

Regular Monthly Town of Keene Board Meeting  
October 8th, 2024  
5:30 P.M. Town Hall  
Meeting # 18-24  
Resolutions #269-290

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

**Absent:**

**Town Officials Present:** Ann Whitney Town Clerk, Reginald Whitney Highway Superintendent

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

**Members of the Public:** Linda LaBarge, Larry House, Maggie Sheldon, Ivan Robetson, Kathy Robertson, LeAnne King, and Kirtland King

**Call to Meeting to Order** at 5:54 P.M. by Joe Pete Wilson

**Pledge of Allegiance:**

**Approval of Minutes:**

**RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE SEPTEMBER 24 TH, 2024 BUDGET  
WORKSHOP MINUTES**

**RESOLUTION NUMBER: 269-2024**

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

**RESOLVED** that the Town Board of Keene has approved the September 24, 2024  
Budget Workshop Minutes.

Duly adopted this 8<sup>th</sup> day of October 2024 by the following vote:

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

**NAYS:** None

**RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE SEPTEMBER 24 TH, 2024 BI-  
MONTHLY TOWN BOARD MINUTES**

**RESOLUTION NUMBER: 270-2024**

**INTRODUCED BY: CHRISTOPHER DALY WHO MOVED FOR ITS  
ADOPTION, SECONDED BY ANN HOUGH**  
**RESOLVED** that the Town Board of Keene has approved the September 24, 2024  
Bi-Monthly Town Board Minutes.

Duly adopted this 8<sup>th</sup> day of October 2024 by the following vote:  
**AYES:** Christopher Daly, Robert Biesemeyer, Teresa Cheetham-Palen, Ann  
Hough, Joe Pete Wilson  
**NAYS:** None

**Privilege of the Floor:**

**Town Operations**

• **Town Clerk:**

Ms. Whitney explained to the Board that Mr. Robertson sent a letter requesting the purchase of a cremation plot in Norton Brook Cemetery. Mr. Robertson is present, along with his wife and friends to seek approval for this request.

**RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE PURCHASE OF A CREMATION  
PLOT BY IVAN ROBERTSON**  
**RESOLUTION NUMBER: 271-2024**

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

**RESOLVED** that the Town Board of Keene has approved the purchase of a  
cremation plot in Norton Brook Cemetery by Ivan Robertson.

Duly adopted this 8<sup>th</sup> day of October 2024 by the following vote:  
**AYES:** Christopher Daly, Robert Biesemeyer, Teresa Cheetham-Palen, Ann  
Hough, Joe Pete Wilson  
**NAYS:** None

Mr. Wilson then stated a concern from a resident of hunting in the cemetery and he asked for a motion to band hunting in the cemetery.

**RESOLUTION TO BAND HUNTING IN THE CEMETERIES**  
**RESOLUTION NUMBER: 272-2024**

**INTRODUCED BY: CHRISTOPHER DALY WHO MOVED FOR ITS  
ADOPTION, SECONDED BY ANN HOUGH**

**RESOLVED** that the Town Board of Keene is prohibiting hunting in Norton's  
Cemetery and Norton Brook Cemetery.

Duly adopted this 8<sup>th</sup> day of October 2024 by the following vote:

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

**NAYS:** None

- **Highway Department:**

Mr. Whitney stated paving on Beede Rd will take place Friday. He then said they received their 5500 and now working on getting the sander and plow installed. He then stated Andrew Wadsworth has given his resignation, he wanted to thank him for all his years of service, he will be missed.

Mr. Whitney then stated he would like to bring Trey Hulbert over to the Highway as General Laborer/CDL Trainee position. This position was previously approved on August 13<sup>th</sup>, 2024.

**RESOLUTION TO SET RATE OF PAY FOR THE GENERAL LABORER/CDL TRAINEE POSITION AT \$24.00 PER HOUR.**

**RESOLUTION NUMBER: 273-2024**

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

**RESOLVED** that the Town Board of Keene is setting the rate of pay at \$24.00 per hour for the General Laborer/CDL Trainee position.

