

August 11, 2015

Minutes of the Town Board Meeting held Tuesday, August 11, 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, Michael J. Buysse and Jerry D. Smith, Members of Council. Also present were: 7 residents, Gary Manley, Highway Superintendent, Deb Whitson, Town Attorney 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. 150 – 15

Mr. Biesemeyer offered a resolution and moved its adoption. Be it resolved, that the Town Board accepts the notes from the Bid Opening (Beach Weir) held Wednesday, July 1st, as presented. This resolution was seconded by Mr. Smith.

Roll Call Vote:

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

When the Minutes for the Town Board Meeting for Tuesday, July 14th were introduced, Donna Combs said that she would like to object to certain things in them. She read a statement she had prepared in regards to comments made during the discussion about the condition of the town roads. (This statement was not left with me for reference.)

Mr. Buysse reiterated that Ms. Combs had said all roads.

Mr. Martin said in all the years he had been on the Board it has not been essential to record entire discussions.

Mr. Ferebee, who was not at that meeting, said that was the reason that during a meeting the questions should be directed to the Board.

Ms. Combs said she did direct her questions to the Board.

Mr. Biesemeyer said he didn't think the Minutes should be changed on hear say.

Ms. Combs said "It's not here say, you were there".

Mr. Ferebee asked if anyone would like to make a motion to amend the Minutes to include the comments that Ms. Combs had prepared.

Resolution No. 151 – 15

Mr. Martin offered a resolution and moved its adoption. Be it resolved, that the Town Board accept the Minutes from Tuesday, July 14th, as presented by the Town Clerk. This resolution was seconded by Mr. Biesemeyer.

Roll Call Vote:

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

Resolution No. 152 – 15

Mr. Buysse offered a resolution and moved its adoption. Be it resolved, that the Town Board accepts the Notes from the Bid Opening (Truck Bids) held Monday, July 20th, as presented. 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

Resolution No. 153 – 15

Mr. Biesemeyer offered a resolution and moved its adoption. Be it resolved, that the Town Board accepts the Minutes of the Special Town Board Meeting held Friday, July 24th, as presented. This resolution was seconded by Mr. Smith.

Roll Call Vote:

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

Rod Boula was present to give an annual update on the Elizabethtown Community Hospital.

He began by saying he was sure everyone was aware from the advertisements that ECH was part of the University of Vermont's Health Network.

He said they haven't seen any new services yet, but said they are coming.

He said they are hoping to raise \$3 million for the next and final phase of modernization for ECH which is the hospital rooms. He said the plans call for the same number of beds, though 11 of the rooms will be private with bathrooms and showers.

He said ECH now has their 5th healthcare facility located in AuSable Forks.

He said ECH is currently working with 2 physicians to join their network.

He said they are currently having a problem with the mobile MRI unit. He said that unit will be starting hours in Ticonderoga this week.

Mr. Boula said that they are trying to sell the nursing home at the Ticonderoga Hospital and if that happens they will turn the hospital into an outpatient center.

He said that ECH is going to be awarded the Press Ganey Commitment to Excellence Award for the 3rd year in a row.

Mr. Boula gave NYS and Country wide ratings for ECH. He said they ended 2014 in the black and are in the top 10% in the State with their financial stability.

Mr. Martin commented that leadership is the key. He told Mr. Boula that he is doing a marvelous job and thank you.

The Board all joined in to thank Mr. Boula.

During further discussion, Mr. Boula told the Board that he would like to have a facility in Keene. He said that a certificate of need could be community driven.

The Board again thanked Mr. Boula.

Mr. Ferebee gave a brief update on the progress of the Dr. Ray pedestrian bridge. He said construction would start there on the 14th of August. He said the Hulls Falls Road would close to through traffic on the 24th while the bridge is lowered into place. He said the project should be completed by November 15th. He said this is a County project with FEMA reimbursement.

Mr. Ferebee gave a brief update on the Marcy Field Beach Weir. He said he has a meeting with Sheehan Construction tomorrow. He said this is a 7 day project and said it is an S shaped stone weir.

The next discussion was in regards to the Fire & Rescue donations for back country rescue equipment coming from money collected at the Garden Parking Lot.

Mr. Ferebee said he had reread the Minutes from 2013 and said that a \$3,000 check was just sent out to the Keene Valley Fire District.

He said it may work best in the future if the Fire Districts put these requests into their budget in the fall. He said that the Minutes of 2000 show that \$1,250 was donated to each the Keene and the Keene Valley Fire Districts.

He asked the Board how they wanted to handle these requests in the future.

Tom Both said the agreement was that the Town would make a donation when there was surplus money in the hiker parking fund.

Mr. Martin suggested letting each District make their request in their budget and letting the access hiker parking funds come back into the budget.

