



Town of Hermon
Public Safety Meeting Room
June 29, 2017
Town Council Meeting
7:00 PM
MINUTES

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 Snyder and Steve Watson

Members Absent: None

Others Present: Town Manager Howard Kroll, Town Clerk Ruth A. Nickerson, Ben Birch, Josh Berry, Scott Perkins, Donna Pulver, Will Perkins, Frank Roma, Bob Pelletier and Joe Sally

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

WARRANTS. –SIGN June 30, 2017

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

The motion carries.

V. NEWS, PRESENTATIONS AND RECOGNITIONS



- **Valuation Presentation – B. Birch**

Mr. Birch alongside Joe Sally, of the Maine Revenue Service, spoke with the Council about property valuation. Mr. Sally told how the process of the State audit is to equalize properties. We learned that regardless of the ratio used by a town or city, the State values all properties at 100%. There are 488 municipalities in Maine.

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

Donna Pulver resides at 626 Coldbrook Road. She informed the Council of how degrading, ridiculous and unfair it is that taxpayers in the Town of Hermon are not treated equal; referring to 1.4 miles of state road near her home that have not been mowed. Scott Perkins explained that there is a bid process the State uses to award mowing contracts.

Fire Chief Frank Roma informed the Council and those in attendance that there has been a change in the way residents are able to obtain burn permits. Permits can no longer be obtained at C & K Variety. Going forward, burn permits will either be obtained at the Fire Department or online. There is a cost of \$7.00 when using the electronic permit solution.

The **Fire Chief** then told how the Town's new *Jaws of Life* equipment will be ordered soon. He explained that the current equipment is mixed equipment that has been donated to us and has no trade value. Hence, we would like to pay it forward and make the old equipment available to another community once our new equipment arrives.

VII. PUBLIC HEARINGS

#1. Hold Pubic Hearing – Town of Hermon Recreational Marijuana Ordinance

Manager Kroll explained that as a result of adopting the Town of Hermon Recreational Marijuana Ordinance, all stores, testing facilities, cultivation facilities, social clubs or any other retail establishments related to Recreational Marijuana will be banned in the Town of Hermon. This ordinance essentially makes Hermon a dry town with regard to Marijuana.

Chair Thomas opened the hearing at 8:11pm. No public comments were received. The hearing closed at 8:12pm.

VIII. COMMITTEE REPORTS

None

Councilor Jacques moved to consider the table packet. (Agenda item #7) Councilor Watson seconded the motion. The motion was accepted without doubt.

The motion carries



IX. SCHEDULED AGENDA ITEMS

A. OLD BUSINESS

#2. Consider Approving an ordinance titled “Recreational Marijuana Prohibition Ordinance”

The Town Manager reviewed the meaning of a ‘dry town’ and explained that with the enacting of this ordinance, the Town of Hermon is banning all retail and recreational marijuana in town. This includes Retail Marijuana Stores, Retail Marijuana Cultivation Facilities, Retail Marijuana Products Manufacturing Facilities, Retail Marijuana Testing Facilities and any and all Retail Marijuana Social Clubs. It also includes many related activities such as, cultivation, possession, extraction, manufacturing, processing, storing, laboratory testing, transporting, delivering, dispensing, transferring and distributing. These activities will be expressly prohibited within the Town of Hermon

Councilor Snyder moved to approve R16-17-81. Councilor Freeman seconded the motion. A Roll Call vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.

The motion carries.

**(R16-17-81 is attached for review.)*

#3. Discuss RFP Audit Services for FY 2018, 2019 and 2020

The Council discussed the RFP for Audit Services. They agreed to leave this agenda item open-ended until new Requests for Proposals are received.

#4. Consider Amending the Town of Hermon Personnel Policy

Manager Kroll withdrew all proposed changes to the Personnel Policy except for Appendix B: health benefits. The proposed change amends the rate of coverage for individuals and their families covered by the Town as of July 1, 2017.

Councilor Snyder moved to approve R16-17-82. Councilor Freeman seconded the motion. A Roll Call vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.

The motion carries.

**(R16-17-82 is attached for review.)*

B. NEW BUSINESS

#5. Consider Approving expenditure from the Sewer Reserve Account

Expenditures have been requested by Bangor Waste Water. Pump adjustments at the Odlin Road pump need to be made. It also needs to be calibrated along with the pump on Route 2. Bollard sleeves and a base for the Davit arm are also needed. The cost should not exceed \$5,000.



Councilor Jacques moved to approve FR16-17-67. Councilor Snyer seconded the motion. A Roll Call vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.

The motion carries.

***(FR16-17-67 is attached for review.)**

#6. Consider Council Meeting Schedule for July 13, 2017

The Council agreed 07/13/2017 would be the first Council meeting of the new year. A Council Meeting Schedule will be established then.

C. WORKSHOPS

None

D. OTHER ITEMS (from Table Package)

#7. Consider an Executive Session to discuss a Personnel Matter per 1 M.R.S.A. § 405 (6)(A)

Councilor Jacques moved to go into Executive Session to discuss a Personnel Matter per 1 M.R.S.A. § 405 (6)(A). Councilor Snyer seconded the motion. A Roll Call vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.

The motion carries.

The Council entered Executive Session at 8:14pm. They returned to regular session, motioned by Councilor Freeman and seconded by Councilor Ellis at 9:18pm.

X. APPOINTMENTS

None

XI. MANAGER STATUS REPORT:

Annual Town Meeting went smooth. Thank you to the Staff that participated.

Annual Evaluations are almost completed.

Personnel Policy has an update regarding professional conduct I will share at the next meeting.

Tuesday - Happy 4th of July!

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

None



XIII. COUNCIL ITEMS:

Councilor Freeman stated this has been a good run. She commended Councilor Thomas for his professionalism and his conduct as Council Chair. Ms. Freeman promised to stop by and rattle cages when she can.

Councilor Snyder told what a pleasure it has been to serve alongside Chair Freeman.

Councilor Watson thanked Anne for her service to our community.

Councilor Sinclair informed Ms. Freeman that he will miss her and it has been fun working together.

Councilor Jacques thanked Anne, stating that it has been a pleasure to serve together. She also stated “Great Job” to Chair Thomas.

Councilor Ellis affirmed she will miss having chicken chats with Councilor Freeman.

Councilor Thomas asked what effect the State shutdown would have on the Town Office. The Town Clerk stated that it is business as usual at the Town Office. He then told Councilor Freeman how he hopes she will run to serve on the Council again. He has loved working with her because she is committed and engaged and appreciates knowing now how to round up pigs.

XIV. EXECUTIVE SESSION:

See agenda item #7.

XV. ADJOURNMENT:

Councilor Jacques moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:35pm. **Councilor Ellis** seconded the motion. **With no objection the meeting was adjourned.**

Respectfully Submitted,

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