Duly adopted this 8<sup>th</sup> day of October 2024 by the following vote:

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

**NAYS:** None

**RESOLUTION TO DEFINE THE POSITION OF GENERAL LABORER/CDL TRAINEE IN THE HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT.**

**RESOLUTION NUMBER: 274-2024**

**INTRODUCED BY: CHRISTOPHER DALY WHO MOVED FOR ITS ADOPTION, SECONDED BY ANN HOUGH**

**RESOLVED** that the Town Board of Keene defines the position of General Laborer /CDL Trainee in the Highway Department, is for a general laborer on track to earn a Commercial Driver's License and become qualified to operate plow trucks and other HEO duties. The position provides for a one-year period in the position for the General Laborer/CDL Trainee to qualify for a CDL.

Duly adopted this 8<sup>th</sup> day of October 2024 by the following vote:

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

**NAYS:** None

Mr. Wilson then gave an update in regards to the August 9<sup>th</sup>, 2024 storm, the Governor did a Disaster Declaration for this storm which is our bridge damages. This is good news because this makes the bridge potentially up to 75% reimbursement.

**RESOLUTION TO ENTER EXECUTIVE SESSION FOR PERSONNEL  
RESOLUTION NUMBER: 275-2024**

**INTRODUCED BY ANN HOUGH MOVED FOR ITS ADOPTION,  
SECONDED BY CHRISTOPHER DALY**

**RESOLVED** that the Town Board of Keene entered into Executive Session at  
6:10 P.M.,

Duly adopted this 8<sup>th</sup> day of October 2024 by the following vote:

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

**NAYS:** None

**RESOLUTION TO COME OUT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION  
RESOLUTION NUMBER: 276-2024**

**INTRODUCED BY: ANN HOUGH WHO MOVED FOR ITS ADOPTION,  
SECONDED BY CHRISTOPHER DALY**

**RESOLVED** that the Town Board of Keene return from Executive Session at 6:13  
P.M.

Duly adopted this 8<sup>th</sup> day of October 2024 by the following vote:

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

**NAYS:** None

**RESOLUTION TO ADVERTISE FOR A HEO POSITION AT THE  
HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT**

**RESOLUTION NUMBER: 277-2024**

**INTRODUCED BY: ANN HOUGH WHO MOVED FOR ITS ADOPTION,  
SECONDED BY CHRISTOPHER DALY**

**RESOLVED** that the Town Board of Keene approve to advertise for a HEO  
position within the Highway position.

Duly adopted this 8<sup>th</sup> day of October 2024 by the following vote:

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

**NAYS:** None

**RESOLUTION TO ADVERTISE FOR A GENERAL LABORER  
POSITION IN THE GENERAL FUND  
RESOLUTION NUMBER: 278-2024  
INTRODUCED BY: TERESA CHEETHAM-PALEN WHO MOVED FOR  
ITS ADOPTION, SECONDED BY ANN HOUGH**

**RESOLVED** that the Town Board of Keene approve to advertise for a General Laborer position within the General Fund.

Duly adopted this 8<sup>th</sup> day of October 2024 by the following vote:

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

**NAYS:** None

Ms. Hough asked for Laura that the gate be closed on Tuesday and Thursday due to people possibly dumping in the composting.

Mr. Whitney added that the new pumps are working very well.

- **Water Department:**
- **Dog Control Officer:**

Ms. Emily Whitney presented her dog report for this current year. 52 total calls sense the first of 2024.

Mr. Wilson stated when he did this he had maybe 3 calls, for a Town our size this is a lot.

Ms. Whitney stated she should have worded it as cases.

Mr. Kennelly stated this report is very helpful; we started the Comprehensive Dog Law about 2 years ago.

Mr. Wilson stated this is something we need to pick back up, at the next meeting hand out the draft and then in November set a Public Hearing.

Ms. Hough asked if we had a leash law now.

Ms. Whitney stated we do not.

