

February 13, 2023 the regular Town Board meeting was held in the town hall beginning at 7:00 p.m. with Supervisor Ferguson, Coun. Wilbur, Coun. Brown and Coun. Barber in attendance. Sup. Ferguson led the pledge to the flag. One correction to the previous month's minutes is to add that during the January meeting Highway Superintendent, Rick Hobus, announced his intent to run for Town Supervisor during the 2023 General Election in November. A motion to accept the previous month's minutes as amended was made by Coun. Wilbur and was seconded by Coun. Barber and all were in favor. A motion to pay the audited bills was made by Coun. Wilbur and was seconded by Coun. Brown and all were in favor.

Old Business: Chubbs Dock- the town road crew will be raising the road up to 12 inches and Highway Superintendent Rick Hobus was absent for the meeting so no questions could be asked about the process. The raising of the road will narrow the crown of the road and therefore hinder passage so why is the road being raised? The answer is to make a better access point to the water. Councilman Wilbur announced that ADK First Electric will be coming to the town hall to give a detailed list of necessary work to move the entrance wire for the electric from the dilapidated stairway to the actual building on Wednesday, February 15th. The town is still in need of a member of the town to assist on the Board of Assessment Review and to get in touch with the town clerk if interested.

New Business: Financials were given to the board and are on file in the clerk's office. 2022 complete report was also given.

Resolution #18-2022 titled **Budget Adjustments** to move monies around to cover last year's appropriations to close out the year was made by a motion by Coun. Brown and was seconded by Coun. Barber and all were in favor. The Town of Dresden Code of Ethics Resolution is being tabled again until the attorney drafts a copy for the town to pass as stated by Sup. Ferguson.

Ms. Suzy Shad addressed the board about the necessity of Request For Qualifications resolution to inspect, investigate and evaluate the condition of the existing sanitary sewer collection system for Sewer District #1 and provide recommendations for improvements. **Resolution #9-2023** titled **Resolution Regarding Request for Qualifications for 2021 Town of Dresden Environmental Facilities Corporation (EFC) Engineering Grant Program (EPG) Award** was introduced by a motion made by Supervisor Ferguson and a roll call vote is as follows: Coun. Wilbur-AYE; Coun. Barber-AYE; Coun. Brown-AYE duly adopted 4 Ayes and Zero Nays.

During tonight's meeting the Lake George Waterkeeper, Chris Navitsky, was in attendance. He and the Town of Hague's Supervisor, Steve Ramant, handed the board information about the use of ProcellaCOR in Lake George. Due to insufficient studies they believe that the use of the herbicide to eradicate the Eurasian Watermilfoil in Lake George has not been thoroughly conducted and wishes for the town to oppose the test site located in Huletts Landing. During their comments those in attendance of the meeting began to offer their insight magnifying the use as being irresponsible. One such argument against the use was there is nesting bald eagles located near the test site. There hasn't been enough data to support the unsettling of the ecological system of how ProcellaCOR affects the fish that the birds will eat. The test sites are only to see if the herbicide will work on the milfoil. Discussions ensued. **Resolution #8-2023** titled **Resolution Regarding ProcellaCOR Testing on Lake George** opposing the LGPC and DEC from introducing ProcellaCOR into the waters of Lake George in the Town of Hague and was put forth by a motion made by Supervisor Ferguson and a roll call vote is as follows: Coun. Wilbur-AYE; Coun. Brown-AYE; Coun. Barber-AYE duly adopted by 4 Ayes and Zero Nays

