

October 10, 2017

Minutes of the Town Board Meeting held Tuesday, October 10, 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: 2 Residents, Ryan Hall, Water Superintendent, Debra Whitson, Town Attorney and Ellen Estes, Town Clerk.

The Chairman, Mr. Wilson, called the meeting to order at 7:01 PM and invited those present to join in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Resolution No. 208 – 17

Mr. Martin offered a resolution and moved its adoption. Be it resolved, that the Town Board accept the Notes from the Budget Workshop held September 11, 2017, the Minutes of the Town Board Meeting held September 11, 2017, the Notes from the Budget Workshop held September 19, 2017 and the Minutes of the Town Board Meeting held September 26, 2017, 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 questions or comments.

Mr. Wilson said the only item under Old Business is the Resolution needed for Local Law #1 of 2017, to extend the Cold War Veterans Exemption.

Resolution No. 209 – 17

The Town Board adopted Resolution No. 209 – 17, A Local Law to Provide for an Exemption from Real Property Taxes for Real Property Owned by Veterans Who Rendered Military Service to the United States during the "Cold War". This resolution, in its entirety, is attached to and made a part of these minutes.

Mr. Wilson said the next item he would like to discuss is a resolution offering support of proposition #3 to create a Statewide Land Bank for Municipalities. He said this resolution is being requested by the Association of Towns and Villages.

Mr. Biesemeyer said this is one part of a bigger issue.

Mr. Wilson said this resolution is not the Constitutional Amendment, he said this is support for the referendum to be on the ballot.

Resolution No. 210 – 17

The Town Board adopted Resolution No. 210 – 17, a Resolution Supporting Statewide Proposal Number 3 That Will Create a Land Account to Address Specific Public Health and Safety Concerns for Use by Towns, Villages and Counties Having No Viable Alternative Other Than Using Forest Preserve Land. This resolution, in its entirety, has been attached to and made a part of these minutes.

The next discussion was in regards to Marcy Field Usage Fees.

Mr. Wilson began by saying that he would like to see a Town employee present at Marcy Field on Sundays from 8:30 AM to 1:30 PM during multiple event days.

Mr. Biesemeyer questioned an employee's presence saying that would cost more than the \$150 per Sunday charge discussed for the Farmers' Market.

Mr. Martin said he agreed with Mr. Biesemeyer saying that the organization should be responsible for clean-up.

Mr. Wilson said that he got called out multiple times during events this summer.

The Board discussed the fees as laid out by Mr. Wilson and agreed to the following schedule:

Marcy Field Usage Fees

Weddings at the Holt House:

- \$500 for Town of Keene Residents
- \$1000 for Non – Residents

Markets, Craft Fairs or other sales generating event:

- \$75 for Town of Keene Residents
- \$150 for Non – Residents

Non-Profit sponsored Fundraising or Arts event:

- N/C for Event Organized by Keene Resident
- \$50 for Event Organized by Non – Resident

Farmers Market:

- \$150 per Sunday

Mr. Biesemeyer said he doesn't want to have an employee present at every event saying it would only be necessary for multiple events.

Everyone seemed to be in agreement; Mr. Wilson said the employee's schedule would be changed around for the times this is required, saying overtime would not be paid.

The next discussion was in regards to two requests to use Marcy Field on the same weekend; August 25th and 26th, 2018.

Chris Straight requested the use of the Holt House and the field behind and beside it for Adirondack Step Sides to hold their 8th Annual Adirondack Show & Shine Car Show, 2nd Annual Road Rally and the Wings & Wheels Fly In.

Jody Downs sent in a request for the same weekend for their 26th Annual High Peaks Arts & Antiques Show.

The Board had a brief discussion resulting in the decision to allow both events to run side by side; on Sunday there will also be the Farmers' Market. It was agreed to have an employee on stand by for the weekend.

The Board discussed fees and agreed to the Arts & Antiques show paying the \$75 fee; there will be no charge for the other event, who will be donating their proceeds to a research foundation as well as gathering items for the food pantry.

