

Bi-Monthly Town of Keene Board Meeting
April 30th, 2024
5:30 P.M. Town Hall
Meeting # 9-24
Resolutions # 135-154

Board Members Present: Joe Pete Wilson Supervisor, Teresa Cheetham-Palen, Robert Biesemeyer, Ann Hough Council Members

Absent: Christopher Daly

Town Officials Present: Reginald Whitney Highway Superintendent, Savana Li Water Superintendent, Roger Preston Building and Grounds, Ann Whitney Town Clerk

Town Counsel Present: None

Members of the Public: Keith Hall, Glenn Glover, Dan Plumley, Naj Wikofi, Tammy Lowry, Isabel G., Amika C., Megan Wellford, Matt & Anya Johnson, Jenny Mugrace, Allison Rooney, Jenna Crow, Chris Dicinro, Kevin Burns, Jen Kazmierczak

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

Pledge of Allegiance

Approval of Minutes:

April 9th, 2024 Regular Board Meeting

RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE APRIL 9th, 2024 MONTHLY MEETING

RESOLUTION NUMBER: 135-2024

**INTRODUCED BY: ANN HOUGH WHO MOVED FOR ITS ADOPTION
SECONDED BY ROBERT BIESEMEYER**

RESOLVED that the Town Board of Keene has approved the Regular Board Meeting Minutes from April 9th, 2024

Duly adopted this 30th day of April 2024 by the following vote:

AYES: Ann Hough, Robert Biesemeyer, Teresa Cheetham-Palen, Joe Pete Wilson

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Christopher Daly

Mr. Wilson wanted to enter into the minutes the nice thank you letter from the Keene Valley Library for the Towns ongoing support with the donation of \$6,365.
Attachment #1-92024

Mr. Wilson then announced we received the DEC Smart Growth Grant of \$125,000. This is a good piece for the trails that youth commission, BETA, and the town have been working on out on 9N. Some will go towards signage and way finding for the rest of our recreation assets.

Mr. Wilson then turned the floor over to Ms. Cheetham-Palen.

**RESOLUTION HONORING NYS FOREST RANGER ROBBI MECUS
RESOLUTION NUMBER: 136-2024**

**INTRODUCED BY: TERESA CHEETHAM-PALNE WHO MOVED FOR
ITS ADOPTION SECONDED BY JOE PETE WILSON**

Whereas the Keene Community lost a beloved community member and leader on April 25th, 2024 with the death of Robbi Mecus in a tragic climbing accident in Alaska's Denali National Park;

Whereas the Keene Diversity Advisory Committee has lost a valued member and tireless advocate for diversity and inclusion;

Whereas the Keene Community lost a brave leader and mentor for the LBGTQIA+ community,

Whereas Robbi Mecus was a tireless protector of New York State wild forests and lands;

Whereas Robbi Mecus was a consummate professional serving the NYS Forest Rangers for 25 years, having participated in hundreds of search and rescue missions, battled forest fires near and far, and saved the lives of many lost and injured hikers;

Whereas she served our community as a loving parent, valued professional, mentor, teacher, and naturalist with kindness, devotion, and laughter; and

Whereas her true legacy lies in the profound effect she had on all of those she shepherded out of the mountains and in life, now, therefore, be it

Resolved, that the Keene Town Board, on behalf of its members and the greater Keene Community:

1. Honors the memory of Robbi Mecus and her passionate advocacy for others; her dedication and leadership as a NYS Forest Ranger; and the friendship and joy she brought to so many in Keene and beyond;
2. Extends its sincerest condolences to her family including Samantha Stytzer and their beloved daughter, Hazel Stytzer-Mecus and to all those fortunate enough to call Robbi a friend.

Duly adopted this 30th day of April 2024 by the following vote:

AYES: Ann Hough, Robert Biesemeyer, Teresa Cheetham-Palen, Joe Pete Wilson

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Christopher Daly

Privilege of the Floor:

Dan Plumley: Storm Damage Hurricane Rd from January 10th, 2024

Mr. Plumley stated his purpose tonight is to inform us of the serious impact of the January 10th micro-burst. Micro-burst map is attached to the minutes. There are other areas in town that got impacted. Mr. Plumley had pictures that he present to the board showing the damage. Dan showed us all the white pine that were picked up and thrown. He stated we have trees hanging into others, trees that are broken that are dangerous. Clean up has begun but the concern Dan has is uncoordinated clean-up, it can harm our rivers. Dan stated he is here to ask for help on clean up. There are seconded home owners, the elderly, and we have people that won't do anything. Another concern is forest fires. Dan is asking for ideas from the Board, persuasion, any county help, any thoughts.

Ms. Hough asked if he had ideas to please let us know.

Mr. Wilson added that Essex County Soil and Water work with landowners, that maybe a good contact.

Attachment #2-92024

Town Discussion of Old Business:

- **Water District Updates**
 - **Resolution authorizing Supervisor to sign for NBRC grant application**

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THAT 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 2024 CATALYST PROGRAM AND GRANT AWARD.

RESOLUTION NUMBER: 137-2024

INTRODUCED BY: ROBERT BIESEMEYER WHO MOVED FOR ITS ADOPTION SECONDED BY ANN HOUGH

Whereas, the Northern Border Regional Commission has made grant funds available for FY 2024 through the CATALYST Program, wherein grant funds are made available to municipalities to implement public infrastructure projects; and

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

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

Therefore, Be It Resolved, the Town Board of 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 2024 CATALYST Program and grant award.

Duly adopted this 30th day of April 2024 by the following vote:

AYES: Ann Hough, Robert Biesemeyer, Teresa Cheetham-Palen, Joe Pete Wilson

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Christopher Daly

- **Approve appointment of Seasonal Laborer to begin May 1**

Ms. Li asked that the Board approve her recommendation for her seasonal employee, Drew Ferebee.

**RESOLUTION TO APPROVE DREW FEREBEE FOR SEASONAL
LABORER FOR THE WATER DEPARTMENT**

RESOLUTION NUMBER: 138-2024

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

RESOLVED that the Town Board of Keene has approved Drew Ferebee for seasonal employment for the Water Department.

