

Regular Town Board Meeting
August 9, 2022
6:30 p.m. at Keene Community Center Pavilion

MTG #17
Res, # 222-236

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Joseph P. Wilson, Jr., Town Supervisor
Robert Biesemeyer, Deputy Supervisor
Teresa Cheetham-Palen, Council Member
David Deyo, Council Member
Jennifer Whitney, Council Member

TOWN COUNSEL

Bryan Liam Kennelly, Esq.

TOWN OFFICIALS

Reginald Whitney, Highway Superintendent
Savana Li, Water Superintendent
Kimberly Smith, Town Clerk

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC PRESENT

Michael and Ellen Estes, Donald Smith, Barb Dumas, Linda Deyo, Melanie Porter, Paul Vincent, Larry and Leslie Shipp, Marcy Neville, Larry Shopmaker, Mel Fisinger, Katherine Brown, Kathy Regan, Joanne Whitney, Ann Whitney, Mike Whitney, Lauren Yates, Sadie Kaltenbach, Jamie Kaltenbach, Monique Weston-Clague

SUPERVISOR WILSON called the meeting to order at 6:32 p.m. and welcomed and thanked everyone for their attendance.

APPROVE MINUTES:

RESOLUTION APPROVING TOWN BOARD MINUTES

RESOLUTION NO.: 222,2022

INTRODUCED BY: ROBERT BIESEMAYER
WHO MOVED FOR ITS ADOPTION

SECONDED BY: TERESA CHEETHAM-PALEN

RESOLVED, that the Regular Town Board minutes from July 12th, 2022 and the Special Town Board minutes from July 28th, 2022 are accepted and approved.

Duly adopted this 9th day of August, 2022 by the following vote:

AYES: Supervisor Wilson, Mr. Biesemeyer, Ms. Cheetham-Palen, Mr. Deyo

NAYS: none

ABSTAINED: Ms. Whitney

OLD BUSINESS DISCUSSIONS

**RESOLUTION APPROVING THE USE OF ARPA (AMERICAN RESCUE
PLAN ACT) FUNDS FOR THE PURCHASE OF TWO AEDS
(AUTOMATED EXTERNAL DEFIBRILLATORS)**

RESOLUTION NO.: 223,2022

**INTRODUCED BY: DAVID DEYO
WHO MOVED FOR ITS ADOPTION**

SECONDED BY: ROBERT BIESEMEYER

RESOLVED, that the Town Board approves the use of ARPA (American Rescue Plan Act) Funds to purchase two automated external defibrillators (AEDs).

Duly adopted this 9th day of August, 2022, by the following vote:

AYES: Supervisor Wilson, Mr. Biesemeyer, Ms. Cheetham-Palen, Mr. Deyo, Ms. Whitney

NAYS: none

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR:

Barb Dumas, resident, asked how she can view the Water District #2 report with the Town Hall currently closed.

Supervisor Wilson stated that the Town Hall was being sprayed and cleaned that afternoon, and employees will be working to get everything back in place. The building should be back to normal operations by Friday.

Kimberly Smith, Town Clerk, stated that she has copies of the report made and prepared for residents' review.

Donald Smith, resident, spoke to address the condition of the town buildings. He stated that at the last meeting he had a chance to walk around the Community Center. He found the following: dirty broken siding, missing fascia and soffit, a birds nest in the soffit, mold on the siding, missing and broken flood lights, broken timer switch covers, grass on the building from mowing, the ladies room has a broken sink knob and possible mold, the men's room was locked, he has heard that the lock is broken, the handicap ramp has loose railings and it needs to be painted or stained. And worse of all the chimney has pieces falling off it. He would like to know when the town buildings have been inspected last.

Supervisor Wilson responded and stated that he was glad that Mr. Smith brought that up. He stated that on the agenda, the first item in new business is talking about the buildings. They did have engineering. All the stuff he listed is in there.

Mr. Smith stated that he was not talking about engineering. He worked in Corrections for 24 years and they did monthly inspections on their buildings. As far as he knows, the Town of Keene does not do that, but it would be a good practice to do it.

Supervisor Wilson thanked him for his suggestion and thanked him for bringing that stuff up. They are going to talk about their buildings in detail starting tonight.

RETURNED TO OLD BUSINESS DISCUSSIONS

COVID UPDATES:

Supervisor Wilson stated that he did not have any updates. With the colder weather approaching, they will need to decide where they will be holding meetings in the future. For right now the pavilion location has been working well.

