



Town of Hermon
Public Safety Meeting Room
November 3, 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, Larry Willey, Geoff Gratwick, Kim Nichols

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

MINUTES. -APPROVE

WARRANTS. –SIGN November 4, 2016

Councilor Freeman moved to approve the Consent Calendar as presented. Councilor Snyer 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)*

Larry Willey spoke to the Council about his proposals to consolidate services and save money on both state and local levels. He explained briefly the contents of his Pro-Maine 21 proposal and encouraged the Councilors to read it at length.

Geoff Gratwick thanked Mr. Willey for speaking, stating that he has a very interesting paper. Senator Gratwick told how he is anxious for 8:01pm on Election night. He stated how proud he is of our Clerks, Lisa Goodwin and Ruth Nickerson for the work they have done. This has not been an easy election.

VII. PUBLIC HEARINGS

#1. **Hold Public Hearing to hear public comment regarding the adoption of an ordinance titled, “Retail Marijuana Moratorium” and an ordinance amendment to “Marijuana Cultivation and /or Processing Facility.**

Chair Thomas opened the Public Hearing at 7:14pm. He opened the floor for comments for or against the adoption of the proposed ordinance. Kim Nichols lives at 531 Ridge Drive. She spoke to the Council informing them that she has a lot of strong feelings about the legalization of marijuana in Maine. She told how she is very proud of Hermon and that she is here tonight to support the Council’s work. She then stated that she agrees with taking a step back and hearing from both sides of the issue. There were no other comments. The public hearing closed at 7:15pm.

VIII. COMMITTEE REPORTS

None

IX. SCHEDULED AGENDA ITEMS

A. OLD BUSINESS

#2. **Consider - Authorizing the use of approved, dedicated funds for Website Upgrade.**

Manager Kroll informed the Council that Staff alongside Sutherland Weston is participating in ongoing work to improve the Town’s website. In response to Chair Thomas, Mr. Kroll stated that the upgrade will be complete in a couple of months. The Manager then commended Wendy Wiles-Scott for doing such a great job coordinating the upgrade.



Councilor Jacques moved to approve FR16-17-24. Councilor Freeman seconded the motion. A Roll Call vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.

The motion carries.

*(FR16-17-24 is attached for review.)

- #3. Consider – Authorizing the use of approved dedicated funds for Laser Printers mandated by the State of Maine Department of Motor Vehicles.**

Manager Kroll explained to the Council that funds were approved at the Annual Town Meeting for the purchase of new laser printers for use with the Department of Motor Vehicle. The DMV is changing the forms used for vehicle registrations, MVR-3's.

Councilor Freeman moved to approve FR16-17-25. Councilor Jacques seconded the motion. A Roll Call vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.

The motion carries.

*(FR16-17-25 is attached for review.)

- #4. Consider – Enacting an ordinance amendment to the Hermon Code of Ordinances – Title 15, Section 154, Sub Section 46, Retail Marijuana Moratorium” and an ordinance amendment to “Marijuana Cultivation and/or Processing Facility – Title 15, Section 154, Sub Section 83.**

The Town Manager told how regardless of the election the Town needs to look at the issue of Retail Marijuana and address it appropriately because the issue is not going away. Enacting the Moratorium will give 180 days to consider how the Town wants to handle Retail Marijuana in our community.

Councilor Freeman moved to approve R16-17-39. Councilor Snyder seconded the motion. A Roll Call vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.

The motion carries.

*(R16-17-39 is attached for review.)

B. NEW BUSINESS

- #5. Consider – Introducing an ordinance amendment to the Hermon Code of Ordinances – Title 15, Section 154, Sub Section 6 b, Zone Change. (Annis Rd. Property)**

Brian and Michelle Thayer request to change the zone of a piece of property they own on Annis Road. Currently the 74.88 acres is zoned agricultural/forestry. The request asks to change the entire parcel to Residential B. The Manager requested a public hearing be scheduled for November 17, 2016.

Councilor Jacques moved to approve R16-17-37. Councilor Snyder seconded the motion. The motion was accepted without doubt.

The motion carries.

*(R16-17-37 is attached for review.)



#6. Consider – Introducing an ordinance amendment to the Hermon Code of Ordinances – Title 15, Section 154, Sub Section 6 b, Zone Change. (Billings Rd. Property)

Charles Hillman request to change the zone of a portion of property he owns on the Billings Road. He is requesting the Council consider changing the 60 acres zoned Residential A to Residential B. The Town Manger requested a public hearing be scheduled for November 17, 2016.

Councilor Freeman moved to approve R16-17-38. Councilor Snyder seconded the motion. The motion was accepted without doubt.

The motion carries.

***(R16-17-38 is attached for review.)**

C. WORKSHOPS

None

D. OTHER ITEMS (from Table Package)

None

X. APPOINTMENTS

#7. Consider – Appointing the Retail Marijuana Moratorium Ad-Hoc Committee to review, prepare and forward to the Town Council a Retail Marijuana Ordinance within 180 days.

Chair Thomas asked if we could consider postponing the appointment of this committee until the meeting on the 17th. The Public Safety Committee is holding a meeting on November 7, and the Election will take place on November 8th. The results of both may have an impact on such appointments.

Councilor Snyder moved to table this agenda item until November 17, 2016.

Councilor Freeman seconded the motion. The motion was accepted without doubt.

The motion carries.

XI. MANAGER STATUS REPORT:

Veterans Day - The Town Office will be closed on the 11th. The ROTC will be in the parade. I'd like to recognize personally any and all Hermon Veterans. These individuals are never to be forgotten or taken for granted.

Economic Development – We are working with several businesses that are looking at Hermon as their destination.



Election – The Election will take place next Tuesday. At this point 989 absentee ballots have been cast. There are a lot of issues being addressed at levels of government; Country, State and Local.

Snow – Snow is right around the corner. We have met with the snow plow contractor and an emergency chain of command has been established.

Route #2 – This project is going well. The majority of what needs to be done in this phase is complete.

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

None

XIII. COUNCIL ITEMS:

Councilor Freeman told how Donna Pulver has been seriously ill and just came home from the hospital today.

Councilor Thomas asked Kim Nichols if she would consider sitting on the Ad-Hoc committee being developed for the Marijuana Moratorium.

Councilor Jacques told how Miller Hill seems different to her when she drives up it. The new paint seems to be helping.

XIV. EXECUTIVE SESSION:

None

XV. ADJOURNMENT:

Councilor Watson moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:45pm. Councilor Snyer seconded the motion. With no objection the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

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