The Hermon to Mol. 28 Issue 4 • July 2020

The Hermon High School End of the Year Athletic Awards sponsored by the Athletic Boosters have been announced.

At the end of each school year the Hermon Athletic Department hands out athletic awards. This is usually done in the High School Auditorium. This year things had to be done differently due to the Corona Virus. This years winners were announced on social media one at a time during the final week of May. The following were the award recipients.











Town of Hermon
Howard Kroll *Town Manager*PO Box 6300, Hermon, ME 04402
Tel: 207-848-1010 Fax: 207-848-3316
krollh@hermon.net, www.hermon.net

If you have a news story or article for publication in the next edition of *The Hermon Connection*, please send it to: scottwl@hermon.net Deadline for submissions: August 20, 2020



Annual Town Meeting Budget Approval Thursday, July 16, 2020

To: Courtney Brown a Resident of the Town of Hermon, in the County of Penobscot, State of Maine,

GREETING:

In the name of the State of Maine, you are hereby required to notify and warn the inhabitants of the Town of Hermon in Penobscot County, Maine, qualified by law to vote in town affairs, to meet at the **High School Auditorium in Hermon on Thursday the 16th day of July, 2020, at 7:00 p.m.**, then and there to act upon Articles 3 through 31 as set out below. Articles 1 and 2 were acted upon at the Election on 7/14/2020.

ARTICLE 1: To elect a Moderator by written ballot to preside at said meeting.

ARTICLE 2: To elect all municipal officers and school committee members as are required to be elected.

ARTICLE 3: Shall the Town vote to appropriate the revenues received for the following accounts to offset the associated expense accounts, for fiscal year 2021 with approval of the Town Council?

	Revenues		<u>Expenses</u>
10-130	Hermon Connection Revenue	10-13-04-05	Hermon Connection Expense
10-121	Local Plumbing Fees	10-13-05-04	Local Plumbing Expense
14-140	Transfer Station Fees	14-01	Landfill Expense
14-150	Tipping Fee Revenue (PERC)	14-02	Household Waste Expense
12-182	Police Revenue	12-01	Police Expense
12-185	Fire Department Revenue	12-02	Fire Department Expense
35	Recreation Enterprise Revenue	35	Recreation Enterprise Expense

(Explanation: The listed revenue accounts are special funds received by the Town for specific purposes. Approval by the citizens will allow the Town Council to expend these revenues for the expense accounts listed above.

Recommended by the Town Council

ARTICLE 4: Shall the Town raise and appropriate the following sums of money for each of the listed reserves?

HERM02	Unemployment Reserve	\$ 5,000
HERM04	Cemetery Reserve	\$ 5,000
HERM05	Fire Equipment Reserve	\$ 50,000
HERM06	Highway Improvement Reserve	\$ 250,000
HERM08	Public Works Facility/Equip Reserve	\$ 75,000
HERM09	Recreation Equip/Facility Reserve	\$ 25,000
HERM11	Municipal Office Reserve	\$ 5,000
HERM12	Sewer Maintenance Reserve	\$ 25,000
HERM17	Public Safety Building Reserve	\$ 10,000
HERM19	Town Office Equip. & Tech. Reserve	\$ 35,000
HERM32	Veterans Memorial Park Reserve	\$ 5,000
Total Appr	copriation to Reserves	\$ 490,000

Recommended by the Town Council

ARTICLE 5: Shall the Town vote to authorize the transfers from the Police Equipment Reserve (HERM01) to Highway Capital Reserve (HERM06) in the amount of \$25,000 and to Town Office Equipment and Technology Reserve (HERM19) in the amount of \$25,000?

Recommended by the Town Council

ARTICLE 6: Shall the Town vote to authorize the expenditure of up to \$33,750 from the Fire Equipment Reserve (HERM05) to purchase new vehicle stabilizer Jacks (\$14,250), (1) Vehicle Extraction Ram (\$11,500) and (1) Snowbulance (\$8,000), and making said purchase by 30 June 2021 or funds lapse back to the Fire Equipment Reserve (HERM05)?

