

April 30, 2019

Minutes of the Bi-Monthly Town Board Meeting held Tuesday, April 30, 2019, at 5:30 PM, at the Keene Town Hall. The following Town Board Members were present: Joseph P. Wilson, Jr., Supervisor, Robert M. Biesemeyer, Michael J. Buysse, Jerry D. Smith and Teresa Cheetham-Palen, Members of Council. Also present were: 4 Residents, Kent Well and Debra Whitson, Town Justices, Susan Whitney, Clerk to the Supervisor, Ryan Hall, Water Superintendent, Scott Smith, Highway Superintendent and Ellen Estes, Town Clerk.

The Chairman, Mr. Wilson, called the meeting to order at 5:30 PM saying the first order of business is to finish up the Annual Audits for Employees and Officials.

Resolution No. 119 – 19

Mr. Biesemeyer offered a resolution and moved its adoption. Be it resolved, that the Town Board accept Debra Whitson's Report of Receipts and Disbursements (these reports have been placed on file with the Town Clerk, but have too much client information to be attached to these minutes) and to accept her audit as presented. This resolution was seconded by Mr. Smith.

Roll Call Vote:

Mr. Wilson:	Yes
Mr. Biesemeyer:	Yes
Mr. Buysse:	Yes
Mr. Smith:	Yes
Ms. Cheetham-Palen:	Yes

Resolution No. 120 – 19

Mr. Biesemeyer offered a resolution and moved its adoption. Be it resolved, that the Town Board accept Susan Whitney's Annual Audit of the Supervisor's Books as presented. This resolution was seconded by Ms. Cheetham-Palen.

Roll Call Vote:

Mr. Wilson:	Yes
Mr. Biesemeyer:	Yes
Mr. Buysse:	Yes
Mr. Smith:	Yes
Ms. Cheetham-Palen:	Yes

Resolution No. 121 – 19

Mr. Buysse offered a resolution and moved its adoption. Be it resolved, that the Town Board accept Kent Wells' audit as presented (Mr. Wells' report of Receipts and Disbursements were accepted in January). This resolution was seconded by Mr. Biesemeyer.

Roll Call Vote:

Mr. Wilson:	Yes
Mr. Biesemeyer:	Yes
Mr. Buysse:	Yes
Mr. Smith:	Yes
Ms. Cheetham-Palen:	Yes

Privilege of the Floor was offered.

Suzie Doolittle was present saying she had come to the Town Hall to look at the Town's Masterplan, which was not available saying she had looked at the Strategic Plan instead; she said that the Strategic Plan from 2000 recommends a Committee of various backgrounds continue to work on issues; she said she is in favor of this happening.

Mr. Wilson told her she could not find the Masterplan because he was having copies of it made; he said he planned for the Town Board planned to have an organizational meeting this spring regarding what they would like to work on in this Plan saying they would get the planning going in September.

The next item discussed was the Anticipated Water Lists for Water Districts No. 1 and No. 2. Ms. Estes said there had been 3 questions she had, these questions were discussed and the answer to all three were no change.

Resolution No. 122 – 19

Mr. Smith offered a resolution and moved its adoption. Be it resolved, that the Town Board accept the Anticipated Water Lists for Water Districts No. 1 and No. 2 for billing, as presented. These lists, are attached to and made a part of these minutes. This resolution was seconded by Mr. Buysse.

Roll Call Vote:

Mr. Wilson:	Yes
Mr. Biesemeyer:	Yes
Mr. Buysse:	Yes
Mr. Smith:	Yes
Ms. Cheetham-Palen:	Yes

Resolution No. 123 – 19

Mr. Smith offered a resolution and moved its adoption. Be it resolved, that the Town Board adopt Resolution No. 123 – 19, a Retirement Reporting Resolution. This resolution, in its entirety, has been attached to and made a part of these minutes. This resolution was seconded by Ms. Cheetham-Palen.

Roll Call Vote:

Mr. Wilson:	Yes
Mr. Biesemeyer:	Yes
Mr. Buysse:	Yes
Mr. Smith:	Yes
Ms. Cheetham-Palen:	Yes

Mr. Wilson said the AUD had been finished a week ago saying that was an important deadline.

Mr. Wilson gave an update on the construction at Johns Brook Bridge.