Mr. Wilson said he has had a problem in the past with the Farmers' Market, he said they have finally stopped leaving their trash behind, but the problems with parking have not been solved. He said he has warned them that the conditions will be changing for this coming year.

Resolution No. 211 – 17

Mr. Biesemeyer offered a resolution and moved its adoption. Be it resolved, that the Elizabethtown Community Hospital Auxiliary be given a highway permit to hold their 38th Annual Doc Lopez Run for Health on Saturday, March 24th, 2018, also Be it resolved, to waive the application fee due to the run's not-for-profit status. 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 said he had added a couple "bridge discussions" to the agenda. He turned the first one over to Mr. Biesemeyer.

Mr. Biesemeyer said that basically he is concerned about the Johns Brook Bridge. He said he talked to a concrete contractor who had to go through Merle-Smith's property rather than across the bridge.

He said he's been there to look at the bridge and said he talked to a contractor who told him the bridge was shored up following Tropical Storm Irene, but he said this has now been removed. He said he talked to someone at Reale Construction and he said he talked to Jim Duggan at Essex County, who said this bridge is on the County schedule to be replaced in 2019.

He said he was astounded when he went there to take some pictures.

He said that Schroder Engineering feels this bridge is dangerous saying it would create a disaster if something happens to this bridge.

He said he was there on a Saturday and there was steady traffic the whole time.

Mr. Wilson said that he has been talking to Jim Duggan.

Mr. Biesemeyer asked if he thought a temporary bridge could be put there until it is replaced. He said the abutments of the bridge look good. He mentioned the possibility of temporary access through Mulligan's pass.

Mr. Wilson said that the County has approved this bridge for replacement for 2019 saying the money has been committed, he said a good case would have to be made to get it done sooner. He said he would follow up with Jim Duggan to see how his discussion with Mr. Schroder went.

In closing, Mr. Biesemeyer said the bridge is posted for 15 tons; truck weights were then discussed.

Mr. Biesemeyer again said this bridge is strictly a timber bridge, no steel and the Town should try to get it replaced.

Mr. Wilson said he has two things to discuss about the Walton Bridge.

He said that Lorraine Duvall would like to swap the bench that is on this walking bridge for 2 new benches in honor of a deceased friend.

There was no objection to this request.

He also asked the Board where they would like the "historical plaque" placed. He said it is a full color history, about 2 foot by 3 foot in size. He said it is coming tomorrow.

Everyone seemed to agree to look it over and figure out the best way to mount it.

Mr. Wilson informed the Board that the shuttle only has two more days to run.

He said that Roy did a good job as attendant and he is trying to get him to come back next year.

The Board discussed the parking arrangements that were in place for Columbus Day weekend on Route 73 at the Cascade trails.

Mr. Biesemeyer said the placement of the barrels was a waste of money and a lot of work. He said this gave an "unfriendly" appearance.

Mr. Martin mentioned that a child was once killed near chapel pond due to road parking.

Mr. Wilson said he has a meeting coming up with DOT, DEC and the APA regarding what to do about parking next year.

Mr. Biesemeyer said it would be nice if the Town was given money to expand the Marcy Field parking and to add bathrooms, more shuttle service and money for more employees to run them.

Mr. Wilson said he is also working with Mike Carr on parking issues.

Deb Whitson informed the Board that she has just noticed that it is time for the Town to renew her contract. She gave the new contract to Mr. Wilson.

Next was further discussion regarding the 2018 Budget.

Mr. Wilson had the 2018 Preliminary Budget ready for filing with the Town Clerk.

He said that Ryan Hall's salary had been adjusted in this budget.

He said that the current Library Clerk is retiring earlier than the Town thought and said the Town is working on getting together an ad to hire a new person. He reviewed the Library numbers in the budget, on page 10.

He said this budget is \$21,977 under the tax cap.

