

Tuesday, July 12, 2016

Minutes of the Town Board Meeting held Tuesday, July 12, 2016, at 7:00 PM, at the Keene Town Hall. The following Town Board Members were present: William B. Ferebee, Supervisor, Paul R. Martin, Michael J. Buysse and Jerry D. Smith, Members of Council. Absent: Robert M. Biesemeyer, Member of Council. Also present were: Jessica Hartley, SPCA; Deanna Brown, 5 Residents and Ellen Estes, Town Clerk.

The Chairman, Mr. Ferebee, called the meeting to order at 7:04 PM and invited everyone present to join in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Resolution No. 141 - 16

Mr. Smith offered a resolution and moved its adoption. Be it resolved, that the Town Board approve the Minutes of the Town Board Meeting held June 14<sup>th</sup>, as presented. This resolution was seconded by Michael Buysse.

Roll Call Vote:

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

Mr. Ferebee introduced Jessica Hartley for Privilege of the Floor saying that she would be explaining a Proposed Essex County Local Law regarding the tethering of dogs. Ms. Hartley introduced herself saying she is the Director of the North Country SPCA and is on the Animal Cruelty Task Force. She said a lot of time has been put into this proposal which was proposed to the Board of Supervisors on Monday. She said it was discussed with the Board and a few changes would be made.

She said the purpose of this local law is to restrict long term tethering to help stop cruelty and neglect. She said the problem is with dog owners who tether their dogs to a stationary object causing the dog to get tangled and not be able to reach their food, water or shelter. She said it is not meant to punish responsible dog owners saying it allows dogs to be on an overhead pulley system for up to 10 hours.

She said one issue brought up in the Board of Supervisor's discussion was enforcement.

Mr. Ferebee also said the law calls for dogs to not be tethered from 10 PM to 6 AM.

Ms. Hartley said there are some exceptions to the overnight rule such as hunting dogs. A discussion was held about a grace period for this proposed law allowing time for educating the public.

Ms. Hartley said this is the Task Forces' way at the local level to help make changes.

Again, Ms. Hartley said the reason behind this local law is to prevent severe neglect of animals.

Mr. Ferebee said he thought Jill Stover would be present to see what the Board found out about parking a vendor trailer on Town property. He said he talked to the Town's liability insurance representative, who said it was okay, but they should file a certificate of insurance naming the Town of Keene as additional insured, as is done for use of Marcy Field.

Next to speak was Deanna Brown.

Ms. Brown began by thanking the Board for the signs on the State Road that indicates there is a playground at the Community Center.

She also said she was aware that the Town was partnering with NYS DOT on crosswalks. She went on to say it could get tricky trying to cross the street in the summer.

Her young son, Lucas, said they have a friend who works at Little Peaks that put up a sign with a "heart" on it.

She said that the crosswalks in Keene Valley send a clear message that you are entering a Village.

She said with the business section of Keene growing it would be nice to have the traffic slow down and look around.

She said she was hoping for an update on any progress.

Mr. Ferebee said that about a month ago, DOT came and walked through Town with him. He said that the State has agreed to allow the Town to put in two crosswalks in Keene. He said that DOT requires a plan and said that the County is doing that for us. He said the plan will need to go to DOT for final approval, then we need the agreement from the State in writing before the work can be done.

Mr. Ferebee explained that one crosswalk would be in front of the A.D.K. Market, he said this crosswalk will just need stripping and signs. He said the other crosswalk will be near the Cedar Run Bakery saying that the landing needed to be widened and has already been done. He also said that this crosswalk, in addition to the stripping and signs, will require a curb cut to be put into the sidewalk within 12 months.

Wendy Knight was present and said that speeding through Town is an issue. She spoke about a couple of instances.

Mr. Martin said the Town has been after the State for 20 years to get flashing yellow lights and said that they keep saying there is not enough traffic to call for them.

Ms. Knight asked what the public can do to help.

Mr. Ferebee said he could ask again for a traffic counter, but said that things are going pretty well.

He said that Jim Duggan at the County said he would have the crosswalk plan back to NYS DOT by the end of the week.

Mr. Ferebee said he still needs to catch up with Larry Haws at the A.D.K. Market, but said that he got word through Steve Ponion that he is okay with this.

Mr. Ferebee asked the Board for a resolution to use 1.7 million dollars in unexpended funds from the Rural Development Grant for the reconstruction project done in Water District #2 to pay down that loan. He said this will reduce that debt payment saying that starting in 2017 the combined water bill for water rent and debt service would be reduced in that district. He said he couldn't say until this debt is amortized how much the annual bill would be reduced.

Resolution No. 142 – 16

Mr. Martin offered a resolution and moved its adoption. Be it resolved, that Mr. Ferebee be given authorization to pay down the Water District No. 2 Debt by remitting 1.7 million dollars that was over funded for the Water District #2 construction project. This resolution was seconded by Mr. Buysse.

