



**Town of Hermon**  
**Public Safety Meeting Room**  
**January 11, 2018**  
**Town Council Meeting**  
**7:00 PM**  
**MINUTES**

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:** Steve Thomas, Doug Sinclair, Jeanne Jacque, John Snyder, Steve Watson, Donna Ellis and Tim McCluskey

**Members Absent:** None

**Others Present:** Town Manager Howard Kroll, Town Clerk Ruth A. Nickerson, Senator Geoff Gratwick and School Superintendent Gary Gonyar

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

- WARRANTS. –SIGN January 12, 2018

**Councilor Jacques moved to approve the Consent Calendar as presented. Councilor Watson 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 Gratwick** offered a Happy New Year to the Council. He told how the second legislative session started last week. This is the short session, January to May. There are several important issues being discussed. MaineCare Expansion, Bonds, Fuel Oil and Human Trafficking are just a few. Responding to Chair Thomas, the Senator stated that the topic of Marijuana is a very complicated one; however he does not expect the recent changes in Washington to have a significant impact here. He did state that there is significant confusion in our society regarding alcohol vs. marijuana.

**VII. PUBLIC HEARINGS**

None

**VIII. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

None

**IX. SCHEDULED AGENDA ITEMS**

**A. OLD BUSINESS**

**#1. Consider approving Special Town Meeting Warrant for January 25, 2018**

Manager Kroll informed the Council that he has drafted a 10 article Warrant for a possible Special Town Meeting on 01/25/2018. He informed the Council that at the Patricia A. Duran Elementary School, we are looking to replace the roof and upgrade bathrooms.

At the Town Office, we need to be able to deposit funds collected for recent sewer payments into the Sewer Reserve Account. Additionally, there are several reserve accounts that need to be cleaned up; monies received from MMA need to be deposited in the Legal Liability Reserve, the Fire Station Repair and Maintenance Reserve Account needs to be closed and the remaining funds transferred to the Public Safety Building Reserve Account, the Veterans Memorial Park Reserve Account needs to be closed and transferred to the Veterans Memorial Park Trust and the Bicentennial Reserve Account needs to be closed with any remaining balance transferred to undesignated funds. Finally, funds approved for the purchase of the plow truck need to be transferred to the Public Works Reserve Account. The Council and the School Superintendent participated in a conversation regarding paying for the roof at the elementary school. Councilor Snyder reminded those in attendance that the monies that were set aside in the School Fuel Reserve were put there so that if heating fuel prices were to jump we could maintain. The Superintendent also spoke of work that will need to be done in the future in effort to maintain and preserve the quality of our school buildings.

**Councilor Jacques moved to approve R17-18-32. Councilor Ellis seconded the motion. The motion was accepted without doubt.**

*The motion carries.*

**\*(R17-18-22 is attached for review.)**



**#2. Consider authorizing payment to Dunbar & Brawn for invoice #7.**

The Town Manager asked the Council to authorize payment of invoice #7 for the Construction project at the Patricia A. Duran Elementary School.

**Councilor Watson moved to approve FR17-18-48. Councilor Snyder seconded the motion. A Roll Call vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.**

*The motion carries.*

*\*(FR17-18-48 is attached for review.)*

**B. NEW BUSINESS**

None

**C. WORKSHOPS**

**#3. Review and Discuss proposed 2018-2019 Capital Improvement Plan**

The Town Manager presented the Councilors with a draft copy of the proposed Capital Improvement Plan for 2018/2019. He informed the Council that this year's plan calls for \$490,000 worth of projects to be completed; \$59,000 less than last year. This draft does not include the schools CIP. The draft copy included a list of all proposed activity and expenditures. Chair Thomas stated that he would prefer to read through the proposed plan before any discussion should take place. Councilor McCluskey affirmed that the upcoming budget will be very challenging. The Town Manager offered to hold a special workshop on February 1, 2018 to discuss the proposed Capital Improvement Plan alone. The Council agreed.

**Councilor Watson moved to consider other items in the table packet. Councilor Jacques seconded the motion. The motion was accepted without doubt.**

*The motion carries.*

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

**#4. Consider approving an application for a Catered Function by a Qualified Catering Organization**

Manager Kroll informed the Council of this years SnoX event taking place at Speedway 95. Waterfront Concerts has submitted a request for a Qualified Catering Permit, they will be handling all alcohol sales at the race. The Council discussed the event briefly.

**Councilor Jacques moved to approve R17-18-38. Councilor Ellis seconded the motion. A Roll Call vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.**



**X. APPOINTMENTS**

None

**XI. MANAGER STATUS REPORT:**

**Winter Snow Maintenance & Mailbox Damage** has caused several phone calls to the Council. The Mailbox Policy was shared in the last *Hermon Connection*. I did meet with Gardner Construction this morning. It has been a challenging year and they are doing a great job. We will be sending out a newsletter regarding mailboxes and we will work with residents who may need help fixing their mailboxes. I apologize to anyone who took offense to my article in the *Hermon Connection*; the intent was not to be harsh. We do this every year here, and we need to find a solution. I really do not want you all to have to worry about your mailbox every time it snows.

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

None

**XIII. COUNCIL ITEMS:**

**Councilor Snyder** thanked Randy Gardner for the serious effort he has personally put into removing the snow from the sidewalks. He has truly gone over and above for us.

**Councilor Sinclair** agreed with Councilor Snyder and offered that maybe the town should consider purchasing a sidewalk machine for snow removal.

**Councilor Thomas** told how this morning's meeting with Gardner Construction was good, stating he learned a lot. Out of more than 3,000 mailboxes, 27 have been recorded as damaged. Mr. Thomas affirmed that Mr. Gardner takes his job seriously and is far more concerned with the safety of the roads. Gardner Construction believes in making the roads safe and passable no matter what. Mr. Thomas offered a sincere Thank You to Mr. Gardner for his commitment to our community and for how hard his crew has worked for us.

**XIV. EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

None

**XV. ADJOURNMENT:**

**Councilor Ellis moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:53pm. Councilor Jacques seconded the motion. With no objection, Chair Thomas adjourned the meeting.**

**Respectfully Submitted,**

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