ORDER TO CALL PUBLIC HEARING FOR WATER DISTRICT #1

Public Hearing will be held on September 6, 2022 at 5:00 p.m. at the Town Pavilion on Church Street on the question of the increase and improvements of the facilities of Water District No. 1 at a maximum estimated cost of \$300,000.00

**(A complete copy of the Order Calling Public Hearing and the vote
is attached at the end of these minutes.)**

Supervisor Wilson gave a reminder that the Public Hearing for Water District #2 will be held on August 23rd, 2022 and will be followed by a Special Town Board Meeting to vote on it. He gave an explanation of the proposed bond for up to five million dollars. That is not saying that they will need to use all of that, but that is the amount that the town was authorized to borrow. In order to start either Water District Project, to look for grants, to apply for funding, the town has to have the project underway. They have to borrow the money or have the money committed to the project. So, without the bond they cannot start any work and they can't apply for grants or loans.

Mr. Deyo asked for clarification. He stated that residents have been asking him. They are not planning on borrowing five million dollars and putting that on the taxpayers' burden in Keene Valley? He wants to make it sure that it is his understanding and that it is clear to the residents that the five million dollars is out there, that they are looking for some bonding for that and they sure as hell are not going to borrow five million dollars and throw it all on Water District #2.

Supervisor Wilson responded and said exactly. They have to borrow the money in order to apply for the grants and loans. How much they actually spend is going to depend on how much grant money they get. If they get a package that is a higher percentage of grant money, that's money that they don't have to pay back. The goal is to keep the actual debt that they are paying on as low as possible. But, until they submit money applications they do not know what they will get. The final number that they borrow is going to be dependent on how much they get in grants versus loans. They can't say that they are going to borrow exactly "x", because they have not applied or been considered yet for a grant/loan package.

Paul Vincent, resident, asked to speak. He stated that he was confused. He said that with a five million dollar bond, do they have a project plan? Do they have line items?

Mr. Biesemeyer asked for the chance to answer the questions. He stated that the answer is yes, there is a preliminary plan that was done by AES.

Mr. Vincent asked if it was available to the public.

Supervisor Wilson responded yes, that it was the same report that Ms. Dumas had asked about.

Mr. Biesemeyer gave a breakdown of where the money is intended to be spent:

1. The Department of Health mandates them to have a redundant water supply. They have three wells. One and two (no longer in service). One still serves the town but its output isn't good enough to be deemed redundant. They have well three that they drilled which gives them great supply but they need to do another supply to that. Somewhat more remote to well three. That is going to be a considerable expense to do that.
2. They are telling them that their water plant is obsolete. It is not necessarily in a stage where it absolutely has to be replaced but listening and reading the engineering report, they make a strong case for it. To do that, they give two alternatives: try to repair the existing one, or replace it completely with a new one. The point they make is replacing it with a new one is the better way to go. They could still rely on the old one so the town is never without water. They could transfer over from the new to the old one. The downside is that it is substantially more money. They have not gotten any bids on any of this stuff.
3. They are saying that they are probably going to be required to install metering. That's going to be a considerable expense.

They also had one thing in the report that he is sure that they won't do which is to expand the water district all the way down to Marcy Field. So there is a big chunk there that is part of this project that they obviously are not going to do. They are still going to have a substantial amount of cash that is going to have to be raised for this. It has been said five million, but in the report it says 6.3 million for the entire project. If they borrow that whole thing, the debt service to water district #2 would increase from \$425 per year to over \$800 per user. So they are saying. These are all estimates and they could be higher. So instead of paying the \$425 per year it could be \$1,200 - \$1,300 per year. That could be prohibited. There could be some users that may find that impossible to include in. Plus it doesn't fit into the bill of all the discussion they have in regards to affordable housing. If there are constant expenses like this for the residents that makes the town less affordable all together. He is hoping that when they have the Public Hearing on August 23rd, that Joe Pete can contact a representative from AES and also maybe Todd Hogdson from the County and have them come to that meeting. Then everyone can ask questions and get direct answers. He studied the report carefully and it's not that difficult to understand. The first 20 pages of it are basically the meat and bones of it and the rest of it is graphs and statistics. He thought that getting into a long discussion about it at the meeting would not be very productive, but that they should discuss it at the Public Hearing meeting.

Mr. Vincent is concerned that the Public Hearing is on the 23rd and then immediately after they are going to vote on whether they are going to take out that amount of money.

Mr. Biesemeyer stated no.

