



Town of Hermon

Via Teleconference

November 19, 2020

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

**Town Council Meeting held via telephone conference call and audio streamed on <https://hermon.net>
Click on Council tab, and select the Public Access Channel link.**

Town Office and Public Safety Building closed to the public as of 11/11/2020 due to COVID-19

I. CALL TO ORDER BY CHAIRPERSON

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chair Thomas led those in attendance in the Pledge of Allegiance

III. ROLL CALL

Members Present: John Snyder III, Douglas “Doug” Sinclair Sr., Ronald “Ron” Murphy, Anthony “Tony” Reynolds, Charles Lever IV, Steven “Steve” Thomas and G. Stephen “Steve” Watson

Members Absent: None

Others Present: Town Manager Howard Kroll, Town Clerk Kristen Cushman and Jim Chasse



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

SIGNATURES. –APPROVE

MINUTES. -APPROVE 11/12/2020 Minutes

WARRANTS. –SIGN

RESOLVES. -SIGN

Councilor Murphy moved to approve the Consent Calendar as presented. Councilor Reynolds seconded the motion. Motion passes 7-0.

V. NEWS, PRESENTATIONS AND RECOGNITIONS:

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

VII. PUBLIC HEARINGS:

Public Hearing for Utility Scale Solar Facilities Moratorium Ordinance – TABLED to 12/2020

VIII. COMMITTEE REPORTS:

IX. SCHEDULED AGENDA ITEMS:

A. OLD BUSINESS:

B. NEW BUSINESS:

Special Town Meeting Warrant regarding: Ball field drainage and obtaining a design for track and turf field

Manager Kroll gave an over view of the articles on the Special Town Warrant.

Article 2: Shall the Town vote to authorize the Town Council to appropriate from Fund Balance up to \$58,121 for the completion of the Billings Road project payable to Gardner Construction (\$53,787) & Plymouth Engineering (\$4,334)?

Additional costs to the project.

Article 3: Shall the Town vote to authorize the Town Council to accept matching funds from Maine Department of Transportation (MDOT) up to \$260,000 for the state’s contribution and reimbursement to the Town and transfer the funds to Highway Reserve Account (HERM06)?



MDOT maximum reimbursement amount for the Billings Road project.

Article 4: Shall the Town vote to authorize the Town Council to appropriate from the Recreation Reserve (HERM09) up to \$43,000 for the completion of the drainage project at the Hermon ball field complex payable to Gardner Construction?

Additional funds to complete the field drainage.

Article 5: Shall the Town vote to authorize the Town Council to transfer from the School Repair Reserve Account (HERM07) to the Hermon School Dept. Accounts Payable account in the amount of \$70,000 for the purpose of the School Dept. entering into an agreement with Plymouth Engineering to conduct final designs for a track and turf facility?

Chair Thomas explained the proposed 8 lane track would be behind the tennis courts at the High School. There will be room for events in the center of the track example: javelin, discus and high jump. Chair Thomas explained the track would need replacement in approximately 10 years and will be very expensive. The Town would need to set aside money over the next 10 years for this replacement. The track committee has not made a decision on turf for the football field at this time.

Councilor Reynolds asked if Plymouth Engineering would be doing he (RFP) bid packets within the \$70,000?

Chair Thomas: No, the \$70,000 does not include the RFP.

Councilor Reynolds moved to approve Special Town Meeting Warrant to be voted on at the 12/17/2020 council meeting. Councilor Murphy seconded the motion. The motion was accepted. Motion passes 7-0.

C. WORKSHOPS:

D. OTHER ITEMS: (from Table Package)

X. APPOINTMENTS:



XI. MANAGER STATUS REPORT:

Manager Kroll explained we have positive COVID employees and we are doing the best we can. We have updated the web page, Fire Department Facebook page, article in BDN and automated message on the phone system. Penobscot County COVID cases are on the rise with school closings happening.

Recycling open faced bins have been taken away and replaced with 2 cardboard only containers. Recycling bins were taken away due to continuous contamination and abuse (trash left outside on the ground).

Wish everyone a nice Thanksgiving with family.

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

XIII. COUNCIL ITEMS:

Chair Thomas: Does it look like the schools will be shut down?

Jim Chasse, Superintendent of Schools: We currently have 1 positive, 1 presumed positive and 1 close contact due to COVID. Timelines of the infectious stages did not affect our schools. Since Hermon is following a hybrid model we could close 1 hybrid down and continue with second hybrid. Caravel is in an outbreak status. This is one of a few towns around dealing with COVID spreading. Teachers are tier III for vaccinations.

XIV. EXECUTIVE SESSION:

XV. ADJOURNMENT:

Councilor Murphy moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:28 PM. Councilor Thomas gave seconded. With no objection the meeting was adjourned at 7:28 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

**Kristen Cushman
Town Clerk**

Explanatory note #1: All items in the CONSENT CALENDAR are considered routine and are proposed for adoption by the Town Council with one motion without DISCUSSION or deliberation. If DISCUSSION on any item is desired, any member of the Council or public may request the removal of an item for it to be placed in the regular agenda prior to the motion to approve the Consent Agenda.

Explanatory Note #2: In the interest of effect decision-making: At 10:00 p.m., the Chairman shall poll the Council and Town Manager to identify remaining items which shall be carried forward to the next Regular Meeting.

Explanatory Note #3: A Councilor who feels the need for the Council excusing his/her absence will make the request to the Town Manager or the Town Clerk prior to the meeting.