Recommended by the Town Council

ARTICLE 7: Shall the Town vote to authorize the expenditure of up to \$630,526 from the Highway Improvement Reserve (HERM06) to repair the Annis Road (\$17,200), prepare legal documents for the Clark and Lewis Road turn around areas (\$6,000), repair Odlin Road (\$3,800), provide local match for Billings Road MPI project (\$280,000), repair and construct Logistics Lane (\$70,000), replace various driveway culverts and repair driveway aprons throughout Hermon (\$45,000), repair various road shoulders (15,000), reclaim a portion of the Black Stream Road (\$176,526) and repair the Fuller Road/Wing/Annis Road intersection (\$17,000) and making said purchases by 30 June 2021 or funds lapse back to the Highway Improvement Reserve (HERM06)?

Recommended by the Town Council

ARTICLE 8: Shall the Town vote to authorize the expenditure of up to \$24,000 from the Cemetery Reserve (HERM04) for the purchase of a stone repair/cleaning and tree removal at each cemetery and making said purchase by 30 June 2021 or funds lapse back to the Cemetery Reserve (HERM04)?

Recommended by the Town Council

ARTICLE 9: Shall the Town vote to authorize the expenditure of up to \$15,000 from the Recreation Reserve (HERM09) for repairing and making improvements to the basketball court at the Recreation Field complex. Said purchases will be made by 30 June 2021 or funds lapse back to the Recreation Reserve (HERM09) Recommended by the Town Council

ARTICLE 10: Shall the Town vote to authorize the transfer of \$100,000 from the undesignated fund balance to the Fire Department Reserve Account (HERM05)?

Recommended by the Town Council

ARTICLE 11: Shall the Town vote to authorize an expenditure of up to \$68,901 from Town Office Equipment, Technology Reserve (HERM19) to purchase the upgrade of the computer equipment required for the upgrade including new computers and other equipment/services. Said Purchases will be made by 30 June 2021 or funds lapse back to the Town Office equipment, Technology Reserve (HERM19)?

Recommended by Town Council

ARTICLE 12: Shall the Town vote to authorize the transfer of funds from Tax Incremental Financing (TIF) Revenue in the amount of \$608,168, to off-set authorized expenditures for Economic Development general accounts #11-01-01-01 to 11-01-20-06 in the amount of (\$373,168); and account #19-02-25-03 TIF Credit Enhancement Agreements and incentive agreements with Ryder (\$165,000); and Highway Reserve (HERMON06) (\$70,000)?

Recommended by the Town Council

ARTICLE 13: Shall the Town vote to authorize and transfer to the Hermon School Department the expenditures of up to \$120,000 from the School Repair Reserve Account (HERM07) for the expenditures at Hermon High School the replacement and installation of dishwasher (\$40,000) and paving and curbing of the parking lot and sidewalks (\$42,000), at the Patricia A. Duran School the installation of a boiler (\$80,000)?

Recommended by the Town Council

ARTICLE 14: Shall the Town vote to authorize an expenditure of up to \$14,000 from Sewer Reserve (HERM12) to install SCADA system at Autocar Lane? Said purchases will be made by 30 June 2021 or funds lapse back to Sewer Reserve Account (HERM12)?

Recommended by Town Council

ARTICLE 15: Shall the Town vote to authorize an expenditure of up to \$13,500 from Municipal Office Reserve (HERM11) to install a new security system (\$6,000), repair broken windows and paint the front office (\$7,500)? Said purchases will be made by 30 June 2021 or funds lapse back to Municipal Office Reserve Account (HERM11)? **Recommended by Town Council**

ARTICLE 16: Shall the Town vote to authorize the expenditure of \$200,000 from the School Tax Stabilization Reserve (HERM24) to offset a portion of the cost for the Hermon Middle School debt service in addition to the local appropriation for education payable in April 2021?

Recommended by Town Council

ARTICLE 17: Shall the Town vote to authorize an expenditure of up to \$6,189 from Public Safety Reserve (HERM17) to purchase an auto scrubber for the floors? Said purchases will be made by 30 June 2021 or funds lapse back to Public Safety Reserve Account (HERM17)?

