

November 1, 2023 at 4:00p.m. A Public Hearing for the 2024 Budget was held.

Supervisor Arthur Baker

Council Kathy Carpenter, John Reed and Bernard Reed Jr.

Absent Robert LaClair Jr.

Also present: Chris Stransky, Ed Carpenter, Kate Stransky, Amy Smith, William Dashnaw, Sharon Brunet.

Karen read the notice that was advertised in the Watertown Daily Newspaper.

Public comments and questions.

Sharon Brunet position is what title? Director of Finance

Are we under the tax cap? yes under 2%

Kathy Carpenter made the motion to adopt the 2024 Budget (with necessary changes).

Seconded by John Reed. All in favor and carried.

Supervisor Baker adjourned the meeting at 4:35 p.m. Seconded by Kathy Carpenter.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Wayering

Town Clerk

The regular meeting of the Town Board was held November 14, 2023, at the Hermon Town Hall.

Present was Supervisor Arthur Baker.

Council John Reed, Bernard Reed Jr. Kathy Carpenter.

Absent Robert LaClair Jr.

Also present were Duane Taylor, Michael McQuade, Robert Thayer, Chris Stransky, Steve Allen, Larry Denesha, Ed Carpenter, Anthony Youngs, Sharon and Brian Brunet, Amy Smith, Kim Matthews, Kate Stransky, Sheri Smith, Shain Brunet, John Stransky, Dawn Daniels

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. Minutes of the October meeting as submitted were approved on motion by Kathy Carpenter. Seconded by John Reed. All in favor and carried.

Pledge of Allegiance said by all.

SLC Legislator Larry Denesha

- 2024 Tentative Budget for SLC
- Assigned counsel rates doubled to \$430k

- Home delivered meals and operations- \$712k
- Opioid treatment (outpatient and incarcerated)-\$200k
- Inflation-17.2% since 2021
- Employee & Retiree Benefits in 2024=\$30.9 m; in 2020=\$22.5m
- Renovations to DSS office building opened in 1973- updating the HVAC, public reception areas, improved monitoring of property & facility, office suite renovations, bathroom facilities-spending \$524k.
- Calendar year ending July 31, 2023-208 families and 435 children receiving childcare benefits vs. 101 families and 187 children in previous year. (Due to increase in eligibility guidelines) NYS has allocated additional funding.
- Resolution to “Award Sign Construction Contract for Lazy River Road Bridge” Tiago Construction, Herkimer, NY for \$3,927,432.00 Construction scheduled for 2024.

Anthony Young-Barton & Loguidice

- Sewer and water projects have begun. Televising the manholes to see what the importance of repairing. Replacing covers on the manholes.
- Water Project-Asphalt (to tear up and leave for the winter) Town Board said not unless it was necessary.
- Digging question from the contractor, about ripping up some roads/streets. Council Bernard Reed Jr. said to not dig up the roads unless that’s where they are at and need to be done, try to wait until spring.

Change Order No. 1 for Contract 1C, to be signed by Supervisor Baker; a reduction of \$8000.00

John Reed made the motion to allow Supervisor to sign paperwork for Change Order No. 1. Seconded by Kathy Carpenter. All in favor and carried.

- December 12, Progress meetings are set: Water @ 2:30 p.m. And Sewer @ 3:30 p.m.

Sheri Smith asked a question about water meters when they get installed, and if we- the residents in the district- would be billed for usage? She stated that the residents should have a vote on this subject. Suggested that maybe send a notice or questionnaire. Anthony and Chris explained that right now they would be used for leakages for the DEC Report, and still have the base rate at 100.00 water/unit and 150.00 sewer/unit for residents in the district.

Bernard Reed Jr. made the motion to do a questionnaire form regarding water meters, to be mailed to the households in the district. Seconded by Kathy Carpenter. All in favor and carried.

Officers Reports

Supervisor Arthur Baker

Letters were sent out to residents of the Sewer District: regarding flushing sewer lines.

Highway Superintendent Brian Brunet

- Took truck to Champlain-wiring issue
- All set for winter

Dog Control Officer Daniel Moyer

After a month and a half investigation in conjunction with the State Police and Sheriff Departments, 17 dogs were seized at 112 Canton Street. Dogs received medical care and are now at the Pound. If dogs are not claimed before redemption period expires, they will be put up for adoption.

Historian Report Lenore Zaubere November 2023

The SLC Fall Historians meeting was held in Canton on October 21, 2023 and we welcomed guest: Devan Lander, a NYS Historian. He came all the way from Albany to join in the meeting and updated on New York's plans and vision for the 250th Celebration of the Founding of the USA!! We look forward to working with the County Historians on municipal projects during the next two years.

Code Officer and Assessor Michael McQuade

2 new building permits issued

2 Certificates of Compliance

The camp/cottage on Leader Lane started through month of September, hoping to start foundation details during the month of November.

The garage project on Leader Lane took shape during month of October, completion of exterior siding, window/ door install and garage door installation. Only needs to finish up electrical.

Assessor Office was quiet in October, had questions regarding Star Exemption. Updating tax parcel ownerships in the roll.

Dawn Daniels asked a question about the Highway plowing for disabled people around the Town. She was told its done for some as they go by and see someone that needs helping.

Chris Stransky October 2023

Total pumped 2,406,500

Total Discharge 2,103,000

Hermon 1,644,200

Dekalb 762,300

Bernard Reed Jr. made the motion to accept Officers Reports. Seconded by John Reed. All in favor and carried.

Library Report-Kim Matthews

Usage Report for October 24, 2023 was handed out.

4 Filing cabinets delivered to Library from St. Lawrence County.

Question was asked if the Library could use a couple rooms downstairs for storage.

Bernard Reed Jr. made the motion to allow Library to use a couple rooms downstairs for storage. Seconded by John Reed. All in favor and carried.

Santa/Grinch event to be held on December 10 at the Hermon Library and Fire Station.

New Business

Town Council would like to do a Resolution up for Town Attorney to do some research on separation from the Town and Library.

Resolution 15-2023

WHEREAS, the Hermon Town Board is requesting John Collins, ESQ to investigate of possibly transferring ownership of the Hepburn Hermon Library building and its assets to another entity.

Bernard Reed Jr. makes the motion. Seconded by John Reed. All in favor and carried.

Resolution for budget transfers/Amendments to appropriate funds. Kathy Carpenter made the motion to do the transfers and amendments. Seconded by Bernard Reed Jr. All in favor and carried.

The Town Clerk and Supervisor submitted their bank statements.

The Supervisor's and Town Clerks monthly report were examined and approved on motion by John Reed. Seconded by Bernard Reed Jr.

Kathy Carpenter made the motion of the audit and approval of the monthly bills. Seconded by John Reed. All in favor and carried.

Kathy Carpenter made the motion to move into Executive Session for Personnel discussion at 7:16 p.m.

Adjournment of Executive Session at 7:44 p.m. on motion by Kathy Carpenter. Seconded by John Reed. Adjourn regular meeting at 7:44 pm. on motion by John Reed. Seconded by Bernard Reed Jr.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Wayering

Town Clerk

