

Town of Hermon Public Hearing

At a public hearing of the Town Board, of the Town of Hermon, Saint Lawrence County, New York, held on July 12, 2022, at the Town Hall in Hermon NY, there were present:

Arthur Baker Supervisor
Robert LaClair Town Councilmen
Kathy Carpenter Town Councilwomen

John Reed Town Councilmen
Bernard Reed Town Councilmen

Members of the community:

Christopher Stransky, Anthony Young, Marissa Clark, Darryl Whitton, Edward Carpenter, Michael McQuade, William Dashnaw and Sharon Brunet.

Town supervisor Arthur Baker opened the public hearing at 5:30 PM

Anthony young from Barton and Logiudice gave a brief description of the water project and informed the public of the Town's intent to apply for one or more Community Development Block Grants. The town of Hermon is applying for \$1, 250,000 in CDBG funds to construct improvements of the Hermon water district No. 1.

An easement will be needed from every property owner. The town will send out letters informing the public and hold two or three signing sessions to allow for the completion of the easements.

If a property owner refuses to sign the easement, then the property owner will be responsible for any repairs needed from their homes to the street where their old lines meet the new system.

Questions asked:

1. Is there going to be a backup generator? Anthony replied yes, the generator will run the water system.
2. Will homeowners' insurance go down when hydrants are replaced? Anthony answered yes, they should go down.
3. Should the Town include a letter with the next water & sewer billing cycle to inform the community of the necessary changes of the current water system? Yes, Anthony will compose a letter to include in October's billing.

A motion was made by Robert LaClair and seconded by John Reed to adjourn.

Meeting was adjourned at 5:54 PM.

Respectfully submitted by:

Sharon Brunet

Deputy Town Clerk/Bookkeeper

Town of Hermon Board Meeting

At a regular meeting of the town board, of the town of Hermon, St. Lawrence County, New York held on July 12, 2022, at the town hall in Hermon NY, there were present:

Arthur Baker Supervisor
Robert LaClair Town Councilmen
Kathy Carpenter Town Councilwomen

John Reed Town Councilmen
Bernard Reed Town Councilmen

Members of the community present:

Brian Brunet Highway Superintendent, William Dashnaw Director of Finance, Chris Stransky Water Superintendent, Anthony Young, Marisa Clark, Daryl Whitton, Larry Denesha SLC legislator, Edward Carpenter, and Michael McQuade Town Assessor.

Supervisor Baker opened the meeting at 6:00 PM.

Pledge of Allegiance was led by supervisor Baker

Kathy Carpenter motioned that the minutes of the regular meeting, of the town board, held on June 14, 2022, as submitted by the town clerk, be and hereby approved. Seconded by Bernard Reed Jr. and adopted unanimously.

Public Forum:

Darrell Whitton spoke and stated that a few people have approached him asking if he knew what happened with the Town's judge using the town credit card for personal use. Supervisor Baker responded the matter was taken care of. Darrell asked for him to be more specific and the town board members requested more specific information. Supervisor Baker explained there were charges on the town's credit card from walmart.com after this was looked into we learned there was charges made by Darcy Velez. When asked The Velez's explained it was a mistake the town credit card was saved from previous use, and they didn't realize they selected the incorrect card. After discussion the board members agreed that Supervisor Baker would contact the towns attorney and the Ethics Board to see what needed to be done.

William Dashnaw, Director of Finance

Budget worksheets handed out to board members to review and add tentative numbers to accounts for the 2023 budget. At next month board meeting there will be a budget workshop. This is expected to take approximately one hour and is suggested to meet at 5:00 PM. By the end of September we will supply the town clerk with the tentative budget.

Larry Denesha, SLC Legislator

-COVID-Saint Lawrence County is only reporting once a month on COVID cases. 23 positive tests reported during July 1st through July 11th. A new strain VA5 shows an increase of hospitalization of 4%.

-Monkey Pox-Saint Lawrence County reported its first case.

-At the county meeting a resolution authorizing an additional 10 miles of paving. This was accomplished by use of fund balance. Resolution to modify highway agreement to use \$3 million of fund balance.

-Social services controversy- Bonidio group came in to review department.

Findings:

Policies and procedures are unclear and conflicting. People didn't know where to find them.

Safety assessments are good to excellent

Documentation on home visits: the notes are not complete and are not completed in a timely fashion.

-Court ordered treatment services- resolution passed to modify mental health hygiene facilities cost, currently state pays 50% and county pays 50%. The resolution increased to 100% for the county to pay. \$845,979 cost to Saint Lawrence County

The next Saint Lawrence County board meeting will be August 1st at 6:00 PM at the Gouverneur fair.

