeyer asked what Bill Ferebee said about this; Mr. Wilson said the notice just came today so he hasn't spoken to him. Mr. Biesemeyer said he would be interested to hear what Mr. Ferebee has to say about it.

Resolution No. 243 – 17

Mr. Biesemeyer offered a resolution and moved its adoption. Be it resolved, that at the request of the East Branch Friends of the Arts, permission be given for them to hold their annual Kite Fest on Marcy Field, on Sunday, June 17th. This resolution was seconded by Mr. Smith.

Roll Call Vote:

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

Mr. Wilson gave the Board a heads up for end of year planning that a Deputy Supervisor will need to be appointed at the Organizational Meeting in January. He asked the Board to think about it.

Ellen Estes said she would get the packet of resolutions ready for the Board in advance of the meeting.

Mr. Wilson said the next item that needs to be discussed is the scales at the transfer station.

He said the old ones could be fixed but he was told that the problem could reoccur in a couple of weeks. He said it was suggested to him to purchase scales with a 1,000 lb. capacity for its durability; he said they would cost \$865 plus installation. He said he priced the 500 lb. capacity and it was nearly the same price.

Everyone agreed to this purchase.

The FEMA denial was again discussed briefly.

Mr. Wilson gave a brief update on the proposed changes to the Sentinel Range Unit Management Plan. He said the following are proposed changes and are in the hands of DEC:

- He said that on the Bartlett Road just inside the Jay line, near the shooting range, an open trail to the river is planned (he said this could create more summer traffic on the Keene side of Bartlett Road)
- He said the parking lot at the east end of Pitchoff Mtn. (twin bridges) is being closed, the trail will be changed to connect to the parking above the

Cascade Lakes (he said he warned DEC about the parking mess this will make worse)

- He said the Jack Rabbit Trail is planned to be rerouted around the beaver dams
- He said the trails off the Old Mountain Road will be made official with better drainage and signs (he said this will cause more parking at Rock-n-River).

Ed Palen was present to explain the additional parking that DEC is planning for that area. He said DEC is planning more parking on his property just before the field opens up. He said he will be giving them an easement to build this parking lot.

Mr. Wilson explained that it will be a 30 car parking lot and that he was working to make sure it is big enough for the Town's plow truck or a school bus to turn around in.

Mr. Wilson informed the Board that Linda Rasco submitted a letter saying she does not wish to begin a new term on the Library's Board of Trustees.

The Board accepted this resignation and thanked her for her 26 years of service.

Mr. Martin gave an update on the Historical Association saying that Peter Slocum is their Chairman. He said the next meeting being planned will involve the new Library Clerk (Aaron Miller), the Town Historian (Janet Hall), Peter Slocum and himself.

He said it is not the Association's intent to interfere with the Town Historian or the Keene Valley Archives; he said they would just like to have access to the archives.

There was a brief discussion about using space at the Keene Library, or possibly the Community Center in the future. He said a partition may be needed at the Library; Mr.

Buysse said there may be a possibility of moving the door instead.

Resolution No. 244 – 17

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

Roll Call Vote:

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|-----------------|-----|
| Mr. Wilson: | Yes |
| Mr. Martin: | Yes |
| Mr. Biesemeyer: | Yes |
| Mr. Buysse: | Yes |
| Mr. Smith: | Yes |

The Town Board (minus Michael Buysse) entered Executive Session at 7:47 PM.

Resolution No. 245 – 17

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. Martin.

Roll Call Vote:

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|-----------------|-----|
| Mr. Wilson: | Yes |
| Mr. Martin: | Yes |
| Mr. Biesemeyer: | Yes |
| Mr. Buysse: | Yes |
| Mr. Smith: | Yes |

The Town Board reconvened into regular session at 8:09 PM.

Resolution No. 246 – 17

The Town Board adopted Resolution No. 246 – 17, a Resolution Approving Partial Settlement. This resolution, in its entirety, is attached to and made a part of these minutes.

Resolution No. 247 – 17

Mr. Smith offered a resolution and moved its adoption. Be it resolved, that the Town Board accept the Monthly Financial Statements of the Supervisor for August and September and have them placed on file with the Town Clerk. This resolution was seconded by Mr. Buysse.

Roll Call Vote:

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

Resolution No. 248 – 17

Mr. Biesemeyer 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. Buysse.

Roll Call Vote:

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

Multi-Fund Vouchers numbered 754 to 784, totaling \$34,768.06, as follows:

| | |
|-------------------|---------------|
| General Fund | - \$13,165.45 |
| Highway Fund | - 17,319.57 |
| Library Fund | - 443.78 |
| Water District #1 | - 1,258.56 |
| Water District #2 | - 2,580.70 |

There was a brief discussion in which Deb Whitson had some questions about expenses she has paid for her position as Town Justice and about the Association of Towns meeting in February. She will follow up with Susan Whitney for direction.

Resolution No. 249 – 17

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

This meeting was adjourned at 8:15 PM.

Ellen S. Estes, Town Clerk
December 19, 2017

Joseph P. Wilson, Jr., Supervisor
Paul R. Martin, Councilman
Robert M. Biesemeyer, Councilman
Michael J. Buysse, Councilman
Jerry D. Smith, Councilman