

January 8, 2024 the Organizational and Regular meeting was held in the Town Hall beginning at 7:00 p.m.

Present: Coun. Wilbur, Coun. Brown, Coun. Borden, Sup. Ferguson, Hwy. Super Hobus, Town Clerk Wilbur

Absent: Coun Diekel

Sup. Ferguson led the pledge to the flag.

The first item is to conduct the Oathes' of Office for the elected officials. Town Justice, Jared Eggleston conducted the Oath of Office to the Town Clerk . The other officials were sworn in by the Clerk and are as follows: Paul Ferguson-Town Supervisor; Allen Wilbur- Town Council; Marilyn Borden- Town Council; Richard Hobus-Highway Superintendent; Laura Chadwick-Appointed Sole Assessor. Town Justice, Darin Eggleston and Councilperson Christine Diekel were unable to attend the meeting and will be sworn in at another time.

A motion to accept the previous month's minutes was made by Coun. Wilbur and was seconded by Coun. Borden. Coun. Wilbur-AYE; Coun. Borden-AYE; Coun. Brown-NAY; Coun. Diekel-ABSENT

A motion to pay the audited bills was made by Coun. Wilbur and was seconded by Coun. Brown. Coun. Wilbur-AYE; Coun. Borden-AYE; Coun. Brown AYE

**Old Business:** The town has been in need of Board of Assessment Review for several months. Discussion included a way to recruit interested people by advertising the need using the town website and even as much as using George Kapusinski's blog, the Hulett's Current. Sup. Ferguson stated that he would contact the Whitehall Times and George Kapusinski to advertise the need. Laura Chadwick shared that training is provided for those interested. The next class will be held on April 17, 2024 at 6:00 p.m. at the Adirondack Community College.

The position of Dog Control Officer is in need to be filled since the resignation of the current one. Sup. Ferguson stated that he would put this in the Whitehall Times and the Hulett's Current as well as the post office in town.

The Fireman's/EMT Tax Exemption will be discussed on February 26, 2024 and no time was determined during the meeting.

**New Business:** The 2023 Financials have been filed with the clerk. **Resolution #24-2023** titled **Budget Adjustments** to move monies around for the final payments to close out 2023 were given to the board to pass. Coun. Wilbur brought up that the A1430.1 for the Supervisor's Secretary is being increased by \$2,000 taking the appropriation from \$6,000 to \$8,000 and inquired why this is so. The November financials had the appropriation expense at \$4,800 and wondered what the Secretary did in the month of December for \$3,200. He also requested how the Secretary gets paid and Sup. Ferguson replied she is paid hourly. A motion to adopt the resolution was made by Coun. Brown and was seconded by Coun. Wilbur. Coun. Brown-AYE; Coun. Wilbur-AYE; Coun. Borden-AYE

The resolutions for the Organizational meeting were given to the board to pass.

**RESOLUTION #1-2024**

Title: Policies

Be it RESOLVED that the 2024 Town Board of the Town of Dresden accepts and adopts all fiscal and procedural policies in effect at the end of 2024 until and unless modified by the board. Put forth by Coun Wilbur and seconded by Coun. Borden and all were in favor.

**RESOLUTION #2-2024**

Title: Salaries

Be it RESOLVED that the following schedule of salaries and compensation for employees of the Town of Dresden for the year 2024 is adopted;

Supervisor.....	\$15,000.00/yr
Town Councilman (4).....	\$3,300.00/yr
Town Clerk.....	\$18,500.00/yr
Highway Superintendent.....	\$59,500.00/yr
Town Justice (2).....	\$6,500.00/yr
Assessor.....	\$16,200.00/yr
Bookkeeper/Supervisor's Secretary.....	\$6000.00/yr
Tax Collector.....	\$6,000.00/yr
Deputy Highway Superintendent.....	\$750.00/yr
Budget Officer.....	\$12,500.00/yr
Registrar of Vital Statistics.....	\$700.00/yr
Dog Control Officer.....	\$3,000.00/yr
Historian.....	\$1000.00/yr
Sewer Dist. #1 Operator.....	\$10,972/yr, \$20.00/hr other
Justice Court Clerk.....	\$20.00/hr
Building Custodian.....	\$15.00/hr (unassigned)
Deputy Town Clerk/Tax Collector.....	\$15.00/hr as authorized by Town Board

Highway workers paid as per contract with the Teamsters Union

Reimbursement for authorized travel on Town business outside of town: \$0.45/mile. Meals out of the County on Town Business: \$9.00 for Breakfast, \$15.00 for Lunch, \$23.00 for Dinner.

