Bi-Monthly Town of Keene Board Meeting

May 28th, 2024

5:30 P.M. Town Hall

Meeting # 11-24

Resolutions # 164-173

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

**Absent**: Ann Hough

**Town Officials Present:** Ann Whitney Town Clerk

**Town Counsel Present:** None

**Members of the Public**: Brendan Richardson, Nathan Farb, Glen VanWie, Cindy Caner, Keith Hall

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

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**Approval of Minutes:**

May 14th, 2024 Regular Board Meeting

**RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE MAY 14th, 2024 MONTHLY MEETING**

**RESOLUTION NUMBER:164 -2024**

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

**RESOLVED** that the Town Board of Keene has approved the Regular Board Meeting Minutes from May 14th, 2024

Duly adopted this 28th day of May 2024 by the following vote:

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

**NAYS**: None

**Privilege of the Floor:**

Mr. Wilson started with thanking the Board Members that could be at the Market Sunday when he could not. He said we need to look how they manage the traffic on 73. He did call DOT to consider reduction of speed but that has to go through their Traffic Control Review. This will not come quickly.

Mr. Biesemeyer asked about the flashing signs that we can use during the event times. The parking lot was a success.

Mr. Wilson said, to Bobs point, our Market is the only one that is on a 55 mph area. Last year we had so many complaints of the condition of the field due to all the parking allowed on it.

Mr. Daly added he felt things were going well when he was there early. When he left around 10:30, he spoke to the volunteer who was doing the directing for parking and he was getting frustrated because people were not listening. Chris went back down when he heard of the accident. He feels the Market needs to properly staff the parking flow, it was unsustainable on Sunday the way it was staffed. He agrees with Bob the parking is fine it is the way it was managed and directed.

Mr. Richardson, Market Manager, felt having an extra 100 ft when you pull off 73 would help.

Mr. Wilson said he feels we are stuck with some things we have to work around and that is separating pedestrians from traffic; we have to control the ad hoc parking, and having more hands on management. He proposed we take some time to review the user agreement we have with the Market and send it to the Farmers Market to review and see if we can come to an agreement.

Mr. Daly stated what we did relative to the parking on Marcy Field was not necessarily related to the Farmers Market it was about the preservation of Marcy Field. The damage from the vandalism and the over usage was what we were rectifying by doing a designated parking lot. We did not construct it around the Farmers Market; the limitation was not aimed at the Market.

**For the record** there was a lot of social media commentary over the parking, some of it was not based and fact and none of the people that had commentary are here at the meeting to register their objections.

**For the record** it is important for people to understand this is not the Town of Keene’s Farmers Market, it is your Farmers Market, this benefits the people and benefits your vendors. The Town does not manage the Market, we allow you to use Marcy Field. The management of that parking flow falls to the Market; it cannot fall to the Town.

Mr. Richardson feels the flow of the parking is a problem. He asked if could have some freedom to try to change the flow, come up with something. He likes Teresa’s idea with having the traffic going one way. He is trying to think of safety. He really does like the parking lot.

Mr. Wilson is comfortable giving Brendan some leeway to come up with something over the next few Markets while we work on the agreement, we will start on that immediately.

**Town Discussion of Old Business:**

* **Water District Updates**
  + **WD #2 Bonding process with EFC: Change in Environmental Review: Resolution to Designate Project Type 1**

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE TOWN OF KEENE TO APPLY FOR THE NYS DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL FACILITIES CORPORATION WATER INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENT ACT GRANT PROGRAM**

**RESOLUTION NUMBER: 165-2024**

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

**WHEREAS** The increase and improvements of facilities of the Town of Keene Water District No. 2 in the Town of Keene, Essex County, New York, consisting of a new well field control building, new well construction, abandonment of existing well and acquisition of installation of water meters at a maximum cost of $5,029,607.20.

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the Keene Town Board authorize Supervisor Joseph P. Wilson to apply for the grant through NYS Environmental Facility Corporation Water Infrastructure Improvement Act (WIIA) Program.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, the Supervisor Wilson is further authorized to execute Grant Agreement with the NYS Environmental Facilities Corporation and all other contract, documents, and instruments necessary to being about the project and to fulfill the Towns obligations under the financing agreement.