Recommended by Town Council

ARTICLE 18: Shall the Town vote to authorize an expenditure of up to \$15,000 from Veterans Memorial Park Reserve (HERM32) to install new brick sidewalks on both sides of the entry to the Veteran's Monument? Said purchases will be made by 30 June 2021 or funds lapse back to Veterans Memorial Park Reserve (HERM32)? **Recommended by Town Council**

ARTICLE 19: Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate for municipal purposes for Fiscal Year 2021 for the period July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021 the following sums of money? Appropriation by category:

General Government/Administration	\$1,069,971
Economic Development/Technology	\$ 373,168
Public Safety	\$1,008,320
Public Works	\$ 913,742
Solid Waste	\$ 435,857
Recreation/Social Service/HVRS	\$ 345,779
Debt Service	\$ 0
Reserves	\$ 490,000
Special Assessments	\$ 926,353
General Assistance	\$ 5,000
Total Municipal & County Appropriation	\$5,568,190

Recommended by the Town Council

ARTICLE 20: Shall the Town set the Fiscal Year 2021 Tax Commitment excluding the Overlay Account as follows:

Municipal Expenses:	\$4,751,837
County Assessment	\$ 816,353
Local contribution to Schools:	\$5,503,657
Total Expenses	\$11,071,847
Less Municipal Revenues	-\$3,833,859

Total Commitment less Overlay \$7,237,988

Recommended by the Town Council

ARTICLE 21: Shall the Town appropriate from Overlay Account an amount not to exceed \$30,000 for tax abatements?

Recommended by the Town Council

ARTICLE 22: Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate for educational (School Department) purposes for Fiscal Year 2021 for the period July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021 the following sums of money? Appropriation by category:

Regular Instruction	\$ 6,433,483
Special Education	\$ 2,390,207
Other Instruction (summer School/extra Act)	\$ 466,584
Student/Staff Support	\$ 1,584,770
System Administration	\$ 432,147
School Administration	\$ 843,395
Transportation/Buses	\$ 692,952
Facilities/Maintenance	\$ 1,762,066
Debt/other commitments	\$ 610,419
All Others including Food Service	\$ 50,000
Total DOE Cost Centers	\$15,266,023

ARTICLE 23: To see what sum the Town of Hermon will appropriate for the total cost of funding public education from pre-kindergarten to grade 12 as described in the Essential Programs and Services Funding Act.

Recommends \$10,787,948.26 and to see what sum the Town will raise as the Town's contribution to the total cost of funding public education from pre-kindergarten to grade 12 as described in the Essential Programs and Services Funding Act in accordance with the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, section 15688.

School Committee & Town Council Recommends \$4,188,978.

The school administrative unit's contribution to the total cost of funding public education from pre-kindergarten to grade 12 as described in the Essential Programs and Services Funding Act is the amount of money determined by state law to be the minimum amount that a municipality must raise to receive the full amount of state dollars.

ARTICLE 24: To see what sum the Town of Hermon will raise and appropriate for the annual payments on debt service previously approved by the town voters for non-state funded school construction projects, or non-state funded portions of school construction projects in addition to funds appropriated as local share of the Town's contribution to the total cost of funding public education from pre-kindergarten to grade 12.

School Committee & Town Council Recommends \$610,419.

Non-state funded debt service is the amount of money needed for annual payments on Hermon's long-term debt service for major capital school construction projects that are not approved for state subsidy. The bonding of this long-term debt was previously approved by the voters.

ARTICLE 25 To see what sum the Town will authorize the School Committee to expend for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2020 and ending June 30, 2021 from the Town's contribution to the total cost of funding public education from pre-kindergarten to grade 12 as described in the Essential Programs and Services Act, non-state funded school construction projects, additional local funds for school purposes under the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, section 15690, unexpended balances, tuition receipts, state subsidy and other receipts for support of schools.

School Committee & Town Council Recommends \$15,270,023.

ARTICLE 26: To see if the Town will authorize the school committee to expend in addition to Article 23, any sums as may be received from state and federal grants, aid, and receipts during the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2020 and ending June 30, 2021 for school purposes provided that such grants, aid and receipts do not require expenditure of local funds not previously appropriated?

School Committee & Town Council Recommends YES

ARTICLE 27: Shall the Region Four Vocational Budget as approved by the Cooperative Board for the year July 1, 2020 – June 30, 2021 be approved in the amount of \$3,105,184.26?