Duly adopted this 30th day of April 2024 by the following vote:

AYES: Ann Hough, Robert Biesemeyer, Teresa Cheetham-Palen, Joe Pete Wilson

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Christopher Daly

- **\$1568.00 on parts for the chemical feed pumps in Keene**

Ms. Li is asking for approval for parts for the chemical feed pump, \$1568.00

**RESOLUTION TO APPROVE \$1568.00 FOR PARTS FOR CHEMICAL
FEED PUMP**

RESOLUTION NUMBER: 139-2024

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

RESOLVED that the Town Board of Keene has approved the purchase of parts for the chemical feed pump for the Water Department.

Duly adopted this 30th day of April 2024 by the following vote:
AYES: Ann Hough, Robert Biesemeyer, Teresa Cheetham-Palen, Joe Pete Wilson
NAYS: None
ABSENT: Christopher Daly

- **Announce CEF Round 1 awards; Town projects at Marcy Field; Playground**

Ms. Hough recommended to the Board that the CEF round 1 award of \$10,000 should go to East Branch Community Trails.

Attachment #3-92024

**RESOLUTION TO AWARD EAST BRANCH COMMUNITY TRAILS
\$10,000 FOR THE COMMUNITY ENHANCEMENT FUND AWARD**

RESOLUTION NUMBER: 140-2024

**INTRODUCED BY: ANN HOUGH WHO MOVED FOR ITS ADOPTION
SECONDED BY ROBERT BIESEMEYER**

RESOLVED that the Town Board of Keene has approved \$10,000 to East Branch Community Trails from the Community Enhancement Fund Award.

Duly adopted this 30th day of April 2024 by the following vote:

AYES: Ann Hough, Robert Biesemeyer, Teresa Cheetham-Palen, Joe Pete Wilson
NAYS: None
ABSENT: Christopher Daly

Ms. Hough then presented the second applicant; she is seeking help from the Board to decide as the community could agree. It is for the Lake Placid Sinfonietta Outreach Concert, they are asking for \$4,005.31. Ann felt maybe paying for the salary which is \$2,906.00.

Mr. Biesemeyer does not feel we should anything, it is only for one night and at the school.

Ms. Cheetham-Palen said she hears what Bob is saying, it is a one-night thing and a lot of money but I think it sounds like a cool thing that is coming to the area. I think what Ann is proposing is ok, it would be good to get something in the arts here.

Mr. Wilson feels we should maybe do less than that. Maybe \$1,000.00?

Attachment #4-92024

**RESOLUTION TO AWARD LAKE PLACID SINFONIETTA OUTREACH
CONCERT \$1,000 FOR THE COMMUNITY ENHANCEMENT FUND**

AWARD

RESOLUTION NUMBER: 141-2024

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

RESOLVED that the Town Board of Keene has approve \$1,000 to Lake Placid Sinfonietta Outreach Concert from the Community Enhancement Fund Award.

Duly adopted this 30th day of April 2024 by the following vote:

AYES: Ann Hough, Teresa Cheetham-Palen, Joe Pete Wilson

NAYS: Robert Biesemeyer

ABSENT: Christopher Daly

Mr. Wilson explained we divided our CEF money so that 50% can go towards community projects the Town has identified and been working on. The first is the parking lot at Marcy Field.

**RESOLUTION TO APPROVE UP TO \$25,000 FOR THE PARKING LOT
AT MARCY FIELD USING THE COMMUNITY ENHANCEMENT FUND
RESOLUTION NUMBER: 142-2024**

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

RESOLVED that the Town Board of Keene has approved up to \$25,000 on the parking lot at Marcy Field.

Duly adopted this 30th day of April 2024 by the following vote:

AYES: Ann Hough, Robert Biesemeyer, Teresa Cheetham-Palen, Joe Pete Wilson

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Christopher Daly

Mr. Wilson then introduce Glenn who is Executive Director of BETA. Glenn on behalf of BETA wanted to thank Joe Pete, and the Town for all their support on these trails. I also want to thank the Keene Youth Commission for their vision in advancing the project. We have committed \$50,000 of our cash through donations of the members, and \$8,000 of hours of our staff crew. Again thank you for your commitment and most recently our award of the Community Enhancement Fund.

Mr. Wilson then asked to approve \$12,000 to complete the work on the Town Trails near Marcy Field.

**RESOLUTION TO APPROVE \$12,000 TO COMPLETE THE TOWN
TRAILS AT MARCY FIELD USING THE COMMUNITY
ENHANCEMENT FUND
RESOLUTION NUMBER: 143-2024**

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

RESOLVED that the Town Board of Keene approved \$12,000 with BETA to complete the Town trails at Marcy Field.

Duly adopted this 30th day of April 2024 by the following vote:

AYES: Ann Hough, Robert Biesemeyer, Teresa Cheetham-Palen, Joe Pete Wilson

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Christopher Daly

Mr. Wilson now asked to move to the Playground. We cannot reuse the rings; the new Monkey Ring Set is \$4,800. Our insurance then told us we now need a border or we have to use engineered mulch for our base. The mulch is \$7,000. Joe Pete feels we approve \$7,000 and also get pricing for a boarder and use whatever way is least expensive.

**RESOLUTION TO APPROVE \$4,800 FOR THE NEW RINGS AND \$7,000
FOR THE BASE AT THE NEW PLAYGROUND USING COMMUNITY
ENHANCEMENT FUND**

RESOLUTION NUMBER: 144-2024

**INTRODUCED BY: ROBERT BIESEMAYER WHO MOVED FOR ITS
ADOPTION SECONDED BY ANN HOUGH**

RESOLVED that the Town Board of Keene has approved \$4,800 for the new Monkey Rings and \$7,000 for the base of the new Playground.

Duly adopted this 30th day of April 2024 by the following vote:

AYES: Ann Hough, Robert Biesemeyer, Teresa Cheetham-Palen, Joe Pete Wilson

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Christopher Daly

- **Annual Audit of the Books** postpone until May 14th meeting, waiting on the Judge books.

- **Community Day**

Ms. Cheetham-Palen asked about tables. Last year someone mentioned maybe having Youth Commission, the Fire Departments, informational tables. Teresea doesn't know exactly but what do we think. The board said sure.