Supervisor Wilson responded and said yes, that's the schedule that they have.

Mr. Biesemeyer stated that they would be bonding for that amount. That they certainly were not borrowing that amount.

Supervisor Wilson agreed and said they would not be borrowing that amount. They will not be getting a check for that amount.

Mr. Deyo stated that they would vote on a bond that day, but they sure as hell would not vote on putting that on the taxpayers. Or at least he won't.

Mr. Biesemeyer stated that he honestly thinks that the Town Board unanimously wants to try and get qualified for as much money as possible, which is not a bad thing. As long as they don't borrow it and put a lot of debt to the district. They realize that to incur that kind of debt on the users for 30 years on top of other expenses, they are going to go very slowly on that.

Mr. Vincent asked what the current debt is for Water District #2 and for how many more years are they paying it.

Supervisor Wilson stated that the bond goes until 2038 from Water District #2 and the annual payment right now is \$61,500 and goes up \$1,000 each year. The final payment is about \$76,000. He did not write down what the total outstanding balance was. He stated that everything that Mr. Biesemeyer said was correct. If they vote to approve it on the 23rd, they are not at that point borrowing five million dollars. They are authorizing that they have that much to draw on if they need to. But the project goes one step at a time. He encouraged him to look at the engineering report. They have already paid for the engineering report, and the hydrology report is already done. Their first step is going to be to drill a well. So they will borrow the money to drill the well.

Mr. Vincent asked if they picked a location for the well.

Supervisor Wilson stated that it is in the hydrology report and for him to take a look at that. It's all in there.

Mr. Biesemeyer asked if they specified an exact location for the well.

Supervisor Wilson responded and said that they gave them the top two choices. They drilled at the number one choice in 2019 and they hit water. Now they have another strong spot identified to start on.

Mr. Biesemeyer verified that in 2019 that was well three. Supervisor Wilson agreed and stated that a lot of the steps have already been taken, now the next step would be to drill a well. Supervisor Wilson explained that they will be drawing on the bond money to do that and at the same time they will be applying for grants and loans. They won't know what that looks like until they hear back from New York State. There will be a lot more discussions like this one for each step of the way.

PAVILION RESERVATIONS:

Supervisor Wilson stated that at the last meeting they had discussed coming up with rules for the Community Center Pavilion in the same way that they have rules for reserving Marcy Field. All of the town's venues are becoming more and more popular. Supervisor Wilson read the set of rules that were drafted. After further discussion, the draft was amended.

RESOLUTION TO ACCEPT THE “RULES OF USE” FOR THE COMMUNITY CENTER PAVILION

RESOLUTION NO.: 224,2022

**INTRODUCED BY: JENNIFER WHITNEY
WHO MOVED FOR ITS ADOPTION**

SECONDED BY: TERESA CHEETAM-PALEN

RESOLVED, that the Town Board approves the “Rules of Use” as presented and amended for the Community Center Pavilion.

“The Community Center Pavilion is intended for small, family oriented events and community based sports events utilizing the soccer and baseball fields, tennis courts, and skating rink. This facility is primarily for the residents of Keene and no fees will be charged except for in the case of damages or excessive clean up.

Rules:

No loud music

Events must be over by 10:00 p.m.

Participants must clean up after their events.

To reserve the pavilion, an event form must be submitted at the Town Hall. The Town Board must approve all events that do not comply with the above.”

Duly adopted this 9th day of August, 2022, by the following vote:

AYES: Supervisor Wilson, Mr. Biesemeyer, Ms. Cheetham-Palen, Mr. Deyo, Ms. Whitney

NAYS: none

RESOLUTION TO AMEND THE “RULES OF USE” FOR MARCY FIELD

RESOLUTION NO.: 225,2022

**INTRODUCED BY: JENNIFER WHITNEY
WHO MOVED FOR ITS ADOPTION**

SECONDED BY: DAVID DEYO

RESOLVED, that the Town Board no longer requires submission of approval for general Marcy Field reservations. Marcy Field reservations will continue going through the Town Hall process. The Town Board must approve all events that do not comply with stated approved usage and fees.

Duly adopted this 9th day of August, 2022, by the following vote:

AYES: Supervisor Wilson, Mr. Biesemeyer, Ms. Cheetham-Palen, Mr. Deyo, Ms. Whitney

NAYS: none

MOLD REMEDIATION:

Supervisor Wilson stated that they will be paying the bill tomorrow. It is not in the stack (of vouchers) yet but it will be \$4,516.25. That will come through on the vouchers of the next meeting. They (Green Home Solutions) did also spray the basement for them so that the whole building has been treated.