School Committee & Town Council Recommends YES

Cooperative Board for Regional Vocational Budget is not subject to amendment from the floor. It may be accepted or rejected by the voters. Hermon's share of the Region Four budget is \$0.

ARTICLE 28: In the event that the Hermon School Department receives more state education subsidy than the amount included in its budget, shall the School Committee be authorized to use all or part of the additional state subsidy to increase the allocation of finances to reserve funds approved by the School Committee?

School Committee & Town Council Recommends YES

ARTICLE 29: Shall the Town vote to authorize the expenditure of \$40,000 from the School Bus Purchase Reserve (HERM33) to offset a portion of the lease/purchase payment for a school bus in addition to the local appropriation for education?

School Committee & Town Council Recommends YES

ARTICLE 30: Shall the Region Four Vocational Budget as approved by the Cooperative Board for **adult education** for the year July 1, 2020 – June 30, 2021 be approved in the amount of \$316,945.91?

The Region Four Vocational Budget for Adult Education supports adult education classes held at United Technologies Center in Bangor for communities that belong to the Region Four consortium. Hermon's share of the regional adult education budget is \$3,343.56.

Town Council Recommends YES

ARTICLE 31 Shall the Town of Hermon raise and appropriate \$654,260 in additional local funds, which exceeds the State's Essential Programs and Services allocation model by \$654,260 as required to fund the budget recommended by the School Committee?

The School Committee recommends \$654,260 for additional local funds and gives the following reasons for exceeding the State's Essential Programs and Services funding model. Additional funds needed for increases in salaries, enrichment programs and field trips, guidance and mental health services, professional development activities and costs of co curricular and athletic programs not fully funded by the State EPS formula.

School Committee & Town Council Recommends \$654,260.

The additional local funds are those locally raised funds over and above the Town of Hermon's local contribution to the total cost of funding public education from pre-kindergarten to grade 12 as described in the Essential Programs and Services Funding Act and local amounts raised for the annual payment on non-state funded debt service that will help the Town of Hermon budget for educational programs.

REQUIRES SECRET BALLOT

ALL ABOVE ARTICLES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE



The Senator's Corner



When will the coronavirus go away? The truth is that nobody knows. It could magically disappear in the late summer, spike in the fall, return or not return in 6-12 months, or cycle around the world in a mutated form for a very long time. The one thing we do know: it obeys its own rules. It doesn't care about our personal opinions, suggested timelines, political pronouncements, economic woes, or the U.S. Constitution.

How should we deal with this uncertainty? The scientific data is now unequivocal. Wearing a mask helps cut down the spread of the virus. Recent published studies in the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences (6/11/20 – Zhang et al) and elsewhere show that masks protect both you the wearer and those with whom you come in contact. Not perfectly, because nothing is perfect, but well. Washing your hands is important – continue to do it. Avoidance of crowds and social distancing is important – continue to do it. Getting vaccinated when and if a vaccine becomes available is important – do it.

In the meantime, please wear a mask when you venture outside your pod. The primary mode of infection appears to be respiratory droplets; masks help. In the past 8 years I have come to know Hermon as a community of people who care about their neighbors. Wearing a mask will help keep your neighbors safe. You will be helping to save lives. The distinction between reopening our economy and preserving the health of the vulnerable is false. We can do both; they are positively connected to one another. Masks tell others that we care for our own health, their health, and the health of our economy. Our economy will not fully recover until we all are confident that we can go out and around safely. Wearing a mask is simple, safe, easy, and inexpensive. It's the next right thing to do – please do it.

HOMEOWNERS, Do You Qualify For A Property Tax Exemption?

HOMESTEAD EXEMPTION: Hermon residents already receiving the Homestead Property Tax Exemption in the amount of \$20,000 will see this amount increase in your 2020 tax bill to \$25,000.

NEW HERMON RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY OWNERS: Do you qualify for a homestead exemption? Go to the website listed below to download an application or pick one up at the Town Office; qualification requirements are listed on application.

www.Hermon.net/exemption-forms-information/

All application should be returned to the Assessing office by August 31st, 2020

VETERAN EXEMPTION: Any residential property owner who is a veteran 62 years or older or the widow of a veteran who would be 62 years or older; served during a recognized war time period and is not already receiving the exemption you may pick up an application at the town off or download at:

www.Hermon.net/exemption-forms-information/

Application should be returned to the Assessing Office by August 31, 2020 with a copy of a DD214 or other official form verifying dates of entry and separation.