Mr. Wilson stated the second piece is housing dogs. The Town has to house dogs according to Ags ad Market. This is a growing concern because the SPCA is becoming full.

Ms. Whitney stated she has had to provide shelter just recently because of no room at the SPCA. The concern is the shelter has to meet the requirements of Ags and Market; at this point, there is not proper shelter in our Town.

Mr. Wilson stated we wanted to make this known because the job is becoming much more and we may need to spend more for the dangerous dog requirements that is being put out to the Towns.

Ms. Whitney then stated licensing of dogs is a state law and there are many dogs in town that are not licensed. This is very inexpensive to do and when licensed, if lost, much easier to locate owner.

***ATTACHMENT #1-182024***

**Town Discussion of Old Business:**

- **Composting Operations**

Ms. Hough wanted to state the composting is nicely set up, but it does not look bear proof. Laura would like to move a building that was used to house the gasoline hydraulic pumps.

Mr. Wilson offered to meet with Ann, Laura, and Roger to get this figured out and then execute.

Ms. Hough then added that Laura would like to charge now if we are going to rather than later for this composting service.

Mr. Biesemeyer said we should wait to make sure we are actually going to keep this system.

All agreed.

- **Buildings and Grounds**

Mr. Wilson stated we need to purchase a new mower (attachment for Ventrac) for the Norton Brook Cemetery

**RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE PURCHASE OF ATTACHMENT FOR THE VENTRAC, \$5,377.50**

**RESOLUTION NUMBER: 279-2024**

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

**RESOLVED** that the Town Board of Keene approve to purchase an attachment for the Ventrac, \$5,377.50

Duly adopted this 8<sup>th</sup> day of October 2024 by the following vote:

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

**NAYS:** None

- **Hiker Parking**

Mr. Wilson wanted to give an update on hiker parking and the shuttle. The question of what is enough, our overall traffic is in line with last year but as the

summer wore on he has had concern of the safety of the staff. There has been threats, people just parking and leaving their cars in road, people yelling at our stewards, and fights between hikers. Joe Pete does not feel the Town of Keene is equipped to manage. We put young people up in a remote area. Joe Pete feels as we have taken on more and more management up there it has gotten to the point it has become too much for us to handle.

Ms. Hough asked if would can see if ADK and DEC can step in.

Mr. Wilson stated we need control up there to protect the residence of Keene from people parking in their yards, blocking driveways, etc.

Ms. Cheetham-Palen stated she felt we need to have a meeting with DEC and ADK before spring.

Mr. Wilson stated he wanted the Board to be aware of the safety issues, thinking of when enough is enough, and options.

#### **New Business:**

- **Approve Time Clock Policy:**

Mr. Wilson proposes a way to test out the time clock, because there are many to pick from, is to try it out here at the Town Hall for the employees first before purchases the others.

### **RESOLUTION TO APPROVE TIME CLOCK POLICY**

#### **RESOLUTION NUMBER: 280-2024**

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

**RESOLVED** that the Town Board of Keene approve the time clock policy, which is as follows: All permanent employees must clock in and out at the beginning and end of their shift. Employees are required to record their own time in and out. No one, regardless of circumstances, is permitted to record time for anyone else or to allow such an occurrence. No employee may clock in more than 15 minutes prior to the start of their regularly scheduled shift. If an employee fails to clock in or out, the immediate supervisor should review the situation and verify the proper hours worked or recommend disciplinary action

Duly adopted this 8<sup>th</sup> day of October 2024 by the following vote:

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

**NAYS:** None

**ABSTAINED:** Ann Hough

**Local Law Process:**

- **Local Law #1 of 2024: FOIL**

**RESOLUTION TO ADOPT LOCAL LAW #1 OF 2024 “A LOCAL LAW ESTABLISHING PROCEDURES FOR PUBLIC ACCESS TO RECORDS OF THE TOWN OF KEENE UNDER THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION LAW”**

**RESOLUTION NUMBER: 281-2024**

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

**RESOLVED** that the Town Board of Keene adopt Local Law #1 of 2024 establishing procedure for the public to access the records of the Town of Keene under the Freedom of Information Law.