NEW BUSINESS DISCUSSIONS

FUND BALANCE AND CAPITAL PLAN DRAFT:

Supervisor Wilson stated that for the past few years he had been thinking about a "Fund Policy". He worked on a draft of one and passed out a handout titled "Town of Keene, Fund Balance Policy, Draft August 2022". This handout was provided to Town Board Members, the Town Clerk, and any residents that requested one.

Supervisor Wilson stated that it was just an introduction for the Town Board and the public to discuss and that he was not looking to vote on it at this time. He wanted to see what questions, discussions, and concerns that they have and that they will discuss it again at the next meeting.

Mr. Deyo stated that they do not have time to read it and discuss it at that time. He requested that discussions wait until the next meeting. (It should be noted that it was not provided to Town Board Members in advance).

Supervisor Wilson agreed and said it was the point of getting it into their hands. He stated that the other part of it, which relates to Donald's previous questions about the condition of the Community Center, is that once they adopt the Fund Balance Policy it is the ideal time to talk about all of the assets that the town has; the parks and fields, buildings, transfer station. He then passed out copies of a handout titled "Town Wide Capital Plan, Draft August 2022". He stated that 18 months ago the board asked him to do an Asset Management Plan for the town assets. He wants Town Board members to look at that so that they can talk about it at their next meeting. He stated that right now the most pressing thing is getting the Town Hall fixed back up. They needed to get a new furnace and duct work in there for energy efficiency and it was also the main source of the mold that was being spread throughout the building. He is working with Derrick Martineau, the Code Officer, to determine what is the most appropriate heat pump and propane boiler so that they can have an efficient heat system in there and also have the dehumidification so that they do not have to deal with mold as an ongoing issue.

Mr. Deyo stated that it is something that they should look at (the "Town Wide Capital Plan"), but that it may not be at the next meeting. He stated that it may be something that should be discussed at budget time.

Supervisor Wilson responded and said except for the furnace. That needs to be discussed. It's August. It's in the forties and they can't turn that boiler back on this fall or else they will be right back with mold in the Town Hall. He is going to get more information from Derrick and bring it to the Board Members to look at.

Donald Smith asked if the Town Hall has a boiler.

Supervisor Wilson responded and stated that yes it was an oil boiler.

Mr. Smith asked if it was forced hot air.

Supervisor Wilson responded and said yes that it is forced hot air.

Paul Vincent and Donald Smith both responded and stated that it was not a boiler then.

Supervisor Wilson responded and said okay, the furnace then.

BUDGET CALENDAR:

RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE 2023 BUDGET CALENDAR

RESOLUTION NO.: 226,2022

**INTRODUCED BY: ROBERT BIESEMEYER
WHO MOVED FOR ITS ADOPTION**

SECONDED BY: TERESA CHEETHAM-PALEN

RESOLVED, that the Town Board approves the 2023 Budget Calendar as submitted by the Supervisor and Town Clerk. The meeting schedule is as follows:

- Tuesday, September 13th @ 6:00 p.m. Budget Workshop
- Tuesday, September 20th @ 6:00 p.m. Budget Workshop
- Wednesday, October 5th @ 6:00 p.m. Special Meeting for submittal of Tentative Budget to the Town Board
- Tuesday, October 11th @ 6:00 p.m. at a Regular Meeting the Town Board shall file the Preliminary Budget
- Thursday, November 10th @ 6:30 p.m. Public Hearing on the Preliminary Budget
- Thursday, November 17th @ 6:00 p.m. Special Meeting to Adopt the 2023 Budget

The location(s) of these meetings has not been determined and will be posted accordingly.

Duly adopted this 9th day of August, 2022, by the following vote:

AYES: Supervisor Wilson, Mr. Biesemeyer, Ms. Cheetham-Palen, Mr. Deyo, Ms. Whitney

NAYS: none

HOUSING TASK FORCE UPDATE:

Ms. Teresa Cheetham-Palen gave a slideshow presentation on behalf of the Keene Housing Task Force. She presented handouts of the survey results for both the Community Survey as well as the Employer Housing Survey. (Both survey reports are on file at the Town Clerk's Office.) She thanked the Town Board for the one year subscription of Survey Monkey. The use of it was very helpful in getting the information they needed. In addition to using Survey Monkey, they posted the survey on Nextdoor Keene, they had hard copies at the Library and at Town Hall, they put posters up on bulletin boards, they sent emails, did phone calls, and had a KHTF Member at the transfer station asking residents to participate in the survey. They had 252 respondents, which is about 20 percent of the Town's population.

