

Bi-Monthly Town of Keene Board Meeting  
May 30th, 2023  
5:30 P.M. Town Hall  
Meeting # 10  
Resolutions #134-147

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

**Absent:**

**Town Officials Present:** Reginald Whitney Highway Superintendent, Savana Li Water Superintendent, Anna Whitney Town Clerk

**Town Counsel Present:**

**Members of the Public:** Kim Smith, Donald Smith, Bill Ferebee, Drew Ferebee, Keith Hall

**Call to Meeting to Order** at 5:30 by Joe Pete Wilson

Pledge of Allegiance

**Approval of Minutes:**

**RESOLUTION APPROVING MONTHLY TOWN BOARD MINUTES  
RESOLUTION NO.: 134-2023  
INTRODUCED BY: ROBERT BIESEMAYER WHO MOVED FOR ITS  
ADOPTION SECONDED BY CHRISTOPHER DALY**

**RESOLVED** that the Monthly Town Board minutes from May 9th, 2023 are accepted and approved.

Duly adopted this 30th day of May 2023 by the following vote:

**AYES:** Robert Biesemeyer, Christopher Daly, Dave Deyo, Teresa Cheetham-Palen, Joe Pete Wilson

**NAYS:** None

Mr. Wilson had a few announcements before the privilege of the floor:

1. June 6<sup>th</sup> 3:00-5:00 and 6:00-8:00 P.M. is Grievance Day in the Town Hall.

2. Free Tire Day Collection Day and a Household Hazardous Waste Collection Event in our neighboring Towns. Lake Placid, Elizabethtown, North Hudson, Moriah, and Ticonderoga. Event flyer will be attached to the minutes for you all to see the dates and times.
3. The Historical Society went to training on cleaning and maintaining the headstones in our cemeteries and they have started in Estes Cemetery and it looks wonderful.

**Privilege of the Floor:**

● **School project to replace sign at Point Park: Drew Ferebee**

Mr. Wilson introduced Mr. Drew Ferebee.

Mr. Ferebee thanked Mr. Wilson and the Board for having him this evening. Drew introduced himself, those that do not know me I was born and raised in Keene, moved to Lake Placid after I completed the 6<sup>th</sup> grade at Keene Central. I am now a senior in Lake Placid and I am required to complete a senior project that is to benefit your community, yourself, or in general just others. For my project, I was hoping to make a new sign for Point Park in Keene Valley. I have done some research and because of Homer Boutte, Point Park exists. I personally did not know Homer because I was much younger but my parents and my grandparents both knew his family very well. My Grandpa spoke with Homer's mother and she would be very excited to have me do this. With the Boards approval, I plan to have this completed and installed by the 10th of June. The sign will be 48x12x1 ¼ inch, which is the same as the existing sign. The sign will be primed and two coats of the same/similar color that is there now. The sign will be installed on a new 4x4 post. Thank You.

**RESOLUTION APPROVING REPLACEMENT OF SIGN AT POINT PARK**

**RESOLUTION NO.: 135-2023**

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

**SECONDED BY ROBERT BIESEMEYER**

**RESOLVED** that the Town Board approve Drew Ferebee to replace the Point Park sign as part of his Senior Project.

Duly adopted this 30th day of May 2023 by the following vote:

**AYES:** Robert Biesemeyer, Christopher Daly, Dave Deyo, Teresa Cheetham-Palen, Joe Pete Wilson

**NAYS:** None



- **Safety Path Construction Update:** Vinny McClelland postponed until June 11<sup>th</sup> meeting

**Old Business:**

- **Water Districts**

Anticipated Water Rents

**RESOLUTION APPROVING ANTICIPATED WATER RENTS**

**RESOLUTION NO.: 136-2023**

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

**Discussion:** Ms. Cheetham-Palen said maybe next time add the category column so we know what category they are.

Ms. Li explained we accept the anticipated rents, people can review them, any questions or concerns they contact her, then at the June meeting we approve the final rates, and then bills go out in July. The Categories and Rates are posted under the Water Districts page on the Town website, you can also contact Savana.

