



Town of Hermon

Public Safety Room

December 17, 2020

Town Council Meeting

IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE SPECIAL TOWN 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

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, Joshua Berry, Winnotta Reynolds and her family.

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

SIGNATURES. –APPROVE

MINUTES. -APPROVE 12-10-2020 Minutes

WARRANTS. –SIGN

RESOLVES. -SIGN

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



V. NEWS, PRESENTATIONS AND RECOGNITIONS:

Boston Post Cane Presentation to Winnotta Reynolds born 5/20/1924, 96.64 years old

Manager Kroll presented Ms. Winnotta Reynolds with the Boston Post Cane replica and a certificate. Ms. Reynolds will have her name displayed in the Town Office under the original cane.

Boston Post Cane

On August 2, 1909, Mr. Edwin A. Grozier, Publisher of the Boston Post, a newspaper, forwarded to the Board of Selectmen in 700 towns (no cities included) in New England a gold-headed ebony cane with the request that it be presented with the compliments of the Boston Post to the oldest male citizen of the town, to be used by him as long as he lives (or moves from the town), and at his death handed down to the next oldest citizen of the town. The cane would belong to the town and not the man who received it.*

The canes were all made by J.F. Fradley and Co., a New York manufacturer, from ebony shipped in seven-foot lengths from the Congo in Africa. They were cut to cane lengths, seasoned for six months, turned on lathes to the right thickness, coated and polished. They had a 14-carat gold head two inches long, decorated by hand, and a ferruled tip. The head was engraved with the inscription, — Presented by the Boston Post to the oldest citizen of (name of town) — “To Be Transmitted”. The Board of Selectmen were to be the trustees of the cane and keep it always in the hands of the oldest citizen. Apparently no Connecticut or Vermont towns were included (at one point it was thought that two towns in Vermont had canes, but this turned out to be a bit of a myth).

In 1924, Mr. Grozier died, and the Boston Post was taken over by his son, Richard, who failed to continue his father’s success and eventually died in a mental hospital. At one time the Boston Post was considered the nation’s leading standard-sized newspaper in circulation. Competition from other newspapers, radio and television contributed to the Post’s decline and it went out of business in 1957.

The custom of the Boston Post Cane took hold in those towns lucky enough to have canes. As years went by some of the canes were lost, stolen, taken out of town and not returned to the Selectmen or destroyed by accident.

In 1930, after considerable controversy, eligibility for the cane was opened to women as well.



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

VII. PUBLIC HEARINGS:

Public Hearing for Utility Scale Solar Facilities Moratorium Ordinance

Chair Thomas opened the public hearing at 7:14PM. The hearing closed at 7:29PM.

Manager Kroll gave an over view of the proposed Utility Scale Solar Facilities Moratorium Ordinance.

Questions were asked regarding wattage, wind farms, hydro and etc. This is a good time to consider other utility options to include in on future ordinances.

VIII. COMMITTEE REPORTS:

IX. SCHEDULED AGENDA ITEMS:

A. OLD BUSINESS:

B. NEW BUSINESS:

Consider – Enacting an ordinance to the Hermon Code of Ordinances titled
“Utility Scale Solar Facilities Moratorium Ordinance”

Councilor Reynolds moved to approve “Utility Scale Solar Facilities Moratorium Ordinance”. Councilor Murphy seconded the motion. The motion was accepted. Motion passes 7-0.

O20-21-04 **Consider** scheduling a Public Hearing for Hermon Golf Inc. Liquor License Application on January 7, 2021.

Councilor Reynolds moved to approve O20-21-04. Councilor Watson seconded the motion. The motion was accepted unless doubted. Motion passes.

FR20-21-14 **Consider** authorizing two additional connections for FY 20-21. Cost \$4000

Councilor Reynolds moved to approve FR20-21-14. Councilor Murphy seconded the motion. The motion was accepted. Motion passes 7-0.

FR20-21-15 **Consider** authorizing to write off \$1,254.00 sewer maintenance reserve for unpaid/uncollectable sewer debt.

Councilor Reynolds moved to approve FR20-21-15. Councilor Murphy seconded the motion. The motion was accepted. Motion passes 7-0.



C. WORKSHOPS:

D. OTHER ITEMS: (from Table Package)

Councilor Reynolds moved to waive council rules and accept the table packet. Councilor Snyder seconded the motion. The motion was accepted. Motion passes 7-0.

IX. SCHEDULED AGENDA ITEMS:

B. NEW BUSINESS:

FR20-21-16 Consider accepting a grant award from the State of Maine under the Keep ME Healthy Grant program in the amended amount of \$22080. Previous resolve FR20-21-03 stated \$12,000.

Councilor Snyder moved to approve FR20-21-16. Councilor Murphy seconded the motion. The motion was accepted. Motion passes 7-0.

X. APPOINTMENTS:

Reappoint personnel to various positions as required by Charter and State Statute.

- Registrar of Voters

XI. MANAGER STATUS REPORT:

Manager Kroll stated winter is upon and the crews have been out working to deal with the snow. Had a number of mailboxes that were damaged in the last storm. Manager Kroll thanked Gardner Construction for dealing with members of the public as well as the Town Office staff. The first storm was a training event for some new staff and when they are more acclimated to the roads and what it means to have a snowplow attached to your right side and it's not the easiest to maneuver. Hopefully future winter events are not as eventful as the first one.

In a week it will be Christmas Eve and the Town Office will close at noon.

Manager Kroll wishes the council, residents to stay safe and have a Happy Holiday.

Steve Thomas asked for an update on mailboxes on Stone Farm.

Mr. Kroll has been in communication with the Post Master of Bangor (Chris Parker) regarding the mailboxes. Nate Wicklow (developer) has placed mailboxes with the Postal Service that can be delivered in an organized way. The mailboxes are uniform and coordinated with the Postal Service for placement. Although the mailboxes may not be the choice of everyone. There are opportunities for residents to do something different at that location and would be up to them and



the development that takes place. This is nothing the Town is responsible for because mail delivery is between the Post Office and the residents.

Stoneybrook project is starting next week. They will identify the trees that need to come down and put a road in and should be wrapped after the first of the year. They will come back in the spring to loom and seed.

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

XIII. COUNCIL ITEMS:

Tony Reynolds: Cousin in New York had 44” of snow from the storm today.

Steve Watson: Merry Christmas and a better New Year.

XIV. EXECUTIVE SESSION:

XV. ADJOURNMENT:

Councilor Reynolds moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:48 PM. Councilor Snyder gave seconded. With no objection the meeting was adjourned at 7:48 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.