Mr. Wilson said that everything in the budget is settled except the Keene Valley Library's request for \$10,000 for their capital project and the Beatlemania request.

Mr. Martin said he would like to see the \$10,000 budgeted for the KV Library request.

Mr. Smith stated that the Town already budgets \$6,000 for their annual contribution to the KVL.

Mr. Martin stated that the Town hasn't raised that annual donation in many years.

Mr. Biesemeyer said he has no problem donating this amount to their Capital Fund.

Mr. Wilson stated that this still leaves the budget under the tax cap.

Mr. Biesemeyer stated that Karen Glass does a lot of grant writing for the Keene Valley Library and suggested that she may be able to help out the Town with grant writing. He said he feels that the Keene Valley Library is a worthwhile cause for supporting.

Resolution No. 212 - 17

Mr. Martin offered a resolution and moved its adoption. Be it resolved, that the Town Board approves that a \$10,000 contribution be added into the Town's 2018 Budget to make a contribution to the Keene Valley Library's Capital Fund. This resolution was seconded by Mr. Biesemeyer.

Roll Call Vote:

Mr. Wilson:	Yes
Mr. Martin:	Yes
Mr. Biesemeyer:	Yes
Mr. Buysse:	Yes
Mr. Smith:	No

Next, the Board discussed the request for \$2,750 toward a 2018 Beatlemania Concert.

Mr. Smith offered a motion to not support this event; there was no second.

Mr. Martin stated that the Town doesn't do fireworks anymore which were expensive.

Mr. Wilson stated that the parks employees could help with the set up.

Mr. Buysse stated that this event put a lot of stress on the Fire Department saying it was a lot of work and the communication, last time, wasn't very good.

Mr. Biesemeyer asked "What if we give \$1,000 ... or \$500?"

Mr. Wilson said he would approach Karen Glass or the County to see about getting grant money.

Mr. Buysse asked what date this is being planned for.

Mr. Martin said checking around for funds was a good idea.

The Board agreed to table the decision for now.

The Town Board filed the 2018 Preliminary Budget with the Town Clerk.

Mr. Wilson said the next item for discussion is the paid family leave law.

He explained that with FMLA, an employee has to use vacation or sick time or get no pay. He said this new law is an employee funded insurance. He said this new law is administered through the insurance company and is self-funded by the employee paying \$1.65 per week.

He said the Town needs to opt in or out and must notify the insurance company of their decision by December 1st.

Mr. Wilson said it's up to the employees what they want to do.

Mr. Biesemeyer said that private businesses were mandated to join.

Mr. Wilson asked Scott Smith to talk to the highway crew and let him know what they think.

Mr. Martin said he thought that was the way to go.

Next the Board had a brief discussion about the Bi-Monthly Meeting date falling on Halloween.

The question began as when to reschedule.

Mr. Martin suggested cancelling the meeting saying that we used to have just one meeting a month; everyone was in agreement to cancelling.

Mr. Wilson made a statement about Phase 2 of the Gulf Brook Project.

He said that the easements cannot be done until all environmental permitting is complete. He said this is being worked on by the Erik Sandblom.

Resolution No. 213 – 17

Mr. Biesemeyer offered a resolution and moved its adoption. Be it resolved, that the following bills be approved for payment, including those that were prepaid. 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

Multi-Fund Vouchers Numbered 612 to 641, totaling \$89,648.06, as follows:

General Fund	- \$ 7,894.99
Highway Fund	- 81,229.97
Library Fund	- 181.36
Water District #1 Fund	- 209.44
Water District #2 Fund	- 132.30

There was a brief discussion in regards to construction on Hulls Falls Road.

Mr. Buysse asked when this project would be complete.

Mr. Wilson said that the paving plants may close up before the paving is done. He said he would have to track down the project manager to get an answer on whether the road would be opened if not paved.

Resolution No. 214 – 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. Biesemeyer.

Roll Call Vote:

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

The meeting was adjourned at 8:22 PM.

Ellen S. Estes, Town Clerk
October 17, 2017

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