



TOWN OF DRESDEN

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AGENDA

Board of Selectmen/Board of Assessors Meeting
SEPTEMBER 13 2022

MEETING TIME—5PM AT POWNALBOROUGH HALL

1. CALL TO ORDER- 5pm

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Lead by John

3. APPROVE & SIGN THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING(S)

Don motioned to approve the minutes and Allan seconded, vote was unanimous

4. APPROVE & SIGN PRESENT WARRANTS

AP Warrant(s) # 12

Payroll Warrant(s) # 11

Water Warrant(s) #13

Don motioned to approve the warrants and Allan seconded, vote was unanimous

5. GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS -

- A. The next regular Select Board meeting will be Tuesday, September 27, 2022, at 5:00 PM at Pownalborough Hall.

6. TOWN COMMITTEE REPORTS

- A. Planning Board- No report given
- B. School Board Reps- Jeff Bickford announced that the RSU has decided on an interim superintendent, they are awaiting the acceptance of that and beginning the work for the search for the permanent person. In discussions prior to the meeting, it was discovered that when the state returned the EDU279 (state funding formula form) that Dresden's share of the school budget increased to over \$2 million. This was new information to Jeff and town officials; Jeff will follow up with more information.
- C. Broadband Committee- The committee has continued to meet and is working out the details of the contract with Axiom Technologies. Judy Tunkle was currently at a county wide meeting on broadband with the ConnectME Authority.

7. SELECTBOARD REPORTS

- A. Transfer Station- Daniel reported that he has corrected an error with personnel at the transfer station. Under the 2021 Paid Leave Act all employee who work regularly scheduled hours are

entitled to 1 hour of paid leave for ever 40 hours worked. Daniel has been searching for a place to bring bottles back.

- B. Town Office- Daniel started by saying that there has been a lot of questions about the tax bills, especially the 25% raise in valuation for every property. Daniel explained that this is something that has been discussed over several months and it was done for two major reasons. The first is the town valuation was far enough away from the state valuation that the town was going to lose many thousands of dollars in state revenue. The other reason being that the town thought it was important for residents to get all \$25k of the homestead exemption, which was not the case last year. There was a comment made that it seemed unfair that the town voted the evaluation down and then their property values were raised 25% anyway. Daniel explained that the factoring that was done and potential revaluation were not related. Even if the town have voted for the revaluation, the factoring would have been needed. Another question was asked about average tax bills and if they all went up by the same amount and Daniel stated that he doesn't have those numbers currently but could get them.
- C. Roads- Allan reported that he is working with Josh Watson still on getting the culverts replaced. The plan is to begin work the week after next. Also reported was that Bob McNair will be cutting back roadside brush in the coming weeks.
- D. Fire Department- The department will be hosting its annual open house/fire safety event in early October.
- E. Water Department- Daniel asked the board for their blessing to explore more options to bring the water department further under the umbrella of the town. One example being that TRIO offers a module for utility billing. The board agreed to explore more options.

8. OLD BUSINESS

- A. Tax Acquired Properties- One of the previous mobile homes that was TAP has since been moved from the Mobile home park.
- B. Revaluation/Special Town Meeting- The board discussed that it favored waiting until at least the early part of 2023 to bring the revaluation question back to the town. It was agreed that there should be a couple of workshops and informational meetings before hand.
- C. Parking Lot/Veteran Memorial Update- Daniel wanted to update the town that Allan has been seeking quotes on paving the town parking lot, including the newly added section.

9. NEW BUSINESS

- A.

10. CITIZENS CONCERNS

Dave Probert- Informed the Selectboard that the shredding company contacted for the previously discussed shredding event is booked until the April or May. There was a question about why it was being done at the town office and Daniel stated that the town office will have the most items to shred. Dave also talked about the Hewitt Ancient Cemetery and that he will need to request funds to rent a loader to stand the major stone upright. Daniel stated that when the town received the donation request to the historical society that it included the money for ancient cemeteries, Dave will speak with them about the funds.

Gary Bleu- Gary wanted to again express that it is a concern the number of volunteers the fire department has, and that the town should be doing more to work on this. Allan stated that it is important, and Daniel has spoken to the chief about it in hopes that some new ideas to recruit members can developed. Leah Bickford said this speaks to the idea she had at the last meeting about getting some committees started to help with issues such as this.

11. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Discussion with Municipal Attorney

John motioned to enter executive session at 6:06pm and Allan seconded, vote was unanimous.

John motioned to exit executive session at 7:10pm and Allan seconded, vote was unanimous.

12. ADJOURNMENT- 7:11pm

Approval of minutes for September 13, 2022

_____ Board
_____ of
_____ Selectman