Duly adopted this 8<sup>th</sup> day of October 2024 by the following vote:

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

**NAYS:** None

- **Local Law #2 of 2024: Water Law Water District #1**

**RESOLUTION TO ADOPT LOCAL LAW #2 OF 2024 FOR THE TOWN OF KEENE, REGULATING THE USE OF PUBLIC WATER FACILITIES AND FURNISHING THE WATER TO THE CONSUMERS OF THE KEENE WATER DISTRICT #1(THE “DISTRICT”)**

**RESOLUTION NUMBER: 282-2024**

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

**RESOLVED** that the Town Board of Keene adopt Local Law #2 of 2024 for the Town of Keene, Essex County, New York, (the Town) regulating the use of public water facilities and furnishing the water to the consumers of the Keene Water District 1 (the "District").

Duly adopted this 8<sup>th</sup> day of October 2024 by the following vote:

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

**NAYS:** None

- **Local Law #3 of 2024: Water Law Water District #2**



**RESOLUTION TO ADOPT LOCAL LAW #3 OF 2024 FOR THE  
TOWN OF KEENE, REGULATING THE USE OF PUBLIC  
WATER FACILITIES AND FURNISHING THE WATER TO THE  
CONSUMERS OF THE KEENE WATER DISTRICT #2(THE  
“DISTRICT”)**

**RESOLUTION NUMBER: 283-2024**

**INTRODUCED BY: CHRISTOPHER DALY WHO MOVED FOR ITS  
ADOPTION, SECONDED BY ANN HOUGH**

**RESOLVED** that the Town Board of Keene adopt Local Law #3 of 2024 for the Town of Keene, Essex County, New York, (the Town) regulating the use of public water facilities and furnishing the water to the consumers of the Keene Water District 2 (the "District").

Duly adopted this 8<sup>th</sup> day of October 2024 by the following vote:

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

**NAYS:** None

**RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE TENTATIVE BUDGET**

**RESOLUTION NUMBER: 284-2024**

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

**RESOLVED** that the Town Board of Keene approve the Tentative Budget as presented at October 1<sup>st</sup> Special Meeting.

Duly adopted this 8<sup>th</sup> day of October 2024 by the following vote:

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

**NAYS:** None

**RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE PRELIMINARY BUDGET**

**RESOLUTION NUMBER: 285-2024**

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

**RESOLVED** that the Town Board of Keene approve the Preliminary Budget discussed in the workshop prior to this meeting.

Duly adopted this 8<sup>th</sup> day of October 2024 by the following vote:

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

**NAYS:** None

**Budget Resolutions:**

- **Resolution to Transfer Funds:**

**RESOLUTION TO TRANSFER FUNDS  
RESOLUTION NUMBER: 286-2024  
INTRODUCED BY: CHRISTOPHER DALY WHO MOVED  
FOR ITS ADOPTION, SECONDED BY ANN HOUGH  
RESOLVED** that the Town Board of Keene accept the following  
transfers:

**Within the General Fund:**

\$2000.00 out of 7110.2 Parks EQ

\$,2000.00 into 7110.4 Parks CE

\$1,000.00 out of 7140.2 Playgrounds/Recreation EQ

\$1,000.00 into 7110.4 Parks CE

**Within the Highway Fund:**

N/A

**Within the Library Fund:**

N/A

**Within the SW#1:**

**Within the SW#2:**

N/A

Duly adopted this 8<sup>th</sup> day of October 2024 by the following vote:  
**AYES:** Christopher Daly, Ann Hough, Teresa Cheetham-Palen, Robert  
Biesemeyer, Joe Pete Wilson  
**NAYS:** None

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

**Supervisors Report:**

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**Audit Bills:**

**RESOLUTION TO PAY THE ONLINE BILLS  
RESOLUTION NUMBER: 287-2024  
INTRODUCED BY ANN HOUGH WHO MOVED FOR ITS ADOPTION,  
SECONDED BY CHRISTOPHER DALY**

