

Hermon Town Board
Tuesday, January 14th, 2024
Hermon Town Hall

Present: Supervisor Cathy Race

Council John Stransky, Victoria Day, Sheri Smith, and Harold Blandin.

Also present Chris Stransky, Brent McAdam, Sheriff Ric Engle, Kate Stransky, Kim Matthews, Ryan Oliver, Steve Allen

CALL TO ORDER AT 6PM

The Pledge of Allegiance was said by all.

Sheriff Rick Engle was present and spoke about his involvement with NYS and National Sheriff's Association and their involvement with border security with the states of Vermont, New Hampshire and Maine (they have formed a coalition). There were 20,000 illegal border crossings locally last year along our border. Canada just tightened their laws and the number of crossings decreased in November due to it. He also mentioned that, other than giving out the applications, the Sheriff's office has taken over the entire pistol permit process. In addition, he is starting a pilot program with retired Sheriff's deputies becoming security officers at the courthouse, social services, etc. He would like to set up a satellite office in the Town of Fine, in the town building near the school in the future, which he is working on. He reiterates that he wants residents to know he is available and willing to help anyone in our community who needs his assistance!

PUBLIC COMMENT: none.

ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING CALLED INTO SESSION AT: 6:15 p.m. Adjourned at 6:45 p.m.

(please see attached resolutions passed at this meeting).

REPORTS:

- **Highway** - Shain Brunet is absent but provided a written report. Please see the attached report.
Resolution Holding SLC Harmless for providing services for highway work. .Presented by_H. Blandin 2nd J. S
Chips money was received in the amount of \$239,017.25
- **Water/Sewer Report** - Chris Stransky is present and provided the following information:
Gallons pumped: 3,579,700 Hermon used: 3,084,100; DeKalb used 495,600; Total Discharge: 1,723,000
He mentioned there is a water leak detected December 10th (approximately 20,000 gallons per day) that has not been found yet. An outside company was brought in and they weren't able to find it either. They found several small leaks coming into basements of abandoned properties but not the large leak. He is continuing the search. The electrical contractor has brought in all the panel boxes for the water project. Clarkson University is starting the project of a bottling plant to sell water for this year. It's free information for us.
- **Supervisor, Historical, Town Clerk, Town Justice, Code Enforcement & Dog Control officer reports were read and are attached.**

OLD BUSINESS:

- Purchase wooden bench for Gouverneur Fairgrounds for \$100? No.
- Resolution authorizing bids to be put out for library construction? Presented by V. Day 2nd J. Stransky
- Pee Wee Assn grant reimbursement check was received in the amount of \$8,941

NEW BUSINESS:

- We have had furnace issues at the office. An induction motor was replaced, and a repairperson is coming to look at our vents to make sure they are working correctly.
- A complaint was received about 26 cats being fed at a property up near the ballfield and these cats are damaging neighbor's properties. The dog warden is not able to help with this problem. Board Member Sheri Smith

explained that the Pounds for Paws Association might be able to help. The Supervisor will check with Pounds for Paws to see if they can offer assistance in having them spayed/neutered and returned to the same owner.

MISCELLANEOUS:

- Motion to approve Clerk Wayering' clerk report & bank statements for December 2024. Presented by V. Day 2nd H. Blandin
- Motion to approve Clerk Wayering' tax report & bank statements for December 2024. Presented by J. Stransky 2nd S. Smith
- Motion to approve Town Justice Velez's court report & bank statements for 12/2024. Presented by V. Day 2nd S. Smith
- Motion to accept December 2024 minutes with change spoke of. The John Deere tractor. Presented by V. Day 2nd S. Smith
- Motion to approve payment of all bills listed on Abstract #1 and #13. Presented by S. Smith 2nd V. Day
- Motion to adjourn meeting at 7:10 pm.** Presented by J. Stransky 2nd V. Day

Jody Wenzel, from SLC, provided the Board with our yearly Sexual Harassment and Workplace Violence training after the meeting. Copies of the signed acknowledgments will be put in each employee's file.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Wayering
Town Clerk

HERMON TOWN BOARD ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING January 14, 2025

The 2025 Organizational Meeting was called to order by Supervisor Race at 6pm.

Whereas, the Town Board of the Town of Hermon has met for the purpose of Annual Appointments and designations as follows:

RESOLUTION #1 RULES OF PROCEDURES:

Motion by J. Stransky Second by V. Day

To adopt Parliamentary Law as defined by Robert's Rules of Order, as the rules of procedure, with the following adaption: Time limit per speaker shall be three minutes per person.

