

**MINUTES**  
**Board of Selectmen Meeting**  
**POWNALBOROUGH HALL**  
**At 6 PM, April 13, 2021**

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

**Attendees:** John Rzasa (JR); Gerald Lilly (GL); Allan Moeller (AM); Mike Faass (MF); Art Mayers, Joe Wiley, Mary Fabus, Joseph Migliore, Jerry and Linda Pepin, Gerri Dubey, Alan Burke, Dave Probert, Gary Blau, Paen Lilly, Chris Cossette, Kirsten Hebert, and Eleanor Everson

**2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**—Led by JR

**3. APPROVE & SIGN THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETINGS**—Motion to approve by AM, JR-2<sup>nd</sup>, Motion carried 3-0.

**4. APPROVE & SIGN PRESENT WARRANTS**—Motion by GR to accept, JR-2<sup>nd</sup>, and Motion carried 3-0.

**5. GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS -**

- A. The next regular Select Board meeting will be Tuesday, April 27, 11, 2021 at 6:00 PM at Pownalborough Hall.

**6. OLD BUSINESS**

- A. Radar Speed Trailer Fully Operational—we have received several positive comments about the Trailer being picked up on 4/26/2021 by Whitefield
- B. Calista Vista Quit Claim completed and sent to County Clerk for recording
- C. Efficiency Maine update--GL and MF reported that while the rebate for a heat pump system was \$2600, the reduced cost to the town was still 80% higher versus what we could do independently.

**7. NEW BUSINESS**

- A. Abatements—MF reported that David Ledew would be on vacation until the 28<sup>th</sup> of April.
- B. Upcoming expenditures for Town Voting—MF advised the Selectmen that we would be spending funds for the upcoming Town Meeting—Ballots and Electronic Tabulator.

**8. DEPARTMENT UPDATES**

- A. Town Roads—AM reports he has starting the grading process and is looking into purchasing a Road Rake which enable the roads to be better groomed long term. AM also reported that he and MF will be putting together RFP for the snow plowing of the roads and the town properties.
- B. Transfer Station—GL reports that Patsy Rollins has volunteered to run it. She has established hours for being open on Thursdays from 1 pm-3 pm & on Saturday 9 am-Noon and from 1 pm-3 pm. She is also looking for volunteers to help her. Volunteer announcement has also been put in the **Communicator**
- C. Fire Department—No report
- D. Town Office
  - i. Heating Vent relocated and working well.
  - ii. WIFI Up and Running—MF reports there are 2 channels one requires a password, other is open to towns people. The password protected channel is for the town office administration only
  - iii. Flooring Bid—MF presented Select Board with 3 quotes, BOS selected HT Winter, they have a local rep working in Dresden, and it was also the lowest bid.
  - iv. Water Department—MF reported first invoicing had just gone out to the 17 customers. Chuck Applebee reported the latest water reports have turned in with the very minor corrective measures completed.

## **9. CITIZENS BUSINESS**

- A. Survey regarding Town Meeting—MF presented Shari Lilly’s request to do another survey regarding town meeting days and times based on the very limited responses the last time the survey went out.
  - i. After some discussions Joe Wiley suggested that we send out a Bulk Meeting asking the Citizens to vote.
  - ii. GL voiced that we should also include in that bulk mailing the information on the increased costs that RSU2 is proposing. The estimates of the increase on each citizen’s property taxes will be \$175-\$200 based on a \$200,000 home. Joe also requested that we should put on Facebook announcing the survey.
- B. Gary Blau requested an update on the latest RSU2 meeting. The Selectmen each provided updates:
  - i. John Rzasz discussed the overall ‘flavor’ of the meeting, pointing out that when questions were asked, rarely were they answered in a concise manner, and often they were simply ignored.
  - ii. Gerald Lilly advised the attendees that the School Board said they could save a lot of money if they just closed the Dresden Elementary School.
  - iii. Allan Moeller advised he was surprised that when Lisa Hewitt of Dresden asked if there was a Plan B, the Superintendent said no this was it.
  - iv. Jeff Pierce our representative had already advised the Selectmen he will recommend a NO vote to the budget.
  - v. Increase will be approximately 8.8% to Dresden Citizens and will increase each citizen’s tax bill approximately \$175-\$200 or more on their annual taxes.
  - vi. Mike Faass also voiced concerns over the Superintendent’s suggestion that the funds we receive from the American Rescue Plan be used to offset the increases to individuals taxes. MF pointed out we will NOT receive all the funding at one time, and based on information passed along to him through MMA the funding cannot be used to offset taxes.
- C. Kirsten Hebert, President of the Calista Vista’s Homeowners Association asked how the tax bill will be coming to the Property owners in the Subdivision. MF explained that based on the town’s attorney explanation and recommendation the town will invoice the Association for all of the taxes and the Association will need to assess each property owner their share.

## **10. OTHER GENERAL BUSINESS**

- A. Joe Wiley, representing the Historical Society requested the town purchase twenty 24” American Flags that the Historical Society to place on Veterans’ graves. MF instructed to take care of this request. Mike confirmed that this money was already in the budget and he would order immediately.

## **11. ADJOURNMENT—**Motion made to Adjourn by AM; seconded by GL; motion carried 3-0.