



Town of Hermon
Public Safety Meeting Room
September 1, 2022
Town Council Workshop Meeting
7:00 PM
MINUTES

To watch Council Meetings go to hermonmaine.gov click Council click Town Council Meetings click Zoom
Council Meetings will be archived online after the meeting has taken place.

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: Richard Cyr, Ronald Murphy, John Snyder III, Steven Thomas, G. Stephen Watson, and Derek Wood

Members Absent: None

Others Present: Interim Town Manager Joshua Berry, Town Attorney Tim Pease and 30 residents/guests

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

SIGNATURES. –APPROVE

MINUTES. –APPROVE

WARRANTS. –SIGN

RESOLVES. –SIGN

V. NEWS, PRESENTATIONS AND RECOGNITIONS:

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

VII. PUBLIC HEARINGS:



VIII. COMMITTEE REPORTS:

IX. SCHEDULED AGENDA ITEMS:

A. OLD BUSINESS:

B. NEW BUSINESS:

C. WORKSHOPS:

Discuss a potential ballot question for the proposed track and football field renovation

History of the project – Steve Thomas:

- **Committee is charged with exploring locations for a rubber surface running track and to gauge the support.**
- **Meet MPA standards for a regulation track.**
- **Hermon Track Committee evolved to the Hermon Complex Committee due to the need for better drainage and surface for the existing football field.**
- **Plymouth Engineering worked with the committee to develop the complex.**
- **Budget for the project was \$2.4 million.**
- **Placed on the June 2021 Municipal ballot – 349 Yes, 123 No.**
- **Six qualified companies who have built this type of track were asked to bid the project.**
- **Lowest bid was significantly above the project amount approved June 2021.**
- **A wetland mitigation permit is needed - \$110,000.**
- **Build a 220' retaining wall around the north end of the track - \$104,000.**
- **Revised budget amount \$3,693,697.00**

Plymouth Engineering – Mike Byram:

- **Pending the outcome of the vote on November 8, 2022, construction on the project will start December 1, 2022.**
- **Track will be behind the existing tennis courts.**
- **Drainage system, field prep and coverage material, concession stand updates, storage building for track equipment, turf for the football field pending vote from the voters and parking.**



Hermon High School – Bryan Walsh, Principal:

- Because of the dedication from the Town, School, taxpayers, and businesses working together, Hermon does a great job getting things done.
- Examples: 4 tennis courts at the High School, fantastic walking trail joining all three schools, field hockey field built with the extra supplies taken from Route 2 project, entry way to Pottles field, bathrooms, grandstands, scoreboard, football field with goal posts, and press box.
- Football program has a huge impact.
- What the improvements mean to the kids: Positive socialization with peers, improved communication skills, improves friendships with kids from other schools – Hermon enrollment draws from 12 middle schools, appropriate behavior development, and a feeling of community and acceptance.
- Football: Friday night football is a great community event even if we lose by 40 points.
- This project will go beyond the health and wellness of our students and will benefit the residents also.

Coach David King, Track:

- Coached indoor and outdoor track for over 40 years.
- Development of muscle memory and skills.
- Pride to be on a team and accomplishment will be showcased in front of the community and their family.

Coach MJ Ball, Girls Varsity Soccer:

- Opportunity to host regional and national competitions.
- Hold High School playoffs, Olympic development programs, tournaments, and clinics.
- Generate revenue for local business: food, gas etc.
- 500,000 to a million gallons of water a year is needed for a grass field. Cost to maintain a grass field is \$15,000 to \$20,000 per year (mowing, pesticides etc).
- Rented other turf fields over April, May and June 2022 for a cost of \$14,000.

Coach Chris Cameron, Girls Varsity Basketball:

- The cross training and off-season training would benefit other sports offered in Hermon.
- Takes away from the hometown feeling when we need to rent other turf fields.



Coach Kyle Gallant, Football:

- **Three football programs use the field in the fall. Six teams, over 40 games are played on natural grass.**
- **Hermon has needed to rent turf fields to hold sporting events.**
- **Supports the need for a turf field for all sports use.**

Regina Leonard:

- **Moved to Hermon in 2005 while supporting the new football program.**
- **Students learn life skills and have gone on to play at the college level.**
- **Dylan Leonard, Regina's son, stated the life skills he learned from Coach Gallant got him through basic training in the Air Force.**
- **More and more people show up Friday nights to watch football.**
- **Hermon has become a football town.**

Brett Danforth:

- **The track and the turf will benefit people of all ages for many years to come.**
- **Will supply a level and safe surface for community members to walk or jog on.**
- **Businesses benefit from large events held in town. All day cheering competitions, 5 basketball games in a day, or youth sports on all the town fields this allows for multiple people to come into the businesses throughout the day. The smaller businesses are feeling the impact as well with food service industry, gas stations and our stores.**
- **People are seeing what Hermon has to offer: nice plaza, schools, autobody shops, mechanic shops, salons, and a spa.**



Steve Thomas:

Costs:

- **Rubber for the track \$250,000.**
- **A wetland mitigation permit is needed \$110,000.**
- **Build a 220' retaining wall around the north end of the track \$104,000.**
- **Aluminum bleachers \$125,000 and will hold 566 people and ADA compliant.**
- **Booster clubhouse renovation \$80,000.**
- **Storage building \$40,000.**
- **Seeding the grass and a commercial well and pump house \$75,000.**
- **Blast and rebuild Pottle Field \$946,935.**
- **Groundwork and asphalt below the rubber surface \$1,596,831.**
- **Miscellaneous/contingency plan budget \$300,000.**

Total: \$3,692,697.00

Funding:

- **ARPA funds for drainage \$400,000.**
- **Recreation reserve \$295,000.**
- **School maintenance reserve \$300,000.**

Total: \$995,000.

Remaining balance: \$2,700,000 for track project

Remaining balance: \$1,200,000 for turf project

Please view the video at [Town Council Meetings | Hermon \(hermonmaine.gov\)](https://www.hermonmaine.gov/town-council-meetings) for a complete breakdown of funds and details



D. OTHER ITEMS: (from Table Package)

X. APPOINTMENTS:

XI. MANAGER STATUS REPORT:

Successful meeting and a great vibe in the room tonight.

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

XIII. COUNCIL ITEMS:

Ron: Great discussion in a long time and a lot of pleasant attitudes here and hopefully that will continue. Sometimes the employees at the Town Office do not get enough recognition and let the staff know what a good job they do. Appreciate the job you (Josh) are doing and the communication from Josh to the Council.

Derek: First meeting I have been at where the dialog was good the tone was accepting.

XIV. EXECUTIVE SESSION:

XV. ADJOURNMENT:

Councilor Murphy moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:55 PM. Councilor Snyder seconded. With no objection the meeting was adjourned at 8:55 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.