



**Town of Hermon**  
**Public Safety Meeting Room**  
**September 22, 2016**  
**Town Council Meeting**  
**7:00 PM**  
**MINUTES**

\*\*\* Televised live on Cable Channel 121.111 \*\*\*

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**

Chair Thomas called the meeting to order at 7:00pm.

**II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Chair Thomas led those in attendance in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**III. ROLL CALL**

**Members Present:** Anne Freeman, Donna Ellis, Steve Thomas, Doug Sinclair, Jeanne Jacques, John Snyer and Steve Watson

**Members Absent:** None

**Others Present:** Town Manager Howard Kroll, Town Clerk Ruth A. Nickerson, Senator Geoff Gratwick, Public Works Director Scott Perkins, Bill Scott, Wendy Wiles-Scott and Donna Pulver

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

**MINUTES. -APPROVE May 26, 2016, June 9, 2016 and June 30, 2016**

**WARRANTS. -SIGN September 21, 2016**



**Councilor Freeman moved to approve the Consent Calendar as presented. Councilor Snyder seconded the motion. A Roll Call vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.**

*The motion carries.*

**V. NEWS, PRESENTATIONS AND RECOGNITIONS**

None

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

**Senator Geoff Gratwick** informed the Council that it is a pleasure to be here. He told how he had little to report out of Augusta, but shared the issues he is most concerned about. Those are: an emphasis on working and establishing jobs in a bipartisan way, significant cuts for individuals with mental disabilities, and the current very real drug crisis we find ourselves in. This crisis requires that we develop prescription guidelines and establish accountability.

Chair Thomas asked the Senator what his position is on legalizing marijuana. Senator Gratwick told how he believes that Medical Marijuana has a place and its plusses. He then state that he is opposed to Recreational Marijuana because there is simply not enough data. He informed the Council that legalizing Recreational Marijuana will eventually happen and encouraged the Council to proceed with caution.

**VII. PUBLIC HEARINGS**

**#1. Hold Public Hearing to hear comment on Morgan Hill's Liquor License Application.**

Chair Thomas opened the public hearing at 7:10pm. He opened the floor for public comment for or against. There was none. The public hearing closed at 7:11pm.

**VIII. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

None

**IX. SCHEDULED AGENDA ITEMS**

**A. OLD BUSINESS**

**#2. Consider approving funds for business park improvements**

The Town Manager requested approval to reallocate funds approved at the Annual Town Meeting. \$70,000 was approved for the Printer's Way project. That project did not require all the funds. Approval to spend the remaining \$19, 907.83 improving roads and drainage in other business parks was requested.



**Councilor Jacques moved to approve FR16-17-15. Councilor Snyder seconded the motion. A Roll Call vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.**

*The motion carries.*

**\*(FR16-17-15 is attached for review.)**

## **B. NEW BUSINESS**

### **#3. Consider appointing voting delegate for MMA Annual Business Meeting**

Manager Kroll informed the Council that he would be willing to serve on MMA's Legislative Policy Committee. Mr. Raymond had served in the same capacity prior to his retirement.

**Councilor Jacques moved to approve R16-17-21. Councilor Watson seconded the motion. The motion was accepted without doubt.**

*The motion carries.*

**\*(R16-17-21 is attached for review.)**

### **#4. Consider introducing an ordinance amendment to the Hermon Code of Ordinances**

The Town Manager told how the Planning Board is seeking Council approval to amend the Non-Conforming Uses section of Title 15. He introduced the ordinance and requested a public hearing be held on October 6, 2016.

**Councilor Freeman moved to approve R16-17-22. Councilor Jacques seconded the motion. The motion was accepted without doubt.**

*The motion carries.*

**\*(R16-17-22 is attached for review.)**

### **#5. Consider introducing an ordinance amendment to the Hermon Code of Ordinances**

The Town Manager informed the Council that James Gallant of Bangor, ME has purchased the old Wheeler Stream Campground on Route #2 with the intention of reestablishing the campground. A Contract Zone is necessary because the property is currently non-conforming due to a portion of it being in the Village Commercial District. Campgrounds are not allowed in the Village Commercial District. An ordinance amendment was introduced and a public hearing was scheduled for October 6, 2016.

**Councilor Jacques moved to approve R16-17-23. Councilor Snyder seconded the motion. The motion was accepted without doubt.**

*The motion carries.*

**\*(R16-17-23 is attached for review.)**

### **#6. Review and discuss proposed Resolution for "No on Question 1."**



Manager Kroll explained to the Council and those in attendance that resident Kim Nichols has requested the Council adopt a resolution opposing Question 1. The Manager informed the Council that he was not in the position to tell them how to tell their voters to vote. Senator Gratwick spoke regarding the request; informing the Council that while it would be appropriate to approve such a resolution, to do so without hearing both sides would not be prudent. A balanced presentation is necessary. Councilor Jacques stated that she did not feel the Council should be telling the townspeople how to vote. Councilor Ellis agreed telling how we cannot have enough information on the topic, and that we need to hear from both sides. Chair Thomas requested the Council hold a workshop to discuss the topic.

**Councilor Freeman moved to approve R16-17-24. Councilor Jacques seconded the motion. The motion was accepted without doubt.**

*The motion carries.*

\*(R16-17-24 is attached for review.)

**#7. Consider seeking Engineering Services for Newburgh/Coldbrook Roads**

The Town Manager reminded the Council of the upcoming projects on Newburgh Road and Coldbrook Road. The Town is financially responsible for 50% of the project approved at a Special Town Meeting held on July 28, 2016. The Manager requested authorization to seek engineering services for the projects.

**Councilor Watson moved to approve R16-17-25. Councilor Jacques seconded the motion. A Roll Call vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.**

*The motion carries.*

\*(R16-17-25 is attached for review.)

**#8. Consider accepting Municipal Partnership Organization Grant**

The Manager told of the need to replace the traffic light at the Odlin Road intersection. The Town has spent over \$10,000 over the last 10 years in repairs to that light. Mr. Kroll requested authorization to accept a Municipal Partnership Organization Grant in the amount of \$87,525.00. The Town will be responsible for 10% of the project (\$8,752.50.) The State of Maine is responsible for 10% and the Federal Highway Administration is responsible for the remaining 80%.

**Councilor Snyer moved to approve FR16-17-16. Councilor Freeman seconded the motion. A Roll Call vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.**

*The motion carries.*

\*(FR16-17-16 is attached for review.)

**C. WORKSHOPS**

None



**D. OTHER ITEMS (from Table Package)**

None

**X. APPOINTMENTS**

None

**XI. MANAGER STATUS REPORT:**

**Thank You** to Michelle Thayer, the Rec staff, volunteers and sponsors for the Harvest & Homecoming Celebration. It was a successful event and Michelle worked extremely hard.

**Fire Chief** Frank Roma starts his new position on Monday. Please feel free to come by and meet Chief Roma. He has a lot of fresh new ideas and is a welcome addition to our community.

**Route #2 Project** begins Wednesday, September 28, 2016. This project has been a long time in the planning. Motorists should expect traffic delays. The project is expected to be completed in July of 2017.

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

None

**XIII. COUNCIL ITEMS:**

**Councilor Freeman**

**Councilor Thomas**

**XIV. EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

None

**XV. ADJOURNMENT:**

**Councilor Jacques** moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:56pm. **Councilor Watson** seconded the motion. **With no objection the meeting was adjourned.**

**Respectfully Submitted,**

**Ruth A. Nickerson, CCM  
Town Clerk**