

July 11, 2022 the regular Town Board Meeting was held beginning at 7:00 p.m. with Councilman Raymond and Councilman Barber absent. Supervisor Ferguson led the pledge to the flag. A motion to accept the previous month's minutes was made by Coun. Wilbur and was seconded by Coun. Brown 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:** The deed work for Tony Moore's property is nearly complete and will be made available to Mr. Moore from the Town Attorney. More will be discussed during next month's meeting. The road leading to Chubb's Dock has been repaired and filled in. The Town Hall upgrade project is still on hold.

**New Business:** The Financials were given to the board and are on file in the Town Clerk's office.

**Resolution #10-2022** titled **Budget Amendments** to add \$7,69.76 into Building Contractual taking \$7,069.76 from Contingent Contractual with a -0- Budget impact. It was put forth by a motion made by Coun. Brown and was seconded by Coun. Wilbur and all were in favor.

**Resolution #11-2022** titled **Budget Amendment** taking \$1,000 from Contingent Contractual and adding \$1,000 into Cemeteries with a -0- Budget Impact. It was put forth by Coun. Wilbur and was seconded by Coun. Brown and all were in favor.

Ms. Suzy Shad was in attendance for the meeting to discuss with the board the necessity to change the current procurement policy for the town to reflect and exemption for professional services to be excluded from the bidding process as it currently states. This could include engineer studies as well as legal contracts that may exceed \$25,000. The board agreed to table the decision until a special meeting to be held in the middle of the month.

The town has still not passed a Code of Ethics Resolution and Coun. Brown discussed the line that states "This code of ethics applies to officers and employees of the Town of Dresden, and shall supersede any prior municipal code of ethics." Marci Wilbur, the Town Clerk, explained that the town attorney sent a memo to the board in January about locating a copy of a resolution that would have been passed and there is no record of one ever passed before. So there is no supersede to a previous version and this copy will be the first for the town. Also, whether the town passes a resolution or not it shall remain under the Code of Ethics as laid out by Article 18 of Chapter 24 in Town Law regardless. Coun. Brown stated that he would like to have more Councilmen attend before making a decision.

The 2022 Sewer District Operation and Maintenance fees were established during the meeting and Sewer District #1 will be \$500 per unit and Sewer District #2 Fredrick's Point will remain at \$500 per unit and will be due by August 17<sup>th</sup>.

The Sewer District #1 project to move the pipelines under the bridge has challenges with getting financing to pay for the project as well as easements and the engineer study. Sup. Ferguson is trying to find a bond note to finance it.

Ms. Stipins-Gang requested to be placed on the agenda for the meeting. She discussed that the Dresden Town Board is not a working team and there is an accountability issue. She stated that there must be a prepared request for an AUD extension and submitted to the OSC before the end of the first 60 days. The Town Board must be held accountable to make sure the Supervisor follows town law. The issue of missing councilpersons to participate regularly was brought up. The Supervisor must maintain order in meetings and the oath of office to act and serve as a public servant to control town finances is a primary responsibility. She has requested that the act of practicing responsibility be reflected in the minutes and expects some answers at the next meeting.

The town is currently in need of a Board of Assessment Review panelist and any interested parties may contact someone from the board, the town clerk, or Laura Chadwick at the county.

**Highway Superintendent's Report:** The crew has been busy with mowing of County Routes 6A, 6B, and 7. The shoulders are being done on Dresden Hill Road. The 2022 Weed Eradication Program has begun. The town is beginning the season with the lowest amount of money ever for the project at \$50,000 and a 1 year contract. There has already been a repair bill for this year and an increased cost of fuel that wasn't anticipated at budget time can affect the outcome. Both machines broke down and Mr. Hobus is trying to work with the state to get newer equipment.

The monthly bills are as follows: GEN-\$6,384.14; HWY-\$14,621.20; SD#1-\$705.47; SD#2-\$8,680.47

**Public Comment:** Mark Ives explained that the Town of Dresden is a really nice place to live and that we are all neighbors and to just enjoy the surroundings. There is too much ridiculing for the current government team. Town Clerk, Marci Wilbur, brought up the fact that Councilman Raymond has been absent 10 out of 14 meetings for any reasons not known by the board. Councilman Barber is recovering from a serious illness and his absence is understandable. Councilman Brown would like to have a full board to make any final decisions in regards to important policies and yet there hasn't been a full board in several months and policies that effect the operations of town government have been placed on hold. The Town Council receives \$3,300 a year for their service and with just the regular meetings each month for one hour equals \$275 per hour. It is time that the town expects more from their elected officials.

There were no further discussions and a motion to adjourn was made at 7:40 p.m. Respectfully submitted, Marcinda Wilbur-Town Clerk

**Attendance:** Walt Tupper, Monika Tupper, Kimm Borwn, Paul Diekel, Chris Diekel, Warren Gordon, Mark Ives, Anda Stipins-Gang, George Gang, Suzy Shad, and Caton Deuso-Whitehall Times