4 ayes: Blandin, Day, Smith, Stransky 0 Nay

RESOLUTION #2 OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER:

Motion by V. Day Second by J. Stransky

Therefore naming the Watertown Daily Times as the official newspaper for the Town of Hermon for 2025.

4 ayes: Blandin, Day, Smith, Stransky 0 Nay

RESOLUTION #3 REGULAR MEETINGS:

Motion by S. Smith Second by V. Day

Therefore designating the Town Board will hold the regular Board meetings on the second Tuesday of each month at 6pm at the Town Hall for 2025. 4 ayes: Blandin, Day, Smith, Stransky 0 Nay

RESOLUTION #4 PAYROLL PERIODS:

Motion by J. Stransky Second by V. Day

Paychecks will be issued as follows: **Bi-weekly:** highway employees & superintendent, Code Officer, Water/Wastewater operator, Bookkeeper, Supervisor, Town Clerk, Town Justice **Monthly:** Assessor & Justice Clerk **Yearly:** Town Council, Historian, website manager and cemetery custodians (in November).

4 ayes: Blandin, Day, Smith, Stransky 0 Nay

RESOLUTION #5 BANK DEPOSITORY:

Motion by S. Smith Second by V. Day

Designating Community Bank, NA as the official depository for town funds in 2025.

4 ayes: Blandin, Day, Smith, Stransky 0 Nay

RESOLUTION #6 REGISTRAR OF VITAL STATISTICS:

Motion by V. Day Second by J. Stransky

Designating Karen Wayering as the Registrar of Vital Statistics for the year 2025 and authorizing her to collect fees for this duty. 4 ayes: Blandin, Day, Smith, Stransky 0 Nay

RESOLUTION #7 TAX COLLECTOR

Motion by S. Smith Second by V. Day

Designating Karen Wayering as the Tax Collector for the year 2025. 4 ayes: Blandin, Day, Smith, Stransky 0 Nay

RESOLUTION #8 MILEAGE:

Motion by J. Stransky Second by V. Day

Designating the rate per mile **\$0.67** to be paid to Town officers and employees for use of private auto on official business and to reimburse officers and employees for other necessary expenses for 2025.

4 ayes: Blandin, Day, Smith, Stransky 0 Nay

RESOLUTION #9 SALARIES:

Motion by J. Stransky Second by V. Day

To pay salaries to Supervisor, Highway Supt, Deputy Highway Supt, Town Clerk, Deputy Town Clerk, Town Justice, Town Justice Clerk, Bookkeeper, Assessor, Code Officer, Cemetery custodians, website manager, Historian, DCO(and shelter/pound fees), Attorney, Water/Sewer plant operator, backup Water/Sewer plant operator, Water & Sewer billing clerk, Board of Assessment Review members and Town Board members as specified in the 2025 Town Budget. 4 ayes: Blandin, Day, Smith, Stransky 0 Nay

RESOLUTION #10 SAFETY SHELTER

Motion by V. Day Second by S. Smith

Designating the Hermon Fire Hall as a safety shelter for its residents for 2025.

4 ayes: Blandin, Day, Smith, Stransky 0 Nay

RESOLUTION #11 WATER COMMITTEE

Motion by V. Day Second J. Stransky

Appointing Sheri Smith and John Stransky to water committee for 2025. 4 ayes: Blandin, Day, Smith, Stransky 0 Nay

RESOLUTION #12 PROCUREMENT POLICY

Motion by J. Stransky Second by V. Day

Therefore accepting the 2025 Procurement Policy, which was reviewed from last year with no revisions for the year 2025. 4 ayes: Blandin, Day, Smith, Stransky 0 Nay

RESOLUTION #13 INSURANCE CARRIER

Motion by J. Stransky Second H. Blandin

Therefore naming McFadden Dier as the Town's insurance company for the year 2025.

4 ayes: Blandin, Day, Smith, Stransky 0 Nay

RESOLUTION #14 CEMETERY CONTRACTS

Motion by J. Stransky Second S. Smith

Appointing Michael Perry Jr. to custodian of Porter Hill and Marshville cemeteries; appointing Art Baker as custodian of Parker cemetery and allowing the Supervisor to sign the cemetery contracts with them at a cost of \$500 per cemetery for the purpose of upkeep on the veteran's graves for the year 2025.

4 ayes: Blandin, Day, Smith, Stransky 0 Nay

RESOLUTION #15 HERMON FIRE DEPT. CONTRACT

Motion by S. Smith Second H. Blandin

Therefore allowing the Supervisor to sign the fire department contract for the year 2025.

4 ayes: Blandin, Day, Smith, Stransky 0 Nay

RESOLUTION #16 CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER

Motion V. Day Second S. Smith

To appoint Michael McQuade as Town Code Officer for 2025.