Maximum use of town credit/debit cards, for any single purpose, to be set at \$300 without prior notification and approval from either the Budget Officer or member of the Budget Committee.

Discussion about the Supervisor's Secretary Appropriation was had as to why her line item was \$720/yr. and that it is unassigned. It was further discussed that Sheri Wescott is the Supervisor's Secretary and the pay is \$6,000/yr. Also, the Building Custodian is Ginger Stafford and the hourly wage for the Deputy

Town Clerk/Tax Collector should reflect the current wage rate of \$15/hr. A motion was made by Coun. Wilbur and was seconded by Coun. Borden and all were in favor.

In order to have Laura Chadwick appointed to Sole Assessor it was necessary to pass **Resolution #8-2024** titled **Appointment of Sole Assessor for the Town of Dresden**. A motion to adopt was made by Coun. Wilbur and was seconded by Coun. Borden and all were in favor.

**RESOLUTION #3-2024**

Title: Appointments

Be it RESOLVED that the following appointments to office or position are adopted for 2024;

- Deputy Supervisor.....Council Chris Diekel
- Deputy Town Clerk/Deputy Tax Collector.....Council Allen Wilbur
- Deputy Highway Superintendent.....James Brown
- Director of Finance/Budget Officer.....Supervisor Paul Ferguson
- Tax Collector.....Town Clerk Marcinda Wilbur
- Registrar of Vital Statistics.....Town Clerk Marcinda Wilbur
- Supervisor Secretary.....Sheri Wescott
- Dog/Animal Control Officer.....(Unassigned)
- Justice Court Clerk.....Jessica Moore
- Historian.....Cathy Huntington
- Assessor.....Laura Chadwick
- Town Attorney.....Matt Fuller (With the firm of Meyer & Fuller)
- Official Bank.....Community Bank
- Official Paper.....Whitehall Times

A motion was made by Coun. Borden and was seconded by Coun. Wilbur and all were in favor.

**RESOLUTION #4-2024**

Title: Highway/Committees Agreement

Be it RESOLVED that the agreement with the Highway Superintendent of the Town of Dresden for the maintenance and improvement of the town highway system for 2024 is approved.

**TOWN BOARD COMMITTEES FOR 2024**

Buildings and

- Grounds.....Diekel,Borden,Brown,Wilbur
- Budget..... Diekel, Ferguson
- Cemeteries..... Diekel, Wilbur
- Highway.....Wilbur,Diekel,Borden,Brown
- Insurance.....Diekel, Ferguson
- Legal.....Diekel, Ferguson
- Open Space.....Borden,Wilbur,Brown,Diekel
- Recreation.....Brown,Diekel,Borden
- Sewer District.....Wilbur,Brown
- Town Justice,Town Clerk,Town Supervisor Review .....Diekel,Borden,Brown,Wilbur
- Payroll.....Diekel,Borden,Wilbur,Brown

A motion was made by Coun. Brown and was seconded by Coun. Wilbur and all were in favor.

**Town of Dresden Resolution #5-2024**

TITLE: STANDARD WORK DAY AND REPORTING RESOLUTION

BE IT RESOLVED, that the TOWN BOARD of the TOWN OF DRESDEN hereby establishes the following as standard work days for elected and appointed officials and will report the following days worked to the State of New York State and Local Retirement System based on the record of activities maintained and submitted by these officials to the personnel officer of this body.