- **Capital Project out to bid; Sidewalk replacement to be completed**

Mr. Wilson stated everything is out to bid other than the sidewalks. Joe Pete asked for input from the board on Church St. The sidewalk at Church Street is in good shape but if and when we replace it, it has to be ADA complaint, which means we

have to go a little more than a foot into people's yards. Joe Pete is asking the Board to talk to residents and see what they think.

Mr. Whitney said the water line runs right along the current sidewalk.

Mr. Wilson said he will get with Savana and double check where that water line is.

New Business:

- **Increase hours for Court Clerk**

Mr. Wilson stated that Ms. Dwyer and Ms. Jordon have asked to extend the clerks hours.

Ms. Jordon presented the Summary Report for January 2023 to April 2023 and compared it to January 2024 to April 2024. She stated we had over 400 more cases. They cannot do everything they need to do. They are asking to increase her hours up to 20 a week, currently at 12 a week.

Attachment #5-92024

RESOLUTION TO INCREASE THE COURT CLERK HOURS UP TO 20 HOURS PER WEEK

RESOLUTION NUMBER: 145-2024

INTRODUCED BY: TERESA CHEETHAM-PALEN WHO MOVED FOR ITS ADOPTION SECONDED BY ANN HOUGH

RESOLVED that the Town Board of Keene has approved to increase the Court Clerk hours up to 20 hours per week if needed.

Duly adopted this 30th day of April 2024 by the following vote:

AYES: Ann Hough, Robert Biesemeyer, Teresa Cheetham-Palen, Joe Pete Wilson

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Christopher Daly

- **Phone line replacement planning**

Still waiting for information-postpone

- **Policy Manual update**

Mr. Wilson asked to update the Employee Handbook to read as follows:

Section 600-1

Employees are eligible for overtime pay during a pay period when they use approved vacation, sick, or personal leave time. Comp time DOES NOT count toward accruing hours eligible for overtime. Leave time must be approved in advance by the direct supervisor to qualify.

Mr. Whitney asked to remove the comp time in this section. The guys are already restricted when comp time is used I don't think putting this in there is fair.

Mr. Wilson then asked to have the update read as follows:

Employees are eligible for overtime pay during a pay period when they use approved vacation, sick, personal, or comp time. Leave time must be approved in advance by the direct supervisor to qualify.

**RESOLUTION TO ADOPT A NEW POLICY TO UPDATE OUR
EMPLOYEE HANDBOOK FOR OVERTIME ELIGIBILITY, WHICH
WILL GO INTO SECTION 600-1
RESOLUTION NUMBER: 146-2024**

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

RESOLVED that the Town Board of Keene adopt a new policy to update the employee handbook for overtime eligibility, employees are eligible for overtime pay during a pay period when they use approved vacation, sick, personal, or comp time. Leave time must be approved in advance by the direct supervisor to qualify.

Duly adopted this 30th day of April 2024 by the following vote:

AYES: Ann Hough, Robert Biesemeyer, Teresa Cheetham-Palen, Joe Pete Wilson

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Christopher Daly

Town Clerk Report:

Ms. Whitney explained she is ready for cemetery sales to start, she has had many inquiries. She wanted to let everyone know we have plenty of room, and when needed we can expand.

Highway Superintendent:

Mr. Whitney stated he has hired Cody Hildreth.

**RESOLUTION APPOINTING CODY HILDRETH AS HEO
RESOLUTION NUMBER: 147-2024**

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

RESOLVED that the Town Board of Keene appoint Cody Hildreth as HEO

Duly adopted this 30th day of April 2024 by the following vote:

AYES: Ann Hough, Robert Biesemeyer, Teresa Cheetham-Palen, Joe Pete Wilson
NAYS: None
ABSENT: Christopher Daly

Ongoing Local Law Process:

- **Schedule Public Hearing for STR Local Law**

Mr. Wilson asked that we wait to schedule the Public Hearing May 14th.

Executive Session:

**RESOLUTION TO ENTER EXECUTIVE SESSION FOR PERSONNEL
ISSUE**

RESOLUTION NUMBER: 148-2024

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

RESOLVED that the Town Board of Keene entered into Executive Session at
6:52 P.M. for personnel issues,

Duly adopted this 30th day of April 2024 by the following vote:

AYES: Robert Biesemeyer, Ann Hough, Joe Pete Wilson, Teresa Cheetham-Palen

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Christopher Daly

RESOLUTION TO COME OUT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION

RESOLUTION NUMBER: 149-2024

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

RESOLVED that the Town Board of Keene return from Executive Session at 7:05
P.M.

Duly adopted this 30th day of April 2024 by the following vote:

AYES: Robert Biesemeyer, Ann Hough, Joe Pete Wilson, Teresa Cheetham-Palen

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Christopher Daly

Budget Resolutions:

- **Resolution to transfer funds:**

**RESOLUTION TO TRANSFER FUNDS WITHIN THE
GENERAL FUND**

RESOLUTION NUMBER: 150-2024

**INTRODUCED BY: TERESA CHEETHAM-PALEN WHO
MOVED FOR ITS ADOPTION, SECONDED BY ANN HOUGH**

Be it resolved, that the following transfers be approved:

Within the General Fund:

\$2,000.00 out of A1430.01 Personnel Services PS

\$2,000.00 into A#1430.01 Personnel CE

\$5,300.00 out of A#7310.1.01.001.11 Youth Program PS

\$5,300.00 into A#7310.4 Youth Program CE

\$3,581.00 out of #6326.4 Roost CE

\$3,581.00 into #7550.04 Celebrations CE

\$400.00 out of 8020.01 Planning PS

\$400.00 into 8020.4 Planning CE

Within the Highway Fund:

N/A

Within the Library Fund:

N/A

Duly adopted this 30th day of April 2024 by the following vote:

AYES: Ann Hough, Robert Biesemeyer, Teresa Cheetham-Palen, Joe Pete Wilson

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Christopher Daly

**RESOLUTION TO TRANSFER FUNDS WITHIN BOTH
WATER DISTRICT FUND**

RESOLUTION NUMBER: 151-2024

**INTRODUCED BY: TERESA CHEETHAM-PALEN WHO
MOVED FOR ITS ADOPTION, SECONDED BY ANN HOUGH**

Be it resolved, that the following transfers be approved:

Within the SW#1:

\$44,000.00 out of NYCLASS

\$44,000.00 into 8320.4.007 Source Power Pump C CE

Within the SW#2:

\$63,500.00 out of NYCLASS

\$63,500.00 into 8320.4.008 Source Power Pump C CE

Duly adopted this 30th day of April 2024 by the following vote:

AYES: Ann Hough, Robert Biesemeyer, Teresa Cheetham-Palen, Joe Pete Wilson
NAYS: None
ABSENT: Christopher Daly

- **Resolution to amend the 2024 budget:**

RESOLUTION TO AMEND THE 2024 BUDGET

RESOLUTION NUMBER: 152-2024

**INTRODUCED BY: ROBERT BIESEMEYER WHO MOVED
FOR ITS ADOPTION SECONDED BY ANN HOUGH**

Be it resolved, that the following Budget Amendments be approved:

GENERAL FUND

To increase line #1.1.019104.01.004.00 Unallocated Insurance by \$4000.00 to be transferred from NYCLASS. We are currently **(\$1,333.75)** due to insurance increases

To increase line #1.019304.01.000.00 Judgements and Claims by \$4000.00 to be transferred from NYCLASS. We are currently **(\$3,220.41)** The 2024 Adopted Budget did not include this line item.

To increase line #1.071104.01.01.004.00 by \$19,348.81 Parks CE to be transferred from NYCLASS. We are currently **(\$10,773.81)** due to the purchase of a TURF BATWING mower.

Duly adopted this 30th day of April 2024 by the following vote:

AYES: Ann Hough, Robert Biesemeyer, Teresa Cheetham-Palen, Joe Pete Wilson
NAYS: None
ABSENT: Christopher Daly

Audit Bills:

RESOLUTION TO AUDIT THE VOUCHERS 302-2024 THROUGH 346-2024

RESOLUTION NUMBER: 153-2024

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

RESOLVED that the Town Board approve the following bills and prepaid bills. Multi-Fund Vouchers numbered 302-2024 through 346-2024 totaling \$50,417.00 as follows:

General Fund Bills \$32,124.47
Highway Fund Bills \$10987.37
Water District #1 \$2,089.62

Water District #2 \$4,540.83
Roost Enhancement Tax Fund \$600.00
Public Library Fund \$74.71

Duly adopted this 30th day of April 2024 by the following vote:

AYES: Robert Biesemeyer, Teresa Cheetham-Palen, Christopher Daly, Ann Hough, Joe Pete Wilson

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Christopher Daly

Adjourn:

RESOLUTION TO ADJOURN

RESOLUTION NUMBER: 154-2024

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

RESOLVED that the Town Board of Keene has completed all business and hereby adjourns the Bi-Monthly Meeting at 7:11 P.M.

Duly adopted this 30th day of April 30th 2024 by the following vote:

AYES: Robert Biesemeyer, Christopher Daly, Ann Hough, Joe Pete Wilson, Teresa Cheetham-Palen

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Christopher Daly

Ann Whitney
Town Clerk
Town of Keene



Attachment
#1-92024

P.O Box 86 ▪ 1796 NY5 Route 73 ▪ Keene Valley NY 12943

Phone: 518-576-4335 ▪ Fax 518-576-4693 ▪ Web: www.keenevalleylibrary.org ▪ Email: kvla.library@gmail.com

April 16, 2024

Joe Pete Wilson, Supervisor
PO Box 89
Keene NY 12942

Dear Joe Pete,

The Keene Valley Library Association extends heartfelt thanks to Town of Keene for its ongoing support with their donation of \$6,365. The Keene Valley Library will be able to continue to serve the intellectual and cultural enrichment of the community due to support such as yours.

This rich heritage has endured because of the financial support of our Adirondack communities. Our mission is as strong today as it was over 130 years ago when the Keene Valley Library was founded by the Cottage Ladies.

The mission of the Keene Valley Library is to connect people to ideas, experiences, information, and the community in a comfortable, welcoming setting. We strive to do this through: Providing adults and children with a collection of current and relevant books, other media, and local Adirondack historical resources; providing an inviting and lively cultural center for community events; Evolving as our community grows and technology advances.

The generous support of our town is more vital than ever during these uncertain times. Our normal fundraising activities will most likely need to be reduced or eliminated altogether. That makes your generosity that much more vital to our survival. Like the school, the library has been providing virtual programs and activities for children and adults alike.

Thank you again for your generous support.

With regards,

Robyn Shumer
President, Keene Valley Library Association

Thank you!

The Keene Valley Library Association is a 501c3 not-for-profit Organization 14-1409842. No goods or services were provided. Your gift is tax deductible to the fullest extent allowed by law.

