

The Special Meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Brighton was held Saturday, August 25, 2001, at 8:00 am at the Brighton Town Hall, Paul Smiths, NY, with the following:

PRESENT: Supervisor Christopher Leifheit
Council Members: Alicia Bodmer
Linda Dobson
John Quenell

ABSENT: Council Member Roger Smith

OTHERS PRESENT: Elaine Sater-Town Clerk and Don Oliver-Superintendent of Highways

RESIDENTS: There were no residents present

Meeting was Called to Order by Supervisor Christopher Leifheit at 8:02 a.m. He stated **the Purpose for the meeting was to discuss the bridge on Keese Mills Road near Surprenant's house.** A notice was faxed to the Adirondack Daily Enterprise on August 24, 2001 and a notice was posted on the Town Clerk's Sign Board at the Town Hall. Supervisor Christopher Leifheit contacted board members about the meeting.

Supervisor Christopher Leifheit briefed the Board on the situation as follows: The bridge on Keese Mills Road is rated at a 5-ton capacity and not posted. It appears the bridge has become substandard. Heavy trucks (50 tons) have been using the road from a logging operation in the Town of Santa Clara. Supervisor Christopher Leifheit, Member of Council John Quenell, and Superintendent of Highways, Don Oliver, met with Paul Mitchell of the logging company on Friday, August 24. The logging operation will be ongoing for some time and 40 trucks a week will be using the Keese Mills Road. The town has the option of replacing the bridge with a culvert that has no weight limit on it or repairing the bridge. The materials cost of a 30' culvert is about \$2,100. Paul Mitchell has offered the use of his heavy equipment to help fix the bridge. Town's options are to fix the bridge and let everyone use it, limit usage on the road for 45 days or longer, or do nothing. The Town Board needs to decide what to do.

Alicia Bodmer said the Town needs a Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) Permit to do any work because there is no Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with DEC to work on classified waterways under 50 feet. There is a 45-day turn around time for the permit. The MOU process will take about as long.

Supervisor Christopher Leifheit said there are alternative roads (Slush Pond and McColloms) the logging company can use until a determination is made on a rating for the bridge.

Superintendent of Highways, Don Oliver, said the bridge is not legal for logging trucks, as well as buses, fuel trucks, fire trucks, snowplows, or construction trucks if it is substandard.

John Quenell said citizens on the Keese Mills Road have expressed concerns (speed, noise, etc) about the traffic on the road. Discussed need to know what the town's legal rights might be concerning limiting usage on Town roads.

Supervisor Christopher Leifheit will contact the attorney, Scott Goldie, to discuss the Town's options for the bridge and road usage. He will contact a structural engineer to analyze the bridge. The MOU process with DEC will be started.

Motion made by Supervisor Christopher Leifheit **to adjourn the Special Town Board Meeting at 8:45 am,** second by Linda Dobson; Aye 4, Absent 1 (Smith)

Respectfully submitted,

Elaine W. Sater
Brighton Town Clerk