She also provided copies of the Essex County Demographic and Housing Report with Town Profiles that was completed in May of 2022. Ms. Cheetham-Palen stated that many of the housing difficulties for Keene are actually ones that are Region-Wide and not just in our community. She discussed the possibility of having deed restrictions, which would be a homeowner voluntarily selling their properties to individuals with the intentions of year round residency and not for seasonal, or short term rentals, or commercial uses. She also discussed the need for more year round housing availability for both renters as well as families looking to purchase homes. The Keene Housing Task Force works directly with several other local organizations such as: Northern Forest Center, Adirondack Foundation, Adirondack Land Trust, HAPEC and ACHT.

Following the presentation, Ms. Cheetham-Palen thanked all of the members of the Keene Housing Task Force for their dedication and for volunteering. The members are: Melanie Porter, Dre Roebuck, Jon Brown, Leslie Shipps, Marcy Neville, Martha Lee Owen, Melissa Eisinger, Monique Weston, Tom Both, Alana Both, Burge Ayres, and Teresa Cheetham-Palen. She thanked everyone for their time with the presentation. She then introduced Melanie Porter from the Task Force to continue with the second portion.

Melanie Porter, resident and Housing Task Force Member, thanked the Town Board for allowing them to provide their update and for their support with the subscription to Survey Monkey. Their committee is committed to seeking solutions and they have multiple projects that they have going on. In addition to giving an update, she was also there to ask for the Town Board's support for a potential housing project on Gilmore Hill. Before they can move forward with a decision on the project, a perc test needs to be completed to see the soil's capacity. They have already been in contact with an engineer that has agreed to perform the test for them. The task force would need funding to assist with renting a backhoe and for an operator of the backhoe. The projection of the cost for that part of it would be between \$600 - \$800. They are asking the Town Board if they would consider funding a portion or all of that cost in order for the Task Force to continue with the evaluation of the property. She thanked them for any consideration.

Supervisor Wilson thanked Ms. Porter for her update and request.

Mr. Biesemeyer asked if it was for a soil test or for a perc test. He stated that a perc test does not require a backhoe.

**RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE KEENE HOUSING TASK FORCE
REQUEST FOR UP TO \$800.00**

RESOLUTION NO.: 227,2022

**INTRODUCED BY: JENNIFER WHITNEY
WHO MOVED FOR ITS ADOPTION**

SECONDED BY: JOSEPH P. WILSON, JR.

WHEREAS, the Keene Housing Task Force has secured an engineer to perform a perc test for the Gilmore Hill Project,

AND, WHEREAS, they are seeking funding for a backhoe and operator,

BE IT THEREFORE, RESOLVED, that the Town Board approves up to \$800.00 to assist with the cost of the backhoe and operator.

Duly adopted this 9th day of August, 2022, by the following vote:

AYES: Supervisor Wilson, Mr. Biesemeyer, Ms. Cheetham-Palen, Mr. Deyo, Ms. Whitney

NAYS: none

Discussion prior to the vote:

Mr. Biesemeyer asked for clarification, stating that all they need is a six foot hole in the ground to perform a perc test. So do they want to perform a soil's test? He also asked who the engineer was.

Ms. Cheetham-Palen stated that she was not sure if it was more than one test or not and that the engineer is Mark Buckley.

Mr. Biesemeyer asked about the possibility of the Town's Highway Department digging the hole.

Ms. Cheetham-Palen stated that she had spoken with Reggie, Highway Superintendent, about that but it is not on town land.

Ms. Whitney asked where the money would come from.

Supervisor Wilson stated that he did not have a copy of his budget, but they could take it out of Contingency. There are a few lines that may fit for this. He was unsure of possibly Planning. He could not remember the amounts available.

Mr. Deyo asked Melanie what the timeframe was. Is it something that needs to be done within the month or could it be discussed at budget time?

Ms. Cheetham-Palen responded and stated that they needed to do it soon because Adirondack Land Trust's Board needs to know if this property is going to be used for affordable housing in Keene and if not, they want to move on. It is considered low intensity, so it is allowed to have two units on it. She found out about an APA ruling from 2009 about a Hamlet extension. If it meets certain criteria, it increases the density of the project. The piece of land is within the mileage, so it has the potential of having eight (units).