4 ayes: Blandin, Day, Smith, Stransky 0 Nay

RESOLUTION #17 BOOKKEEPER

Motion by J. Stransky Second S. Smith

Appointing Lori Dibble as Bookkeeper for 2025.

4 ayes: Blandin, Day, Smith, Stransky 0 Nay

RESOLUTION #18 ASSESSOR

Motion by V. Day Second J. Stransky

Appointing Kathleen Besaw as Assessor for 2025.

4 ayes: Blandin, Day, Smith, Stransky 0 Nay

RESOLUTION #19 WATER/SEWER OPERATOR

Motion by V. Day Second S. Smith

Appointing Chris Stransky as water & sewer operator for 2025.

4 ayes: Blandin, Day, Smith, Stransky 0 Nay

RESOLUTION #20 BACKUP OPERATOR

Motion by J. Smith Second S. Smith

Appointing Mason Fountain as backup water/sewer operator for 2025.

4 ayes: Blandin, Day, Smith, Stransky 0 Nay

RESOLUTION #21 DEPUTY SUPERVISOR

Motion by J. Stransky Second S. Smith

Appointing Victoria Day as Deputy Supervisor for 2025.

3 ayes: Blandin, Smith, Stransky 0 Nay (V. Day Abstained)

RESOLUTION #22 ATTORNEY

Motion by V. Day Second J. Stransky

Appointing John Collins, Esq. as Town attorney at a cost of \$125 per hour on an as-needed basis for 2025.

4 ayes: Blandin, Day, Smith, Stransky 0 Nay

RESOLUTION #23 HISTORIAN

Motion by J. Stransky Second S. Smith

Appointing Lenore Zauere as Historian for the year 2025.

4 ayes: Blandin, Day, Smith, Stransky 0 Nay

RESOLUTION #24 DOG CONTROL OFFICER

Motion by S. Smith Second V. Day Appointing

Dan Moyer as DCO for the year 2025 and authorizing the Supervisor to sign contract for pound/shelter services as listed in the 2025 budget.

4 ayes: Blandin, Day, Smith, Stransky 0 Nay

RESOLUTION #25 WORKPLACE VIOLENCE POLICY

Motion by V. Day Second J. Stransky

To review, sign and accept the Town Workplace Violence Prevention Policy & Incident reporting for 2025.

4 ayes: Blandin, Day, Smith, Stransky 0 Nay

RESOLUTION #26 CODE OF ETHICS

Motion by V. Day Second S. Smith

To review, sign and accept the Town of Hermon's Code of Ethics for 2025.

4 ayes: Blandin, Day, Smith, Stransky 0 Nay

RESOLUTION #27 SEXUAL HARASSMENT POLICY

Motion by V. Day Second J. Stransky

To review, sign and accept the Town of Hermon's Sexual Harassment policy for 2025.

4 ayes: Blandin, Day, Smith, Stransky 0 Nay

RESOLUTION #28 WEBSITE MANAGER CONTRACT

Motion by J. Stransky Second V. Day

Appointing Andrew Bigelow as website manager and allowing the Supervisor to sign the website contract with him for the purpose of keeping the Town's website up-to-date at a cost of \$1,000 per year.

4 ayes: Blandin, Day, Smith, Stransky 0 Nay

RESOLUTION #29 SOFTWARE CONTRACT

Motion by J. Stransky Second S. Smith

Acknowledging that we have a software support agreement with Williamson Law Books for 2025.

4 ayes: Blandin, Day, Smith, Stransky 0 Nay

RESOLUTION #30 COPIER/PHONES/IT SUPPORT

Motion by V. Day Second S. Smith

Acknowledging that ABS (Advanced Business Systems) provides copier, phones and IT support for the Town of Hermon for the year 2025.

4 ayes: Blandin, Day, Smith, Stransky 0 Nay

RESOLUTION #31 INTERNET SERVICES(HI SPEED FIBER)

Motion by V. Day Second J. Stransky

Acknowledging that TDS provides phone & internet services to the water & sewer plants, salt barn, water tower and Miles Road pump station.

4 ayes: Blandin, Day, Smith, Stransky

0 Nay

RESOLUTION #32 INTERNET SERVICES

Motion by V. Day Second J. Stransky

Acknowledging that Spectrum provides internet service to the Highway barn and Town Hall.

4 ayes: Blandin, Day, Smith, Stransky 0 Nay

RESOLUTION #33 DEPUTY TOWN CLERK

Motion by J. Stransky Second V. Day

Appointing Amy Smith & Sheila Eggman as Deputy Town Clerks for the year 2025.

