

The Hermon CONNECTION



Vol. 31 Issue 3 – May 2024

Updates • News • Events • Information



New Boston Post Cane Recipient

Information & Photos Submitted by Kristen Cushman

Hermon proudly displays what is believed to be the town's original Boston Post Cane. It is generally believed the Boston Post Cane tradition of honoring each town's oldest resident began in 1909 when the Boston Post gave gold-headed, ebony canes to 700 New England towns for that purpose. The intent was for town to loan the cane to the designated recipient. Over the years, many towns lost canes and many no longer honor the tradition. In 1930, after much controversy, eligibility was opened to women. Hermon continues the tradition of honoring its oldest citizen by awarding a complimentary cane, while the original cane remains on display for all to enjoy.

Joan Young was awarded the Boston Post Cane on April 28, 2024, and her achievement was acknowledged during the Council meeting on May 2, 2024. At the age of 98.78, Mrs. Young continues to inspire with her youthful spirit.

Town of Hermon
Joshua Berry, Town Manager
333 Billings Road, Hermon, ME 04401
Tel: 207-848-1010 Fax: 207-848-3316
berryj@hermonmaine.gov
www.hermonmaine.gov

If you have a news story or article for publication in the next edition of The Hermon Connection, please send it to: ouellettel@hermonmaine.gov
Deadline for submissions: June 21, 2024
Next Edition will be published mid-July

MIDDLE SCHOOL SUMMER PROGRAMMING



H-Nation Youth Camp is a summer day camp for middle schoolers with a focus on getting the kids out of the house, allowing them to spend time with their friends for daily activities, games, competitions, and weekly field trips!

VISIT HERMONREC.COM FOR MORE INFORMATION



Youth Summer Day Trips are trips for Hermon, Carmel, and Levant residents entering 5th-8th grade that are offered over summer vacation with Hermon Recreation!

VISIT HERMONREC.COM FOR MORE INFORMATION



Calling all adventurous kids 5th grade through high school!

Article submitted by: Michelle Raleigh



Calling all adventurous kids 5th grade through high school! Whether you have scouting experience or are just curious, Troop 41 in Hampden wants YOU! Join us at the VFW hall (41 Canoe Club Road) for our awesome weekly meetings every Monday at 6:30 pm. No scouting experience necessary, but if your child is wrapping up Cub Scouts, we'd be thrilled to meet them! Reach out to Scoutmaster Dan Madore at troop41bsahampden@gmail.com or 781-405-3817 for more info or to introduce your potential scout. Check out our Facebook page, Troop 41 & 41G Hampden, for a peek at the fun stuff we do like hiking, camping, boating, swimming, fishing, and more. We welcome our Hermon neighbors!! In fact, did you know our last two Eagle Scouts were Hermon High students? If you're keen on setting your child up for a life of adventure and purpose, get in touch! Can't wait to hear from you!

Curious about foster care?

Join us on **zoom** the 2nd Monday
of every month at noon
or 6 pm to learn more!

These sessions aren't part of the licensing process. They are casual, informational discussions. You can ask questions, or just sit in and listen!

Visit the events page at afamilyformemaine.org for more info!

A Family for **ME**
Q & A Sessions

The 131st Legislature has adjourned

After meeting for 24-hours straight, the 131st Legislature adjourned April 18, 2024. All that is left is one more legislative day to act on vetoes from Governor Mills.

I am disappointed that this Legislature did almost nothing to address the everyday concerns of Mainers burdened by the rising cost of living. Despite record tax receipts, Democrats refused proposals to let people keep more of their hard-earned money by lowering taxes. They also refused Republican proposals to lower energy costs, even when we were able to get support from some elected Democrats.

At 3 AM on a Saturday morning, after the press and the public had left the State House, Democrats attempted to raise taxes on retirees by rolling back planned reductions proposed by Republicans and supported by Democrats last year. Thankfully, public outrage caused them to reverse the cuts in their final budget.

Appropriations Democrats also voted to eliminate a bipartisan highway funding provision passed last year. Had that not also been reversed, \$60 million would have been taken from roads and bridges to create new programs. I am glad this did not happen, but \$11 million was still diverted from needed transportation projects.

Details on the Supplemental Budget that Democrats passed, without input from Republicans, are still being revealed. I hope that the trend of passing partisan budgets without input from legislators representing all parts of Maine does not continue. It does not reflect well on the party in power or the growing sense that everyday citizens do not have a voice in the political process.