3/11/24

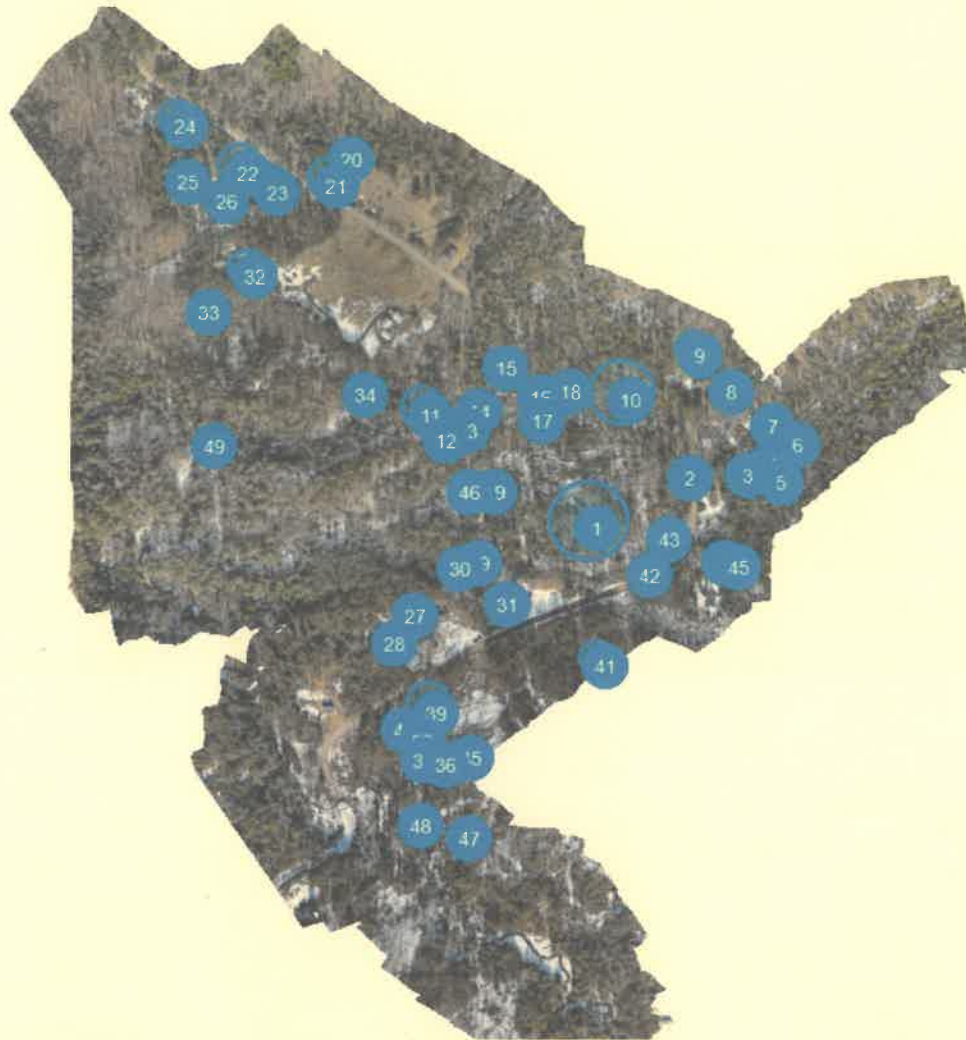
Grunts Pilot Bots

Microburst Map 2/27/2024 Annotation Report



Created on February 29, 2024

Captured on February 27, 2024




























Point

NAD83(2011) / New York East (ftUS) (US survey foot)

| Label | Title | Elevation | Lat, Long | Northing, Easting |
|-------|---------------|---------------|-------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 49 | What is this? | -107.35 US ft | 44.2267679, -73.7495286 | 1965979.9 US ft, 688833.2 US ft |

Radius 

| Label | Title | Lat, Long | Area | Radius | Perimeter |
|--|----------------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------|-----------|-----------|
| 1  | Fallen Tree area | 44.2258298, -73.7438218 | 79129.00 ft ² | 158.71 ft | 997.18 ft |
| 2  | Fallen Tree | 44.2264064, -73.7422031 | 5322.01 ft ² | 41.16 ft | 258.61 ft |
| 3  | Fallen Trees | 44.2264487, -73.7413180 | 4784.00 ft ² | 39.02 ft | 245.19 ft |
| 4  | Fallen Tree partly cleaned up | 44.2265709, -73.7409200 | 2088.99 ft ² | 25.79 ft | 162.02 ft |
| 5  | Fallen tree | 44.2263626, -73.7408030 | 1565.65 ft ² | 22.32 ft | 140.27 ft |
| 6  | Fallen Trees | 44.2267840, -73.7405264 | 4012.86 ft ² | 35.74 ft | 224.56 ft |
| 7  | Fallen Trees | 44.2269866, -73.7409177 | 3026.77 ft ² | 31.04 ft | 195.03 ft |
| 8  | Fallen Trees | 44.2273631, -73.7415614 | 5331.97 ft ² | 41.20 ft | 258.85 ft |
| 9  | Fallen Trees | 44.2277852, -73.7420472 | 14785.00 ft ² | 68.60 ft | 431.03 ft |
| 10  | Fallen Trees | 44.2272761, -73.7431392 | 51112.00 ft ² | 127.55 ft | 801.43 ft |
| 11  | Fallen Trees | 44.2271689, -73.7462331 | 20898.00 ft ² | 81.56 ft | 512.46 ft |
| 12  | Fallen Trees | 44.2268263, -73.7459642 | 1741.99 ft ² | 23.55 ft | 147.95 ft |
| 13  | Fallen Tree | 44.2269373, -73.7456330 | 5620.79 ft ² | 42.30 ft | 265.77 ft |
| 14  | Fallen Tree | 44.2271502, -73.7454432 | 3164.03 ft ² | 31.74 ft | 199.40 ft |
| 15  | Untitled | 44.2275346, -73.7449698 | 13079.00 ft ² | 64.52 ft | 405.41 ft |
| 16  | Untitled | 44.2273054, -73.7444944 | 2927.79 ft ² | 30.53 ft | 191.81 ft |
| 17  | Untitled | 44.2270498, -73.7444884 | 3003.89 ft ² | 30.92 ft | 194.29 ft |
| 18  | Untitled | 44.2273722, -73.7440485 | 2125.49 ft ² | 26.01 ft | 163.43 ft |
| 19  | Untitled | 44.2262560, -73.7452058 | 3377.02 ft ² | 32.79 ft | 206.00 ft |
| 20  | Untitled | 44.2299332, -73.7474126 | 8014.06 ft ² | 50.51 ft | 317.34 ft |
| 21  | Untitled | 44.2296449, -73.7476607 | 18776.00 ft ² | 77.31 ft | 485.75 ft |
| 22  | Untitled | 44.2297857, -73.7490186 | 21109.00 ft ² | 81.97 ft | 515.04 ft |
| 23  | Untitled | 44.2295704, -73.7485626 | 18655.00 ft ² | 77.06 ft | 484.17 ft |
| 24  | Untitled | 44.2303027, -73.7499755 | 16606.00 ft ² | 72.70 ft | 456.81 ft |
| 25  | Untitled | 44.2296810, -73.7499265 | 4855.00 ft ² | 39.31 ft | 247.00 ft |