4 ayes: Blandin, Day, Smith, Stransky 0 Nay

RESOLUTION #34 BOARD OF ASSESSMENT REVIEW

Motion by S. Smith Second J. Stransky

Setting the rate of compensation for the assessment review board at \$75 per member (4).

4 ayes: Blandin, Day, Smith, Stransky 0 Nay

RESOLUTION #35 PREPAID INVOICES

Motion by V. Day Second J. Stransky

Designating Ntl. Grid, Teamsters insurance & union dues, TDS, water & sewer pay apps as "prepaids" so they can be paid before monthly meetings to keep payments timely.

4 ayes: Blandin, Day, Smith, Stransky 0 Nay

RESOLUTION #36 SECOND NOTICES

Motion by J. Stransky second V. Day

Whereas the Town of Hermon will charge a fee of \$2.00 against each parcel requiring a second tax notice.

4 ayes: Blandin, Day, Smith, Stransky 0 nay

RESOLUTION #37 APPOINTING FAIR HOUSING OFFICER

Motion by J. Stransky second S. Smith

Designating Victoria Day as Fair Housing Officer for 2025.

3 ayes: Blandin, Smith, Stransky (V. Day abstained) 0 nay

RESOLUTION #38 JP MORGAN CHASE BANK CONTRACT

Motion by V. Day second S. Smith

Designating JP Morgan Bank as our town credit card company.

4 ayes: Blandin, Day, Smith, Stransky 0 nay

RESOLUTION #39 AGREEMENT TO SPEND HIGHWAY FUNDS

Motion by J. Stransky second V. Day

Authorizing the signing of an Agreement to spend highway funds with SLC Highway Depart. For 2025.

4 ayes: Blandin, Day, Smith, Stransky

0 nay

RESOLUTION #40 APPOINTMENT OF HEALTH OFFICER

Motion by H. Blandin second V. Day

Designating the St. Lawrence County Public Health Department as our health officer for 2025.

4 ayes: Blandin, Day, Smith, Stransky 0 nay

RESOLUTION #41 OFFICIAL UNDERTAKING

Motion by V. Day second S. Smith

The Town Board of the Town of Hermon approved the foregoing undertaking as to its form and manner and the sufficiency of the surety.

OFFICIAL UNDERTAKING OF MUNICIPAL OFFICIALS

WHEREAS various sections of New York State Town Law and Public Officers Law require that certain officials execute an Official Undertaking; and **NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that we, the Town Board of the Town of Hermon approve the document entitled "Town of Hermon Official Undertaking of Municipal Officers" as to its form and manner of execution and the sufficiency of the insurance; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that said Official Undertaking containing the notarized signatures of those named as municipal officials be filed in the Office of the Town Clerk, as well as the original copies of the insurance policies indicating the sufficiency of the sureties to indemnify the Town against losses which may arise from failure of such officials to properly discharge their duties.

I, Karen Wayering, Clerk of the Town of Hermon, County of St. Lawrence, State of New York, Do hereby certify that the above is a true and exact copy of resolution duly passed by the Hermon Town Board held on January 14th, 2025.

Motion to approve Organizational Meeting made by: **V. Day** Second: **S.Smith**

Motion to adjourn Organizational Meeting at 6:35 pm made by: **J. Stransky** Second **V. Day**

Karen Wayering

From: Maria Moyer <dc@m.moyer@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, January 8, 2025 12:49 PM
To: Karen Wayering; Dan
Subject: Hermon December DCO Report

December DCO Report

Picked up a stray dog at 96 Main Street. No owner has come forth, dog is still in Pound.

Pound/Shelter improvements are progressing well. Required HVAC system with new furnace and air conditioning are up and running. Plumbing and water heater have been updated. Currently working on capping and pouring epoxy flooring. Reviewing estimates on new kennel system.

DCO Dan Moyer

TOWN CLERK'S MONTHLY REPORT

TOWN OF Heron, NEW YORK
TO THE SUPERVISOR:DATE December, 2024

Pursuant to Section 27, Subd. 1, of the Town Law, I hereby make the following statement of all fees and moneys received by me in connection with my office, during the month above stated, excepting only such fees and moneys in application and payment of which are otherwise provided for by law:

Conservation Licenses - DECALS

_____ Marriage Licenses No. _____ to _____	Commission	\$ _____
_____ Marriage Certificates	@ _____	_____
_____ Marriage Transcripts	@ _____	_____
<u>19</u> Registrar Fees	@ <u>10.00</u>	<u>190.00</u>
_____ Migratory Bird Stamps	@ _____	_____