I am optimistic that people are starting to realize that Maine is not California and that there is a growing divide between people that can afford to pay 20% more to live in Maine and those who are struggling to pay their bills.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if I can be of assistance with state matters. I can be reached at Jim.Thorne@legislature.maine.gov or call 207 287-1440.

Thank you for the opportunity to represent you in the Maine House. I love hearing your thoughts and concerns, and appreciate your input!

Sincerely, Rep. Jim Thorne

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jim Thorne". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a large, prominent "J" and "T".

Hermon Recreation is now offering:

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\$45

Gate Price: \$57, Save \$12



\$14

Gate Price: \$18, Save \$4

**Save money and time at the gate by purchasing tickets
at the Hermon Town Office! Open Mon-Fri 8am-4pm**

Hermon High School wins at State Drama Festival

Article by: Kendra Raymond, Photo by: Marti Stone Photography



It's been 14 years since Hermon High School last won a drama competition. That all changed recently when the cast and crew of *Antigone* left audience members speechless and teary-eyed, winning the 2024 Class A Maine Drama Festival.

Theater teacher and director Christie Robinson said that she'd had her eye on the Greek tragedy, "*Antigone*" by Sophocles for about a year. However, the language in the original version would not have been accessible for the students. Luckily, she came across a modern adaptation written by the Winthrop High School Drama Society in Winthrop, Massachusetts - and it was a perfect fit.

Student actors worked diligently for several months to prepare the piece. Robinson added edgy elements such

as face masks for the chorus members and bare feet for most of the cast. What ensued was something that can be described as ethereal or otherworldly.

The cast first performed the play at HHS in early March, then again at the regional competition hosted by Ellsworth High School. *Antigone* won at that level, hearing positive feedback from the judging panel. They received a couple critiques, which they promptly took to heart and incorporated some minor tweaks to improve their delivery.

Antigone, played by Kristany Raymond and Makayla Bemis as King Creon were selected for All Festival Cast at the regional level.

The group then advanced to the state competition held at Camden Hills Regional High School. *Antigone* once again came out on top, nudging out 8 other class A schools. Bemis once again earned a spot in All Festival Cast along with Sophie Petersen as Eteocles.

Despite challenges due to the late winter storm, the festival participants persevered, and the final awards were delivered in real time via live stream. The cast and families gathered for a watch party - with the roof pretty much coming off the house when first place was announced.

Robinson told WABI TV5, "'I flew I think 12 feet in the air. Little five foot me... just launched out of my seat. I was so excited!'"

Cast member sophomore Kali Alexander told WABI TV5, "Keep building. Like... it doesn't matter what the judges think as long as we're doing good for ourselves and we're getting better as a team and a group." That's a message that has resonated among the cast with Robinson's guidance. Her commitment to excellence, focus, and work ethic leads the cast to success on and off the stage.

Due to overwhelming demand, *Antigone* was called back for one final performance at HHS to yet another packed house.

The cast was honored at the Hermon School Board meeting and received certificates. They will also be recognized by the State House. Plans are in the works for a banner to display in the auditorium. A generous community member has donated funds for a victory celebration.

The Hermon Theater Arts program is in a rebuilding phase. This recent win provides positive momentum to rocket the program into its next venture. Parents are stepping up and have plans to re-establish the Hermon Arts Boosters program. Anticipation for future productions is already growing. Keep an eye on the Hermon Theater Arts Facebook page for upcoming events.

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Maine Motor Transport Association Elects Chelsea Demmons as Chairwoman

Election marks first woman to lead trucking association

Article Submitted by: Shelby Reynolds, Communications Officer

At Augusta's Annual Membership Meeting, Chelsea Demmons, Vice President of Retention & Engagement for Bison USA, was elected Chairwoman of the Maine Motor Transport Association (MMTA). The MMTA is comprised of more than 1,790-member companies, whose employees make up a large portion of the 34,000 people who make their living in the trucking industry in Maine.

Mrs. Demmons takes the helm of one of Maine's largest trade associations from Jeff Bouchard, President of HO Bouchard, Inc., after leading the group throughout his two-year term. It is important to note that the occasion marks the first time in the MMTA's 78-year history that a woman has been elevated to this esteemed position.