| | | | | | | |
|----|---|----------|----------------------------|--------------------------|----------|-----------|
| 26 | ● | Untitled | 44.2294763, -73.7493398 | 2921.79 ft ² | 30.50 ft | 191.61 ft |
| 27 | ● | Untitled | 44.2248870, -73.7464296 | 8301.20 ft ² | 51.40 ft | 322.98 ft |
| 28 | ● | Untitled | 44.2245766, -73.7467615 | 2473.06 ft ² | 28.06 ft | 176.29 ft |
| 29 | ● | Untitled | 44.2254679, -73.7454419 | 4504.58 ft ² | 37.87 ft | 237.92 ft |
| 30 | ● | Untitled | 44.2254122, -73.7457591 | 1797.30 ft ² | 23.92 ft | 150.28 ft |
| 31 | ● | Untitled | 44.2250129, -73.7450194 | 4157.20 ft ² | 36.38 ft | 228.56 ft |
| 32 | ● | Untitled | 44.2286412, -73.7489023 | 16188.00 ft ² | 71.78 ft | 451.03 ft |
| 33 | ● | Untitled | 44.2282344, -73.7496218 | 611.07 ft ² | 13.95 ft | 87.63 ft |
| 34 | ● | Untitled | 44.2273407, -73.7472115 | 4760.01 ft ² | 38.93 ft | 244.57 ft |
| 35 | ● | Untitled | 44.2233243, -73.7455877 | 2371.64 ft ² | 27.48 ft | 172.64 ft |
| 36 | ● | Untitled | 44.2232383, -73.7459609 | 1460.89 ft ² | 21.56 ft | 135.49 ft |
| 37 | ● | Untitled | 44.2232940, -73.7463009 | 2395.85 ft ² | 27.62 ft | 173.51 ft |
| 38 | ● | Untitled | 44.2234997, -73.7463216 | 1271.19 ft ² | 20.12 ft | 126.39 ft |
| 39 | ● | Untitled | 44.2238212, -73.7461044 | 26030.00 ft ² | 91.03 ft | 571.93 ft |
| 40 | ● | Untitled | 44.2236237, -73.7466013 | 3781.73 ft ² | 34.70 ft | 218.00 ft |
| 41 | ● | Untitled | 44.2243992, -73.7435328 | 15222.00 ft ² | 69.61 ft | 437.37 ft |
| 42 | ● | Untitled | 44.2253358, -73.7428344 | 1598.96 ft ² | 22.56 ft | 141.75 ft |
| 43 | ● | Untitled | 44.2257308, -73.7425411 | 911.04 ft ² | 17.03 ft | 107.00 ft |
| 44 | ● | Untitled | 44.2254749, -73.7416798 | 2755.51 ft ² | 29.62 ft | 186.08 ft |
| 45 | ● | Untitled | 44.2254271, -73.7414558 | 1158.97 ft ² | 19.21 ft | 120.68 ft |
| 46 | ● | Untitled | 44.2262593, -73.7455991 | 1332.85 ft ² | 20.60 ft | 129.42 ft |
| 47 | ● | Untitled | 44.2224302, -73.7455894 | 2899.27 ft ² | 30.38 ft | 190.87 ft |
| 48 | ● | Untitled | 44.2225658, -73.7463602 | 4223.80 ft ² | 36.67 ft | 230.39 ft |



Development of the East Branch Community Trails is truly a community effort.

Attachment
#3-92024

Request for Town of Keene Community Enhancement Funds for East Branch Community Trails Phase 3 April 1, 2024

The Keene Youth Commission (KYC), in partnership with the Barkeater Trails Alliance (BETA), respectfully submits this funding request for \$10,000 to the Community Enhancement Fund Review Committee for your consideration. Since 2021, KYC and BETA have worked with the Town of Keene and Peduzzi Trail Contracting to first develop a master trail plan and then implement the plan by constructing a new trail system, pump track and bike skills park at the county-owned property on Route 9N, following a phased approach to trail development. In April of 2022 BETA and the Town of Keene entered into a construction and stewardship agreement for the network and trail building was started in the summer of 2022.

Phase 1 and 2 of the new “East Branch Community Trails” were constructed in 2022 and 2023, and include over 2.75 miles of professionally built multi-use and bike specific trails. These new trails are tremendously popular with residents and visitors alike, allowing hikers, mountain bikers, trail runners and non-motorized winter travelers to access key points of the property (please see the many testimonials of support at the end of this application).

These initial two phases of the project have been funded almost exclusively from private donations totaling over \$115,000, including \$50,000 from BETA’s Sterling Watchorn Trail Fund, \$25,000 from the Stewart’s Shops and Dake Family Fund, \$30,000 from foundations, and over \$10,000 in grassroots donations raised by BETA and KYC. In 2023 this project was also the recipient of an important \$10,000 Community Enhancement Fund grant from the Town of Keene.

KYC and BETA are now seeking funding for the next phases of trail construction on the property. We worked closely with the town and Essex County Office of Community Resources to apply for a DEC administered Smart Growth Grant which, if awarded, would provide \$110,000 of funding to construct up to four new trails and begin development of a skills area for new and young riders during 2024 and 2025. To maximize the attractiveness of that application BETA has committed to providing a match of \$40,000 cash from private donations, \$8,000 of staff time, and at least \$5,000 of volunteer donated work. At that time, it was also anticipated that the Town of Keene would likely contribute \$10,000 from CEF as additional match.

BETA will continue trail construction in 2024, regardless of the results of the Smart Growth Grant funding. The scope of work will depend on the results of the Smart grant application but even without that award BETA will construct a half mile long trail which will provide a highly desirable upper descent for bicyclists, expand on the success of existing trails, and further reduce the potential for conflict between bicyclists and other trail users on the existing climbing trail by providing an alternate path down. BETA has committed all of its available resources to this effort but completion of trail construction will be contingent on a CEF award of \$10,000 from the town.