Howard Tool Company has moved to Freedom Industrial Park in Hermon! The company owner and President Jamie Arsenault has made a major investment including refurbishing and installing upgrades to an existing building in order to provide high quality precision machined parts produced to exacting specifications for their clients. Currently, the company produces parts from specialty metals for aerospace, submarine, semi-conductor, defense, oil & gas and alternative energy companies to name a few!

The company prides itself on investing in the latest technology with regards to CNC lathes and mills so their customers receive an end product that is reliable. Jamie hires the best programmers, machinists and inspection personnel in the area and utilizes over 31 years of business experience machining precision parts for their customers. Their focus is to continue with a strong Maine tradition of quality craftsmanship so they can deliver parts with very tight tolerances using different materials including titanium, inconel, monel, hastelloy and other specialized metals as well as plastics.

With aggressive plans to grow the business, Howard Tool currently employs fourteen people at the Hermon location who custom craft parts for companies like Boeing, Honeywell, Lockheed Martin, Raytheon and GE Aviation. High levels of customer service from the start of the process to delivery of a finished product are provided by the dynamic employees of this company. The Town of Hermon is very pleased to welcome this new company to our community and we wish them well with all of their future endeavors!



"Howard Tool Company has been certified to ISO9001 since 1997 and AS9100 since 2008.

Our programmers, machinists, and inspection personnel are fully trained and highly skilled.

We have a combined work experience of over 120 years that is committed to providing you with the finest craftsmanship, service, and value "- Jamie Arsenault, Owner



Howard Tool Company

78 Freedom Park Hermon, Maine 04401 Phone: (207) 942-1203

http://www.howardtool.com/



Morita's School of Dance - Est. 1968

Classes for ages 1 year-Adults

We are local and we look forward to hearing from you!

207-848-5083 msdancestudio68@hotmail.com moritasschoolofdance.com 2256 Route 2, Hermon, ME 04401



Find us on **Facebook**

Tap, Ballet, Jazz, Pointe, Hip Hop, Contemporary, Yoga, TRX, Acro, Tiny Tots, Couple Dancing, Zumba, Adaptive Dance, Wedding Choreography

Sinclair's Home Heating

has been Hermon's hometown full service oil company since 2003



- Home-Town Discount
- Automatic Delivery
- 24-Emergency Service for our oil customers
- Annual tune ups

Come join our family of satisfied customers!

We are not comfortable in our home Until you are comfortable in yours.

207.848.2036

RUSSELL D. PATTEN INSURANCE AGENCY, LLC

Family Owned & Operated Since 1952

PERSONAL

- Auto
- Homeowners
- Motor Homes / Campers
- Snowmobiles
- Boats
- Life / Disability
- Mobile Homes
- Many Other Types of Insurance
 Bonds

BUSINESS

- · Business Auto
- Contractors
- · Garage / Auto Dealers
- · Apartments / Rental Units
- Workers' Compensation
- · Group Health
- Professional Liability

TRUCKING

- Long-Haul
- Trucking
- Bobtail
- Cargo
- Fuel Oil Dealers
- Logging
- Dump Trucks



848-3326 1-800-365-7440

156 Billings Road, Hermon

www.patteninsurance.com





"Big Enough To Compete, Small Enough To Personally Serve You!"





1405 Hammond St., suite3 Bangor • Tel. 207-433-0485 MESignatureGroup.com

Hermon Valedictorian Named 2020 U.S. Presidential Scholar



Hermon High School Valedictorian Neily Kate Raymond has been named a 2020 United States Presidential Scholar. She is one of two students in the state to be honored with this prestigious recognition. U.S. Secretary of Education Betsy DeVos made the announcement recently stating, "It is my privilege to congratulate the Presidential Scholars Class of 2020 on their outstanding academic achievement, community service, and leadership."

