

**Regular Town of Keene Board Meeting**  
**November 10th, 2022**  
**7:00 P.M. Keene Valley Library**  
**MTG #27**  
**Res. #306-320**

**Board Members Present :** Joe Pete Wilson Supervisor, Robert Biesemeyer Deputy Supervisor, Christopher Daly, David Deyo, & Teresa Cheetham-Palen Council Members

**Town Counsel Present :** Bryan Liam Kennelly, Esq.

**Town Officials Present :**Reginald Whitney Highway Superintendent, Dean Smith Deputy Superintendent, Savana Li Water Superintendent, Anna Whitney Town Clerk, Emily Whitney Dog Control Officer

**Members of the Public Present :** Peg Wilson, Jeannie Cross, Stefanie Valovic, Megan Phillips, Monique Weston

**Meeting Called to Order** at 7:00 P.M. by Joe Pete Wilson

**Approval of Minutes :**

**RESOLUTION APPROVING TOWN BOARD MINUTES**

**RESOLUTION NO.: 306,2022**

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

**SECONDED BY: TERESA CHEETHAM-PALEN**

RESOLVED, that the Regular Town Board minutes from October 11, 2022 are accepted and approved.

Duly adopted this 10th day of November, 2022 by the following vote:

AYES: Robert Biesemeyer, Teresa Cheetham-Palen, and David Deyo. Abstained: Christopher Daly, Joe Pete Wilson

**RESOLUTION APPROVING TOWN BOARD MINUTES**

**RESOLUTION NO.: 307,2022**

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

**SECONDED BY: CHRISTOPHER DALY**

RESOLVED, that theBi-Monthly Town Board minutes from October 25th, 2022 are accepted and approved.

Duly adopted this 10th day of November, 2022 by the following vote:

AYES: Supervisor Wilson, Robert Biesemeyer, David Deyo, Christopher Daly Abstained:Teresa Cheetham-Palen

**Privilege of the Floor:** Joe Pete welcomed everyone for coming and presented Jeannie Cross who will be talking on behalf of the Age-Friendly Communities. Jeannie started by telling us she is looking for a reaction from the Board for the plan. First she wanted to give us a quick overview . With the Town Board support late last year Keene became the first town in the Adirondack, so far the only town in the Adirondacks, to join the AARP Age Friendly Communities. Please see the attached presentation handed out that reviews everything Jeannie said at the meeting. **Attachment #1-27**

Joe Pete Wilson then welcomed Megan Phillips to give the update from Keene Diversity Advisory Committee. Megan provided us with a hand out going over what they have done and what they are working on. Please see attached. **Attachment #2-27**

Monique asked if other towns have this much involvement like Keene. Jennie added many towns do but they are paid and our town has all volunteers. Teresa said both our Fire Dept are all volunteers and Joe Pete added we have the last ambulance squads that are volunteers. Peg

stated so many families are willing to help when needed, they may not want to be on a committee but will help when needed.

**Old Business :**

-Covid Update: nothing

-2023 Preliminary Budget discussion: Joe Pete stated in the Public Hearing we talked about changes in the budget . In order to proceed we need a resolution to make the change in the health insurance to the HSA and that will get the Budget where it needs to be so it is under the tax cap.

**RESOLUTION TO MOVE FORWARD WITH THE NEW HSA HEALTH INSURANCE PUTTING THE 2023 BUDGET UNDER THE TAX CAP**

**RESOLUTION NO.: 308,2022**

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

**SECONDED BY: CHRISTOPHER DALY**

RESOLVED, that the Town Board approves the change in the Health Insurance to the H.S.A putting the 2023 Budget under the tax cap. Duly adopted this 10th day of November, 2022 by the following vote: AYES: Supervisor Wilson, Mr. Biesemeyer, Ms. Cheetham-Palen, Mr. Deyo, and Mr. Daly

NAYS: none

-Water Districts Projects:

-WD #1: Joe Pete asked to wait until 2023

-WD #2: Joe Pete presented the quote from Hydro Source for the work regardless if we do the test well or move ahead full boar. The quote is \$52,000-\$62,000 which is for the survey, selecting the sight and then all the testing we have to do . Savana and I will proceed with engaging Hydro Source. We have the money to proceed in the reserve even though the funding hasn't come through yet, all this is EFC complaint, we won't lose anything by preceding the grant. We need to have the discussion, are we going to start with the test well . Claude from Hydro Source says do a test well, you know what you are getting into,you have it for when you drill your production well, and even if you drill a production well DEC may come back and say you need a test well. Price to proceed with the test well is ballparked at \$150,000. Mr. Deyo asked if we could get a definite on if DEC will require it. Mr. Biesemeyer states not many places to go with a test well. Ms. Cheetah-Palen asked what we do if we don't get a good spot, Savana said we would be in trouble. Joe Pete said if we are going to proceed the first step is to get with Claude and identify a spot then we HAVE to make the decision what we are doing Bob said lets do that and buy us a little time. Joe Pete said Savana and I will get with Claude and identify the spot.