"It's an honor and a privilege to be elected as Chair of such a well-respected group of trucking professionals," **said Mrs. Demmons.** "Being the first woman to hold this position speaks to the changes our industry has been working on to make trucking more collaborative and welcoming to women. Everyone in trucking serves a unique purpose in making our industry tick. Being a part of that has shaped me as a person, while giving me complete gratitude for the people I work with. Together, we've been through a lot of storms trucking has thrown at us. We need to prepare the next generations to be able to weather those storms to keep the legacy of trucking going strong, just as our past generations have done for us." She ends with, "I may be the first woman in this seat for MMTA, but I don't want to be the last."

"Chelsea has been an active and involved MMTA member for a number of years," **said MMTA President and CEO Brian Parke.** "And she has quite a few priorities to pursue in the next two-years, mainly to get more people involved in the MMTA and to accentuate and improve upon our industry's workforce development campaign. We're excited to have her energy and trucking experience leading our Association."

Mrs. Demmons joins a list of only 49 other individuals to be elected as Chair of the MMTA since its inception in 1946.



Bison USA was formed through the merger of Britton Transport and H.O. Wolding in 2022. On January 3, 2022, Bison purchased Hartt Transportation. Hartt was founded in Etna in 1948 and located there for more than 30 years until moving to Bangor in 1981. On October 31, 2022, Bison also purchased Pottle's Transportation in Hermon, a company founded in 1962 with three generations of owners and leadership. Bison USA is a company built on family values, treating our customers, partners, and team members with respect and professionalism.

Programs for Senior Citizens in Our Community

HERMON RECREATION

Crafting Sessions

Looking for a fun and creative activity to do? Join us on the 2nd Tuesday of each month for a crafting session with Julie! You don't have to worry about bringing anything because all materials and instructions will be provided.

When: 2nd Tuesday of each month, 12:30pm

Location: Boulrier Place

Cost: Free

Yoga Classes

Weekly yoga classes are offered every Thursday with Andrea! This gentle and beginner-friendly class is open to all seniors, regardless of experience or fitness level. Take the time to unwind, relax, and have a laugh!

When: Thursdays, 11:15am

Location: Boulrier Place

Cost: Free

Senior Social Events

Unwind and enjoy some friendly competition with us every Thursday afternoon. We'll provide snacks, coffee, and tea to keep you fueled up.

When: Thursdays, 12:30 pm

Where: Boulrier Place

Cost: Free

Luncheons

Come join us for an upcoming luncheon, where you can savor a mouth-watering meal and catch up with friends, new and old!

Check a monthly calendar for future dates.

Location: Hermon Town Office

Cost: Free

Our goal is to provide free and affordable programs for senior citizens in our community through the Hermon Rec Seniors group. If you're a senior citizen or know someone who is 50+ and would benefit from being part of our group, we'd love to hear from you! For more information on senior activities offered by Hermon Recreation and to register, please contact the rec office at 207-848-8014.



To view all monthly events, a calendar is available both online and at the Hermon Town Office.

Want to contribute to the Hermon Connection?

Have something you want to share with the community? If you have an item of interest pertaining to the Town of Hermon we want to hear about it! Submitting an article in the Hermon Connection is a good way for residents and organizations to share stories of interest with the community. If you would like to submit an article, please email it to Lindsey Ouellette at ouellettel@hermonmaine.gov. In order for Hermon residents and/or organizations to submit articles to be published in the Connection, the following criteria must be met:

1. The person submitting the article must be a resident of the Town of Hermon.
2. The organization submitting the article must be location within Hermon's geographic boundaries.
3. The organization has a lawful purpose which does not pose a threat to public order, to the safety of the public, or to the safety of any individual.
4. The organization does not have as its primary purpose marketing products of services or making a profit.

Please be aware that any articles and notices submitted by community members and community organizations may not contain offensive language, slander, advocate violence or unlawful activity, or pose a threat to public order or to persons or their reputation. When determining whether or not to submit an article, please be aware the deadlines for submission are approximately the 20th of February, April, June, August, October and December.

Once you have submitted your article, Town staff will be in contact with you to let you know if the article you submitted will be published. We look forward to hearing from you!



SAVE THE DATE...

THE SUMMER SIZZLER

RETURNS ON

AUGUST 17TH, 2024!



AND MUCH MORE!