Presidential scholar selection is rigorous, and students are selected from over 5,600 candidates across the country. Selection criteria include superior academic and artistic achievements, demonstrated leadership ability, strong character and high ideals, and dedicated involvement to community and school. The initial application was forewarned to involve at least 16 hours of work and included four essays. Raymond admitted, "I put in closer to 40 hours". It is deemed one of the highest awards the Nation can bestow upon a high school senior.

Neily is believed to be the first ever student in Hermon High School history to be crowned this distinguished honor. HHS principal Brian Walsh recalls, "I can only speak for the last twenty years. I do know of several semi-finalists during my tenure, but only one recipient!"

She is also the recipient of the Maine Principal's Association Hermon High School Honors Award.

Neily plans to attend the University of Maine in the fall, double majoring in English and Music. She enters college with over 60 credits completed.

Photo and Article Submitted by Kendra Raymond



Gardens and Trails are open!

Visitors are invited to explore and enjoy the beautiful gardens and trails. "Free admission"

Volunteers are welcome to join us Wednesday afternoons. We need YOU!

To ensure the safety of our community, please respect other visitors by practicing safe social distancing.

Please consider a donation to support the maintenance of this community garden.

> Parking at 25 Annis Road, Hermon ecotatgardensarboretum@gmail.com www.ecotat.org

Mail: 333 Billings Rd,. gofundme Hermon, ME 04401



NextHome Experience 57 Washington St. Bangor, ME 04401 207-631-8081 MOBILE 207-573-7400 OFFICE reneebaconrealtor@gmail.com





Sinclair Towing

848-5052

AAA Motor Club Lockouts, Jump Starts State Wide & Heavy Towing 24 Hour Towing & Road Services







Season Greens Fees Membership
Single \$625
Family \$850
Junior \$225
Young Adult \$450
Senior \$525
Active Military \$500
50 Round Pass \$600

Hermon Meadow Golf Club & Driving Range 281 Billings Road | Hermon, Maine 04401 USA

Phone: 207.848.3741 www.hermonmeadow.net





Open a new account at our Hermon branch and we'll waive the account opening fee*



SEABOARD
FEDERAL CREDIT UNION

The smart place for your money

Conveniently located in the Danforth Plaza · 2410 Route 2 Hermon, ME 04402 · 207.848.9995 · www.seaboardfcu.com Open Monday – Friday 8am –4:30pm, Saturday 8am –Noon



Federally Insured by NCUA

When you present this ad, Seaboard FCU will deposit \$5.00 to open your new account. Membership eligibility required. Offer subject to change without notice.





We Proudly Carry Hannaford Brand Products

\$5.00 OFF

Purchase of \$50.00 OR MORE

Excludes alcohol, tobacco and any service desk purchases.

Must present coupon to redeem.

Expires July 25, 2020 PLU # 550

We are a unique locally owned and operated store with many manager specials that other stores don't have.

Thank you for shopping with us,

Dick & Marly Danforth

DANFORTH'S PLAZA

2402 RT 2, Hermon, ME 848-2181 www.danforthssupermarket.com



Presorted Std US Postage PAID Bangor, ME Permit No. 14 ECRWSS

Postal Customer



Municipal Election ~ July 14, 2020 ~



June 14 - Absentee Ballots are available for voters.

July 14 – Election Day
Tuesday – Polls open 7:00am to 8:00pm, Patricia A. Duran School Gym
Please allow extra time for voting due to social distancing guidelines

July 16 – Annual Town Meeting Thursday – 7:00pm at the Hermon High School Auditorium

The Town Council has two vacant seats. Ronald Murphy, Phillip Richardson, and G. Stephen Watson have submitted papers for these seats. The School Board has one vacant seat. Zero nomination papers have been submitted for this seat. Currently we have two declared write-in candidates for School Board and a list will be in each booth.

Don't miss your opportunity to be a part of our community's election process. If you would like to participate as a write-in candidate for either the School Committee or the Town Council a letter of intent to run as a write-in candidate must be filed with the Town Clerk at least 24 hours prior to the opening of the polls. The letter of intent must include the name, legal address and telephone number, and personal signature of the person intending to run. Votes for any person not filed as a declared write-in candidate shall not be counted. (Town of Hermon Charter Section 9.09)