

November 5, 2020

Minutes of the Public Hearing upon Preliminary Budget held Thursday, November 5, 2020, at 6:00 PM, at the Keene Town Hall. The following Town Board Members were present: Joseph P. Wilson, Jr., Supervisor, Robert M. Biesemeyer, Teresa Cheetham-Palen, David R. Deyo and Jennifer G. Whitney, Members of Council. Also present were: Scott Smith, Highway Superintendent and Ellen Estes, Town Clerk.

The Chairman, Mr. Wilson, called the meeting to order at 6:03 PM.

Mr. Wilson stated that since there was no public present with questions, he would move on. He stated that he had a new updated proposed 2021 Budget with the changes made at the last board meeting. He said this new version shows changes to the Highway Budget and the new health insurance rates on lines 259 & 367 (pages 7 & 9).

He said with these changes made there is still a little room under the tax cap and he had 3 things he would like to do.

- He said under Hiker Parking Contractual (line 152) the amount should match the Roost/Occupancy Tax amount so it should be raised \$5,000 to \$20,000. Everyone seemed to be in agreement to this.
- He said he thought the Board should consider the 4 Board Members and himself taking the 3% increase, saying this is a total of \$1,670 for all 5 of them. Ms. Estes said she was not sure that could be done now, saying the Elected Officials salaries have been advertised in a Legal Notice following adoption of the Preliminary Budget. Mr. Wilson stated that he would check into that. Mr. Deyo and Mr. Biesemeyer stated that they were okay with that if it was allowed.
- He said that he was thinking that \$10,000 should be added into the Transfer Station Budget for a part-time person in the summer saying the recycling in the cardboard trailer is going to require extra help. Ms. Whitney and Mr. Biesemeyer stated that they were not in favor of that. Mr. Biesemeyer stated that if the money is there, it would be spent. Ms. Whitney asked about using volunteers. Mr. Wilson also stated that Mr. Hall has an idea about baling the cardboard, but said it's too early for him to give details. He said if this happens there would need to be some money available. Mr. Wilson stated the only other place to put these extra funds would be in contingency and move it over if needed. Mr. Deyo said he was in favor of putting it into contingency. Mr. Biesemeyer agreed as long as Mr. Wilson was sure that the Budget is still under the tax cap. The Board all agreed to putting \$10,000 in contingency.

Resolution No. 194 – 20

Ms. Cheetham-Palen 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. Deyo.

Roll Call Vote:

Mr. Wilson:	Yes
Mr. Biesemeyer:	Yes
Ms. Cheetham-Palen:	Yes
Mr. Deyo:	Yes
Ms. Whitney:	Yes

The meeting was adjourned at 6:22 PM.

Ellen S. Estes, Town Clerk  
November 6, 2020

Joseph P. Wilson, Jr., Supervisor  
Robert M. Biesemeyer, Councilman  
Teresa Cheetham-Palen, Councilwoman  
David R. Deyo, Councilman  
Jennifer G. Whitney, Councilwoman