Middle School Track & Field

Article submitted by: Isaiah Marseille, Recreation Programmer

The Hermon Recreation Middle School Track & Field Spring season came to a close in May. This year, there was a record number of participants on the middle school team with 55 kids total. We have seen spectacular growth in this program and look forward to its continuous growth over the coming years. Out of the 55 kids on the team, 36 qualified for the Almquist Invitational meet, a fantastic accomplishment. Congratulations to Hermon's own Ella Johnson (pictured below) who broke Almquist records in both the 1600-meter run, with a time of 5:18, and the 800-meter run with a time of 2:28. Way to go, Ella!

Photo by Seth Poplaski



A graphic for the Summer Track & Field program. It features a blue background with a white border. At the top, there is a small logo with the letters 'H' and 'REC'. Below this, the words 'SUMMER' and 'TRACK & FIELD' are written in large, bold, yellow letters with a black outline. The word 'SUMMER' is in a sans-serif font, while 'TRACK & FIELD' is in a stylized, blocky font. Below the main title, the text 'GRADES K-4 & 5-8' is written in yellow, followed by '\$70' in a large, bold, yellow font. At the bottom, the text 'REGISTER BY SUNDAY JUNE 2ND' and 'WWW.HERMONREC.COM' are written in yellow. On either side of the text, there are two stylized bird logos, each with a yellow body and a black outline.

**SUMMER
TRACK & FIELD**

**GRADES
K-4 & 5-8
\$70**

REGISTER BY SUNDAY JUNE 2ND
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has silver in
their hair and
gold in their
heart.



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Annual Town Meeting

Budget Approval

Thursday, June 13, 2024

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, the Election in this Municipality will be held at the **Patricia A. Duran School Gymnasium** on Tuesday, June 13, 2024 to act on Article 1 at 6:45 a.m. and Article 2 from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. The Annual Town Meeting will be held at the **Hermon High School in the Auditorium, 2415 Route 2 in Hermon on Thursday, June 13, 2024 at 6:00 p.m.** to act on the remaining articles.

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 2025 with approval of the Town Council?

Revenues

10-130 Hermon Connection Revenue
10-121 Local Plumbing Fees
14-140 Transfer Station Fees
14-150 Tipping Fee Revenue (PERC)
12-182 Police Revenue
12-185 Fire Dept. Revenue
35 Recreation Enterprise Revenues

Expenses

10-13-04-05 Hermon Connection Expenses
10-13-05-04 Local Plumbing Expenses
14-01 Landfill Expense
14-02 Household Waste Expense
12-01 Police Expenses
12-02 Fire Dept. Expenses
35 Recreation Enterprise Expenses

(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 of Hermon combine reserve accounts Herm 3, Herm 13, Herm, 14, and Herm 34 into the Herm 2, Administration Reserve account?

Recommended by the Town Council

ARTICLE 5: Shall the Town of Hermon combine the reserve account Herm 31 into the Herm 5, Public Safety & Fire Department Reserve account?

Recommended by the Town Council

ARTICLE 6: Shall the Town of Hermon combine reserve accounts Herm 8, Herm 29, and Herm 32 into the Herm 06, Public Works & Road Reserve account?

Recommended by the Town Council

ARTICLE 7: Shall the Town of Hermon combine reserve accounts Herm 4 and Herm 28 into the Herm 9, Parks and Recreation Reserve account?

Recommended by the Town Council

ARTICLE 8: Shall the Town of Hermon combine reserve accounts Herm 17 and Herm 19 into the Herm 11, Public Facility Reserve account?

Recommended by the Town Council

ARTICLE 9: Shall the Town of Hermon combine reserve account Herm 35 into the Herm 12, Sewer maintenance account?

Recommended by the Town Council

ARTICLE 10: Shall the Town raise and appropriate the following sums of money for each of the listed reserves?

| | |
|--|-------------------|
| HERM02 Administrative Reserve | \$ 0 |
| HERM05 Public Safety & Fire Dept Res | \$ 150,000 |
| HERM06 Public Works & Road Reserve | \$ 175,000 |
| HERM09 Parks & Recreation Reserve | \$ 45,000 |
| HERM11 Public Facility Reserve | \$ 100,000 |
| HERM12 Sewer Maintenance Reserve | \$ 20,000 |
| Total Appropriation to Reserves | \$ 490,000 |

Recommended by the Town Council

ARTICLE 11: Shall the Town vote to authorize the expenditure of up to \$25,000 from the Parks & Recreation Reserve (HERM04) for the purchase of stone repair/cleaning, gazebo repair and tree removal our cemeteries and veteran memorial park?

