



Town of Hermon
Public Safety Meeting Room
February 29, 2024
Town Council Meeting
7:00 PM
MINUTES

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*****ALL ITEMS ARE SUBJECT TO APPROPRIATE COUNCIL ACTION*****

I. CALL TO ORDER BY CHAIRPERSON:

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Chair Murphy led those in attendance in the Pledge of Allegiance

III. ROLL CALL:

Members Present: Richard Cyr, Christopher Gray, Danielle Haggerty, Ronald Murphy, John Snyder III and Steven Thomas

Members Absent: Derek Wood

Others Present: Town Manager Joshua Berry, Town Clerk Kristen Cushman and 11 residents/guests

IV. PUBLIC ITEMS OR COMMENTS: *(ITEMS NOT ALREADY ON THE AGENDA)*

- **Greg Newell, Stage Rd**



V. REVIEW CONSENT CALENDAR: REGULAR BUSINESS, APPOINTMENTS, SIGNATURES, AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

MINUTES	-APPROVE	2/15/2024
SIGNATURES	-APPROVE	
RESOLVES	-SIGN	
WARRANTS	-SIGN	3/1/2024

Councilor Snyder moved to approve the Consent Calendar as presented. Councilor Gray seconded the motion. Motion passes 6-0.

VI. NEWS, PRESENTATIONS AND RECOGNITIONS:

VII. PUBLIC HEARINGS:

- **Hold Public Hearing – Solar Moratorium Ordinance**

Chair Murphy opened the public hearing at 7:04PM. Public comments were given. The hearing closed at 7:06PM.

VIII. COMMITTEE REPORTS:

IX. SCHEDULED AGENDA ITEMS:

A. OLD BUSINESS:

B. NEW BUSINESS:

O23-24-12 Consider enacting an ordinance to the Hermon Code of Ordinances titled “Utility Scale Solar Facilities Moratorium Ordinance”.

Councilor Snyder moved to approve O23-24-12. Councilor Haggerty seconded the motion. The motion was accepted. Motion passes 6-0.

R23-24-15 Consider appointing an authorized person for a Business Partnership Initiative with MaineDOT on behalf of Town of Hermon and C & K Variety (Hawk’s Deli & Marketplace)
Tabled from 10/12/2023 meeting.

Councilor Snyder moved to approve R23-24-15. Councilor Cyr seconded the motion. The motion was accepted. Motion passes 6-0.



R23-24-16 Consider appointing members to the Charter Ad-Hoc Committee
Tabled from 2/15/2024 meeting.

Councilor Snyder moved to approve R23-24-16. Councilor Haggerty seconded the motion. The motion was accepted. Motion passes 5-1, Councilor Thomas voted in opposition to the motion.

R23-24-17 Consider scheduling a public hearing on the Comprehensive Plan.
Postponed from 1/18/2024.

Councilor Haggerty moved to approve R23-24-17. Councilor Snyder seconded the motion. The motion was accepted. Motion passes 6-0.

R23-24-18 Consider appointing Scott Perkins to be an “authorized person” to apply for and administer a USDA Rural Business Development Grant submitted on behalf of the Penobscot Snowmobile Club for “trail grooming equipment.”

Councilor Cyr moved to approve R23-24-18. Councilor Snyder seconded the motion. The motion was accepted. Motion passes 6-0.

C. WORKSHOPS:

FY 25 Budget discussion – Josh Berry

Manager Berry presented a draft of the proposed FY 25 Budget



To: Town Council
 From: Josh Berry, Town Manager
 FY 2025 Proposed Budget Message and Summary
 Date: Thursday, February 29, 2024

I am providing for your review the proposed FY 2025 municipal budget.

Overall revenues for FY 2025 will realize an increase of an estimated \$149,800 while proposed expenses are increasing by \$200,145 resulting in a net increase of \$50,345

Cost Center Changes:

	FY 2024	FY 2025	Difference
General Government Admin	1,421,450		83,790
Economic Development / Tech	881,014	614,863	(266,151)
Public Safety	1,675,446	1,917,651	242,205
Public Works	1,603,755	1,593,213	(10,542)
Solid Waste	530,317	665,555	135,238
Recreation / Social Services	645,709	613,814	(31,895)
Debt Service	460,710	460,710	
CIP (Capt. Improvement Plan)	490,000	440,000	(50,000)
Special Assessments			100,000
General Assistance	7,500	5,000	(2,500)
Total	\$ 8,919,901	\$ 9,120,046	\$ 200,145

increase 2%



2024 Budget

Monday, February 5, 2024 2:38 PM

Increases/Decreases

- General Gov/Admin - \$83,789
 - Legal
 - Audit cost
 - IT Cost
 - 3% cola

- Econ Development - (\$266,151)
 - Large road project coming off the books

- Public safety -\$242,205
 - Police (\$127,900)
 - Fire (\$98,500)
 - Utilities and Maintenance (\$15,000)
 - Humane Society up
 - Additional member for Sheriffs Dept. - schedule changes
 - EMT/Fire Wages
 - EMT/Fire Training
 - EMT/Fire Equipment & Supplies
 - Medical Director increased substantially

- Public Works (\$10,542)
 - Eliminated 2 position - Adding in PT summer help
 - Reduced equipment and repair costs
 - Increase in snow plowing contract

- Solid Waste -\$135,238
 - Road side pick-up contract
 - Recycling cost
 - Sewer Maintenance

- Recreation/Social Services (\$31,895)
 - Moving portion of salary line to Rec Enterprise

- Special Assessments
 - County Tax Increase \$100,000



D. OTHER ITEMS: (FROM TABLE PACKAGE)

X. APPOINTMENTS:

XI. MANAGER STATUS REPORT:

- Notified residents he has given his resignation as Town Manager
- It has been two years since Bobbie Pelletier has passed away and please keep his family in your thoughts.
- Council had a joint workshop with the Planning Board on February 20th and it went well.

XII. FINAL PUBLIC ITEMS OR COMMENT: (ITEMS NOT ALREADY ON THE AGENDA)

- Greg Newell, Stage Rd
- Haily Keezer, Orchard Dr

XIII. COUNCIL ITEMS:

All councilors wished Josh Berry well and have enjoyed working with him and he will be missed.

Danielle Haggerty: Gave an update on the school budget process.

Chris Gray: My heart goes out to Sgt Bobbie Pelletier is family.

Ronald Murphy: Gave an update on the IT at the school from the last meeting he attended.

XIV. EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Councilor Gray made a motion to enter into executive session. Councilor Haggerty seconded the motion. The motion was accepted. Motion passes 6-0.

Executive Session started at 7:55pm

Consider enter into Executive Session to discuss a personnel matter, Town Manager position per 1 M.S.R.A. § 405(6)(A)

Executive Session ended at 8:38pm.

Town Council ended executive session.



XV. ADJOURNMENT:

Councilor Haggerty moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:38 PM. Councilor Snyder seconded. With no objection the meeting was adjourned at 8:38 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

**Kristen Cushman
Town Clerk**

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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.