Arthur Baker- Supervisor report

-The dedication sign made in recognition of Mike Perry is completed. The sign was purchased by the town from northeastern signs of South Colton NY. The sign will be placed at the peak of the pavilion in the park.

-Working on getting an estimate from Fiacco and Riley to repair the library steps.

Michael McQuade- Code Officer, Assessor

-Receive complaints on the garbage build up for the property located on the corner of church St and Main St. Requesting permission to have a garbage man pick up the trash and send a bill to the owner and if it's not paid by November the fees will be attached to the tax bill.

-Requests for the lawn to be mowed at 125 Washington St and the vacant lot across from the town office be weed trimmed.

Kathy Carpenter made a motion for the garbage removal, lawn mowing and weed trimming, seconded by John Reed all in favor motion carried.

-Discussion on solar and commercial wind projects coming to the area.

Bob LaClair made a resolution prohibiting solar and commercial wind, until formal policy explored seconded by Bernard Reed Jr., all in favor motion carried.

-Question of when the cleanup of the rubble from building demolition on Dick Matott's Church Street property will take place. He will be contacted for update on clean up.

Brian Brunet- Highway Superintendent

-Completed paving Campbell and Underwood Road

-Highway workers are helping other towns paving (with shared services)

-The highway department is off the week of July 4th as per their union contract.

Chris Stransky-Water Superintendent

Water usage totals for June 2022:

Discharge 2,917,000 gallons

Pump 2,689,300 gallons

Hermon 2,017,000 gallons

DeKalb 672,300 gallons

-Tower inspection is completed

-The pump house lock has been changed

-Price quote for cameras from Altec is \$500

-Question to the board if he was going to have a weeks vacation pay this year and if he or other part time town employees received benefits such as holiday, sick or vacation pay. The Board members answered as follows: No part time town employees receive those such benefits.

Anthony Young- Barton & Loguidice

-A resolution for Fair Housing Policy, Assign Fair Housing Officer and pass a resolution for the Fair Housing Officer and a resolution for Civil Rights, EEO, and Section 3 policy needed.

-The following resolutions passed:

Resolution 13-22 Appointing the Fair Housing policy Officer

A motion was made by John Reed appointing Kathy Carpenter as fair housing policy officer seconded by Bernard Reed Jr. all in favor and carried.

Resolution 14-22 Accepting the Fair Housing Policy

A motion was made by Bernard Reed Jr. accepting the Fair Housing Policy, seconded by John Reed all in favor and carried.

Resolution 15-22 Civil Rights, Equal Employment Opportunity and Section 3 policy

A motion was made by Kathy Carpenter accepting the Civil Rights, Equal Employment Opportunity and Section 3 policy seconded by Robert LaClair all in favor and carried.

Kathy Carpenter made a motion to accept the offices reports seconded by Bob LaClair all in favor motion past.

Old Business:

-Reminder of the meeting on July 19th at 6:00 PM with Anthony Young to discuss the water and sewer project.

-Porta potty damage update: occurred in 2015 when the village was in effect. Supervisor Baker will contact the judge to see if the restitution was paid.

New Business:

-Mike Perry Jr. requested an increase for cemetery custodian to \$750.00 per cemetery. Discussion held and the funds are budgeted at \$500.00 per cemetery for this year. It was suggested that Mike Perry come to a board meeting to request increase for next year.

-A motion was made by Bernard Reed Jr. to set the Library Substitute hourly wage at \$13.50 per hour and Library Cleaner wage at \$12.50 per hour, seconded by Kathy Carpenter, all in favor motion carried.

-Library asked for information on the repairs. Anthony Young will send a breakdown of library project and the letter of intent to the Library Board. Also, a letter was requested by the library to inform them of funds the Town has available to spend on repairs.

Budget Transfers: From: Fund 909.04 to 83204.04 in the amount of \$35,000

Fund 909.04 to 83404.04 in the amount of \$2,000

Fund 12204.01 to 50104.01 in the amount of \$100.00

A motion was made by John Reed to approve the above budget transfers, seconded by Kathy Carpenter all in favor and carried.

A motion was made by Kathy Carpenter to audit and approve the monthly bills seconded by Bernard Reed Jr. all in favor and motion carried.

A motion was made by Kathy Carpenter to go into executive session seconded by John Reed I'm in favor motion carried.

Upon completion of the executive session regarding part time employee time off and payroll issues the regular meeting continued.

A motion was made by Kathy Carpenter to adjourn the regular meeting at 8:15 PM seconded by Bob LaClair.

Respectfully submitted,

Sharon Brunet
Deputy Town Clerk/Bookkeeper