Title	Name	Work Day Hours	Term Begins / Ends	Time Report	Days per Month
Town Supervisor	Paul D. Ferguson	8	1/1/2024 - 12/31/2024	N	20
Town Clerk	Marcinda L Wilbur	6	1/1/2024 - 12/31/2024	N	20
Highway Sup.	Richard E Hobus	8	1/1/2024 - 12/31/2024	N	20
Town Justice	Darin Eggleston	6	1/1/2024 - 12/31/2024	N	4
Town Justice	Jared N. Eggleston	6	1/1/2024 - 12/31/2024	N	4

A motion was made by Sup. Ferguson and was seconded by Coun. Brown. There was a discussion about the Supervisor’s hours of availability. The clerk has posted hours. The Highway Superintendent, the Town Clerk and Jared Eggleston have a Record of Activity calendar on file in the Town Clerk’s office.

Sup. Ferguson stated that he is always available by phone at any time. Coun. Borden requested that posted hours for the Supervisor’s availability be posted on the Town Website. A roll call vote is as follows: Coun. Borden-AYE; Coun. Brown-AYE; Coun. Wilbur-ABSTAIN; Coun. Diekel-ABSENT  
The resolution will be brought back during the next meeting for further discussions.

There was a change in the numbered resolutions. **Resolution #6** was applied to what would have been **#7** titled **Town of Dresden Mission** was put forth by Coun. Brown and was seconded by Coun. Wilbur and all were in favor. Therefore, **Resolution #8-2024** titled **Sole Assessor Appointment** now becomes **Resolution #7-2024** Sup. Ferguson told the board that he will email all the resolutions to each of the members with all the corrections.

**Town of Dresden Resolution #6-2024**

TITLE: Town of Dresden Mission

BE IT RESOLVED, that the TOWN BOARD of the TOWN OF DRESDEN hereby establishes the following mission

WHEREAS, The Town of Dresden goals is to provide superior municipal services in a reliable, efficient, fiscal and socially effective manner making Dresden a desirable place to live.

BE IT RESOLVED that the annual prior year statements are attached.

RESOLVED, that the Town Board is authorized to pass such resolution. Put forth by Coun. Brown and was seconded by Coun. Wilbur and all were in favor.

**Town of Dresden Resolution #7-2024**

TITLE: Appointment of Sole Assessor for the Town of Dresden

BE IT RESOLVED, the Town of Dresden Sole Assessor, June Maniacek is retiring on December 31, 2023, after over 30 years as the appointed Assessor for the Town of Dresden,

WHEREAS, the Town of Dresden Board is in need to appoint a permanent replacement for the position of Sole Assessor for the remainder of the term ending 09/20/2025,

WHEREAS, Laura Chadwick has expressed interest, the Town of Dresden Board recommends Laura Chadwick for such position,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Laura Chadwick be appointed the Sole Assessor for the Town of Dresden from January 8, 2024 until September 30, 2025.

The Sewer Districts are in need of Insurance and Sup. Ferguson announced that he has secured policies for them. We are one of a few towns that has environmental liabilities. The town has (3) binders of insurance and include SD#1, SD#2, and General Town. Suzy Shad requested for the SD's binders. A discussion was brought up about a building project involving a garage being built in Huletts Landing in SD#1. The code enforcement officer has been contacted. A petition will be circulating from the homeowners about the (2) parcels that are located in SD#1 but being billed for SD#2. The power pole located in front of the town hall has been replaced by National Grid. A vote was made in November to use Ryan Newell to do the upgrade for the town hall.

The monthly bills are as follows:

GEN-\$4234.72      HWY-\$38786.02      SD#1-\$3236.53      SD#2-\$465.32

**Highway Superintendent's Report:** Mr. Hobus reported that \$190,000 was spent on paving projects the past year. The Highway had a substantial fund balance at the end. He would like to have monies dedicated to a bridge/culvert line item for upcoming projects that will be very costly. He believes there has been too much money taken from the Highway Fund Balance to reduce the amount to be raised by taxes. A total of \$410,000 in the last 6 years has been taken. The Board went into Executive Session at 8:21 p.m. and adjournment was immediately to follow upon coming out. The board came out at 8:45 p.m. There were no further discussions. Respectfully submitted, Marcinda Wilbur Town Clerk

**Attendance:** Bill Borden, Suzy Shad, Tom Mowatt, Stephanie Aiken Copeland, Kim Brown, Warren Gordon, Laura Chadwick, Jared Eggleston