Roll Call Vote:

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

Mr. Ferebee gave an FYI that the Hurricane Chapter of the Adirondack Mountain Club has donated 3 tandem loads of crusher run, at a value of up to \$500, to be used to maintain the road into the Garden Parking Lot.

Mr. Ferebee asked the Town Board for a Resolution Committing Funding for the DASNY grant for expanding the Community Center.

Resolution No. 143 – 16

The Town Board adopted Resolution No. 143 – 16, a Resolution Committing Funding. This resolution, in its entirety, is attached to and made a part of these minutes.

Mr. Ferebee explained to the Board that only one bid was received for the request for bids on painting the Holt House. He said this bid was opened but did not include any of the required bid documents. He said this bid will be re-advertised.

Mr. Ferebee informed the Board that Ryan Hall was finished flushing the hydrants in Keene and is now working on Keene Valley.

Mr. Ferebee gave an update on a maintenance issue in Water District #2 saying that the water level at the reservoir is recovering well. He said leaks were found in two private lines and have been fixed; he said it's hard to know if this was the whole problem. Mr. Martin said he would like to see a report on the amount of water used to be presented at each monthly meeting.

The next discussion was in regards to the stipend paid to the Board of Assessment Review. Mr. Ferebee said the members normally receive \$100 and the Chairman receives \$150. He said this year, instead of 1 day of grievance reviews, the Board had heard 3 days of appointments and had spent one-day deliberating. He said they had reviewed 84 cases this year. A discussion was held, the Board agreed on \$400 and \$450.

#### Resolution No. 143 – 16

Mr. Smith offered a resolution and moved its adoption. Be it resolved, that due to this year's extended Grievance Day, the Board of Assessment Review be compensated \$400 to the two members and \$450 to the Chairman of the Board. This resolution was seconded by Mr. Martin.

#### Roll Call Vote:

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

In a very brief discussion, Mr. Ferebee informed the Board that as assessment petitions are filed, the Town Board has the authority to reduce them.

Mr. Ferebee informed the Board that a Marcy Field request has been received for 2017 saying it is for a wedding and for that reason felt it should be addressed now.

#### Resolution No. 144 – 16

Mr. Martin offered a resolution and moved its adoption. Be it resolved, that at the request of James Thompson and Christine Campbell use of Marcy Field be approved as the site to hold their wedding on September 9, 2017. This resolution was seconded by Mr. Buysse.

#### Roll Call Vote:

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

#### Resolution No. 145 – 16

Mr. Smith offered a resolution and moved its adoption. Be it resolved, that the Town Board accept the resignation of Tina Fenton from her position as Clerk to the Assessor effective June 24, 2016. This resolution was seconded by Mr. Martin.

#### Roll Call Vote:

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

Mr. Ferebee asked the Board for a resolution to apply for a Department of State grant through the County. He said this is the "Riverbank Restoration Grant" but can be used for sidewalks. He said he would like to replace about 700 feet of sidewalk on Market Street starting at the school and going to the corner and about 1000 feet of sidewalk on the Library side of the Route 73 from the Neighborhood House to the Valley Grocery.

Resolution No. 146 – 16

Mr. Buysse offered a resolution and moved its adoption. Be it resolved, that the Town Board give authorization to the Supervisor, William Ferebee, to apply for Department of State grant funds for sidewalks. This resolution was seconded by Mr. Smith.

Roll Call Vote:

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

Mr. Martin commented that the Town should check with NYS DOT about paving through Keene Valley. He also said that now would be a good time to think about curbing.

Mr. Ferebee reported that the Youth Commission Program is in full swing and having an attendance of at least 30 children per day.

There was a brief discussion in which the comment was made that everyone seems happy now that a bench has been situated near the pedestrian bridge.

Mr. Ferebee informed the Board that there had been an incident this weekend that resulted in both generators for the recycling compactors to stop working. He said that Ryan Hall hooked the compactors up to the tractor and the attendant was able to run the them that way.

There was a brief discussion regarding bears in Keene Valley.

Resolution No. 147 – 16

Mr. Buysse offered a resolution and moved its adoption. Be it resolved, that the Town Board accept the Supervisor’s Monthly Financial Statement for May, as presented, and have it 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:	Absent
Mr. Buysse:	Yes
Mr. Smith:	Yes

Resolution No. 148 – 16

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. Smith.

Roll Call Vote:

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

Multi-Fund Vouchers numbered 366 to 452, totaling \$65,640.51 and one Capital Fund Voucher totaling \$128.89:

General Fund bills	- \$33,126.13
Highway Fund bills	- 23,231.31
Library Fund bills	- 2,184.07
Water District No. 1 bills	- 2,098.21
Water District No. 2 bills	- 5,000.79
and	
Holt House (Scenic Byways) Capital Fund - Voucher #1 of 2016	- \$128.89

Resolution No. 149 – 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. Buysse.

Roll Call Vote:

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

The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 PM.

Ellen S. Estes, Town Clerk  
July 19, 2016

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