A 1255	TOTAL TOWN CLERK FEES	\$ <u>190.00</u>
A 1010 - 1090	REAL PROPERTY TAXES \$ _____ INTEREST and PENALTIES \$ _____	_____
A 2001	PARK and RECREATION CHARGES _____	_____
A 2110	ZONING FEES \$ _____ A 2115 PLANNING FEES \$ _____	_____
A 2530	GAMES OF CHANCE TOWN SHARE.....LICENSE \$ _____ FEE \$ _____ TOTAL	_____
A 2540	BINGO TOWN SHARE.....LICENSE \$ _____ FEE \$ _____ TOTAL	_____
A 2544	DOG LICENSE - SPAYED AND NEUTERED _____	_____
_____	DOG LICENSE - UNSPAVED AND UNNEUTERED _____	_____
_____	PUREBRED LICENSE _____	_____
A 2545	OTHER LICENSES _____	_____
A 2555 <u>1</u>	BUILDING PERMITS _____	<u>75.00</u>
A 2590	OTHER PERMITS _____	_____
A 2655	MINOR SALES _____	_____
A 2770	OTHER UNCLASSIFIED REVENUES _____	_____

TOTAL TOWN REVENUES TO SUPERVISOR..... \$ 265.00

Amount paid to NEW YORK STATE COMPTROLLER for Games of Chance Licenses

Amount paid to NEW YORK STATE COMPTROLLER for State Share of Bingo Licenses

Amount paid to NEW YORK STATE D.E.C. for Conservation Licenses - DECALS

Amount paid to COUNTY TREASURER for Dog Licenses

Amount paid to NEW YORK STATE HEALTH DEPARTMENT for Marriage Licenses

Amount paid to NEW YORK STATE AGRICULTURE & MARKETS for Unspayed / Unneutered Dogs

Amount paid to NEW YORK STATE for Sales Tax on Sale of Dogs

*Received Payment of these amounts:

January 8th 20 25TOTAL DISBURSED..... \$ 265.00G. H. Lum

Supervisor

STATE OF NEW YORK, COUNTY OF St. Lawrence, TOWN OF Heron

, being duly sworn, says that I am the Clerk

of the Town of
that the foregoing is a full and true statement
of all Fees and Moneys received by me during the month above stated, excepting only such Fees the application and payment of which are otherwise provided for
by law.

Subscribed and Sworn to before me this

16 day of January, 2025Karen Wapsereng

Town Clerk

Notary Public

Hermon Historian Report

Hermon Town Board

January 14, 2025

Lenore Zaunere, Town of Hermon Historian

*Hermon, organized as Depeau in 1830 by the NYS Legislature
renamed in 1834 to Hermon*

Coming soon, is a new page on hermonhistory.org entitled Letters and Articles. It will include miscellanea selected from our Archives collection. It includes two handwritten pieces of correspondence from Jay Fairbanks written during his military service in the Civil War and several Hermon “muster roll” documents from that time.

Also, there will be a “memories of Trout Lake” story written by a resident several decades ago.

Here is a hint on accessing the website if you have trouble connecting. Try typing:

<http://www.hermonhistory.org/>

You can contact me at hermonhistorian@yahoo.com any time – I’d be glad to help. . .

Lenore Zaunere, Hermon Historian

FROM: Leticia, Larry

Subject: Hermon Town Board Meeting

January, 2025

Cathy,

Please extend my apologies to the Board as I will not be able to make this month's meeting. I don't have much to share but here are a couple of things of interest:

1. At our 2025 Organizational Meeting on Thursday January 02, David Forsythe was re-elected Chairman of the Board and I was elected to the Vice Chairs seat.
2. In 2025, we propose paving an additional 35 miles of SLC Highway, over and above the 25-30 miles already budgeted; the additional miles will cost approximately \$6.3 million. In 2024, we paved an additional 44 miles over and above the 25-30 miles already budgeted, at an additional cost of \$5 million. It's notable in that the money used to pay for the additional miles in 2024 came from fund balance, as will 2025.
3. I introduced a resolution at Monday's Board meeting "Calling Upon The New York State Attorney General To Investigate Petroleum Price Differentials in the Tri-County Region Of The North Country For Potential Price Gouging".
Copies of the resolution will be sent to NYS Attorney General Letitia James, Assemblyman Scott Gray, Senator Mark Walczyk, Assemblyman Ken Blankenbush and Senator Dan Stec.

Hope to see everyone next month.

Larry D.