**RESOLVED** that the Town Board approve the anticipated water rents.

Duly adopted this 30th day of May 2023 by the following vote:

**AYES:** Robert Biesemeyer, Christopher Daly, Dave Deyo, Teresa Cheetham-Palen, Joe Pete Wilson

**NAYS:** None

o **WD #1**

Mr. Wilson stated that WD#1 has paid the General Fund back, WD#1 is all paid up.

o **WD #2**

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING JOE PETE WILSON,  
TOWN SUPERVISOR, IS EMPOWERED TO ACT ON  
BEHALF OF THE TOWN OF KEENE AS AUTHORIZED  
OFFICIAL TO SIGN AND EXECUTE ALL NECESSARY  
DOCUMENTS RELATING TO THE NORTHERN  
BORDER REGIONAL COMMISSION 2023 CATALYST  
PROGRAM AND GRANT AWARD.**

**WHEREAS, Northern Border Regional Commission has  
made grant funds available for 2023 through the CATALYST**

**Program, wherein grant funds are made available to municipalities to implement public infrastructure projects; and**

**Whereas, the Town of Keene propose to implement a project to improve the municipal water system; and**

**Whereas, the Northern Border Regional Commission requires the legal authority to the applicant to authorize permission for the executive official to sign all NBRC investment documents that bind the applicant.**

**RESOLUTION NO.: 137-2023**

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

**BE IT RESOLVED**, the Town of Keene hereby authorizes Keene Town Supervisor, Joe Pete Wilson, to sign and execute all necessary documents relating to the Northern Border Regional Commission 2023 CATALYST Program and grant award.

Duly adopted this 30th day of May 2023 by the following vote:

**AYES:** Robert Biesemeyer, Christopher Daly, Dave Deyo, Teresa Cheetham-Palen, Joe Pete Wilson

**NAYS:** None

Mr. Wilson stated we got two packages of qualifications which is part of our WEA grant having an official qualified engineer signed on. Now this is not committing us to any work that is why there is no dollar amount with these, this was to make sure we select a qualified engineer. My recommendation would be to consider AES as our qualified engineer for this project, Savana also agrees.

**RESOLUTION APPROVING AES AS OUR QUALIFIED ENGINEER**

**RESOLUTION NO.: 138-2023**

**INTRODUCED BY: ROBERT BIESEMAYER WHO MOVED FOR ITS ADOPTION SECONDED BY DAVE DEYO**

**Discussion:** Mr. Biesemeyer asked to maybe reach out to other towns that have done these types of projects and see what their experience might be. Bob stated he could reach out to Ryan in Westport and maybe their supervisor Ike Tyler. I am just wondering if maybe this other firm, MJ, maybe found more funding?



Mr. Wilson would like to recommend AES right now as we don't have work scheduled but we are signing on to an engineering firm. The last time we didn't get awarded any funding was because we didn't have this piece. We are not committing to any payments, we just have to have this piece for the grant process. Ms. Li stated AES is familiar with our system.

**RESOLVED** that the Town Board approve AES as our qualified engineer.

Duly adopted this 30th day of May 2023 by the following vote:

**AYES:** Robert Biesemeyer, Christopher Daly, Dave Deyo, Teresa Cheetham-Palen, Joe Pete Wilson

**NAYS:** None

- **Volunteer Fire & EMS Local Property Tax Exemption**

Mr. Wilson explained that we received the Articles of Eligibility from Keene Fire & EMS and Keene Valley Fire & EMS, which was what we asked the Departments for.

Ms. Cheetham-Palen said we asked how to define an active member and that is in here.

Mr. Wilson asked if we were ready to schedule a Public Hearing. The Board agreed they were.

**RESOLUTION TO SCHEDULE PUBLIC HEARING INTRODUCING THE VOLUNTEER FIRE & EMS LOCAL PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTION LAW**

**ON JULY 11<sup>TH</sup>, 2023 AT 6:30**

**RESOLUTION NO.: 139-2023**

**INTRODUCED BY: ROBERT BIESEMEYER WHO MOVED FOR ITS ADOPTION SECONDED BY DAVE DEYO**

**RESOLVED** that the Town Board approve July 11<sup>th</sup>, 2023 at 6:30 to set the Public Hearing to introduce the Local Law for the Volunteer Fire & EMS Local Property Tax Exemption, location the Town Hall.

Duly adopted this 30th day of May 2023 by the following vote:

**AYES:** Robert Biesemeyer, Christopher Daly, Dave Deyo, Teresa Cheetham-Palen, Joe Pete Wilson

**NAYS:** None

- **Community Center Task Force Update**

Mr. Wilson stated the Task Force has met twice with very good participation, 17 people last meeting. Joe Pete asked Donald Smith for his thoughts because he had been to both meetings.

Mr. Smith said there is a lot of junk in there. Then there was an issue about the Hangers where one is rented and the other has a lot of personal stuff that needs to go bye-bye.

Mr. Biesemeyer stated that is a different issue.

Mr. Wilson then said the Task Force is going out getting ideas and input from other community members and other towns.

Mr. Biesemeyer then addressed that the Board is looking at immediate plans and a long term plans. With Donald's concern of the junk we are aware of that. We need to be careful not to spend good money for bad.

Ms. Smith said next meeting is Tuesday the 6<sup>th</sup>.

