

April 25, 2017

Minutes of the Town Board Meeting held Tuesday, April 25, 2017, at the Keene Town Hall, at 5:30 PM. The following Town Board Members were present: Joseph P. Wilson, II, Supervisor, Paul R. Martin, Robert M. Biesemeyer, Michael J. Buysse and Jerry D. Smith, Members of Council. Also present were: Ryan Hall, Water Superintendent and Ellen Estes, Town Clerk.

The Chairman, Mr. Wilson, called the meeting to order at 5:30 PM.

There was a brief discussion regarding the anticipated water rents to be billed July 1<sup>st</sup>. This discussion was in regards to whether to increase the charge for additional space with bathrooms on the same parcel. The Board wanted a couple more weeks to review the list before finalizing.

Mr. Wilson informed the Board of an issue in Water District No. 2 saying that there have been about 20 failures on private lines due to the overtightening of connections during construction. He said each failure has cost the district approximately \$700 to fix. He said some of these problems go back to when Kirk Bassarab was the Water Superintendent. He said he was looking into the contractor's contracts to check on warranties to figure out what action could be taken.

Mr. Hall showed the Board the fittings and damaged pipes that had been removed.

Mr. Biesemeyer cautioned moving too quickly with a lawsuit. He asked if the contractor had been notified and have they offered to fix them.

Mr. Wilson said he was working on all this, he said he just wanted to inform the Board and have them be aware of the failures.

Mr. Hall said he had talked to Kirk Bassarab and said that Mr. Bassarab was going to get some numbers together.

Mr. Hall informed the Board that he has had a couple calls regarding the ditch that runs behind the properties from the Verizon building to the Mason Young Road in Keene Valley. He said this ditch was originally put in by the Town and has been maintained a few times.

Mr. Martin asked how much it has cost in the past to maintain.

Mr. Hall said it would be the cost of renting an excavator and about a week's work. He said it needs to be cleaned out saying it needs more depth.

Mr. Biesemeyer said it didn't sound like a big deal saying it's something that is only done once every 10 years.

Mr. Wilson said the Town Road is key to the problem.

Mr. Wilson and Mr. Hall will take a look at the situation.

Mr. Biesemeyer suggested hiring a contractor with a mini-excavator to take care of it.

The next discussion was in regards to the wall along the sidewalk in front of the old post office in Keene Valley.

Josh Whitney has spoken to Mr. Wilson and Mr. Smith about its condition.

Mr. Martin said he didn't think it looks bad.

Mr. Smith suggested taking out the wall and sloping the hill, and taking away the two parking spots in front to move the sidewalk toward the road to straighten it out.

Mr. Biesemeyer and Mr. Martin both said no to giving up those parking spots.

Mr. Smith responded by saying ask Ryan how hard the sidewalk plowing is.

Mr. Buysse stated that curbs are always a pain.

Mr. Wilson said that he would like to do away with all sidewalk plowing and have the homeowners do in front of their property. He said all he hears is complaining about the plowing, snow left behind, the salt and the clean-up.

Mr. Smith said that the parking spots in question take away from extra room for the yard.

Mr. Biesemeyer said he thought the issue is whether to repair the wall, leave it alone or remove it.

The Board agreed that they would like to look the situation over and discuss it again.

Resolution No. 119 – 17

Mr. Smith offered a resolution and moved its adoption. Be it resolved, that the Town Board is in agreement to rescind Resolution No. 104-17, a resolution to co-host this summer's Beatlemania Concert. 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

Resolution No. 120 – 17

Mr. Smith offered a resolution and moved its adoption. Be it resolved, that at their request the High Peaks Artists be given permission to use the Holt House for various Art Shows throughout the summer. 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

Resolution No. 121 – 17

Mr. Martin offered a resolution and moved its adoption. Be it resolved, that at the request of Matt Dunne, permission be given for him to hold a Guitar Workshop from Sunday, July 30<sup>th</sup> through Saturday, August 5<sup>th</sup> at the Holt House. This resolution was seconded by Mr. Biesemeyer.

Roll Call Vote:

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

Liability insurance for these events was discussed, the Board did not feel it was necessary to require proof of insurance for these indoor activities.

Resolution No. 122 – 17

Mr. Biesemeyer offered a resolution and moved its adoption. Be it resolved, that at the request of John Schuler permission be given for lacrosse practice to be held on Marcy Field from 4:00 PM to 5:00 PM on Sunday, July 30<sup>th</sup>, prior to the Lake Placid Summit Classic, with insurance for this event required. 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

Resolution No. 123 – 17

Mr. Buysse offered a resolution and moved its adoption. Be it resolved, that at the request of Vinnie McClelland, the Mountaineer be issued a highway permit to hold their Annual Trail Run on Saturday, June 10<sup>th</sup> from 10 AM to Noon. Also, be it resolved, that the fee be waived as this is a charity event. This resolution was seconded by Mr. Biesemeyer.