Mr. Biesemeyer asked how many acres, and Ms. Cheetham-Palen responded that there were seven acres. She stated that it made things more interesting.

Ms. Whitney asked if moving forward would the Housing Task Force be asking for more money again?

Ms. Cheetham-Palen explained that she was hoping the next step would be that if they find out the testing results and if it is hard panned and it would only be feasible for two units, they probably would not move forward with it.

Mr. Deyo clarified Ms. Whitney's question and asked that if the Town Board approved the \$800 request, where would the Task Force get their next bunch of funding to move ahead.

Ms. Cheetham-Palen answered and stated that if the test results were that they can get the eight units approved, then they would be excited and start looking for planning grants to do the pre-development work. That grant would not have anything to do with the town. That grant would be by Ms. Cheetham-Palen looking for it somewhere. They would then need to go to the APA with the plan and apply for the variance. There are a lot of steps that have to happen, but first they need to perc test done so they can give Adirondack Land Trust an answer as to whether the property is viable for them. They will not be coming back next week asking the town for a million dollars. They are just trying to get it off the ground.

Paul Vincent asked if this had anything to do with the construction going on across the street from the Town Hall.

Ms. Cheetham-Palen responded that HAPEC owns that property right now. Not the Little Peaks Preschool. Little Peaks purchased their piece from HAPEC. There are still four lots in the front that HAPEC is working on. They have already gotten an asbestos report for the big green house because they would really like to take that green house down. It is not really worth refurbishing. HAPEC (Housing Assistance Program of Essex County) is looking for funding in order to take the green house down.

Marcy Neville, resident and member of HAPEC, stated that they want to let Little Peaks move forward as fast as they can. In the fall, HAPEC plans to do a meeting in Keene to see what the interest is with doing four units there. One of the four units might be a two apartment house. It is all up in the air right now. They are still looking for funding and there are permitting issues that need to be gone through. HAPEC is working with Little Peaks on the road and getting all the laterals into the four lots. She does not think that building will happen in 2022. It will probably be spring of 2023 at the earliest.

Ms. Whitney asked if the Keene Housing Task Force was involved with that plan.

Ms. Neville explained that they consult with them in regards to what the community wants. There are some open meetings and sub-surveying as well. There is another three county survey that is being done and they are waiting to see what that data shows.

Ms. Cheetham-Palen stated that it might be too much for them to have that project and another project but when someone is dangling a piece of land, they have got to at least take a look at it to see if it's going to be viable. She would hate to say forget it, that they already have HAPEC and then HAPEC falls through. She doesn't want to turn down potentials.

Mr. Deyo clarified that if they approve the \$800, they do the testing, they may have an answer by the next meeting if.....

Ms. Cheetham-Palen stated hopefully that she needs to see if Mr. Buckley is available and if she can locate a backhoe that is available.

Mr. Deyo stated that he is pretty sure that they would be able to do that.

Mr. Vincent commented and stated that there are a lot of people in town that own backhoes and are making a living on it. He stated that it wouldn't surprise him if someone might offer to donate some time. He offered to donate his time to run the backhoe if they could find someone to donate the equipment.

The Town Board members said that it would be great if he could offer to run it.

Mr. Deyo stated that he was okay with approving up to the \$800 request, but that he agreed with Mr. Vincent. He said that there are probably people in town that would agree to go up there and dig a hole for a couple of hundred dollars instead. He recommended for Ms. Cheetham-Palen to reach out to residents and see if they can find someone to do it for \$200.

Following the vote Supervisor Wilson thanked the members of the Housing Task Force for all of the work they are doing and for giving the Town Board an update at the meeting.

CEMETERY PURCHASE REQUEST:

Ms. Smith gave a description of the pathway that is being requested for purchase.

Mr. Deyo asked if it would affect any other grave owners. Ms. Smith stated no, that it is the pathway that connects plots the family already owns.

**RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE PURCHASE OF A NORTON CEMETERY
PATHWAY TO THE WOLFE FAMILY**

RESOLUTION NO.: 228,2022

**INTRODUCED BY: DAVID DEYO
WHO MOVED FOR ITS ADOPTION**

SECONDED BY: JENNIFER WHITNEY

WHEREAS, the Wolfe family owns plots # 92, 93, and 56 in the Norton Cemetery,

AND WHEREAS, they have requested to purchase the pathway
that adjoins the three lots.

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED, that the Town Board approves the purchase of this
pathway to the Wolfe family for \$250.00.