Town of Hermon
Highway Department Report

12/11/24-1/13/25

- Cutting brush with excavator and mulching head on Evans road.
- New tires were put on the grader and backhoe.
- Welded new quick attach plate on snow pusher for new tractor.
- New 6x6 shed was purchased and wiring was put in for the salt barn internet.
- Finished installing new led shop lights in the town barn.
- Sinkhole on Jonesville road was filled , assuming the culvert has come apart and will be replaced in spring.
- Jerry installing new stairs to the sign room .
- On December 21 Matt Holly hit the bridge with the wing plow on trk 31 . We decided to file an insurance claim for the repairs and the truck was repaired and back in service on Jan 8th.
- Plowed and sanded 19 times.

Memo To: Hermon Town Board

Date: January 14, 2025

From: Anthony Young, P.E.
Marisa Clark
Brett McVoy, P.E.

Project No.: 2266.003.001
2226.004.001
2266.005.001
2266.006.001

Subj: Board Memo: Wastewater System, Water System, Library, & T-Mobile

Wastewater Effluent Disinfection and I/I Project:

- Project
 - UV Disinfection & Collection System Rehab
 - Total Project Budget: \$2,000,000
- Funding
 - Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)
 - Unsuccessful in July 2021. Will not apply again.
 - Water Quality Improvement Project (WQIP) - Disinfection
 - Max Grant - 80% of eligible disinfection costs
 - Awarded \$718,400 on March 6, 2023.
 - Water Quality Improvement Project (WQIP) – Improvements
 - Unsuccessful in 2021 & 2022.
 - Max Grant – 80% of eligible improvement costs
 - Unsuccessful submitted in July 2023 (\$591,200)
 - Water Infrastructure Improvement Act (WIIA)
 - Max Grant - 25% of project costs after other grants
 - Unsuccessful in November 2022
 - Awarded February 2024 (\$320,400)
 - Applied for Enhanced WIIA for additional 25% grant
- Schedule (DEC Compliance and Consent Order Schedule)
 - Notice to Proceed – December 31, 2023
 - Completion – August 1, 2025
 - **Manhole Rehabilitation is 95% complete. UV Vault was installed.**
- SPDES Permit Flow Limit Increase
 - Official Permit Modification submitted May 20, 2021
 - Application Accepted in December 2021
 - DEC Notice sent to the newspaper on June 12, 2023
 - DEC Approved the new SPDES Permit with a flow of 0.078MGD.
- Action Items
 - **Design of UV building enclosure has started**



Water System Improvements:

- Preliminary Engineering Report (PER) - \$7,650,000 Project Budget
 - Submitted to DOH and EFC in July 2021
 - December 2022 Addendum No. 2 - \$9.4 million Total Cost (\$1.75M increase)
- Started Preliminary Design for Water System Improvements Project in July 2022
 - Submitted plans & specs to RD, EFC and DOH on January 26, 2022.
 - Received EFC/DOH comments on March 8, 2023. Responded May 8, 2023
 - Received 2nd round EFC/DOH comments on August 24, 2023. Responded Sept. 14, 2023
 - Received 3rd round DOH comments on February 28. Responded April 12.
 - Received DOH approval on June 11, 2024.
- Project Funding
 - USDA Grant/Loan –Turned down loan offer in August 2023
 - EFC WIIA grant application (60% less other grants or \$3M) – Received \$3million in April 2022
 - Received CDBG Grant – \$1,250,000 in November 2022
 - Received BIL Grant - \$1,640,650 and BIL 0% Financing - \$1,988,850
 - Received St. Lawrence County Grant - \$250,000 in January 2023
 - Unsuccessful GIGP Grant – \$384,750 (water meters only) in November 2022
 - State and Tribal Assistance Grant (STAG)
 - Applied for \$1,270,500 in March 2023. Was not selected.
- Project Schedule
 - **Approximately 19,500 feet of water main has been installed to date (85%) and 33 fire hydrants (82%)**
 - **Water main installation shut down for winter.**
 - **Meeting with electrical contractor next week to discuss the water plant improvements, material is finally in.**
- Action items
 - **Easements**

Library Evaluation

- Report revisions are being made based off recommendations from the NCLS.
- Application submitted to NCLS August 15th, 2022
 - Grant announcement made on August 16, 2023. Award of \$466,500
 - **90% design plans submitted for review in January 2025**

T-Mobile Grant Application

- Unsuccessful with \$50,000 construction grant application in September 2024.
 - Reapplied in fall 2024



Town of Hermon
Code Enforcement Officer
109 Church Street
Hermon NY 13652
Phone: 315-748-8487
Email: hermoncodes@hermonny.com

CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICE **MONTHLY REPORT**

MONTH: December 2024

New Building Permits: Total

1- Residential Addition

Project Cost: \$65000 Fee Amount: \$165

New Certificates Issued for the Month:

2- Certificate of Compliance

N/A - Certificate of Occupancy

Enforcement actions for non-compliance:

2- Property Maintenance

N/A - Work w/o Permit

The two property maintenance issues were brought to my attention at the end of December 2024 by email received from neighbors. I had to ask an individual about the one property in question as the last I knew property was vacant but unfortunately individuals have moved back into structure. In my investigation of the issue, I unfortunately look like the individuals were cleaning out the interior of the structure of all the garbage and rubbish from the last individuals that were residing in the structure. The other property maintenance issue looks as if individuals or residents have begun to throw rubbish and garbage in the open garage which has caused rodents to appear around property. I also I'm dealing with a tenant / landlord issue as the tenant has been given eviction papers from the landlord, but tenant unfortunately informed me water pipes have broken causing them to have no water in the apartment which the landlord hasn't fixed by the end of December 2024.



Town of Hermon
Code Enforcement Officer
109 Church Street
Hermon NY 13652
Phone: 315-748-8487

Email: hermoncodes@hermonny.com

Other Code Enforcement Items:

- I took part in an online seminar titled Considerations for Housing Friendly Planning and Zoning sponsored by Northern Forest Center. The seminar discussed the critical lack of lower- to middle-income housing that is a threat to the vibrancy of Northern Forest communities. This online seminar explores some barriers to new housing development that may be present in your towns' planning and zoning, as well as tools and techniques that communities have utilized to address these barriers. Recent and Deepening Trends • Work from [insert name of amazing place]. COVID has permanently changed how and where remote workers work. In short, they are more mobile and make choices based on lifestyle, not proximity to a company's physical location. • Migrating to and from. Between 2010 - 2020, immigration began before COVID. Out-migration from the north, central, and Downeast to southern Maine. 2023 - Unknown to what extent southern Mainers will migrate out of south Maine to find more affordable housing. (A. Dailey, GPCOG). • Faster to permit, Fast money. Locally, the market is building a large lot of subdivisions and constructing large single-family homes for short-term rental to visitors. • Seeking Walkability. Nationally, and as seen here in Maine, people of all ages are competing for smaller housing units located in walkable villages and cities, driving up the cost of housing. • Aging in Community. Many aging residents want to downsize and remain in their community, but the housing stock does not support it for many Mainers. Residents living in small rural towns and who have never lived in apartments do not want to move to the city and live in an apartment. So, they stay too long in houses they cannot maintain • Multigenerational Living. We want this, too. They also spoke about Housing a National Problem That Needs Local Solutions, Local tools to address housing which are Comprehensive Plans, Zoning Alignments and Visualize Solutions.
- I took part in an online seminar titled Funding Opportunity: Plus, One ADU Program as the NYS Homes and Community Renewal (HCR) has announced a third round of funding for the New York Plus One ADU pro-gram. Up to \$25 million will be available for the administration of this program. Local units of government (e.g., a county or a mu-nicipality) and local nonprofit housing organizations in partnership with each other are welcome to apply. The "Plus One ADU" is an initiative designed to support local governments and community development partners with the development of accessory dwelling units (ADUs) throughout the state, where municipalities allow for ADU development. This program may assist eligible entities in constructing new ADUs or converting existing ADUs to meet legal codes. Award requests should not exceed \$2 million, or applications with a request of over \$125,000 per unit. The deadline for funding applications is Wednesday, January 15, 2025, by 3:00 p.m. EST.



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- I took part in an online seminar titled GIS in Disaster Management: A Key Tool for Effective Damage Assessment sponsored by Asset Management. The online seminar spoke about how GIS technology can be utilized to conduct accurate and timely damage assessments following natural disasters. Participants will learn how the integration of GIS with real-time data to map affected areas, prioritize response efforts, and allocate resources efficiently. The online seminar feature case studies and expert insights on leveraging GIS for post-disaster recovery, including infrastructure repair, resource distribution, and community rebuilding. Attendees gain a comprehensive understanding of how GIS can support data-driven decision-making, improve coordination among response teams, and enhance the resilience and recovery capabilities of communities.
- I took part in an online seminar titled Great Lakes Coastal Resiliency Study Public Meeting & Progress sponsored by the US Army Corps of Engineers. The online seminar the study team provided opportunities for public input to guide the development of the study's deliverables. One public input opportunity was responding to the question, "Which types of coastal resources do you think might be most impacted by changing water levels?" Participants emphasized their concerns for infrastructure, beaches, habitats, wetlands, and more along the Great Lakes coast. The online webinar spoke about the following: GENERAL SCOPE VULNERABILITY ASSESSMENT Identify coastal areas that are already or likely to become vulnerable to future flooding, erosion, and accretion RESILIENT ACTIONS Identify actions to address vulnerabilities and improve resilience and adaptability of coastal resources COASTAL RESILIENCY PLAN Identify strategic recommendations for prioritization of future investments to improve coastal resilience. STUDY BACKGROUND STUDY AUTHORITY Section 211(a) of the Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) 2020 OVERALL OBJECTIVE Protect the long-term economic, environmental, and social value of the Great Lakes coast through initiative-taking planning STUDY AREA Signing ceremony for the study cost share agreement. U.S. Great Lakes coast ESTIMATED COST • Approximately \$14.4M o 75% Federal Contribution (\$10.8M) o 25% State Contribution (\$3.6M) ESTIMATED SCHEDULE • Study Start Date: July 2023 • Study End Date: October 2028.
- I attended an online seminar titled Maintenance Made Easier, sponsored by Helix Intel and NYMIR. The online seminar discussed why managing maintenance can be a tough job. Helix Intel showed how members can find a way to oversee maintenance. Helix intel introduced PropertyOS, Helix Intel's simplified Computerized Maintenance Management System (CMMS), designed to keep your property and equipment operations running smoothly without the hassle of spreadsheets or pen and paper. Our CMMS not only extends the lifespan of your property and equipment but also reduces risks, saving time and money.