**RESOLVED** that the Town Board approve to pay the online bills.  
Duly adopted this 8<sup>TH</sup> day of October 2024 by the following vote:  
**AYES:** Teresa Cheetham-Palen, Robert Biesemeyer, Ann Hough, Christopher  
Daly, Joe Pete Wilson  
**NAYS:** None

**RESOLUTION TO AUDIT THE VOUCHERS  
773 THROUGH 811, 2024 EXCLUDING PAYMENT FOR TRI-COUNTY  
FOR THE DEPOSIT ON THE BUILDING  
RESOLUTION NUMBER: 288-2024**

**INTRODUCED BY CHRISTOPHER DALY WHO MOVED FOR ITS  
ADOPTION, SECONDED BY ANN HOUGH**  
**RESOLVED** that the Town Board approve the following bills (excluding the  
voucher for Tri-County) and prepaid bills.  
Multi-Fund Vouchers numbered 773 through 811,2024 totaling \$223,464.33 as  
follows:  
General Fund Bills \$131,300.79  
Highway Fund Bills \$89,903.34  
Library \$0  
Water District #1 \$826.81  
Water District #2 \$3,177.51  
Community Enhancement Fund \$0  
Duly adopted this 8<sup>TH</sup> day of October 2024 by the following vote:  
**AYES:** Teresa Cheetham-Palen, Robert Biesemeyer, Ann Hough, Christopher  
Daly, Joe Pete Wilson  
**NAYS:** None

**RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE DOWN PAYMENT ON THE  
BUILDING TO TRI-COUNTY, BUT HOLD CHECK UNTIL CODE  
OFFICER APPROVES THE BUILDING PLAN  
RESOLUTION NUMBER: 289-2024**  
**INTRODUCED BY CHRISTOPHER DALY WHO MOVED FOR ITS  
ADOPTION, SECONDED BY ANN HOUGH**  
**RESOLVED** that the Town Board approve to pay the online bills.  
Duly adopted this 8<sup>TH</sup> day of October 2024 by the following vote:  
**AYES:** Teresa Cheetham-Palen, Ann Hough, Christopher Daly, Joe Pete Wilson

**NAYS: Robert Biesemeyer**

**Adjourn:**

**RESOLUTION TO ADJOURN  
RESOLUTION NUMBER: 290-2024  
INTRODUCED BY: TERESA CHEETHAM-PALEN WHO MOVED FOR  
ITS ADOPTION, SECONDED BY CHRISTOPHER DALY  
RESOLVED** that the Town Board of Keene has completed all business and  
hereby adjourns the Regular Meeting at 7:12 P.M.,  
Duly adopted this 8<sup>th</sup> day of October 2024 by the following vote:  
**AYES:** Christopher Daly, Robert Biesemeyer, Ann Hough, Teresa Cheetham-  
Palen, Joe Pete Wilson  
**NAYS:** None

Ann Whitney  
Town Clerk  
Town of Keene

Attachment  
#1-182024

Dog Control Officer Report

October 2024

January 1st 2024 to October 6th 2024:

**DCO calls-** 52 calls total in 10 months

**Dog bite cases-** 5 bite cases in 10 months ( no charges pressed, all have been resolved) 3 out of 5 where dogs off property walking off leash on town land.

**Dogs brought to the shelter in 10 months-** (5 total 3 out of 5 no owner redeemed them, where then placed for adoption)

**Dogs running at large-** 15 that I was made aware of and have discussed preventing actions with their owners.

**Dogs found and placed back with their owners before having to take them to the shelter-** 10 total

Remaining calls were dogs who where sighted by people passing but I was unable to assist further.

Off leash related calls- 33 of the 52 calls were related to off leash scenarios.

