Regular Monthly Town of Keene Board Meeting

October 9th, 2025

5:30 P.M. Town Hall

Meeting #20-2025

Resolutions #244

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

**Absent**:

**Town Officials Present:** Reggie Whitney Highway Superintendent, Ann Whitney Town Clerk, Ryan Hall HEO

**Town Counsel Present:**

**Members of the Public**: Stephen Hall

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

**Pledge of Allegiance:**

**Approval of Minutes:**

**RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE SEPTEMBER 30TH, 2025 MONTHLY BOARD MINUTES & OCTOBER 6TH,2025 BUDGET WORKSHOP**

**RESOLUTION NUMBER: 244-2025**

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

**RESOLVED** that the Town Board of Keene has approved the September 30th, 2025 Monthly Minutes & October 6th, 2025 Budget workshop minutes.

Duly adopted this 9th day of October 2025 by the following vote:

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

**NAYS**: None

**Privilege of the Floor:**

Mr. Stephen Hall explained he had a couple things;

#1 The new parking lot at Marcy Field was put in and he has had people approached him asking where did Doc Goff’s memorial sign go and when will it be put back.

Mr. Wilson stated it was put back on the porch or on the side of the Holt House.

#2 Mr. Hall stated he asked about a year ago about the traffic at the end of Market St & Adirondack St and suggested the Town approach the State about yellow striping on the end and corners. On the same token trees along Adirondack and Market are hanging down it is hard to see.

Mr. Wilson asked Reggie to coordinate with the trees. He then explained the grant through Essex County Public Health that Molly Lawrence got us signed up for, pedestrian and traffic safety study, should help with this.

Ms. Cheetham-Palen added that this grant will help get the State involved because they need to be involved with theses areas due to Rt 73 being a state highway.

Mr. Wilson then added that Ann Hough helped get the Fall Newsletter put together and it is now available on the website and here in the Town Hall.

**Town Operations**

* **Town Clerk**:

Ms. Whitney asked if questions on September monthly reports.

* **Highway Department**:

Mr. Whitney updated the Board on the replacement of tires on the Backhoe, $2,764, he has to order them.

Mr. Whitney stated the new truck is coming soon and with that he would like to surplus the 2007 International that is being replaced, the old van(steam jenny), and the chipper.

**RESOLUTION TO SURPLUS THE 2007 INTERNATIONAL, OLD VAN, AND CHIPPER**

**RESOLUTION NUMBER: 245-2025**

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

**RESOLVED** that the Town Board of Keene has approved the Highway to surplus the 2007 International, old van, and chipper.

Duly adopted this 9th day of October 2025 by the following vote:

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

**NAYS**: None

* **Water Department**:

Mr. Wilson stated they are wrapping up the control install in WD#1 and then they will move to WD #2.

**Town Discussion of Old Business:**

* **Budget: Preliminary 2026 Budget Approval**

Mr. Wilson stated the Preliminary Budget is ready to submit to the Town Clerk.

**RESOLUTION TO ADOPT THE PRELIMINARY BUDGET FOR 2026 AS PREPARED**

**RESOLUTION NUMBER: 246-2025**

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

**RESOLVED** that the Town Board of Keene has approved the 2026 Preliminary Budget as prepared.

Duly adopted this 9th day of October 2025 by the following vote:

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

**NAYS**: None

Ms. Cheetham-Palen asked how much do we have to make up?

Mr. Wilson stated $30,507, $20,507 will come from the General Fund and $10,000 will come from the Highway Fund.

Ms. Hough asked what our total Fund balance is for this year.

Mr. Wilson stated it is so in flux right now because we are waiting on reimbursements from DEC, DOS, and State Ed. There are so many things right now he did not want to make a guess.

Ms. Cheetham-Palen then added that the Library is just waiting on the power to be turned back on, should be tomorrow. With this hopefully those funds will be released back to us.

* **Community Center Planning**

Mr. Wilson asked to move this discussion after the financial items.

**New Business:**

**Budget Resolutions:**

* **Resolution to Transfer Funds:**

**RESOLUTIONS TO TRANSFER FUNDS**

**RESOLUTION NUMBER: 247-2025**

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

**Within the General Fund:**

$500.00 out of 1990.4 Contingency CE

$500.00 into 5010.1 Supt. Of Highway PS Deputy

$126.23 out of 1990.4 Contingency CE

$126.23 into 5182.4 Street Lighting CE

$1665.11 out of 7150.1 Recreation Facility Per

$3,000.00 into 7180.1 Recreational Facility PS

**Within the Highway Fund:**

$2,254.82 out of 90608.01.076 Medicare Sup. GF

$2,254.82 into 90608.03.076 Medicare Sup. HWY.