**SECONDED BY TERESA CHEETHAM-PALEN**, Duly adopted this 28th day of May 2024 by the following vote:

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

**NAYS**: None

* **Annual Audit of the Books** postpone

Mr. Wilson stated this has been tabled as we have some outstanding reviews.

Mr. Daly added he has been waiting to audit Barb Dwyer’s books. Chris has emailed Barb 5 times with no response.

**New Business**:

* **Switch to monthly meeting schedule for summer**

**RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE SUMMER MEETING SCHEDULE OF ONCE A MONTH**

**RESOLUTION NUMBER:166 -2024**

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

**RESOLVED** that the Town Board of Keene has approved the summer schedule of one meeting on the second Tuesday a month for June, July August.

Duly adopted this 28th day of May 2024 by the following vote:

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

**NAYS**: None

Mr. Wilson then had a secondary piece, Cindy and Tina asked if they could do a summer schedule of 7:00-4:30 Monday through Thursday.

**RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE SUMMER SCHEDULE OF MONDAY THROUGH THURSDAY 7:00-4:30 FOR CINDY CANER AND TINA PRESTON**

**RESOLUTION NUMBER:167 -2024**

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

**RESOLVED** that the Town Board of Keene has approved the summer schedule of 7:00-4:30 Monday through Thursday for June , July, and Augsut.

Duly adopted this 28th day of May 2024 by the following vote:

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

**NAYS**: None

**Town Clerk Report:** Nothing

**Highway Superintendent:** Nothing

**Executive Session**:

**RESOLUTION TO ENTER EXECUTIVE SESSION FOR LEGAL DISCUSSION ON THE CEMETERY**

**RESOLUTION NUMBER: 168-2024**

**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 6:09 P.M. for legal discussion,

Duly adopted this 28th day of May 2024 by the following vote:

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

**NAYS:** None

**RESOLUTION TO COME OUT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**RESOLUTION NUMBER: 169-2024**

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

**RESOLVED** that the Town Board of Keene return from Executive Session at 6:20 P.M.

Duly adopted this 28th day of May 2024 by the following vote:

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

**NAYS**: None

**Audit Bills:**

**RESOLUTION TO PAY THE ON-LINE BILLS**

**RESOLUTION NUMBER: 170-2024**

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

**RESOLVED** that the Town Board approve to pay the on-line bills.

Duly adopted this 28th day of May 2024 by the following vote:

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

**NAYS**: None

**RESOLUTION TO AUDIT THE VOUCHERS 377-2024 THROUGH 429-2024**

**RESOLUTION NUMBER: 171-2024**

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

**RESOLVED** that the Town Board approve the following bills and prepaid bills.

Multi-Fund Vouchers numbered -2024 through -2024 totaling $134,627.94 as follows:

General Fund Bills $80,924.58

Highway Fund Bills $48,580.04

Water District #1 $272.53

Water District #2 $1,115.99

Roost Enhancement Tax Fund $3,116.64

Public Library Fund $618.16

Duly adopted this 28th day of May 2024 by the following vote:

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

**NAYS**: None

**Supervisors Report:**

**Draft reports October 2023 through April 2024**

Ms. Caner presented to the Board the NY C.L.A.S.S Accounts and the Health Savings Checking Account for October 2023 through April 2024 which all balance and they are current. She then gave the Board the Multi-fund Account that she is still working on. Back in September of 2023 it balanced but then there were some voids made in months that were closed and it threw balance off. Cindy is finding these the incorrect journal entries that were made. Cindy has drafts of all months from October through April, which she is still working on but getting close.

**RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE SUPERVISOR DRAFT REPORTS OCTOBER 2023 THROUGH APRIL 2024**

**RESOLUTION NUMBER: 172-2024**

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

**RESOLVED** that the Town Board approve the Supervisor Draft Reports October 2023 through April 2024, which are available to review in the Town Clerks Office.

Duly adopted this 28th day of May 2024 by the following vote:

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

**NAYS**: None

**Adjourn:**

**RESOLUTION TO ADJOURN**

**RESOLUTION NUMBER: 173-2024**

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

**RESOLVED** that the Town Board of Keene has completed all business and hereby adjourns the Bi-Monthly Meeting at 6:35 P.M.

Duly adopted this 28th day of May 2024 by the following vote:

**AYES**: Robert Biesemeyer, Christopher Dal, Joe Pete Wilson, Teresa Cheetham-Palen

**NAYS**: None

Ann Whitney

Town Clerk

Town of Keene