-WD #1 & WD #2: Joe Pete now has something for both Districts and that is from the New York State Rural Water Association. They would be mapping both Districts , they locate hydrants, hydrant valves, main valves, miscellaneous main locations, storage facilities, curb stops, etc. will be GPPS located by NYRWA with Trimble 7X unit. Cost is \$7,000 for both Districts. Attached document from New York Rural for all the details. **Attachment #3-27**

**RESOLUTION TO HAVE NEW YORK RURAL WATER ASSOCIATION MAP BOTH DISTRICTS**

**RESOLUTION NO.: 309,2022**

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

**SECONDED BY: CHRISTOPHER DALY**

RESOLVED that the Town Board approves New York Rural Water Association maps both Water Districts at the fee of \$7,000

Duly adopted this 10th day of November, 2022 by the following vote: AYES: Supervisor Wilson, Mr. Biesemeyer, Ms. Cheetham-Palen, Mr. Deyo, and Mr. Daly

NAYS: none

-Introducing the Leash Law & Schedule Public Hearing: Joe Pete stated we need to formally introduce the local law for the Town of Keene , the hand outs are attached with the 2 current laws from 1998 and 2010. The Town Attorney and the Dog Control Officer have got together to present a new law , we are not voting on this we are to decide if we have it ready for a Public Hearing. Chris asked is this to supersede the 2 other laws or in addition, Joe Pete asked which would make most sense and Chris said to supersede but there are a number of things that didn't make it into the new. Robert then said his thoughts are maybe to have designated areas such as Farmers market and the popular areas be the on leash locations and then in the other areas be off leash. He feels this is a unique thing for our community not to have their dogs on a leash and doesn't want to restrict dog owners. Teresa asked to have this on the record she agrees with Robert. Megan Phillips then asked if she could speak. Megan said being a non dog owner she has her boyfriend ride with her several times around the roads to find where the dogs are. Being a runner and a cyclist when on public roads and being a little fearful of dogs it puts me off knowing a dog may be able to run up to me. David said today we aren't voting on it , Joe Pete said no, Bryan said we need to decide if this draft is what we want to go with. Chris said it seems we need to revise this some. Joe Pete said I think we need to think about this and maybe be creative where we have to leash and maybe spots off leash. David said maybe not ready , Joe Pete agreed and said let's make revision and then public meeting for public comments, then go from there. Emily stated this is more than a leash law it's about the dogs that come into our community that we don't have records of and don't know if vaccinated etc.

**Attachment #4-27**

-Appointment of Assessor

**RESOLUTION TO APPOINT TIM GAY AS ASSESSOR**

**RESOLUTION NO.: 310,2022**

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

**SECONDED BY: CHRIS DALY**

RESOLVED, that the Town Board approves Tim Gay as Assessor , 2 days a week at \$50,000 annually.

Duly adopted this 10th day of November, 2022 by the following vote: AYES: Supervisor Wilson, Mr. Biesemeyer, Ms. Cheetham-Palen, Mr. Deyo, and Mr. Daly

NAYS: none

**New Business:**

**RESOLUTION TO APPROVE REGINALD WHITNEY'S STANDARD WORK DAY CALENDAR**

**RESOLUTION NO.: 311,2022**

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

**CHRISTOPHER DALY**

RESOLVED that the Town Board approves Reginald Whitney's Standard Workday Calendar Duly adopted this 10th day of November, 2022, by the following vote: AYES: Supervisor Wilson,

Mr. Biesemeyer, Ms. Cheetham-Palen, Mr. Deyo, and Mr. Daly

NAYS: none

**RESOLUTION TO APPROVE AATTV MEETING ATTENDANCE**

**RESOLUTION NO.: 312,2022**

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

**SECONDED BY:CHRISTOPHER DALY**

RESOLVED, that the Town Board Approves the attendance of Mr. Wilson to the AATTV meeting.

Duly adopted this 10th day of November, 2022, by the following vote: AYES: Supervisor Wilson, Mr. Biesemeyer, Ms. Cheetham-Palen, Mr. Deyo, and Mr. Daly

NAYS: none

**RESOLUTION TO APPOINT ANNA WHITNEY AS THE REGISTRAR OF VITAL STATISTICS  
RESOLUTION NO.: 313,2022**

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

RESOLVED, that the Town Board appoints Anna Whitney as the Registrar of Vital Statistics. Duly adopted this 10th day of November, 2022, by the following vote: AYES: Supervisor Wilson, Mr. Biesemeyer, Ms. Cheetham-Palen, Mr. Deyo, and Mr. Daly  
NAYS: none