He said the alternate pass is being used; he said things are moving quickly; he asked everyone to be thinking of an area that could be used as a site to dump spoils. There was a brief discussion about possible areas.

Ryan Hall said Thursday he would be shutting off the water from the water tank and using water from the wells. He said the users wouldn't notice a difference.

Ms. Cheetham-Palen asked how the alternate route was going; Mr. Biesemeyer said he has been through there a couple times and said it's going well.

Mr. Wilson gave an update on hiker parking.

He said the shuttle will only be running on weekends until school lets out; He said he has one attendant hired and said he would be doing the weekends temporarily. He said Roy starts back on May 16<sup>th</sup>.

He said he would like to order an 8' x 8' shed for the Marcy Field Parking Lot saying it can be purchased and delivered for just under \$3,000. No one seemed to oppose; Mr. Wilson said he would get it ordered and it would be paid for with shuttle funds.

Mr. Biesemeyer asked about accepting credit cards; Mr. Wilson responded that the cell phone service at Marcy Field is not good enough.

The comment was made that the Board is hoping the bridge project will be done before the "No Parking" goes into effect on Route 73.

Mr. Wilson said he was going to do some experimenting with hiker parking.

Teresa Cheetham-Palen asked if everyone had read the proposed Street Light Policy; seemed everyone had.

She said she had rephrased a few things and reviewed what they were saying she rephrased the standard "to the most energy efficient", she said she may remove the 3<sup>rd</sup> paragraph under standards and she asked if everyone was okay with there only being 3 lighting zones; the Board Members seemed to be.

Marcy Neville stated that it may be worth spelling out the roads in each particular zone; a discussion followed. Ms. Cheetham-Palen suggested using a map instead of road names.

Ms. Cheetham-Palen said she may pull out the 1<sup>st</sup> sentence under procedure.

She asked if anyone had any comments or questions and asked if a Public Hearing should be scheduled.

Bunny Goodwin said she thought there was a need for education and helping the public understand why this is important.

Mr. Wilson seemed to agree in scheduling a public meeting and if there was no discussion regarding the policy it could be adopted at the next Town Board Meeting.

Ms. Goodwin said she was hoping that this policy can serve as a design for other small Towns.

There was a brief discussion regarding what Ms. Cheetham-Palen considered the expense to put LED lights in; Mr. Wilson said the cost is minimal for this conversion.

Ms. Cheetham-Palen went on to say that no one can get an answer to the cost of removal of lights; Ms. Goodwin commented that this was the time to take some out.

Ms. Goodwin also stated that the LED lights will require much less maintenance; She also said that ANCA is all set to do their forensic audit, they are just waiting for more Towns to get started.

Mr. Wilson informed everyone that Paul Smith's College would be putting on their Presentation at Marcy Field on Saturday starting at 10:00 AM with activities following.

Mr. Wilson informed the Board that he would like to submit an application for a DEC Smart Growth Grant, he said this could allow up to \$75,000 in funds related to the development of infrastructure for hikers who visit the Town of Keene; he went on to say there is no match required but he would like to use \$5,000 per year for the next 3 years from hiker parking proceeds to score credits toward this grant.

Mr. Biesemeyer said he was not in favor of the \$5,000 per year; Mr. Wilson asked for a motion and a second on the resolution he had prepared saying that was needed for further discussion.

Ms. Cheetham-Palen offered the resolution, Mr. Smith seconded the resolution; discussion continued.

Mr. Biesemeyer again stated that he does not approve of \$5,000 being used per year and he does not approve of \$18,000 being used. He said his reason is that the "cart is being put in front of the horse" saying that the plan to expand the parking and shuttle from Marcy Field and not using any of the \$75,000 toward rest rooms doesn't work. He stated that this was not budgeted spending and that anything collected from hiker parking goes into the budget and has to be accounted for to the taxpayers.

Mr. Wilson said he has a plan for how to spend the funds, he said he is laying the groundwork for a building with bathrooms that the State would run. He said he talked to DEC last fall about if there was a building asking them if they would run it. He said he has a meeting coming up in Albany with Senator Betty Little. He said he doesn't want the question to come up in five years asking why no one has done anything about hiker parking. He said the Town of Keene isn't going to build a building and isn't going to run it.

