Town of Dresden

Regular Town Board Meeting

Held in the Town Hall

Beginning at 7:00 p.m.

Present: Sup. Tall, Coun. Borden, Coun. Shad, Coun. K. Barber, Town Clerk Wilbur, Highway Supt. Hobus, Town Attorney Fuller

Absent: Coun. Wilbur

Attendance: Don Gellenthien, Jim Corby, Rick Carter, Bob Gorman, Millie Gorman, Dave Richards, Stephanie Aiken Copeland, Emilee Riggs, Ed Reham, Sarah Wells, John Delucia, Terry Storms, EJ Conzola-Sentinel Times, James Leghorn, Tom Finn, Margaret Stoutenburg, Barbara Wilford, Thomas Mowatt, William Clough, Mark St. Claire, Thomas Labrie, Joanne Keenan, Patrick Keenan, Barbara Semcken, Duane Semcken

The meeting was called to order and Sup. Tall led the pledge to the flag.

A motion to accept the previous month's minutes was made by Coun. Borden and seconded by Coun. Shad and all were in favor.

A motion to pay the audited bills was made by Coun. Shad and seconded by Coun. K. Barber and all were in favor.

Old Business: A motion to re-introduce the Public Hearings to be held on October 12, 2026 beginning at 7:00 p.m.

Resolution #19-2026 titled "Resolution Introducing A Proposed Local Law To Override The Tax Levy Limit Established In General Municipal Law Section 3-C, And Setting A Public Hearing" was put forth by Coun. Borden and seconded by Coun. Shad and all were in favor.

Resolution #20-2026 titled "Resolution Introducing A Proposed Local Law Opting Out Of New York Real Estate Property Tax Law Section 487" was put forth by Coun. Shad and seconded by Coun. K. Barber and all were in favor.

Resolution #21-20256 titled "Resolution Introducing A Local Law Amending Local Law 1 of 1993 Titled 'A Local Law Establishing Rules And Regulations Concerning The Use Of The Huletts Landing Sewer District #1'" was put forth by Coun. Borden and seconded by Coun. Shad and all were in favor.

The 2027 Tentative Budget was forwarded to the Town Clerk and put on the Town Website and will be finalized no later than November 20, 2026

The Town continues to look for interested parties for the Board Of Assessment Review.

The two Volunteer Fire Companies are looking for a one-year contract with the town due to the unexpected expenses that could occur in the future.

The Huletts Landing Sewer Operator position needs to be placed in the paper and on the Town website. A job description is on file with the Town Clerk and will be posted. Quotes will be accepted until October 30, 2026.

We will continue to seek volunteers to assist with the committees for input on community projects to improve areas within the committee structure.

An engineer study will need to be conducted to determine if the proposed plan for bending the sewer line from Schultz's garage will be feasible.

A resolution will need to be passed to receive and accept the monies from the CHPE Project when the time comes. It is anticipated that the funds will become available by November or December.

There is a challenge beginning from CHPE about their assessment from the state. A value is assigned to the franchise and that would be taxed in the rolls and it would lower everybody's taxes proportionately. If the challenge is won, it could change the amount each parcel would pay to cover the amount to be raised by taxes. So there isn't enough information at this time in this regard.

The moratorium is in place and the town should be careful about discussions. We don't want to put everything out there that we're thinking, and we don't want to look at anybody like they're the right thing to do. We must be careful to not single out one company or another. If we do some work, we're going to pass a better law, but as it is we don't have a planning or zoning board in place.

A representative from New Edge, Payne Morgan, will be in attendance at the next board meeting held in October. Anyone interested in doing some research may check out their web page, www.newedgepower.com.

The town would like to have an insurance policy in place for the elected officials and town employees that are not Medicare eligible before the end of the year. Currently, the NYS Teamsters Council extends a policy for the elected officials.

Sup. Tall hopes to have financials for the board to show where the town stands. He has been busy reconciling the QuickBooks Online.

As for the Sewer Committee, the last and final payment from the Engineering Facilities Corporation for the engineering planning grants has been made. We can close that out. We're expecting to get around $6,000 to close that out. As talked about earlier, we've got the opening for the sewer operator for districts one and districts two. We are receiving proposals for that. It'll be in the paper on Thursday. No maintenance issues. Looking pretty good next year. We're looking to put in a sentry system into like a callout system where it monitors the levels of sewage for District One.

The highway department has been busy with cutting shoulders and replacing culverts. Peckham will be paving sometime before the cold sets in. A cut-off of November 1 will be considered because they are so far behind for the season. The weed harvesting is complete for this year. There was a crew large enough to do 6 days a week. And finally, Mr. Hobus received three quotes for a new truck that he wants to split in two different payments. It's a double cab Chevrolet, more than likely Chevy, four wheel drive Allison transmission. The quotes have come in from Christopher Chevrolet in Toconderoga, Denoyer in Albany, and Mangino in Amsterdam. The average quote with those three is $56,005, which we would pay half of this year for a purchase order. We would have them build the truck, take possession of it January 1 or whenever it's ready to go, and then it won't have to have a snowplow package. It won't have to have a plow on it, which is like $10,000 because we have the plows already. We'll have to have the electronics part of it, and I'll be reaching out to Eric Ross from Hometown Chevrolet in Whitehall as well.

As for the Town Clerk report, there hasn’t been anything recently, however, there was a few discussions about changing the rate for the cemetery plots. They are currently $150 each and that isn’t even close to perpetual care. More discussions will be taking place in the future about changing the rate.

The county has been busy compiling the taxes and their ask is about 20% but more discussions will hopefully cut it down to a manageable level. Sup. Tall would like any and all input from the board or the public to take back to the county for the discussions.

There will be a Halloween party for the kids of Dresden held again this year. Meeting dates and times will be posted on the Dresden Facebook page.

A resolution needs to be written and passed for the Temporary Work Orders from Mr. Kapusinski and Mr. Meehan. Any contract made by the Supervisor needs a resolution. Resolution #22-2026 was put forth by a motion made by Coun. Shad and seconded by Coun. K. Barber and all were in favor. A resolution will be created by the next meeting.

Under Public Comment, the League of Women Voters wanted to have a meet the candidate forum with those running for office during the general election this year. Unfortunately, only one candidate was willing to meet and no responses from the others and there won’t be an opportunity from the League of Women Voters. It was asked if the Sentinel Times could facilitate a round table discussion but due to changes with the reporting it also can’t happen. Mr. Conzola will try to get a questionnaire out to the candidates and run a report before the election.

The board will be going into Executive Session with the Bargaining Agreement with no vote or action taken. The time the board entered into Executive Session was 8:38 p.m. and exited at 9:29 p.m. There were no further discussions and the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted, Marcinda Wilbur-Town Clerk