**RESOLUTION TO APPOINT ANNA WHITNEY AS THE TOWN OF KEENE PROPERTY TAX  
COLLECTOR  
RESOLUTION NO.: 314,2022**

**INTRODUCED BY: DAVID DEYO WHO MOVED FOR ITS ADOPTION SECONDED BY:  
CHRIS DALY**

RESOLVED, that the Town Board appoints Anna Whitney as the Town of Keene Property Tax Collector.  
Duly adopted this 10th day of November, 2022, by the following vote: AYES: Supervisor Wilson, Mr. Biesemeyer, Ms. Cheetham-Palen, Mr. Deyo, and Mr. Daly  
NAYS: none

**RESOLUTION TO APPOINT EMILY WHITNEY AS THE DEPUTY TOWN CLERK  
RESOLUTION NO.: 315,2022**

**INTRODUCED BY: DAVID DEYO WHO MOVED FOR ITS ADOPTION SECONDED BY:  
CHRIS DALY**

RESOLVED, that the Town Board appoints Emily Whitney Deputy Town Clerk  
Duly adopted this 10th day of November, 2022, by the following vote: AYES: Supervisor Wilson, Mr. Biesemeyer, Ms. Cheetham-Palen, Mr. Deyo, and Mr. Daly  
NAYS: none

**RESOLUTION TO APPOINT EMILY WHITNEY AS THE DEPUTY REGISTRAR OF VITAL  
STATISTICS**

**RESOLUTION NO.: 316,2022 INTRODUCED BY: DAVID DEYO WHO MOVED FOR ITS  
ADOPTION SECONDED BY: TERESA CHEETHAM-PALEN**

RESOLVED, that the Town Board appoints Emily Whitney Deputy Registrar of Vital Statistics. Duly adopted this 10th day of November, 2022, by the following vote: AYES: Supervisor Wilson, Mr. Biesemeyer, Ms. Cheetham-Palen, Mr. Deyo, and Mr. Daly  
NAYS: none

**RESOLUTION TO APPOINT EMILY WHITNEY AS DEPUTY TOWN OF KEENE PROPERTY  
TAX COLLECTOR  
RESOLUTION NO.: 317,2022**

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

RESOLVED, that the Town Board appoints Emily Whitney Deputy Town of Keene Property Tax Collector  
Duly adopted this 10th day of November, 2022, by the following vote: AYES: Supervisor Wilson, Mr. Biesemeyer, Ms. Cheetham-Palen, Mr. Deyo, and Mr. Daly  
NAYS: none

-Review of Safety Boot reimbursement policy: Joe Pete explained that in 2021 the Boot allowance went from \$125 to \$150 and also added clothing to be included in the policy. Joe

Pete stated the employee hand book wasn't updated. We need an amendment to update the employee policy handbook to read " Full-time employees of the Highway Department, Water Department, Transfer Station and Laborers will be given a work clothing and/or boot allowance of \$150". **Attachment #5-27**

**RESOLUTION TO AMEND THE EMPLOYEE HANDBOOK**

**RESOLUTION NO.: 318,2022**

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

RESOLVED, that the Town Board amends the Employee handbook to show and read clothing and/or work boot allowance up to \$150.00

Duly adopted this 10th day of November, 2022, by the following vote: AYES: Supervisor Wilson, Mr. Biesemeyer, Ms. Cheetham-Palen, Mr. Deyo, and Mr. Daly

NAYS: none

**Town Clerk Updates : None**

**Executive Session : None**

**Budget Resolutions:**

**Resolution to transfer funds** none

**Resolution to amend the 2023 budget:** amended above

**Supervisor's Report :** July & August 2022

**Audit Bills:**

**RESOLUTION TO AUDIT BILLS**

**RESOLUTION NO. 319,2022**

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

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

Multi-Fund Vouchers numbered 22-891 to 22-941, totaling \$86956.94 as follows:

|                           |            |
|---------------------------|------------|
| General Fund Bills        | \$66734.37 |
| Highway Fund Bills        | \$3104.25  |
| Public Library Fund Bills | \$714.32   |
| Water District #1 Bills   | \$11839.36 |
| Water District #2 Bills   | \$4564.64  |

Duly adopted this 10th day of November, 2022, by the following vote:

AYES: Supervisor Wilson, Mr. Biesemeyer, Ms. Cheetham-Palen, Mr. Deyo, Mr. Daly NAYS: none

**Adjourn :**

**RESOLUTION TO ADJOURN**

**RESOLUTION NO. 320,2022**

**INTRODUCED BY:ROBERT BIESEMEYER WHO MOVED FOR ITS ADOPTION SECONDED BY: CHRISTOPHER DALY**

RESOLVED, that the Town Board completed all business and adjourned at 8:01 P.M.

Duly adopted this 10th day of November, 2022, by the following vote: AYES: Supervisor Wilson, Mr. Biesemeyer, Ms. Cheetham-Palen, Mr. Deyo, and Mr. Daly

NAYS: none

Respectfully submitted,

Anna M Whitney  
Town Clerk  
Town of Keene  
November 17th, 2022