(continued)

Mr. Both gave some history on the forming of the garden parking lot. He said it was originally formed to ease illegal parking, he said at that time, the Nacburs' were getting ready to close off their property to people passing across it. He said an agreement was made to run the parking lot and to make the paying customers happy, part of the proceeds were to go to back country rescue. He said that this donation stopped complaints from hikers who had to pay to park making it feel more positive.

Mr. Biesemeyer spoke about the success of the shuttle and suggested expanding to other parking lots.

Mr. Ferebee gave some numbers saying that last year's proceeds were \$15,000, but said a lot of that money goes back out in expenses and to capital improvement. He said what is left helps offset the Town's tax cap. He said that personally he thinks the fire district requests should be put into their fire budgets saying that doesn't go against the tax cap for the rest of the budget.

Mr. Ferebee said that upon receipt of a call, stopping at Roostercomb parking lot and the AuSable Club have been added to the shuttle route. He said that Chapel Pond may be added next year.

There was a brief discussion on the availability of port-a-pots that are also paid for from these funds.

Melanie Porter said she is a Member of the KBA and was here tonight to promote a call-in system for Innkeepers and for Bed and Breakfasts.

Mr. Ferebee responded that without electricity in the Attendant's building at the parking lot there are still some stumbling blocks with the phone system.

Resolution No. 154 - 15

Mr. Martin offered a resolution and moved its adoption. Be it resolved, that the Fire Districts put their funding requests for fire and rescue equipment into their budgets during the annual budget season. This resolution was seconded by Mr. Biesemeyer.

Roll Call Vote:

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

Resolution No.155 – 15

Mr. Buysse offered a resolution and moved its adoption. Be it resolved, that the Town Board approve the 2015 Calendar of Meetings for completion of the 2016 Fiscal Budget. (This schedule, 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:	Yes
Mr. Biesemeyer:	Yes
Mr. Buysse:	Yes
Mr. Smith:	Yes

Resolution No. 156 – 15

Mr. Biesemeyer offered a resolution and moved its adoption. Be it resolved, that the Town Board accept the Water District Collection Report for July as presented. (This report, in its entirety, has been attached to and made a part of these minutes.) 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

Resolution No. 157 – 15

The Town Board adopted Resolution No. 157 – 15, a Resolution to Amend the 2015 Budget. This resolution, in its entirety, is attached to and made a part of these minutes.

Mr. Ferebee gave a brief update on Youth Commission. He said the summer program is averaging attendance at around 30 children per day. He said the lowest day was the day they went to AuSable Chasm and they were thinking they would take that off their schedule next year. He said they had their DOH inspection and were cited on a couple of building violations. He said one violation was that the Director did not have a copy of the fire alarm inspection record, saying that has been sent in and is covered. He also said that one of the downstairs doors has a crash bar and a lock set, he said it can't have both. The final violation was that the building is not equipped with lighted exit signs. He said he is working on those. He also said the soccer program is getting started. He said that the Youth Commission Board has recommended Sarah Knapp to fill an unexpired term on that board.

Resolution No. 158 – 15

Mr. Biesemeyer offered a resolution and moved its adoption. Be it resolved, that upon the recommendation of the Youth Commission Board, Sarah Knapp be appointed to the unexpired term on that board which expires December 31, 2015. 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

Mr. Martin gave a brief update on the Veterans Memorial. He said the monument for the Revolutionary War has been installed; he said it contains 21 names. He said the War of 1812 has been ordered, he said that contains 100 names, reminding everyone that at that time part of North Elba was in the Town of Keene. He said that completion of the Civil War has just been compiled saying there were 130 individuals of which 27 were killed.

He said this project contains some amazing history and suggests that people visit the memorial to experience it.

Resolution No. 159 – 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 June as presented and have it placed on file with the Town Clerk. This resolution was seconded by Mr. Smith.

Roll Call Vote:

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

Resolution No. 160 – 15

Mr. Biesemeyer offered a resolution and moved its adoption. Be it resolved, that the Town Board enter into Executive Session to discuss personnel. 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

The Town Board entered Executive Session at 7:50 PM.

Resolution No. 161 – 15

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:

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

The Town Board reconvened into regular session at 8:15 PM.

Resolution No. 162 – 15

Mr. Smith 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. Martin.

Roll Call Vote:

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

Multi-Fund Vouchers numbered 454 to 517, totaling \$132,466.77 and 1 voucher for the KPL to be paid from fund raising money in the amount of \$11.99;

General Fund	- \$72,019.89
Highway Fund	- 26,032.73
Library Fund	- 1,133.93
Water District No. 1 Fund	- 11,434.59
Water District No. 2 Fund	- 21,845.63

and 1 voucher from KPL Fund Raising Acct. for 11.99

Resolution No. 163 – 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: Yes
Mr. Buysse: Yes
Mr. Smith: Yes

The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 PM.

Ellen S. Estes, Town Clerk
August 14, 2015

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

