



Town of Hermon
Public Safety Meeting Room
March 16, 2017
Town Council Meeting
7:00 PM
MINUTES

*** Televised live on Cable Channel 121.111 ***

Council Meetings may be viewed live online and are archived after the meeting
has taken place – check hermon.net for link.

ALL ITEMS ARE SUBJECT TO APPROPRIATE COUNCIL ACTION

I. CALL TO ORDER BY CHAIRPERSON

Chair Thomas called the meeting to order at 7:00pm.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chair Thomas led those in attendance in the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. ROLL CALL

Members Present: Anne Freeman, Donna Ellis, Steve Thomas, Doug Sinclair, Jeanne Jacques, John Snyer and Steve Watson

Members Absent: None

Others Present: Town Manager Howard Kroll, Town Clerk Ruth A. Nickerson, Senator Geoff Gratwick, Fire Chief Frank Roma, Scott Perkins, Cody Sullivan, Jordanna Sprague and Dana Hill

IV. REVIEW CONSENT CALENDAR: REGULAR BUSINESS, APPOINTMENTS, SIGNATURES, And APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

MINUTES. -APPROVE February 17, 2017

QUITCLAIMS. -SIGN M/L 045-023-000 Account #2216 - Bogan



Councilor Freeman moved to approve the Consent Calendar as presented. Councilor Snyer seconded the motion. A Roll Call vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.

The motion carries.

V. NEWS, PRESENTATIONS AND RECOGNITIONS

Fire Chief Roma recognized Cody Sullivan for his hard work mounting the new sign on the FD building. He also gave credit to members of the Fire Department who kept very busy during the most recent storm.

- **Recognition of Live-In Firefighter Jordanna Sprague.**

Chief Roma introduced Live-In Firefighter Jordanna Sprague to the Council and those in attendance. He told how Jordanna recently received notification that she is the Eastern Maine Community College recipient of the Leon Gorman Scholarship for 2017. This scholarship provides a complete expense free college experience. Chief stated that Jordanna will go to the corporate headquarters of L.L. Bean in Freeport to receive her scholarship directly from the Gorman family.

Jordanna then thanked the Council for the opportunity to be a live-in student here in Hermon. Ms. Sprague told how awesome it is to be able to go out in the field while learning in the classroom at the same time; giving credit to her time here at HFD as a catalyst to her receiving this scholarship.

VI. PUBLIC ITEMS OR COMMENTS (*Items Not Already on Agenda*)

Senator Gratwick joined in congratulating Jordanna Sprague for her recent accomplishment. The Senator then stated that her not been here as much as he would like because it has been so busy in Augusta. The Senator told how we live in very interesting times, telling how there is significant parallel between Maine and Washington with regard to spending priorities.

VII. PUBLIC HEARINGS

None

VIII. COMMITTEE REPORTS

None

IX. SCHEDULED AGENDA ITEMS

A. OLD BUSINESS

#1. Accept 2017-2018 Capital Improvement Plan (CIP)



Manager Kroll explained that after several discussions and workshops this is the formal request for approval of the 2017-2018 Capital Improvement Plan. This Plan has a \$200.00 increase over last years CIP. The Manager told how funds from TIF and Unrestricted Fund Balance will be applied throughout the CIP.

Councilor Jacques moved to approve R16-17-62. Councilor Snyer seconded the motion. A Roll Call vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.

The motion carries.

*(R16-17-62 is attached for review.)

#2. Approve scheduled purchase of SCBA Bottles. (Article # 7 of ATM – 06/14/2016)

Chief Roma informed the Council that the purchase of air cylinders for our Self Contained Breathing Apparatus' was approved at the Annual Town Meeting in June 2016. He told how the typical SCBA bottle has a 15 year life span. These bottles are tested every three years. The actual price for 30 new cylinders is \$22,400. In response to Chair Thomas, Chief Roma explained that the department has 15 SCBA's and this provides two cylinders for each. Each cylinder provides 30 minutes of air. They cylinders are refilled immediately here at the Station with our Cascade System. Responding to Councilor Jacques, the Chief stated that it has been 15 years since new cylinders have been purchased.

Councilor Snyer moved to approve FR16-17-53. Councilor Jacques seconded the motion. A Roll Call vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.

The motion carries.

*(FR16-17-53 is attached for review.)

#3. Approve 2017 CIP Radio Purchase

Chief Roma informed the Council that the purchase of new Radios is part of the current Capital Improvement Plan for 2016-2017. The Town of Hermon is currently out of compliance with FCC regulations because our radios are outdated. The Chief requested authorization for the purchase of three radios. The old radios have no trade in value.

Councilor Jacques moved to approve FR16-17-54. Councilor Snyer seconded the motion. A Roll Call vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.

The motion carries.

*(FR16-17-54 is attached for review.)