Recommended by the Town Council

ARTICLE 12: Shall the Town vote to authorize the expenditure of up to \$75,000 from the Parks & Recreation Reserve (HERM04) for the purchase of playground repair, equipment replacement, football & baseball field improvements and canopy construction for the summer rec program at PADS?

Recommended by the Town Council

ARTICLE 13: Shall the Town vote to authorize the expenditure of up to \$314,425 from the Highway Improvement Reserve (HERM06) to repair and rehabilitate the Pine Tree Road, Higgins Drive and New Boston Road, including road drainage, tree cutting, shoulder work and repair to various local roads in Hermon, contingent upon approval of Article 4?

Recommended by the Town Council

ARTICLE 14: Shall the Town vote to authorize an expenditure of up to \$20,000 from Public Works & Road Reserve (HERM06) to install a new plow on public works truck PW1 and replace sander in PW3?

Recommended by Town Council

ARTICLE 15: Shall the Town vote to authorize an expenditure of up to \$135,000 from Sewer Maintenance Reserve (HERM12) to offset anticipated increases to the roadside refuse collections contract with Casella Waste?

Recommended by Town Council

ARTICLE 16: Shall the Town vote to authorize an expenditure of up to \$65,000 from Sewer Maintenance Reserve (HERM12) for generator installs at Cedar Brook Drive and North Street Extension wastewater lift stations?

Recommended by Town Council

ARTICLE 17: Shall the Town vote to authorize an expenditure of up to \$25,000 from the School Repair Reserve (HERM07) to repair and restore schoolhouse property on Billings Rd?

Recommended by Town Council

ARTICLE 18: Shall the Town vote to authorize an expenditure of up to \$20,000 from Public Facility Reserve (HERM11) for Town Office interior door project?

Recommended by the Town Council

ARTICLE 19: Shall the Town vote to authorize the transfer of funds from Tax Incremental Financing (TIF) Revenue in the amount up to \$743,925 to off-set authorized expenditures for Economic Development general accounts #11-01-01-01 to 11-01-20-06 in the amount of \$618,925 including the reconstruction of Logistics Lane, industrial park upgrades, GIS mapping, and Ryder incentive prog.; and account # 19-02-25-03 TIF Credit Enhancement Agreements (\$125,000)?

Recommended by Town Council

ARTICLE 20: Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate for municipal purposes for Fiscal Year 2024 for the period July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2025 the following sums of money?

Appropriation by category:

| | |
|--|--------------------|
| General Government/Administration | \$ 1,524,974 |
| Economic Development/Technology | \$ 618,925 |
| Public Safety | \$ 1,933,196 |
| Public Works | \$ 1,583,213 |
| Solid Waste | \$ 665,555 |
| Recreation/Social Service | \$ 170,814 |
| Debt Service | \$ 460,710 |
| Reserves | \$ 440,000 |
| Special Assessments (includes County) | \$ 1,304,000 |
| General Assistance | <u>\$ 5,000</u> |
| Total Municipal & County Appropriation | \$8,706,387 |

Recommended by the Town Council

ARTICLE 21: Shall the Town set the Fiscal Year 2024 Tax Commitment excluding the Overlay Account as follows:

| | |
|--------------------------------|---------------------|
| Municipal Expenses: | \$ 7,527,387 |
| County Assessment | \$ 1,179,000 |
| Local contribution to Schools: | <u>\$ 6,005,865</u> |
| Total Expenses | \$14,712,252 |
| Less Municipal Revenues | <u>-\$5,584,850</u> |

Total Commitment less Overlay \$9,124,402

Recommended by the Town Council

ARTICLE 22: Shall the Town appropriate from Overlay Account an amount not to exceed \$30,000 for tax abatements?

Recommended by the Town Council

**ARTICLES 23 THROUGH 32
AUTHORIZE SCHOOL DEPARTMENT EXPENDITURES IN COST CENTER
CATEGORIES**

ARTICLE 23: Shall the School Department be authorized to spend \$8,317,121.61 for Regular Instruction?

Town Council and School Committee Recommend \$8,317,121.61

ARTICLE 24: Shall the School Department be authorized to spend \$3,051,681.08 for Special Education?

Town Council and School Committee Recommend \$3,051,681.08

ARTICLE 25: Shall the School Department be authorized to spend \$0 for Career and Technical Education?