$2,196.55 out of 5130.4 Machinery CE

$2196.55 into 5110.4 General Repairs Ce

**Within the Library Fund:**

**N/A**

**Within the SW#1:**

**N/A**

**Within the SW#2:**

**N/A**

**RESOLVED** that the Town Board of Keene transfer of funds

Duly adopted this 9th day of October 2025 by the following vote:

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

**NAYS**: None

* **Resolution to amend the 2025 budget:**

**RESOLUTIONS TO AMEND THE 2025 BUDGET**

**RESOLUTION NUMBER: 248-2025**

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

**GENERAL FUND**

N/A

**HIGHWAY FUND**

To Revise Resolution 240-2025:

Resolution to increase line #5130.4 Machinery CE by $20,000.00 to be transferred from

909.03 Fund Balance.

**LIBRARY FUND**

To REMOVE Resolution 240-2025:

Resolution to increase line #7410.4 Library CE by $18,000.00 to be transferred from

909.01 Fund Balance. For new heating system. Will replace with Grant monies(duplicate from August, system error)

**WATER DISTRICT SW 1**

N/A

**WATER DISTRICT SW 2**

To REVISE Resolution 240-2025:

Resolution to increase line #8320.4 Source Power Pump C by $35,496.25 to be

transferred from 909.08 Fund Balance. Emergency repairs from storm.

**RESOLVED** that the Town Board of Keene transfer of funds

Duly adopted this 9th day of October 2025 by the following vote:

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

**NAYS**: None

**Supervisors Report:**

**RESOLUTION TO ACCEPT THE SEPTEMBER 2025 SUPERVISOR REPORT**

**RESOLUTION NUMBER: 249-2025**

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

**Tabled**

**Audit Bills:**

**RESOLUTION TO PAY THE ONLINE BILLS**

**RESOLUTION NUMBER: 250-2025**

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

**RESOLVED** that the Town Board approve to pay the online bills.

Duly adopted this 9th day of October 2025 by the following vote:

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

**NAYS**: None

**ABSTAINED:** Robert Biesemeyer, Ann Hough

**RESOLUTION TO AUDIT THE VOUCHERS 746 THROUGH 771**

**RESOLUTION NUMBER: 251-2025**

**INTRODUCED BY TERESA CHEETHAM-PALEN 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 746 through 771, 2025 totaling $49,496.68 as follows:

General Fund Bills $7,842.60

Highway Fund Bills $8,735.24

Library $158.52

Water District #1 $205.05

Water District #2 $307.77

Roost Enhancement Tax $32,247.50

Duly adopted this 9th day of October 2025 by the following vote:

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

**NAYS**: None

**ABSTAINED:** Robert Biesemeyer, Ann Hough

* **Community Center Planning**

Mr. Wilson stated he knows we are not making any decisions tonight but he thought we could start talking about this and he would like to set up a Public Meeting at the Keene Valley Library to hear from the Community and get their ideas.

Ms. Hough suggested taking each option one at a time.

Option #1, she asked does this mean nothing can be renovated, could the bathrooms be fixed up.

Mr. Daly said that when you look at #2 that allows for full renovation.

Mr. Biesemeyer stated at this stage do we do the bare minimum, is there a way to get a bathroom. He stated we need to see where funding would come from.

Mr. Wilson stated if we start to fix up the building now we will not score as high when we apply for grant funding, it will definitely make it significantly harder.

Mr. Biesemeyer stated were committed to do nothing for a year. Bob also said Peter Fish has some ideas for funding; he will be worth talking to.

Ms. Cheetham-Palen stated it does not make sense to spend a little money and then we cannot get other money. Maybe there are other otions.

Ms. Hough stated we still need to decide what we are going to do with the building.

Mr. Daly said he does not think we should throw good money after bad. He wants to get feedback from the public.

Mr. Stephan Hall asked what are the chances it will be Option #4, condemned.

Mr. Wilson stated it has to be structural; it cannot just be the asbestos and mold.

Mr. Ryan Hall asked what are we going to do with the building.

Ms. Cheetham-Palen stated that it seemed most people wanted to use the outside, occasionally inside.

Mr.Biesemeyer stated there are many people that do not want to see this building tore down.

Mr. Ryan Hall stated $1,000,000 for occasional use is a lot of money.

Mr. Wilson will reach out to the Keene Valley Library and try to set up a Public Meeting November 18th or 19th to discuss.

**Adjourn:**

**RESOLUTION TO ADJOURN**

**RESOLUTION NUMBER: 252-2025**

**INTRODUCED BY: ANN HOUGH 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 6:30 P.M.,

Duly adopted this 9th day of October 2025 by the following vote:

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

**NAYS**: None

Ann Whitney

Town Clerk

Town of Keene