



Town of Hermon
Public Safety Meeting Room
February 23, 2017
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 and Steve Watson

Members Absent: John Snyder

Others Present: Town Manager Howard Kroll, Town Clerk Ruth A. Nickerson, Assessor Benjamin Birch, Lister Josh Berry, Parks & Rec Director Michelle Thayer, Public Works Director Scott Perkins and Sgt. Pelletier

Councilor Freeman moved to excuse the absence of Councilor Snyder. Councilor Jacques seconded the motion. The motion was accepted without doubt.

The motion carries.

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



MINUTES. -APPROVE

WARRANTS. –SIGN February 25, 2017

Councilor Jacques moved to approve the Consent Calendar as presented. Councilor Sinclair 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)*

None

VII. PUBLIC HEARINGS

None

VIII. COMMITTEE REPORTS

None

IX. SCHEDULED AGENDA ITEMS

A. OLD BUSINESS

None

B. NEW BUSINESS

#1. Consider scheduling a Public Hearing for Hermon Golf Liquor License Renewal.

The Town Manager explained that Hermon Golf Inc. has requested to renew their annual liquor license. This requires a public hearing and Council approval.

Councilor Watson moved to approve R16-17-59. Councilor Freeman seconded the motion. The motion was accepted without doubt.

The motion carries.

***(R16-17-59 is attached for review.)**

#2. Hear presentation from Assessing Office.



Assessor Ben Birch offered an update to the Council from the Assessing Office. He spoke of the Governor's proposed budget and its impact on municipal programs which include Revenue Sharing, Homestead Exemption, BETR & BETE and two-way telecommunications. He told of the requirements of his office with regard to assessing and collecting Personal Property. The total taxable valuation of Personal Property for FY 2016 was \$19,701,300. Mr. Birch then referred to seven proposed legislative bills that could have an effect on taxation speaking specifically about two of them, LD73-An Act to Increase the Homestead Property Tax Exemption for Certain Persons who are at least 75 years of age, and LD133-An Act to Support Lower Property Taxes by Restoring State-Municipal Revenue Sharing.

Mr. Birch then gave an update regarding the ongoing in house Revaluation Project. He told that field work has been completed through map 40. Adjustment Analysis has been completed for the Residential A & B neighborhoods.

Additionally, Lillian and Josh have been working steadily. They have written articles for the Connection, updated the Assessing web page, processed TIF's, and have worked on new subdivision/developments and zoning changes.

Chair Thomas asked about our value being at 98%. Mr. Birch explained that any value 91% or higher is considered 100%. A brief conversation ensued regarding values and its effect on school funding. Mr. Birch agreed to make 95% our target value.

#3. Consider approving Capital Improvement Plan for FY 2017/2018.

Manager Kroll explained that there are some recommended adjustments to the CIP since the last workshop. He then explained that per the Charter, the 'Plan' must be approved at tonight's meeting. The Manager suggested decreasing the proposed funding for the Fire Equipment Reserve. A significant amount of conversation took place amongst the Councilors regarding vehicles, mileage and vehicle replacement costs.

The Council agreed with the proposed Capital Improvement Plan for FY 2017/2018. The CIP is up 5% from last year.

C.WORKSHOPS

Councilor Jacques moved to consider items in the Table Packet. Councilor Ellis seconded the motion. The motion was accepted without doubt.

The motion carries.

D. OTHER ITEMS (from Table Package)

A. New Business

#4. Consider approving installation of impellers at pump station.



The Manager told how the current impellers at the Route #2 pump station cannot keep up with the waste. It has been recommended that the impellers are replaced with expellers. This will allow the waste to move freely through the system regardless of size.

Councilor Jacques moved to approve FR16-17-52. Councilor Ellis seconded the motion. A Roll Call vote resulted in 6 Yeas and No Nays. Councilor Snyer absent.

The motion carries.

***(FR16-17-52 is attached for review.)**

B. Old Business

#5. Consider authorizing the submission of a contract modification with MDOT (electrical supply to light poles)

Mr. Perkins informed the Council that there are 27 decorative light poles to be installed as part of the sidewalk project. Scott told how we want to light those poles and it will be more appropriate to install the conductors at the beginning of the project. If approved by MDOT the Town will be responsible for 50% of the cost.

Councilor Watson moved to approve R16-17-60. Councilor Sinclair seconded the motion. The motion was accepted without doubt.

The motion carries.

***(R16-17-60 is attached for review.)**

#6. Consider authorizing the submission of a contract modification with MDOT (HHS crosswalk location)

Mr. Perkins explained showed the Council a drawing depicting the new crosswalk. Originally the crosswalk was going to be down the road from the high school and would cross into the main entrance of the shopping plaza. Current plans show the crosswalk going from the mouth of the high school entrance across to Dunkin Donuts. Additional sidewalk will be built to accommodate the crosswalk.

Councilor Watson moved to approve R16-17-61. Councilor Freeman seconded the motion. The motion was accepted without doubt.

The motion carries.

***(R16-17-61 is attached for review.)**

X. APPOINTMENTS

None

XI. MANAGER STATUS REPORT:

- **Council Meeting Schedule** Manager Kroll informed the Council of a conflict with the Council



Meeting Schedule. He proposed amending the schedule for the next three meetings. March 9th meeting to be held on March 16th. March 23rd meeting to be held March 30th. April 3rd meeting to be held April 6th. Howard then told how he will provide a preliminary copy of the proposed 17/18 budget at the March 30 meeting.

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

None

XIII. COUNCIL ITEMS:

Councilor Freeman told of her surprise when she visited www.hermon.net today. This was the first time she had seen the new website.

Councilor Thomas told of yet another accident at the top of Miller Hill. Sgt. Pelletier affirmed that the accident was caused due to driver inattention and there were no injuries.

XIV. EXECUTIVE SESSION:

None

XV. ADJOURNMENT:

Councilor Ellis moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:49pm. **Councilor Freeman** seconded the motion. **With no objection the meeting was adjourned.**

Respectfully Submitted,

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