

MINUTES OF
THE REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING FOR **SEPTEMBER, 2024**
Hermon Town Board
Tuesday, September 10th, 2024 at the Hermon Town Hall

Present was Supervisor Cathy Race,

Council members Sheri Smith, Victoria Day, Harold Blandin and Frank Ashley.

Also present: Shain Brunet, Kate Stransky, Michael McQuade, Brent McAdam, Chris Stransky, Kelly Hamilton, Kim Matthews, Kate Stransky, Steve Allen, Bruce Bigelow, Duane Taylor

Pledge of Allegiance was said by all.

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm. Minutes of the previous meeting as submitted were approved on motion by Sheri Smith. Seconded by Victoria Day. All in favor and carried.

REPORTS

- **Michael McQuade Code Officer/Assessor Report:** Mike is present, provided a written report and spoke. He issued a total of 6 building permits, taking in a total of \$510 in fees. He attended the Fair Housing Quarterly meeting and explained that he needs to get in touch with Town Attorney John Collins as all local municipalities are going to be required to adopt a local law pertaining to fair housing in the future. He also wanted all to know that due to storm Debby, the self-reporting tool listed on our website has raised the income to \$157,800 to be eligible for financial help.
- **Dog Warden's Report** – Dan Moyer: DCO was not present but did provide a written report (see attached).
- **Court Report:** Judge Chris Velez is not present but did provide a written report - \$327 in fines taken in.

Mike McQuade mentioned that the J-CAP grant will be ending soon (a grant for Court equipment).

- **Historian's Report:** Lenore Z aunere is not present but did provide a written report (see attached).
- **Library:** Kate Stransky, Kelly Hamilton and Kim Matthews are present and explained that the ice-cream social was not quite as well attended this year due to the summer soccer program running at the same time. They will pick a different night next year so this doesn't happen again. A craft fair is planned for November 9th. Also, a Santa/Grinch event is scheduled for December 7th. Halloween costumes are also being donated for any families in need. They will also be looking for sports equipment and fishing gear to loan out in the future.
- **Highway Report:** Shain Brunet is present and provided a written report (see attached). They have been doing more storm clean up on the roads. We sent some trucks to DeKalb and Russell to help them pave. Also, put shoulders on a couple of roads and installed new shop lights. Evans Road is still closed due to the culvert washout from Storm Debby. It is a huge project and a lot of fill is needed in order to get it back up and usable. Shain is looking for guidance on whether we should invest time and money into fixing/opening back up or leave it closed. Two people live on this road. They are able to get in and out on the end their homes are

on. Shain can plow it with the small truck this winter. Cathy mentioned that Larry Denesha contacted Don Chambers at the SLC Highway Department. Don offered to add us to their Shared Services Agreement for this project so they could provide drivers and larger trucks to haul dirt and help us.

The decision was made to close the CR 19 end of the Evans Road for now. Shain will keep the homeowner's end plowed all winter. The fear is that replacing the box culvert could lead us into a much larger project than what we have money for and, most likely, engineers will need to be involved – we simply do not have the resources to replace it. Our hope is that grant money will be available through FEMA eventually. Shain will contact the homeowners with this decision.

Water/Sewer Report: August 2024 Chris was present and provided a written report.

Gallons pumped: 2,973,600

Hermon 2,286,500

Dekalb 687,100

Total discharge: 2,994,000

The water and sewer projects are still moving along with the UV vault being set tomorrow.

- **Town Clerk's Report** – Karen Wayering is present & provided a written report (see copy). \$327.19 collected in fees.
- **Supervisors Report** – Cathy Race is present and also provided a written report (please see attached).

RESOLUTION 11-2024-received one bid for the Software program after advertising and putting it out for bid, according to our Procurement Policy. Williamson Law was the winning proposal. I would like to ma

RESOLUTION 12- 2024 authorizing the water change order was made by Victoria Day, seconded by Harold Blandin. All in favor and carried.

RESOLUTION 13-2024 authorizing Cathy Race to sign Water Pay App #6 was made by Sheri Smith and seconded by Frank Ashley. All in favor and carried.

NEW BUSINESS: We need to set up a public meeting for residents who wish to inquire about the capital water project. It was agreed that this meeting will be held at 6pm as a start to our next monthly meeting on Tuesday, October 8th and will be posted and advertised.

At our last water meeting our engineer brought it to our attention that our water rates need to be raised to keep in accordance with federal guidelines pertaining to the grant money received. The amount of increase mandated is \$50 per year. We would like people within the water district to have input and knowledge of this. We will discuss it at next month's meeting.

The motion to accept officer's reports was made by Harold Blandin and seconded by Victoria Day. All in favor and carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Kate Stransky questioned if the Aura identity theft protection plan will be paid for by the Town for library employee Kelly Hamilton again this year as she received a notice that it was about to expire. This item had been paid for by credit card in past years and the Town no longer has a credit card. Supervisor Race explained that she is trying to get an invoice from Aura so we can pay for another year by check.

Duane Taylor of 103 Pleasant Street wondered when storm drain work will be done. He said water is washing out driveways and yards coming down the hill. Chris Stransky informed us that we are waiting

for the contractor to do a change order on this. However, the health department has to certify the storm drain can hold pressure before the work can be done and a specialized pipe needs to be used. The contractor is aware of this problem and will make sure it is addressed. Bruce Bigelow added, regarding the Evans Road, that if we put off fixing it now it may never get opened again. Discussion was held about the costs versus two people living on the road and how we could afford such a large expense. Shain explained that the cost for pipe was affordable, the fill would be the big expense (approximately \$20,000). It was still agreed that at this point the Evans Road will remain closed and Shain will make sure it gets plowed all winter.

The Board discussed Town employee salaries in preparation for our budget session.

Motion to pay bills was put forth by Harold Blandin and seconded by Frank Ashley. All in favor and carried.

We scheduled our next budget workshop session on **Wednesday, October 2nd at 6pm** at the town office. This meeting will be posted and advertised.

Motion to adjourn the meeting was presented by Victoria Day at 7:12 p.m. and seconded by Harold Blandin. All in favor and carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Wayering, Town Clerk