

**MINUTES
SELECTMEN MEETING
Pownalborough Hall
Mon. Dec. 11, 2017
Began at 6:00 pm**

PRESENT: Dale Hinote, Dwight Keene, Allan Moeller, Selectmen; Trudy Foss and Michael Henderson, Admin.; Gerald and Suzie Lilly, Shari and Pean Lilly, Steve and Sonia Lilly, Fire Department; David Everson, William Costello, Rebecca St. Claire, David Probert, Dale Erdman, Shirley Storkson, Ann and Jeff Peirce, Brandon Parker, Lawrence Heffron, residents; Alex Violo, reporter.

ITEM 1. APPROVE & SIGN MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING - Dale Hinote motioned to approve the minutes. Dwight seconded the motion and all approved.

ITEM 2. APPROVE & SIGN PRESENT WARRANT - Dale motioned to approve the minutes. Allan seconded the motion and all approved.

ITEM 3. GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS / CITIZENS BUSINESS - The next Selectmen Meeting will be on Thurs., Dec. 21, at the Town Office at 5:00 pm for the purpose of signing the warrant only.

Dale Erdman has a daughter on active service duty in Italy. She will return home for 12 days and wants to register her car. Mr. Erdman informed the Selectman that there is a state statute that would allow the town to exempt excise tax for active military personnel. There is currently no ordinance in Dresden for this particular excise tax exemption. Allan motioned to put an article on the June Town Meeting Warrant. Dwight seconded the motion and all approved.

ITEM 4. LEGAL ISSUE – A timeline of court proceedings was given to the Selectmen. Dave Probert asked what the legal issue was in regards to. Dale announced that there was a suit brought against the Town of Dresden by Sonia J. Lilly.

ITEM 5. COMMITTEE ISSUES – Ann Pierce, the Dresden Excise and Property Tax Collector, brought up a concern that several appointed committee members have been frustrated that they have received no guidance for how to proceed with their committees. The Cable Expansion and Marijuana committees have not met yet. Dale explained that it was up to the committee members to organize themselves and that it was not the place of the Selectmen. Jeff Pierce asked if the Town could help schedule the first meeting to help the committees begin. Allan suggested the Selectmen schedule a meeting on January 8, 2018, at 7:00 pm, following the Selectmen meeting to meet with both committees, explain their missions, swear in members, and schedule future meetings. Dwight asked that a letter is mailed to each committee member inviting them to the Jan. 8th meeting. Allan requested that the notice of the meeting be posted on the Website and sent out in the next newsletter.

ITEM 6. UNLICENSED AUTOMOBILE GRAVEYARD – Bill Costello informed the Selectmen that there was a property adjacent to his own that was housing more than 3 unregistered vehicles without a license, which violates state law. Dwight asked if the property had always been a problem. Rebecca St. Claire explained that the property has not been a problem until recently. There is a new auto body shop on the property where there are about 25 cars. The cars are within 160' of Mr. Costello's well. The Code Enforcement Officer, James

Valley, sent a letter to the property owner requesting an inspection. The deadline to comply is December 14, 2017. There has been no response yet from the property owner.

ITEM 7. AMBULANCE SERVICE RECOMMENDATION – Michael Henderson, the Administrative Assistant, explained that in the contract between the City of Gardiner Ambulance Service and the Town of Dresden, that Dresden would be responsible for the cost of ambulance services to Dresden residents that went unpaid after 60 months of billing. These are referred to as uncollectables. There were 90 instances during the 3 – year contract of uncollectables from Dresden residents, totaling \$50,120.08. There was \$9,000 allocated during this fiscal year to cover the cost of uncollectables owned to the Gardiner Ambulance Service. Along with their bill, Gardiner wrote that there would be service charge about \$450 - \$500 for each call that Gardiner was called on to Dresden as back up for Wiscasset, Dresden’s new ambulance service provider. Since July, Gardiner has responded twice to Dresden for emergencies and the Town has been billed \$1000 thus far. Michael recommended that the Selectmen hold a Special Town Meeting to vote to allocate \$45,000 from surplus to ambulance service charges and cover the cost of any additional charges for Gardiner responses. Michael recommended that the Town then pay Gardiner, set up a meeting with Wiscasset Ambulance service, and bill current, living Dresden residents with outstanding bills. Dale asked if the Town could pay a portion of the bill now and the remaining amount in February after the Special Town Meeting. Dave Probert asked if the Town could wait until June to put this on the Town Meeting Warrant. Gerald Lilly asked why Gardiner charges \$500 for responding to back up calls for Wiscasset. Sonia Lilly explained that any other Ambulance service would charge a similar amount and would take longer to respond than Gardiner. Allan motioned to hold a Special Town Meeting at 7:00 pm on January 22, 2018. Dwight seconded and all approved.

ITEM 8. TREASURER ISSUES – Michael Henderson explained that there have been some recent issues with the Treasurer’s responsibilities. Bank deposits are becoming too spread out. The most recent three were 21 and 17 days apart for about \$53,000 and \$62,000 respectfully. Additionally, the November deposit of \$53,000 was off by \$85.70 from our cash sheet recordings. Dale tabled the matter for the next meeting so the Selectmen had more time to understand the problem.

Town Roads - Allen said that things were good.

Fire Dept. – Steve Lilly, the Fire Chief asked to speak with the Selectmen after the meeting about payroll. Also, pump tests for the trucks are coming up.

Solid Waste- No issues.

Copier – The copier is in and working well. The Tax Collector’s computer can’t scan yet.

Allan motioned to adjourn the meeting. Dale seconded and all approved. Meeting adjourned at 6:59 pm.

Approved by



Dale Hinote



Dwight Keene



Allan Moeller Sr.

Board of Selectmen