

Fall Updates 2025

from Joe Pete Wilson, Town Supervisor

Another busy summer has come and gone and leaf peeping season has been magnificent. Hiker traffic at the Garden was down from the last few years, but the hamlets were very busy with leisure travelers.

Below are some updates:

- **Hurricane Road Bridge:** The bridge deck is being installed now! Once it's completed, it will be time to pave and reopen the road. This is on track to happen in early November.
- **Community Center:** A temporary skate room is in place so that the rink can operate as usual while we plan for the community center project. We have



received the report from KAS Inc., an engineering consultant, and it will be available on our web site, or you can pick up a copy at the town hall. Please look it over. A public hearing will be scheduled later this year for input on the community center's future plan.

- **Composting is back!:** Thanks to Au Sable Club members who donated the former fireworks storage container, we now have a very bear proof container for compost.
- **Town recreation map:** A new map is at the print shop now. It shows town recreation areas and has information about recreating in the Town of Keene. It serves as a guide to the resources

we have and also as an educational tool to inform people about how to recreate responsibly here. Copies will be available soon.

- **Sign up for Text Alerts:** Stay current with town news such as road closures, events, etc.
www.townofkeeneny.com/txtmygov/

• Important dates:

October 22, Wednesday	6:00 p.m.	Public hearing on EMT program, Keene Fire House
October 30, Thursday	5:30 p.m.	Bi-Monthly Town Board Meeting, in the town hall
November 4, Tuesday	6:00 a.m.–9 p.m.	Election Day, Keene Valley Fire Dept. <i>Please be sure to vote!</i>
November 6, Thursday	5:30 p.m.	Public Hearing on 2026 Budget, in the town hall
November 11, Tuesday	5:30 p.m.	Regular Board meeting, in the town hall

Adopt 2026 Budget

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Photo courtesy of Keene Valley Fire Department

A Message from the Keene & Keene Valley Fire Districts

The Town of Keene has one of the few remaining “all volunteer” Ambulance services in Essex County. Our volunteers are well-trained, dedicated, and are responding to an increasing number of calls. Our Keene and Keene Valley EMTs are true public servants because they provide a ready-response to anyone in our town who suffers a medical emergency or accident. Unfortunately, the “all-volunteer” model cannot be sustained without more people willing to volunteer or financial incentives. Moving forward and to ensure 24/7 Ambulance Response we need to invest in new EMTs and prepare our EMS organization with an expanded EMT team.

To achieve this goal, we need to increase our funding, which means that we need to override the 2% tax cap this year and expand the Keene Fire District tax revenue by \$30,000. Our plan is to pay EMTs to be on call in town, in both the Keene and Keene Valley Fire Districts, and to respond whenever an ambulance is needed. We have a public hearing scheduled for October 22, 2025 at 6 p.m. at the Keene Fire House and you can attend to ask questions and get more detailed information about how we are working to protect our community.

Town Board:

Joe Pete Wilson, *Town Supervisor*, Robert Biesemeyer, Teresa Palen, Christopher Daly, Ann Hough



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Mon.–Thurs., 7:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

