



Town of Hermon
Public Safety Meeting Room
October 20, 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 Thomas

Members Absent: None

Others Present: Town Manager Howard Kroll, Town Clerk Ruth A. Nickerson, Assessor Ben Birch, Josh Berry, Donna Pulver, Bill Scott, Wendy Wiles-Scott, Scott Perkins, Sargent Pelletier and Kim Nichols

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

MINUTES. -APPROVE August 11, 2016

WARRANTS. -SIGN October 21, 2016



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

The motion carries.

V. NEWS, PRESENTATIONS AND RECOGNITIONS

#1. Presentation from the Assessing Department

Assessor Ben Birch presented the FY2016 Commitment Report to the Council. The report contained details regarding the Assessing departments' mission, FY2016 goals and department programs, 2016 Enhanced BETE program, the Assessor's Certification of Assessment and Certificate of Commitment. Additionally, Mr. Birch reviewed the Preliminary 2017 State Valuation. State valuation is a mass appraisal estimate of the 100% market value of all taxable property of a municipality and is established annually by the state tax assessor. He then gave an update on the current In-House Revaluation project that is taking place. He informed the Council that field work has been completed through tax map 35, and that he is working with Cindy Pellett establishing Neighborhood Maps showing all residential neighborhoods and separate neighborhood maps for zoning: residential a, residential b, residential c and agricultural forestry.

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

None

VII. PUBLIC HEARINGS

None

VIII. COMMITTEE REPORTS

None

IX. SCHEDULED AGENDA ITEMS

A. OLD BUSINESS

#2. Consider approving payment for Cemetery Stone Cleaning & Repair work.

The Town Manager explained that we hired an individual to straighten 140 stones, to repair 8 stones and to clean up most of the other stones. He did an impressive job.

Councilor Freeman moved to approve FR16-17-20. Councilor Snyder seconded the motion. A Roll Call vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.

The motion carries.

**(FR16-17-20 is attached for review.)*



#3. Consider awarding bid for Public Works Drainage to recommended contractor.

Three bids were received. Alan Dorr was the low bid. Gardner Construction had the highest bid.

Councilor Snyder moved to approve FR16-17-21. Councilor Sinclair seconded the motion. A Roll Call vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.

The motion carries.

*(FR16-17-21 is attached for review.)

#4. Consider awarding bid for Cemetery Gravel Installation project to recommended contractor.

Two bids were received. Alan Dorr was the low bid. Gardner Construction was the high bidder.

Councilor Sinclair moved to approve FR16-17-22. Councilor Snyder seconded the motion. A Roll Call vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.

The motion carries.

*(FR16-17-22 is attached for review.)

B. NEW BUSINESS

#5. Consider approving a request to advertise Public Works items for public bid.

Scott Perkins explained to the Council that there have been some surplus items sitting in the Public Works yard for some time now: a Boss9.2V plow with a twisted frame and a worn center hinge pin, and a steel cylindrical tank. There is no longer room or reason to hold onto these two pieces of equipment. Authorization to put the items out for public bid was requested.

Councilor Freeman moved to approve R16-17-34. Councilor Snyder seconded the motion. The motion was accepted without doubt.

The motion carries.

*(R16-17-34 is attached for review.)

#6. Introduce an ordinance titled "Retail Marijuana Moratorium," an amendment to Land Use Code Schedule of Uses Chapter 154 Section 046, and an amendment to Marijuana Cultivation and/or Processing Facility Chapter 154 Section 083 and Schedule a Public Hearing on November 3,2016.

Manager Kroll recommended the Council consider establishing an ad-hoc committee as several surrounding communities have done to be prepared for the legalization of marijuana across our state and the effects that could have on our community.

Councilor Watson moved to approve R16-17-35. Councilor Freeman seconded the motion. The motion was accepted without doubt.

The motion carries.

*(R16-17-35 is attached for review.)



C. WORKSHOPS

None

D. OTHER ITEMS (from Table Package)

#7. Consider awarding engineering services for a road projects including Coldbrook Road and Newburgh Road

Engineering work on these road projects needs to be complete by December 1st, making this a time sensitive issue. 6 bids were received. MDOT is recommending we accept the services proposed by James W. Sewall Company. In response to Councilor Jacques, Mr. Perkins told how he is confident in Sewall's ability to perform the necessary services.

Councilor Freeman moved to approve FR16-17-23. Councilor Snyder seconded the motion. A Roll Call vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.

The motion carries.

***(FR16-17-23 is attached for review.)**

#8. Consider appointing Manager Kroll to the Ecotat Board of Trustees

Councilor Snyder told how historically the Town Manager sits on the Ecotat Board of Trustees. Manager Kroll stated that he would be honored to serve on the Board.

Councilor Jacques moved to approve R16-17-36. Councilor Snyder seconded the motion. The motion was accepted without doubt.

The motion carries.

***(R16-17-36 is attached for review.)**

X. APPOINTMENTS

None

XI. MANAGER STATUS REPORT:

Miller Hill was the location of another bad accident Saturday morning. Our police have done two details on the hill. The majority of traffic is still turning improperly, including 3 MDOT trucks and 5 of our school busses that were seen on the hill. We have plenty of ideas to make it safer and to not do something to improve it is an injustice to our residents.



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

Donna Pulver asked about how we pay our Animal Control Officer, stating that she did not think that 50 cents an hour was appropriate. Sgt. Pelletier explained that that is the increase we gave our patrol office for taking on the extra responsibility of ACO.

XIII. COUNCIL ITEMS:

Councilor Snyer asked about the speed sign and if it could be used on Miller Hill.

Councilor Sinclair informed the Council that he has volunteered to serve on the County Budget Committee. He also asked about the status of the MRC/PERC settlement. Manager Kroll stated that he will check in with PERC.

XIV. EXECUTIVE SESSION:

None

XV. ADJOURNMENT:

Councilor Freeman moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:40pm. **Councilor Snyer** seconded the motion. With no objection the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ruth A. Nickerson, CCM