The vacant Council seat is open for appointees. During the January meeting Marilyn Borden offered to fill the position until the end of 2023 with the option to run for it during the 2023 General Election held in November. Sup. Ferguson tabled the appointment until this month's meeting. Two candidates are brought to the table to be considered. Ms. Marilyn Borden is one of them as is Christine Diekel the second one. A question from those in attendance asked the board for the criteria to appoint someone. It is important that the person who fills the position to be known in the community that is free thinking and look out for the best interest of the town and its business dealings. It is the belief of the many emails received from the residents of Huletts Landing that some type of representation for them be made accessible by having someone from Huletts Landing to speak on the behalf of the lake residents. Most of the residents that live there are part time and that there is a sense of disconnect from the town council on what issues uniquely impact the life of those residents. It is the feelings of the residents in Huletts that would like to have a voice to bridge the gap between Lake George and Lake Champlain. A call to vote on who is to fill the vacancy is as follows: Coun. Wilbur-Ms. Borden; Coun. Brown-Ms. Diekel; Coun. Barber-Ms. Diekel; Supervisor Ferguson-Ms. Diekel; Ms. Christine Diekel has been duly appointed to the Town of Dresden Town Council by a vote of 3 to 1 and is effective as of February 13, 2023.

There is no Highway Superintendent's report due to Mr. Hobus attending the open house scheduled in Whitehall for the TDI project. A brief description of the work detailed by the crew was read by Coun., Wilbur from notes obtained from Mr. Hobus. The January bills are as follows:

GEN-\$2679.10 HWY-\$11506.01

Public Comment: Bill Clough is the Vice President of the HLVFC and made a vocal presentation about the Proposed Town Law for Firefighters and EMT's act to provide local governments the option to provide a property tax exemption to volunteer firefighters and volunteer ambulance workers that passed into law December 9, 2022 with the approval of Governor Kathy Hochul. A hand-out describing the Law was given to the board and is on file in the clerk's office. Mr. Clough recognizes that the law may need legal council review before enacting but feels strongly that it could be an incentive to attract volunteers.

A discussion about the improvement of Chubbs Dock road was brought up about the fact that bringing the road up will narrow the width necessary for the fire trucks to easily drive to the water to refill the tanks. According to Supervisor Ferguson New York State Department of Environmental Conservation has given the town permission to raise the road 6-12 inches to overcome the flood stages during the spring. This is only for the purpose of raising the road so that it can be passable during high water. After some discussion about improving the Chubbs Dock location to make it accessible for kayakers and boaters it was determined by Sup. Ferguson that we are only repairing the road for access. We have the South Bay Pier location as well as the Chubbs Dock on Lake Champlain and the public beach located in Huletts Landing on Lake George for water access.

Ms. Shad announced that a committee for the RFQ is to be created. One point person and 3-5 individuals with one at least serving as a board member must be included. Patrick Keenan, Allen Wilbur, Jane Carter, Marc Brown and Rick Hobus will make up the committee and Ms. Shad will be the point person for correspondence with the EPA. A target date of March 3 is set for when things will be submitted and a phone meeting will be set up soon for the committee to meet and discuss the RFQ.

An agenda item was left off during the regular new business discussions. The Union Contract will be discussed on February 22, 2023 with the Union Representative and the town. There is further discussions about the repairs that will have to take place at the Huletts Public Beach access from the town to the Board of Supervisors in Washington County. Some work will be completed this year and during the budget time for the county monies will have to be put up to further the work. However, the county will do what can be done this year.

At this time and Executive Session was called to order at 8:44 p.m. and the attendees were asked to step outside until the meeting can be rejoined for any further discussions. The council came out of executive session at 9:28 and there were no further discussions. Respectfully submitted, Marcinda Wilbur Dresden Town Clerk

Attendance: Jeanne Ferguson, PJ Ferguson, Lauren Sheridan, Linda Barber, Marilyn Borden, Gail VanderPlaat, Suzy Shad, Brian Shad, Will Hudson, Chris Diekel, Barb Bennett, Duane Bennett, Kim Brown, Bill Clough, Chris Hansen, Scott Brown, EJ Conzola-Whitehall Times, Patrice Koeneke, Judy Ripp, John Ripp, James Ighorn, Stephanie Copeland, Jackie O'Connor, Steve Ramant, Chris Navitsky, Meghan Ashe, Brian Ashe, Warren Gordon, Dolores Koeneke