**New Business:**

- **Resignation of Health Officer**

**RESOLUTION ACCEPTING ROBERT ANDREWS  
RESIGNATION AS HEALTH OFFICER**

**RESOLUTION NO.: 140-2023**

**INTRODUCED BY: ROBERT BIESEMEYER WHO MOVED  
FOR ITS ADOPTION SECONDED BY DAVE DEYO**

**RESOLVED** that the Town Board accept Robert Andrews's resignation  
as Health Officer.

Duly adopted this 30th day of May 2023 by the following vote:

**AYES:** Robert Biesemeyer, Christopher Daly, Dave Deyo, Teresa  
Cheetham-Palen, Joe Pete Wilson

**NAYS:** None

Mr. Biesemeyer asked if we now need to find another Health Officer.

Mr. Wilson stated that Robert Andrews already took care of that for us. We have Stefanie Valovic's resume, she works for Public Health.

**RESOLUTION APPOINTING STEFANIE VALOVIC AS PUBLIC  
HEALTH OFFICER**

**RESOLUTION NO.: 141-2023**

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



**RESOLVED** that the Town Board appointed Stefanie Valovic as Health Officer.

Duly adopted this 30th day of May 2023 by the following vote:  
**AYES:** Robert Biesemeyer, Christopher Daly, Dave Deyo, Teresa Cheetham-Palen, Joe Pete Wilson  
**NAYS:** None

- **Copier for Town Hall**

**RESOLUTION APPROVING THE PURCHASE OF A NEW  
COPIER FOR THE TOWN HALL  
RESOLUTION NO.: 142-2023**

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

**RESOLVED** that the Town Board approve the purchase of a new copier for the Town Hall.

Duly adopted this 30th day of May 2023 by the following vote:  
**AYES:** Robert Biesemeyer, Christopher Daly, Dave Deyo, Teresa Cheetham-Palen, Joe Pete Wilson  
**NAYS:** None

- **Community Day July 8<sup>th</sup>**

Mr. Wilson explained the budget that has been put together for us to discuss, we will be using the occupancy tax money for this. The biggest piece is the tent and chairs.

After Board discussion the tent and chairs are a go.

Ms. Cheetham-Palensaid the only other piece is the Jumpers.

Mr. Wilson said John Shuler suggested the Parachute Jumpers.

Mr. Hall asked if we had a plan on where people are parking and where will these jumpers land?

Ms. Cheetham-Palen stated that the budget is Step 1 and once that is a go we are moving to Step 2. Step 2 is meeting at Marcy field to decide where things will be set up and how to do all these pieces.

Mr. Hall said the Fire Department has been approached about fire and EMS coverage for the fire works. I am going on the record to say we will not provide

traffic control or help with parking, we do not have the people for that. Again, I need to know as soon as possible the time we can and need to be there.  
Mr. Wilson asked our feelings on the Parachute Jumpers for \$2,000.  
Discussion on Jumpers was to remove them from the budget.

**RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE BUDGET FOR  
COMMUNITY DAY MINUS THE JUMPERS.**

**RESOLUTION NO.: 143-2023**

**INTRODUCED BY: ROBERT BIESEMEYER WHO MOVED  
FOR ITS ADOPTION SECONDED BY DAVE DEYO**

**RESOLVED** that the Town Board approve the budget for Community  
Day minus the Jumpers.

Duly adopted this 30th day of May 2023 by the following vote:

**AYES:** Robert Biesemeyer, Christopher Daly, Dave Deyo, Teresa  
Cheetham-Palen, Joe Pete Wilson

**NAYS:** None

• **Clean out drainage ditch**

Mr. Wilson stated he had a request from a resident for the Town to clean the drainage ditch from Mason Young to Rt 73 near Verizon. This is private property. We hired it out 3 or 4 years ago. We have been trying to get away from doing things on private property do to liability and cost to the taxpayers.

Mr. Deyo asked is it the cause for the backup from our storm drain. Thinking of this, if we start to do this we will be chasing this all day.

Mr. Wilson stated it sounds like we are not in favor of doing this. I wanted to ask the Board.

**Executive Session: Personnel Issue**

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

**RESOLUTION NO.: 144-2023**

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

**RESOLVED**, that the Town Board enter into Executive Session at 6:21 p.m. to  
discuss personal issues.



Duly adopted this 30th day of May 2023 by the following vote:  
**AYES:** Robert Biesemeyer, Christopher Daly, Dave Deyo, Teresa  
Cheetham-Palen, Joe Pete Wilson  
**NAYS:** None

**RESOLUTION TO RETURN FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION**  
**RESOLUTION NO.: 145-2023**  
**INTRODUCED BY: DAVE DEYO WHO MOVED FOR ITS**  
**ADOPTION SECONDED BY ROBERT BIESEMEYER**  
**RESOLVED** that the Town Board return from executive session at 6:36  
Duly adopted this 30th day of May 2023 by the following vote:  
**AYES:** Robert Biesemeyer, Christopher Daly, Dave Deyo, Teresa  
Cheetham-Palen, Joe Pete Wilson  
**NAYS:** None

