

December 10, 2019

Minutes of the Town Board Meeting held Tuesday, December 10, 2019, at 7:00 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, Scott Smith, Highway Superintendent, Ryan Hall, Water Superintendent, Deb Whitson, Town Attorney and Ellen Estes, Town Clerk.

The Chairman, Mr. Wilson, called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM and invited everyone present to join in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Ms. Cheetham-Palen asked to have the Minutes of November 12<sup>th</sup> changed to read Lighting Districts 1 and 2 in place of "low end lighting" in the third paragraph from the bottom on page 35.

Resolution No. 239 – 19

Mr. Smith offered a resolution and moved its adoption. Be it resolved, that the Town Board approve the Minutes of the Public Hearing held Thursday, November 7<sup>th</sup>, 2019, the Notes from the Bid Opening held Tuesday, November 12<sup>th</sup>, 2019, Minutes of the Special Town Board Meeting held Tuesday, November 19<sup>th</sup>, 2019 and the Minutes of the Bi-Monthly Town Board Meeting held Tuesday, November 26<sup>th</sup>, as presented and the Minutes of the Town Board Meeting held Tuesday, November 12<sup>th</sup>, 2019, with the aforesaid change. 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

The first item on the agenda was to discuss the request from the Essex County Agricultural Society asking each Town in Essex County to donate \$1000 for the Essex County Fair.

Mr. Wilson said giving this donation would be a chance for the Town to express their opinion on things like allowing no wild animal acts.

Mr. Biesemeyer said he'd rather give nothing saying this fair was a complete loser, he stated that the buildings are dilapidated and all \$18,000 would do was bleed the taxpayers, he said it wasn't even enough to roof a building.

Ms. Cheetham-Palen asked if this was a new request and was told it was.

Mr. Wilson again stated it's a chance to express an opinion; Ms. Cheetham-Palen said maybe if and only if it gave a chance to have an opinion.

Mr. Smith stated he was against giving it.

Mr. Biesemeyer stated that \$1,000 was only a little band aid.

Mr. Buysse said that he agrees with Ms. Cheetham-Palen that if done an "only if" needs to be attached.

Mr. Wilson asked if someone would like to put a motion on the table.

Mr. Biesemeyer offered a motion and moved its adoption, to not fund this donation, Mr. Smith seconded.

Mr. Wilson asked those present if anyone had anything to add.

Nicky Frechette said she had talked to the man who heads the fair saying that the 4-H activities have gone way downhill.

Ms. Cheetham-Palen asked what their goals were for using this money.

Mr. Buysse pointed out that even if every Town gives \$1,000, it's not much.

Mr. Wilson asked if the Board should reach out to Scott Christianson, the head of the fair.

Mr. Biesemeyer agreed and said the motion could be tabled until the next meeting.

Ms. Cheetham-Palen said she was not in favor of giving the money if they are not going to do something new with it.

Mr. Wilson said he would not be here for the next meeting and asked Ms. Cheetham-Palen to follow up with Mr. Christianson.

Mr. Wilson said the next item on the agenda was the breakdown supplied by Nicky Frechette for the pony rides she gave at Marcy Field this summer. He stated that originally the Board had told her the fee for this operation at Marcy Field would be \$25 per day. Ms. Frechette thanked the Board for this opportunity, she said it had been fun, however she said the weather also impacted the activity. She said she didn't make a lot but she would leave it up to the Board to determine what she owes. Mr. Biesemeyer said he was in favor of not charging her; Mr. Smith said that's what he was going to say. Mr. Smith asked if she was coming back next year. Ms. Frechette said she had talked to Dick Crawford, the Farmers' Market's organizer. Mr. Wilson warned her to be ready for what they charge. Mr. Biesemeyer offered to talk to Dick Crawford about Nicky continuing this service. Mr. Wilson added that Nicky would have to continue to have an agreement with the Town and supply her own insurance. Ms. Frechette talked to the Board about the location and moving around to keep the nettles down and the grass greener. Mr. Hall stated this may upset some people because of the butterflies.

#### Resolution No. 240 – 19

Mr. Biesemeyer offered a resolution and moved its adoption. Be it resolved, that the Town Board agree to not charge Ms. Frechette for the opportunity to give pony rides at Marcy Field for this year and moving forward. Be it also resolved, that the Town and Ms. Frechette continue to have an agreement and that Ms. Frechette be required to supply insurance. 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

Ms. Cheetham-Palen asked Mr. Wilson how the County made out with the damage from the Halloween storm.

Mr. Wilson said the County met its threshold and the State met their threshold for FEMA Emergency Funding. He said now it's up to the White House.

He said the pictures and documentation had helped in putting in for reimbursement, but said there is no time line.

Ms. Cheetham-Palen asked for an update on the Gulf Brook Project.

Mr. Wilson said that Reale Construction would be having a Pre-Construction Meeting at the Town Hall on Friday.

He said they would be starting tree cutting and prep work this winter and construction in the spring.

He said the upper part of the project, the Jackson Road, has not been put out to bid yet.

Ms. Cheetham-Palen asked if there was anything new on the Market Street speedbumps request; Mr. Smith said he had no information yet.

Mr. Wilson said the replacement speedboard is up on Route 73 and looks great; he went on to explain that it has the ability to log down speeds.

Mr. Biesemeyer asked if it could be moved out of the ditch; Mr. Hall said it can't be moved without a permit from DOT.

There was a brief discussion about the information that can be logged with this speedboard and the possibility of using one on Market Street.

Mr. Wilson reminded the Board that the Organizational Town Board Meeting will be held January 2<sup>nd</sup> at 5:30 PM; he said he won't make it back in time to attend.

Mr. Buysse said with going off the Board and leaving a vacancy for a Board Member Representative on the Youth Commission Board, that he hopes someone will take an active role. He said the Youth Commission is doing a great job.

Mr. Wilson gave a Youth Commission update saying that the Youth Commission is going to use the Town's white van to take student skiers to Mount Van Hoevenberg after school. He said that parent volunteers would be driving and that he has met with them to administer the drug testing.

Mr. Biesemeyer said this was a good idea.

Mr. Smith asked if this is being done under the Town's insurance; Mr. Wilson said yes. He went on to explain that the drivers have to be drug tested, sex offender checked and have van orientation.

He said the school is going to supply the fuel, maintenance and tires.

Resolution No. 241 – 19

Mr. Biesemeyer 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. Buysse.

Roll Call Vote:

Mr. Wilson: Yes

Mr. Biesemeyer: Yes

Mr. Buysse: Yes

Mr. Smith: Yes

Ms. Cheetham-Palen: Yes

Multi-Fund Vouchers Numbered 842 to 877, totaling \$86,603.27, as follows;

General Fund Bills	- \$18,071.53
Highway Fund Bills	- 33,162.67
Library Fund Bills	- 679.51
Water District #1 Bills	- 1,590.53
Water District #2 Bills	- 304.01
Salt Station Capital Fund Bills	- 32,795.02

Resolution No. 242 – 19

Mr. Buysse offered a resolution and moved its adoption. Be it resolved, with all business having been transacted, this meeting be adjourned. 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

The meeting was adjourned at 7:33 PM.

Ellen S. Estes, Town Clerk

December 12, 2019

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