



**Town of Hermon**  
**Public Safety Meeting Room**  
**May 18, 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, John Snyer and Steve Watson

**Members Absent:** None

**Others Present:** Town Manager Howard Kroll, Town Clerk Ruth A. Nickerson, Attorney Ed Bearor, Senator Geoff Gratwick, Donna Pulver, Len Cole, Wendy Wiles-Scott and Katie Foster

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

**MINUTES. -APPROVE**

**WARRANTS. -SIGN** 05/19/2017

**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 –Ed Bearor – Sewer Update

Attorney Ed Bearor informed the Town Council that an issue has developed with the City of Bangor's Sewer Department regarding the billing and collection of user fees. He told how the current Sewer Ordinance, adopted in 1990, should be amended. He compared the proposed ordinances to the Town of Hampden who has a similar arrangement with the City. Mr. Bearor offered a few solutions to the current situation. Those included: developing our own sewer department, paying Bangor in bulk on a quarterly basis while collecting fees and billing Hermon users directly, and filing property liens properly. He then acknowledged that while the City does not expect us to reach an agreement with them in the next 30 days it is very important we resolve the situation and move forward. Attorney Bearor stated he would begin working on changes to the current ordinance as soon as the Council gives him the go. In response to Chair Thomas, Manager Kroll clarified that developing a Sewer Department would be significantly different than the creation of a Sewer District.

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

**Senator Geoff Gratwick** offered a brief report from Augusta. The current session started in January. Committees have all reported their findings and the Appropriation Committee is now hard at work. The current session is scheduled to close on June 23. There have been a number of issues up for discussion this session, the top two being the opiate crisis taking place across our state and economic development. He told that areas of current distress include the Department of Health and Human Services and the 6.8 billion dollar biennial budget which is to be balanced by June 23. Gratwick stated that DHHS is almost non-functional in a certain way with its major philosophical divide, telling how the Commissioner and he have a very different view of caring for people. Additionally, the budget will require a 2/3 vote for approval which will require a lot of work to be done in the next five weeks. The Senator closed by stating, "Life is very interesting in Augusta."

Chair Thomas asked Senator Gratwick if school funding will work itself out. The Senator informed the Council that it is currently unclear; however the Governor wants to change the current EPS formula which will heavily burden communities and make the development of a local school budget very challenging.

## VII. PUBLIC HEARINGS

### #2. Hold Public Hearing – 2017-2018 FY Budget

Manager Kroll reviewed the 17/18 budget with those in attendance. He told how several meetings and workshops have taken place. The result is a \$42,000 decrease in the net municipal budget, a \$44,000 increase in county tax and a \$402,678 increase in the School Budget. This will result in a \$.80 increase in our mill rate.



Chair Thomas opened the public hearing at 7:23pm. He opened the floor for any public comment for or against the proposed 2017-2018 budget. There were no comments. The public hearing closed at 7:24pm.

**#3. Hold Public Hearing – Sports Arena Liquor License**

In response to Chair Thomas, Manager Kroll stated that there have been no comments received regarding the Liquor License Application submitted by the Sports Arena on Hammond Street.

Chair Thomas opened the public hearing at 7:24pm. He opened the floor for any public comment for or against The Sports Arena's Liquor License. There were none. The public hearing closed at 7:25pm.

**VIII. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

None

**IX. SCHEDULED AGENDA ITEMS**

**A. OLD BUSINESS**

**#4. Consider approving Application for Liquor License – Sports Arena**

**Councilor Snyder moved to approve R16-17-75. Councilor Freeman seconded the motion. The motion was accepted without doubt.**

*The motion carries.*

**#5. Consider approving 2017-2018 FY Budget**

**Councilor Watson moved to approve R16-17-74. Councilor Sinclair seconded the motion. A Roll Call vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.**

*The motion carries.*

**B. NEW BUSINESS**

None

**C. WORKSHOPS**

None

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

None

**X. APPOINTMENTS**

None



**XI. MANAGER STATUS REPORT:**

**Newburgh Road** construction project began before our public meeting regarding the project which is scheduled for next week. I apologize for that. A public meeting will be held next Thursday. 30 feet from the center line of the road belongs to the State. Reclamation, and driveway entrances are next, in addition to the significant number of trees that have been downed.

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

**XIII. COUNCIL ITEMS:**

**Councilor Sinclair** was pleased to state that he witnessed the first person using the new sidewalk.

**XIV. EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

**#6. Executive Session per 1 M.S.R.A. § 405(6)(C) to discuss a Real Estate Matter.**

**#7. Executive Session per 1 M.S.R.A. § 405(6)(C) to discuss a Real Estate Matter.**

**Councilor Snyder moved to go into Executive Session to discuss a Real Estate Matter per 1 M.R.S.A. section 405-6-C. Councilor Watson seconded the motion. A Roll Call vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.**

*The motion carries.*

**2 separate sessions took place, discussing two different real estate matters.**

**No action resulted from either session.**

**Councilor Ellis moved to exit Executive Session at 8:23pm. Councilor Freeman seconded the motion. A show of hands was unanimous in favor of the motion.**

*The motion carries. Executive Session Closed.*

**XV. ADJOURNMENT:**

**Councilor Sinclair moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:24pm. Councilor Snyder seconded the motion. With no objection the meeting was adjourned.**

**Respectfully Submitted,**

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