**Budget Resolutions:**

- **Resolution to transfer funds :**
- **Resolution to amend the 2023 Budget**

**Supervisors Report: March & April 2023-postponed until June**

**Audit Bills:**

**RESOLUTION TO AUDIT THE VOUCHERS 2023-426 THROUGH**  
**2023-468**  
**RESOLUTION NUMBER:146-2023**  
**INTRODUCED BY DAVE DEYO WHO MOVED FOR ITS ADOPTION**  
**SECONDED BY ROBERT BIESMEYER**  
**RESOLVED** that the Town Board approve the following bills and prepaid bills for  
payment.  
Multi-Fund Vouchers numbered 2023-426 through 2023-468, totaling \$85,658.88  
as follows:  
General Fund Bills \$31,830.01  
Highway Fund Bills \$16,662.00  
Water District #1 \$959.65

Water District #2 \$1,662.44

Library \$4,544.78

Safety Path Capital Fund \$30,000.00

Duly adopted this 30<sup>th</sup> day of May 2023 by the following vote:

**AYES:** Robert Biesemeyer, Christopher Daly, Dave Deyo, Teresa  
Cheetham-Palem, Joe Pete Wilson

**NAYS:** None

**Adjourn:**

**RESOLUTION TO ADJOURN**

**RESOLUTION NO.: 147-2023**

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

**ADOPTION SECONDED BY DAVE DEYO**

**RESOLVED** that the Town Board of Keene has completed all business and hereby  
adjourns the Regular Meeting at 6:39P.M.

Duly adopted this 30<sup>th</sup> day of May 2023 by the following vote:

**AYES:** Robert Biesemeyer, Christopher Daly, Dave Deyo, Teresa  
Cheetham-Palen, Joe Pete Wilson

**NAYS:** None

Anna Whitney  
Town Clerk  
Town of Keene





Essex County, New York  
Government

# HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE COLLECTION EVENTS

## Dispose of Household Waste Safely & Responsibly

### WHAT TO BRING

Paints (oil & latex based) - Hobby Supplies - Rubber Cement - Airplane Glue - Stains - Varnishes - Resins - Rosins - Adhesives - Cleaners (for wood, floors, metal, oven) - Pool Chemicals - Pesticides - Herbicides - Lighter Fluid - Waste Fuels (kerosene, gasoline) - Mercury Thermostats - Mercury Thermometers - Transmission Fluids - Car Waxes - Carburetor Cleaners - Brake Fluids - Antifreeze - Photo Chemicals - Chemistry Sets - Fluorescent Light Bulbs - Batteries (household, camera, NiCD) - 1lb Single Use Propane Cylinders

### WHAT NOT TO BRING

Tires - Auto Batteries - Computers & Electronics - Motor Oil - Empty Aerosol Cans - Ammunition - Fireworks - Explosives - Asbestos - Smoke Detectors - PCB Capacitors - Pharmaceuticals - Controlled Substances - Unknown Gases - 20 lb. Propane Tanks

Open to all Essex County Residents (sorry, no businesses)  
Proof of Residency Required (drivers license, tax bill, utility bill)

#### **BELOW EVENTS RUN 8AM-1PM**

#### **JULY 15 - LAKE PLACID**

Town of North Elba Highway Garage  
Cascade Road, Lake Placid

#### **JULY 22 - ELIZABETHTOWN**

Essex County Dept. of Public Works  
8053 US Route 9, Elizabethtown

#### **AUGUST 19 - NORTH HUDSON**

Town of North Hudson Highway Garage  
Dump Road, North Hudson

#### **SEPTEMBER 9 - TICONDEROGA**

Town of Ticonderoga Highway Garage  
138 Racetrack Road, Ticonderoga

Questions? Call (518) 873-3744

COLLECTION OPERATED BY  
MXI ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES



# Free Tire Collection Day



Must be an Essex County Resident or landowner to drop off tires.

Wed. June 14, 2023 at the Moriah Highway Dept.  
30 Joyce Road, Moriah, NY  
1:00 PM to 3:00 PM

- No Tires on rims
- No cut tires (complete round tire, not a ½ tire)
- No solid tires
- No excessive dirt/mud, or stones
- No tractor, loader, or heavy equipment tires
- No tires that are larger than 20"
- Limit: 10 tires per household
- Please try to empty water from tires

These events are designed to help Essex County residents properly dispose of old and unused tires. As tires breakdown, chemicals can leach into the soil and waterways and reduce water quality. Environmental conservation efforts by Essex County Soil & Water Conservation District



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