Mr. Smith asked what became of the Betty Little funds; Mr. Wilson said he wants the State to run it.

Mr. Wilson said this grant is the result of lots of conversations and applying for the grant is part of it.

Mr. Biesemeyer said he thinks it's a lot of talk; he said he's not willing to pay \$5,000 in taxpayer money per year to get it.

Mr. Wilson said this is not taxpayer money, he said its hiker parking money.

Mr. Buysse asked what the benefits would be.

Mr. Wilson said he was sensing that no one wants to do this.

Ms. Cheetham-Palen withdrew the earlier motion.

A new motion without the \$5,000 per year contribution was offered and follows –

Resolution No. 124 – 19

The Town Board adopted Resolution No. 124 – 19, a Resolution Authorizing Submission of DEC Smart Growth Grant Application. This resolution, in its entirety, is attached to and made a part of these minutes.

Resolution No. 125 – 19

Mr. Biesemeyer offered a resolution and moved its adoption. Be it resolved, that the Town Board accept the amended pages for the Supervisor's Monthly Financial Statement for December 2018 and January 2019, and have them placed on file with the Town Clerk. This resolution was seconded by Mr. Buysse.

Roll Call Vote:

Mr. Wilson:	Yes
Mr. Biesemeyer:	Yes
Mr. Buysse:	Yes
Mr. Smith:	Yes
Ms. Cheetham-Palen:	Yes

Resolution No. 126 – 19

Mr. Smith offered a resolution and moved its adoption. Be it resolved, that the Town Board accept the Supervisor's Monthly Financial Statement for February and have it placed on file with the Town Clerk. This resolution was seconded by Ms. Cheetham-Palen.

Roll Call Vote:

Mr. Wilson:	Yes
Mr. Biesemeyer:	Yes
Mr. Buysse:	Yes
Mr. Smith:	Yes
Ms. Cheetham-Palen:	Yes

Mr. Smith asked about the status of the new Employee Handbook; Mr. Wilson said he just received them back from printing and said he would hand them out after the meeting.

Mr. Biesemeyer asked Scott Smith if there was a problem regarding the road at Fairview Way. He asked if there had been a change in policy saying that Eric Wells was concerned.

Scott indicated that he never plowed that road; Mr. Biesemeyer asked if the policy changed indicating he thought the Town plowed it.

Mr. Wilson said that Ryan Hall plowed that road and said that the residents were calling him at all hours to come and plow. He said he told the residents they could bring it up to Town Specs to be adopted as a Town Road.

Scott Smith agreed with Mr. Wilson that to change anything about the maintenance the residents would need to apply to have the road taken over.

Mr. Buysse said the Town should have to keep up the road for access to the cemetery, but didn't feel that included plowing.

Mr. Wilson, again, said the residents need to pick up the ball and make an official request to the Town to take it over.

Resolution No. 127 – 19

Mr. Smith offered a resolution and moved its adoption. Be it resolved, that the Town Board approve the following vouchers for payment, including those that were prepaid. This resolution was seconded by Mr. Biesemeyer.

Roll Call Vote:

Mr. Wilson:	Yes
Mr. Biesemeyer:	Yes
Mr. Buysse:	Yes
Mr. Smith:	Yes
Ms. Cheetham-Palen:	Yes

(vouchers listed on next page)

Multi-Fund Vouchers Numbered 253 to 288, totaling \$65,352.55, as follows:

General Fund	- \$27,225.64
Highway Fund	- 31,701.31
Library Fund	- 49.39
Water District No. 1 Fund	- 1,238.48
Water District No. 2 Fund	- 2,214.11
Salt Shed Capital Fund	- 2,923.62

Resolution No. 128 – 19

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. Smith.

Roll Call Vote:

Mr. Wilson:	Yes
Mr. Biesemeyer:	Yes
Mr. Buysse:	Yes
Mr. Smith:	Yes
Ms. Cheetham-Palen:	Yes

This meeting was adjourned at 6:40 PM.

Ellen S. Estes, Town Clerk  
May 7, 2019

Joseph P. Wilson, Jr., Supervisor  
Robert M. Biesemeyer, Councilman  
Michael J. Buysse, Councilman  
Jerry D. Smith, Councilman  
Teresa Cheetham-Palen, Councilwoman