Duly adopted this 9th day of August, 2022, by the following vote:

AYES: Supervisor Wilson, Mr. Biesemeyer, Ms. Cheetham-Palen, Mr. Deyo, Ms. Whitney

NAYS: none

JULY WATER COLLECTION REPORT:

Ms. Smith presented the July Water Collection Report to the Board Members. The amount collected from Water District #1 was \$18,454.68 (32% of the total due) and for Water District #2 was \$73,857.00 (36% of the total due) for a total of \$92,311.68, which was turned over to the Supervisor on August 5th. She stated that with the Town Hall opening back up, she is hopeful that residents will be coming in.

Ms. Whitney asked if next year they could offer a payment plan for people so they can pay in four installments or something.

Ms. Smith responded and stated that the program that they have right now will only let her collect payments in full. She is unable to let residents make a partial payment at all. If they set up a different program, then they could discuss that.

Supervisor Wilson asked if any Town Board members had anything additional to discuss prior to the Executive Session.

Ms. Cheetham-Palen presented a sign from the Keene Diversity Advisory Committee. She stated that they (the committee) had students from the Keene Central School submit artwork. She stated that the sign was the artwork that was chosen. Originally the committee asked the board if they could hang banners on the telephone poles or banners off the Hamlet signs, but those ideas did not work. Ultimately, they decided to do the lawn signs for this summer.

Monique Weston-Clague, resident, stated that they had placed three orders so far for the signs. The first order was for 30 signs, and the next two orders were both for 20 additional signs. The newest signs do not state "a project of KCS". This was not a project of KCS. Additionally she stated that the individual that did the artwork did not want any recognition.

Ms. Cheetham-Palen stated that the Keene Diversity Advisory Committee gave her a sign to be placed in front of the Town Hall. She wanted to let everyone know where the signs originated from and why they were popping up all around town. She thanked Monique and stated that she was a big part of making it happen.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

**RESOLUTION FOR THE TOWN BOARD TO ENTER INTO
EXECUTIVE SESSION**

RESOLUTION NO.: 229,2022

**INTRODUCED BY: DAVID DEYO
WHO MOVED FOR ITS ADOPTION**

SECONDED BY: TERESA CHEETHAM-PALEN

RESOLVED, that the Town Board went into Executive Session with the Town Attorney at 7:35 p.m. to discuss legal issues

Duly adopted this 9th day of August,2022, by the following vote:

AYES: Supervisor Wilson, Mr. Biesemeyer, Ms. Cheetham-Palen, Mr. Deyo, Ms. Whitney

NAYS: none

RESOLUTION TO RECONVENE FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION

RESOLUTION NO.: 230,2022

**INTRODUCED BY: TERESA CHEETHAM-PALEN
WHO MOVED FOR ITS ADOPTION**

SECONDED BY: JENNIFER WHITNEY

RESOLVED, that the Town Board reconvened at 7:48 p.m. and entered into Regular Session

Duly adopted this 9th day of August,2022, by the following vote:

AYES: Supervisor Wilson, Mr. Biesemeyer, Ms. Cheetham-Palen, Mr. Deyo, Ms. Whitney

NAYS: none

No decisions were made during the Executive Session.

BUDGET RESOLUTIONS:

RESOLUTION TO TRANSFER FUNDS WITHIN THE GENERAL FUND

RESOLUTION NO.: 231,2022

**INTRODUCED BY: JENNIFER WHITNEY
WHO MOVED FOR ITS ADOPTION**

SECONDED BY: ROBERT BIESEMEYER

RESOLVED, that the Town Board approves the following transfers within the General Fund:

\$2,204.23 out of A#019904.01.004.00 Contingency Account, and

\$1,274.40 into A#016204.01.004.00 Buildings CE
\$660.17 into A#016604.01.004.00 Central Supplies CE
\$195.00 into A#075504.01.004.00 Celebrations CE
\$57.92 into A#090558.01.008.00 Disability Insurance
\$16.74 into A#090458.01.008.00 Life Insurance

Duly adopted this 9th day of August, 2022, by the following vote:

AYES: AYES: Supervisor Wilson, Mr. Biesemeyer, Ms. Cheetham-Palen, Mr. Deyo, Ms. Whitney

NAYS: none

RESOLUTION TO TRANSFER FUNDS WITHIN SW #2

RESOLUTION NO.: 232,2022

**INTRODUCED BY: ROBERT BIESEMEYER
WHO MOVED FOR ITS ADOPTION**

SECONDED BY: TERESA CHEETHAM-PALEN

RESOLVED, that the Town Board approves the following
transfer within the SW #2:

\$21.05 out of SW#2 #083204.08.004.00 Source Power Pump CE
\$21.05 into SW#2 #090558.08.008.00 Disability Insurance

Duly adopted this 9th day of August, 2022, by the following vote:

AYES: AYES: Supervisor Wilson, Mr. Biesemeyer, Ms. Cheetham-Palen, Mr. Deyo, Ms. Whitney

NAYS: none

RESOLUTION TO AMEND THE 2022 BUDGET

RESOLUTION NO.: 233,2022

**INTRODUCED BY: JENNIFER WHITNEY
WHO MOVED FOR ITS ADOPTION**

SECONDED BY: DAVID DEYO

RESOLVED, that the Town Board approves the following amendments
to the 2022 budget:

SW#1 FUND

To increase SW#1 #A83204.07.004.00 Source Power Pump CE Line by \$1,074.79,
SW#1 #090458.07.008.00 Life Insurance Line by \$2.70, and
SW#1 #090558.07.008.00 Disability Insurance by 0.22,
to be transferred from NYCLASS SW#1 Fund.

Duly adopted this 9th day of August, 2022, by the following vote:

AYES: AYES: Supervisor Wilson, Mr. Biesemeyer, Ms. Cheetham-Palen, Mr. Deyo, Ms. Whitney

NAYS: none

SUPERVISOR'S REPORT:

**RESOLUTION TO ACCEPT THE SUPERVISOR'S MONTHLY REPORTS
FOR FEBRUARY, MARCH, APRIL, AND MAY OF 2022.**

RESOLUTION NO.: 234,2022

**INTRODUCED BY: TERESA CHEETHAM-PALEN
WHO MOVED FOR ITS ADOPTION**

SECONDED BY: ROBERT BIESEMEYER

RESOLVED, that the Town Board accepts the February, March, April and May, 2022 Supervisor's Report and that they are on file with the Town Clerk's office.

Duly adopted this 9th day of August, 2022 by the following vote:

AYES: AYES: Supervisor Wilson, Mr. Biesemeyer, Ms. Cheetham-Palen, Mr. Deyo, Ms. Whitney

NAYS: none

Discussion prior to the vote:

Ms. Cheetham-Palen stated that there was a glitch in the computer system and that one of the numbers did not make sense. She asked Ashley about it. It is wrong on all of the reports, but it is a glitch in the system. The beginning number doesn't make sense.

AUDIT BILLS:

RESOLUTION TO AUDIT THE BILLS

RESOLUTION NO.: 235,2022

**INTRODUCED BY: TERESA CHEETHAM-PALEN
WHO MOVED FOR ITS ADOPTION**

SECONDED BY: DAVID DEYO

RESOLVED, that the Town Board approves the following bills for payment, including those that were prepaid.

Multi-Fund Vouchers numbered 22-617 to 22-684, totaling \$82,812.12, as follows:

General Fund Bills	\$ 35,358.98
Highway Fund Bills	24,749.57
Library	142.91
Water District #1 Bills	1,443.22
Water District #2 Bills	21,117.44

Duly adopted this 9th day of August, 2022, by the following vote:

AYES: AYES: Supervisor Wilson, Mr. Biesemeyer, Ms. Cheetham-Palen, Mr. Deyo

NAYS: none

ABSTAINED: Ms. Whitney

Discussion prior to the vote:

Ms. Cheetham-Palen inquired about the cell service bill for the Holt House. She asked if the Holt House now has wi-fi.

Supervisor Wilson replied and stated that Jim Bernard assisted him with getting the wi-fi installed at the Holt House and the bill was from the installation. Supervisor Wilson stated that it will help with the Farmers Market, but the market will still need to get a signal booster.

ADJOURNMENT:

RESOLUTION TO ADJOURN

RESOLUTION NO.: 236 ,2022

**INTRODUCED BY: DAVID DEYO
WHO MOVED FOR ITS ADOPTION**

SECONDED BY: ROBERT BIESEMEYER

RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Keene has completed all business and hereby adjourns the Regular Meeting at 7:51 p.m.

Duly adopted this 9th day of August, 2022, by the following vote:

AYES: AYES: Supervisor Wilson, Mr. Biesemeyer, Ms. Cheetham-Palen, Mr. Deyo, Ms. Whitney

NAYS: none

Respectfully submitted,

Kimberly E. Smith
Town Clerk
Town of Keene

August 17, 2022