#4. Consider approving expenditure for Economic & Development (Marketing & Advertising)

Manager Kroll told how he and Scott Perkins met with WABI-TV regarding a marketing opportunity. Part of the Economic Development Plan approved by the Council in August 2016 is to establish a marketing program for the Town of Hermon. Mr. Perkins told how we were going to wait until July to pursue this part of the plan, but WABI's current "Buy Maine First" promotion meets our needs very well. Additionally, this is the right time of the year to play



our commercials. Mr. Perkins asked the Council to consider waiving the Purchase Policy requirements for this activity. The “Buy Maine First” promotion runs for twelve months. The Town’s cost to participate in this marketing campaign is \$11,400 or \$950 per month. Mr. Perkins proposed to the Council that we utilize monies currently budgeted for mileage and miscellaneous in order to participate now and not wait for July 2017.

Councilor Freeman moved to approve FR16-17-55. Councilor Snyer seconded the motion. A Roll Call vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.

The motion carries.

*(FR16-17-55 is attached for review.)

B. NEW BUSINESS

#5. Consider approving abatement for M/L 042-049-036(11) Account #3861 – Thayer

Manager Kroll apologized to Mary & Maury Thayer. We have double taxed a piece of their property since 2013. The Manager requested authorization from the Council to abate taxes in the amount of \$671.93. In response to Councilor Snyer, the Manager affirmed that we had one property listed twice on the tax roll.

Councilor Jacques moved to approve R16-17-63. Councilor Freeman seconded the motion. A Roll Call vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.

The motion carries.

*(R16-17-63 is attached.)

#6. Consider approving a proposed street name- “Cole Circle”

The Town Manager told there is a plan for a proposed subdivision with 6 lots of the Bog Road. The Addressing Officer has requested the Council approve the road name, “Cole Circle,” for the proposed road in the subdivision.

Councilor Jacques moved to approve R16-17-64. Councilor Ellis seconded the motion. The motion was accepted without doubt.

The motion carries.

*(R16-17-64 is attached for review.)

#7. Consider authorizing application for Harbor Management and Access Grant.

The Manager informed the Council that he has received a notice from the Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Conservation regarding available grants open for application. There is a competitive grant that we should pursue. This grant is specific to Water Conservation and Submerged Land. Scott Perkins told how our floating docks at Jackson Beach are supposed to free float. This project would fall in to the less than \$20,000 category and the dock qualifies for the grant. The Council agreed that this grant opportunity should be pursued.



Councilor Sinclair moved to approve R16-17-65. Councilor Snyer seconded the motion. The motion was accepted without doubt.

The motion carries.

***(R16-17-65 is attached for review.)**

C. WORKSHOPS

None

D. OTHER ITEMS (from Table Package)

None

X. APPOINTMENTS

None

XI. MANAGER STATUS REPORT:

Manager Kroll thanked and commended the staff for their hard work during these challenging winter storms.

- **Marijuana Legalization Act**

Howard told how on February 28, 2017 Donna Ellis, Doug Sinclair, Anne Freeman, Scott Perkins, Josh Berry and Sgt. Pelletier attended Maine Municipal Association's workshop on Marijuana. This workshop was created and attended by elected and appointed officials across the State. At this workshop the laws and regulations alongside business options were presented. As a Municipality, the Town of Hermon has a choice: 1.) let the State determine how marijuana will distributed and regulated: 2.) create our own ordinances to determine distribution regulations: or 3.) ban marijuana completely. Several communities have already created ordinances that ban the sale of and ban the establishment of social clubs. At the same time other communities have opened their arms wide and planning how to incorporate into their commercial business regulations.

The Council discussed the process of making the Town of Hermon a "dry town" with regard to marijuana. They decided to wait no longer to begin the process and agreed to vote on the next step tonight.

Councilor Sinclair moved to amend the Council Rules and vote on an item that was not on the agenda. Councilor Watson seconded the motion. A Roll Call was unanimous in favor of the motion.

The motion carries.



Councilor Sinclair moved to proceed with prohibiting the sale of recreational marijuana and associated social clubs entirely and limit the number of retail marijuana stores as provided in the law. Councilor Watson seconded the motion. A Roll Call vote was unanimous in favor of the Motion.

The motion carries.

XII. FINAL PUBLIC ITEMS OR COMMENT (*Items Not Already on Agenda*)

None

XIII. COUNCIL ITEMS:

Councilor Snyer asked if we have a plan for the winter care of the new sidewalks to be built this summer. He also asked if it is possible to remove the pole from the middle of the sidewalk on the Billings Road. Scott Perkins affirmed that there is a plan for the care and maintenance of the sidewalks. He also stated that the new pole has already been set and as soon as the weather provides the old pole will be removed from the center of the sidewalk.

Councilor Sinclair stated that it was a nice little trip to Freeport.

Councilor Thomas asked those in attendance to sing along as we recognized Councilor Sinclair's birthday.

XIV. EXECUTIVE SESSION:

None

XV. ADJOURNMENT:

Chair Thomas adjourned the meeting at 8:00pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

**Ruth A. Nickerson, CCM
Town Clerk**