Roll Call Vote:

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

After a brief discussion about dates, the Board took the following action.

Resolution No. 124 – 17

Mr. Smith offered a resolution and moved its adoption. Be it resolved, that the Town Board cancel the Bi-Monthly Town Board Meetings for June, July and August. This resolution was seconded by Mr. Biesemeyer.

Roll Call Vote:

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

Ms. Estes informed the Board that Dr. & Mrs. Speert's daughters were interested in donating a couple cemetery lots back to the Town. She said they sent one of the original deeds but did not seem to be in possession of the other. She said she is not comfortable selling a lot which the Town does not have the original deed for. She said she would send them a letter thanking them for the one lot and ask them to let the Town know if they come across the other deed.

Resolution No. 125 – 17

Mr. Biesemeyer offered a resolution and moved its adoption. Be it resolved, that the Town Board accept the return of Cemetery Lot No. 522 deeded to Dr. & Mrs. Harold Speert as a donation and send a letter of thanks. 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

The next discussion was in regards to the Hiker Parking Attendant's position being available due to the death of Eloise Endicott.

Ms. Estes informed the Board that she had taken a call from someone interested in the position.

Mr. Wilson suggested that the hours be advertised as Friday, Saturday, Sunday and Holiday Mondays as 8-hour days and then a couple hours on two weekdays to check the lot and pick up receipts. He said the personnel service line for hiker parking employees went over budget last year

The Board was in agreement to advertise the above hours.

The prior discussion brought up a discussion regarding unemployment.

The Board seemed very surprised to see how much the Town's unemployment vouchers are.

Ms. Estes explained that years ago when the Town had no one collecting unemployment, an auditor had suggested changing from insurance to the system now used.

Mr. Biesemeyer suggested looking into the cost of unemployment insurance.

Mr. Wilson said he would check into it.

Mr. Wilson informed the Board that Bob Rose has signed the hanger contract. He said the field was rolled today and that a wind sock would be ordered. He said Mr. Rose is planning on starting use of the hanger on May 15<sup>th</sup>. He said something still needs to be done with the workability of the hanger doors.

Mr. Wilson shared an itinerary for a Fly-In Breakfast being planned by Bob Rose with the proceeds going to the Keene Food Pantry.

He will let Mr. Rose know if this goes further he will need to get approval to use Marcy Field.

There was a brief discussion regarding an upcoming assessment meeting that is being hosted by individuals not a municipality.

Mr. Biesemeyer gave some history on assessing issues saying that having a municipal meeting for the public could be helpful, but one done differently than the last one. He ended by saying the process works but it's not perfect.

Mr. Wilson shared a refund that had been received from unclaimed funds discovered during the Association of Towns Conference in New York.

The Board was very surprised to see that the amount was \$5,050.

Resolution No. 126 – 17

Mr. Biesemeyer offered Resolution No. 126 – 17, a Resolution Transferring Funds. This resolution, in its entirety, is attached to and made a part of these minutes. 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

Resolution No. 127 – 17

Mr. Biesemeyer offered a resolution and moved its adoption. Be it resolved, that the Town Board approve the Supervisor's Monthly Financial Statement for February as submitted and have it 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

Mr. Wilson informed the Board that the Library Report had been completed and the AUD is being worked on.

When asked how often the Town is audited, Mr. Wilson explained you have to ask for an audit.

Resolution No. 128 – 17

Mr. Biesemeyer offered a resolution and moved its adoption. Be it resolved, that the Town Board enter Executive Session to discuss possible litigation. 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, Mr. Martin, Mr. Biesemeyer and Mr. Smith entered Executive Session at 6:30 PM.

Resolution No. 129 – 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. Biesemeyer.

Roll Call Vote:

Mr. Wilson: Yes

Mr. Martin: Yes

Mr. Biesemeyer: Yes

Mr. Buysse: Yes

Mr. Smith: Yes

The Town Board reconvened into regular session at 6:50 PM.

Mr. Wilson said no decisions had been reached in Executive Session.

Resolution No. 130 – 17

Mr. Buysse offered a resolution and moved its adoption. Be it resolved, that the Town Board approve the following bills for payment. This resolution was seconded by Mr. Biesemeyer.

Roll Call Vote:

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

Multi-Fund Vouchers Numbered #198 to 234, totaling \$52,488.34, as follows:

General Fund bills	- \$30,940.90
Highway Fund bills	- 14,842.18
Library Fund bills	- 1,055.20
Water District #1 bills	- 1,556.41
Water District #2 bills	- 4,093.65

Resolution No. 131 – 17

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. Martin.

Roll Call Vote:

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

The meeting was adjourned at 6:51 PM.

Ellen S. Estes, Town Clerk  
April 28, 2017

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