Town Council and School Committee Recommend \$0

ARTICLE 26: Shall the School Department be authorized to spend \$735,458.95 for Other Instruction (summer School/extra Act)?

Town Council and School Committee Recommend \$735,458.95

ARTICLE 27: Shall the School Department be authorized to spend \$1,919,766.68 for Student/Staff Support?

Town Council and School Committee Recommend \$1,919,766.68

ARTICLE 28: Shall the School Department be authorized to spend \$643,806.59 for System Administration?

Town Council and School Committee Recommend \$643,806.59

ARTICLE 29: Shall the School Department be authorized to spend \$1,089,281.99 for School Administration?

Town Council and School Committee Recommend \$1,089,281.99

ARTICLE 30: Shall the School Department be authorized to spend \$946,238.23 for Transportation/buses?

Town Council and School Committee Recommend \$946,238.23

ARTICLE 31: Shall the School Department be authorized to spend \$2,453,299.84 for Facilities/Maintenance?

Town Council and School Committee Recommend \$2,453,299.84

ARTICLE 32: Shall the School Department be authorized to spend \$571,608.00 for Debt/Other Commitments?

Town Council and School Committee Recommend \$571,608.00

ARTICLES 33-34

RAISE FUNDS FOR THE SCHOOL BUDGET

ARTICLE 33: Shall the Town of Hermon appropriate the recommended amounts below for 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 Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, section 15688.

Town Council and School Committee Recommend the Below Amounts:

Total Appropriated: \$13,152,981

Total Raised: \$4,3001,014

***Explanation:** 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 34: Shall the Town of Hermon raise and appropriate \$571,608 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.

Town Council and School Committee Recommend \$571,608

***Explanation:** 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.*

WRITTEN BALLOT REQUIRED

ARTICLE 35: (WRITTEN BALLOT REQUIRED) Shall the Town of Hermon raise and appropriate \$1,133,243.03 in additional local funds, which exceeds the State's Essential Programs and Services allocation model by \$1,133,243.03 as required to fund the budget recommended by the School Committee?

Town Council and School Committee Recommend \$1,133,243.03

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

SUMMARIZES THE SCHOOL BUDGET

ARTICLE 36: Shall the Town authorize the School Committee to expend \$19,728,262.97 for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2024 and ending June 30, 2025 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?

Town Council and School Committee Recommend \$19,728,262.97

ARTICLE 37: In addition to the amounts approved in the preceding Articles, shall the Town authorize the School Committee to expend other such sums as may be received from state and federal grants, aid, and receipts during the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2024 and ending June 30, 2025 for school purposes, provided that such grants, aid and receipts do not require expenditure of local funds not previously appropriated?

Town Council and School Committee Recommend YES

ARTICLE 38: Shall the Region Four Vocational Budget as approved by the Cooperative Board for the year July 1, 2024 – June 30, 2025 be approved in the amount of \$4,842,937.10?

Explanation: 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.

Town Council and School Committee Recommend YES

ARTICLE 39: 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 expenditures for school purposes in cost center categories approved by the School Committee and/or the allocation of finances to reserve funds approved by the School Committee?

Town Council and School Committee Recommend YES

ARTICLE 40: Shall the Region Four Vocational Budget as approved by the Cooperative Board for **adult education** for the year July 1, 2024 – June 30, 2025 be approved in the amount of \$318,528.80?

Explanation: 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 \$3,410.77.

Town Council and School Committee Recommend YES

ARTICLE 41: Shall the Town of Hermon create a new reserve account titled "HHS Science Lab Reserve Account" (HERM24)?

Town Council and School Committee Recommend \$50,000.00

ARTICLE 42: Shall the Town of Hermon repurpose the reserve account titled "Unemployment Reserve" to "Special Education Out of District Placement Reserve"?

Town Council and School Committee Recommend

ARTICLE 43: Shall the Town of Hermon allow the transfer of up to \$250,000 from the School Undesignated Fund Balance to the newly created "HHS Science Lab Reserve Account" (HERM24)?

Town Council and School Committee Recommend

Richard Cyr
Richard Cyr

Ronald Murphy
Ronald Murphy

Steven Thomas
Steven Thomas

Christopher Gray
Christopher Gray

John Snyder III
John Snyder III

Derek Wood
Derek Wood

Vacant
Vacant

Attest Original/True Copy: Kristen L. Cushman, Clerk





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