In 2023 KYC and BETA applied for a three-year commitment of \$10,000 per year from the Town of Keene's Community Enhancement Fund. At that time, we were awarded a one-year grant with an invitation to return in 2024 and apply for additional support after showing efficient and effective use of the funds. Across the past two years we believe that BETA and KYC have shown not only a highly effective use of limited funding but also generated community involvement in planning and volunteer participation in construction.

Accordingly, we respectfully request a 2024 grant award from the town's Community Enhancement Fund towards construction of Phase 3 which is an investment in a valuable and growing community asset. We believe that this project is a tremendous example of a public-private partnership which leverages limited public funding and supports KYC and BETA in securing even greater private support.

Community Enhancement Fund Grant amount requested: \$10,000

Phase 3 Budget

Expenses:

Trail contracting - \$50,000 (contract w/ BETA)

BETA - trail construction, volunteer coordination, project admin - \$8,000

Volunteer labor - \$5,000

TOTAL - \$63,000

Funding Sources:

Town of Keene Community Enhancement Fund - \$10,000

Private donations - \$48,000

Volunteer labor - \$5,000 (valued at NY donated labor rate)

TOTAL - \$63,000

Keene's Vision for New Trails and Dispersing Recreation

The 2021 Keene Strategic Plan highlighted the need to provide safe, positive and ecologically sound recreation experiences for residents and visitors alike, citing alternative trails as potential improvements to the town's recreation structure. The Essex County property on 9N between Keene and Upper Jay offers a rare opportunity to implement this vision through the development of the East Branch Community Trails system. The project creates access to multi-use trails designed to be inclusive of people of all ages and abilities, youth-oriented biking opportunities, and it provides an alternative to more rugged backcountry hiking trails on state Forest Preserve land in the community.

Accessible trail systems and adjoining skills parks with pump tracks are the backbone for recreation-based towns that encourage healthy outdoor exercise. The East Branch Community Trails provide a meeting place for local residents and visitors, a venue for after-school activities, and a place for mountain bikers, hikers and skiers to enjoy the outdoors. Safe, accessible community trails provide a healthy outlet for all ages and fosters a sense of community and well-being.

Mountain biking is a growing activity in the High Peaks region. Though there has been a long-standing interest in mountain biking in Keene, there are very few places where bikers are allowed to ride and no specific mountain bike destinations without traveling to Lake Placid, Wilmington or Elizabethtown. With ongoing and increasing interest from Keene students and residents (bike to school day, school owned mountain bikes), there is a strong local demand for creating an outlet for this type of recreation in Keene.

This project will help enhance the quality of life in the area by providing more recreational and physically active opportunities for the residents and visitors and connecting them with nature. It will specifically benefit the youth mountain bikers of the community, who will benefit greatly from having a local destination for their growing sport.



Testimonials of Support from Trail Users

I rode the new trail at the East Branch system for the first time this past summer. I have had to take a break from biking for a bit due to fighting cancer, I won and am back to doing some gentle riding. Getting out into the woods felt healing and my pretty out of shape body was so thankful for the switchbacks and the downhill cruise was bliss, I rode with a grin! Grateful :) - Anne Brewer

My family and I love the EBCT because there is something for everyone in our growing family. This trail network is the perfect place to introduce someone to the sport of mountain biking! The cherry on top is the great gathering area for where food, drinks, and fun is enjoyed! - Brett McClelland

The East Branch Community Trails are a wonderful playground for my family. We enjoy riding our bikes on the perfectly graded and maintained trails. Most weekends you will catch us there at least once! If I am lucky I can get an afterwork ride in, during the long summer days. The East Branch Community Trails are a wonderful addition to our community! - Emily Evatt

We are a MTBing Family (mom, dad and a 7 year old). We LOVE these trails. Even when he was 6 he could do 500 vertical without stopping. And the "roller coaster" on the way down is the best! - Laura, Mike and Robby Gregg

The East Branch Trails are one of the few trails that I can enjoy mountain bike riding while, at the same time, my wife is comfortable walking. It's well designed for maximum enjoyment for all - not just walkers and not just mountain bikers. It's our favorite trail system and I can't wait to see what is in store for the future. - David Radcliffe

I've ridden the East Branch trails several times with my friend who, due to a terrible accident many years ago, can only ride our hilly terrain using an e-bike. His injuries prevent him from riding rugged terrain found elsewhere in the BETA network. The East Branch trail network allows us to continue experiencing our shared love of the sport together. - Leigh Walrath

The East Branch Trails are my go-to dog walk location when conditions are "iffy" elsewhere. They are so well drained, and get plenty of sun, so no muddy footprints!!! Extra bonus of a pleasant view from the height of land! Thank you for this fabulous system....can't wait to see it expand! Love it! - Tamra Mooney

A place my then 3-year-old could claim he strider biked to the top of a mountain, a place that leaves core memories for him from the day he helped cut the ribbon. And a place that will create firsts for my 6 months old daughters soon enough. - Tom Moskal

The East branch community trails in Keene have been a great asset! Going mountain biking there with my 4 year old daughter for a few laps has become a weekend ritual! They've done a great job making it ideal for beginners but still fun for more advanced riders! We're stoked about new trails to come! - Loren Allen

The east branch community trails are an amazing addition to mountain bike trails in the region. Since I discovered them I have told all my friends of all abilities to check them out, they have not be disappointed! Thanks for all the hard work! - Bobby Donahue

Our family loves the East Branch trails! The best part is continually lapping the downhill, get a couple of families together, from 5 years old to 55 years old. Some people are biking up some coming down, all whooping and hollering as we see each other through the trees. So. Much. Fun. For all! - Mandi Smith

The East Branch Community Trails have provided an amazing experience for mountain biking with friends, post-work rides, and honing my techniques. Having relocated to upstate NY two years ago after serving 7 years in the Navy, the Beta community / trails, especially East Branch, have not only introduced me to a new hobby but also connected me with incredible people! - Jackie Chimiak

East Branch Community Trails is fast becoming a must-ride addition to the area. I have been there quite a few times this last season: it is a great place to bring less experienced riders because the trails are not super challenging, yet they are a great fun to ride even for more experienced riders. The latest addition, Downriver (a.k.a. Banks of Eden) is a true gem: it is hard to believe how many features and how much variety has been packed in this half-mile trail! I still remember the big smile on my wife's face the first time we rode it! And then we went back up and down a few more times (and she is not that keen on climbing). I can't wait to see what else gets added to this beautiful trail system. - Stefano Fachin

The East Branch Community Trail system is the best trail system in our region that provides smooth, wide and gentle yet challenging trails for beginners in a beautiful area of the Adirondacks, yet also has great features and flow for more advanced riders. I brought my wife here so she could start to learn how to mountain bike, while I also get to hit the faster flow section and have just as much fun. - Greg Van Buren

TOWN OF KEENE COMMUNITY ENHANCEMENT FUND APPLICATION

Lake Placid Sinfonietta Outreach Concert in Keene

We are writing to request funding for an outreach concert by our small symphony orchestra in Keene.