### Why should we have a leash law-

1. to protect the health, safety, and well-being of people and property. Leash laws can help prevent accidents and injuries, and protect the environment
2. Leashed dogs are less likely to dart into traffic, causing accidents or injuries.
3. Dogs running off-leash can damage plants and reduce the habitat available to wildlife.
4. Protection of deer- if dogs chase or act upon deer, this is illegal and actions can be taken.
5. Leash laws can help protect other pets.
6. Leashing your dog can help keep them safe from potential vehicle accidents and encounters with wildlife.
7. Leashing your dog can be kind to people who might be afraid of dogs and might have allergies.
8. Sanitary , as you are more aware of your dog's bathroom brakes in high foot traffic areas.
9. Help reduce calls for lost dogs.
10. With the rise in people which then = dogs, there are more dogs who are not from the area resulting in not knowing "where home is" so they are more apt to not fare well in the ADK's.
11. Unknown infection one dog may be caring and passing to others.

### Neighboring towns that have a leash law

-Jay (yes) may be fined up to \$250

-Ausable Yes, (Town Code requires that dogs be controlled on leashes no longer than six (6) feet and dog owners are required to clean up after their dog.)

-Wilmington (yes) "Wilmington even has a leash law, so please leash your four-legged friends!"

-Elizabethtown (yes) "Dogs must be on a leash and under the control of their owner or handler."

-North Elba (yes) "No one can remove a dog's leash or harness, or entice a dog out of its owner's property. A dog control officer or other authorized individual can issue an appearance ticket to anyone who violates the law. The fine for violating the law is up to \$100. Each violation is considered a separate violation under the state's Penal Law"

-Lake placid (yes) "The leash must be no longer than 8 feet. Violators may be fined up to \$250 and may have their permit revoked or suspended."

-North Hudson (yes) "Dogs must be on a leash (no more than six feet long) at all times, except in designated dog areas."

Housing and Contracts (The Town of Keene and neighboring towns and counties are running into high volumes of dog's in shelters preventing DCO and other authorities who work with dogs, to not have a safe place to leave these dog's.)

Information from Janet from AG & Market

- set up their own municipal shelter
- contract with another municipality for shelter services
- contract with their DCO to provide shelter services at their residence
- contract with an incorporated animal protective organization for shelter services
- set up a lease agreement with a veterinary facility or a private boarding kennel for shelter services

§ 114. Pounds and shelters. 1. Each town and city, and each village in which licenses are issued shall, and any other village and any county may, establish and maintain a pound or shelter for dogs.

2. In lieu of or in addition to establishing and maintaining such pound or shelter, any town or city, or any village in which licenses are issued shall, and any other village and any county may, contract for pound or shelter services with any other municipality or with any incorporated humane society or similar incorporated dog protective association, or with a public authority providing shelter services or its subsidiary that is wholly created for the sole purpose of providing such services, or shall establish and maintain, jointly or with one or more other municipalities, a pound or shelter.

Towns may set up a temporary "Holding Place" at the DCO's residence or on municipal property. Holding places are required to be designated locations that are inspected by Ag & Mkts. The requirements are

less than those for a shelter facility-protection from weather/extreme temps, secure containment of the dog, no access by the public/other animals, water, easily sanitized.

They're meant to be a safe place to keep a dog for a few hours while waiting for an owner to get home from work or until morning if you picked it up at night. Dogs may only be kept at a holding place for a **maximum of 24 hours** and then must be transported to the town's shelter facility.

Towns may need to make arrangements for services from more than one shelter facility if their primary shelter may not always have the capacity to accept all of the dogs needing to be housed.

In example:

The Towns of North Elba/Village of Lake Placid, Tupper Lake and Long Lake each have their own small shelter facilities and also hold contracts with Tri-Lakes Humane Society.

The Towns of Peru and Ausable have contracts with Elmore SPCA, but Elmore does not accept dangerous dogs, so they also have lease agreements with Eagles Nest Veterinary Clinic only for dangerous dogs.

The Town of Lake Pleasant has its own shelter, but also has a contract with Brennan Memorial Humane Society.

There are new regulations that significantly increase the standards that all shelter facilities will be required to meet that go into effect December 15, 2025. (can share articles with more details to whomever is interested.)