Comprising 21 passionate musicians dedicated to fostering a love for classical music, we aim to enrich diverse communities such as Keene through accessible performances.

The concert is at Keene Central School on Wednesday, July 25. We have obtained prior permissions and scheduling from the school administration. We have full insurance as well.

Our budget breaks down to \$8,520 per concert and a detailed per concert budget is below. We are requesting whatever funding you believe is appropriate.

Our repertoire ranges from classical masterpieces to contemporary compositions, ensuring a captivating experience for audiences of all ages and backgrounds. With a commitment to support education and engagement, we offer interactive elements such as a Q&A session to enhance the concert experience.

The Lake Placid Sinfonietta plays concerts from July through August each year in the Lake Placid Center for the Arts and Mid's Park in downtown Lake Placid, plus several outreach concerts at various locations. Known as the Orchestra of the Adirondacks, we have IRS 501c-3 status as a non-profit group.

The Sinfonietta will perform at least 17 times in 2024 including ticketed concerts at the LPCA, six free open-air concerts in Mid's Park in downtown Lake Placid, a free community concert in Saranac Lake, a

free morning children's concert in Lake Placid and a concert hosted by The Wild Center in Tupper Lake. As the Orchestra of the Adks, the organization serves both the year-round residents of the Adirondacks, summer residents and the visiting tourist population.

Our mission statement: "Lake Placid Sinfonietta, the Adirondacks' orchestra of world class musicians, unleashes the power of music to entertain, educate, and inspire people of all ages."

We are eager to come to the Town of Keene to bring the transformative power of music to your community. Thank you for considering our application.

Sincerely, Debbie Fitts, Executive Director

Lake Placid Sinfonietta, the Orchestra of the Adirondacks
518.523.2051 (office) 518.524.1814 (personal cell)
www.LakePlacidSinfonietta.org

March 6, 2024

| Per Service Cost projection | | | |
|-----------------------------|--------------|-------------|---|
| | Total | Per Service | |
| Total Orchestra salary | \$139,500.00 | \$2,906.25 | |
| Fringe | \$10,672.00 | \$222.33 | Concert salary \$4,005.00 |
| Music Director | \$30,000.00 | \$625.00 | Salary one suporting rehearsal \$4,005.00 |
| Fringe | \$2,295.00 | \$47.81 | minimal additional costs \$510.00 |
| Production staff | \$6,300.00 | \$131.25 | |
| Fringe | \$488.00 | \$10.17 | Total minimum per concert cost \$8,520.00 |
| Insurance | \$3,000.00 | \$62.50 | |
| Subtotal | \$192,255.00 | \$4,005.31 | |
| Marketing | | | |
| Administration | | | |
| Outside Sololsts, Extras | | | |
| Transportation | | \$200.00 | |
| Travel for musicians | | \$250.00 | |
| Additional stage hand | | \$60.00 | |

2024

Attachment #5-92024

Keene Justice Court
Summary Report of Cases Started
Judge Henrietta B Jordan
Report date: 04/30/2024

01/01/2024 to 04/30/2024
All Judges

| STATUTE | STARTED | CLOSED | FINE | SURCHG | CIVIL FEE |
|---------------|------------|------------|-----------------|-----------------|-------------|
| PL | 3 | 0 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| VTL | 798 | 315 | 36340.00 | 31094.00 | 0.00 |
| 6CR | 1 | 1 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| TOTALS | 802 | 316 | 36340.00 | 31094.00 | 0.00 |

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

| | | | |
|----------------------------|------|------------|------------------------|
| Number of DWIs - 1192: | 1 | Closed: 0 | Fines/Fees: \$0.00 |
| Number of AUOs - 511: | 0 | Closed: 0 | Fines/Fees: \$0.00 |
| Number of Speeds - 1180: | 185 | Closed: 65 | Fines/Fees: \$18944.00 |
| Number of Defendants: | 715 | | |
| Total Number Charges: | 802 | | |
| Average Charges/Defendant: | 1.12 | | |
| Number of Small Claims: | 0 | | |

NOTE: Dollars are calculated for fines assessed, not amount collected.

2023

Keene Justice Court
Summary Report of Cases Started
Judge Henrietta B Jordan
Report date: 04/30/2024

01/01/2023 to 04/30/2023
All Judges

| STATUTE | STARTED | CLOSED | FINE | SURCHG | CIVIL FEE |
|---------------|------------|------------|-----------------|-----------------|-------------|
| PL | 2 | 1 | 50.00 | 93.00 | 0.00 |
| VTL | 338 | 241 | 23128.00 | 16359.00 | 0.00 |
| 6CR | 1 | 1 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| TL | 1 | 0 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| TOTALS | 342 | 243 | 23178.00 | 16452.00 | 0.00 |

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

| | | | |
|----------------------------|------|------------|------------------------|
| Number of DWIs - 1192: | 2 | Closed: 0 | Fines/Fees: \$0.00 |
| Number of AUOs - 511: | 0 | Closed: 0 | Fines/Fees: \$0.00 |
| Number of Speeds - 1180: | 90 | Closed: 68 | Fines/Fees: \$14877.00 |
| Number of Defendants: | 314 | | |
| Total Number Charges: | 342 | | |
| Average Charges/Defendant: | 1.09 | | |
| Number of Small Claims: | 0 | | |

NOTE: Dollars are calculated for fines assessed, not amount collected.