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- As mentioned in last month's report I brought up I took part in an online seminar sponsored by Granicus titled Short-Term Rental Compliance Benchmarks: Data and Trends for Local Government the seminar gave aspects how Short-Term Rentals (STRs) have become a ubiquitous feature of the hospitality landscape, offering alternative lodging options for travelers and the potential to generate significant economic benefits for communities. However, their rapid growth presents challenges for local governments, particularly regarding impacts on housing affordability, neighborhood character, and public safety. Further, as visitors increasingly opt to stay in STRs over traditional lodging, the funding needed for government services like waste and water management, fire and police, and code enforcement also increases. Hotels, bed and breakfasts, and other traditional lodging alternatives have long-standing regulatory frameworks in place to pay their fair share of taxes to the residing community — but unregulated or under-regulated STRs may be extracting more from the community than they give back. The reason I mention this is New York State just passed law number S885C/A4130C which will introduce several requirements for short-term residential rental hosts (stays of less than 30 days) to do business within New York State if signed the governor signs law. The bill will require rental hosts to register their offerings, listings, and advertisements with the Department of State every two years. Every month, rental hosts must report on the availability and activity of their rental properties. This includes a registration number, information regarding each listing's location, whether a listing is for a partial or whole unit, and the number of nights each unit was occupied throughout the month. The Department of State then reports this information to each municipality so that they have a clearer picture of the local short-term rental market and its relationship with the local housing market. Local governments who already had a rental registry in place prior to the enactment were empowered with enforcement. Those who do not must defer to the State, according to the Bill language. SLC did not have a rental registry at the time of enactment, but we did have an occupancy tax law, and it is unclear how that will be impacted. Another component of the bill requires rental hosts to collect property sales and occupancy taxes. Renters, the visitors of the short-term rental properties, would bear this cost, not the property owners themselves. I unfortunately do not know how this will be policed.

The month of December 2024 was like the last month for the code enforcement office as with the weather changing and the holiday season upon us things started to slow down. I completed during the month's site visits to the Town of Hermon for only a couple ongoing projects that I have issued permits for as individuals continue the work on projects.



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- The addition w/ attached garage permit issued this month on Church Street was being worked on during the month of December 2024 as contractors were onsite completing site work and footing details for the structure during the beginning of the month. As the month of December progressed along the contractors completed the installation of the ICF foundation forms as well as the concrete pour for the foundation details
- The residential renovation project on Washington Street which was the permit issued last month will not officially begin until next year as the ownership of the property was just completed last month. The structure unfortunately has been vacant for 5 or more years so the extent of the work to be completed will take some time. In speaking with the new owner, he and/or she may do some minor work securing the property. The owner hopes to complete the following work once weather breaks in the spring of 2025- new roof system, replace floor joists, new subfloor, reframe lower/upper walls, replace existing stairway, repair walls and ceiling details unfortunately there may be more items once he and/or she start renovation.
- The single-family structure on Underwood Rd was being worked on as the subcontractor was onsite completing exterior septic system installation at the beginning of the month. As the month progressed along 2024 ended, contractors and/or subcontractor were onsite completing rough electrical installation with insulation subcontractor completing spray foam insulation details on the exterior wall and rim joist detail. As the contractor was onsite starting drywall installation details with hvac subcontractor onsite starting duct work details for heating system.
- The single-family structure on Woodrow Rd was being worked on during the month of December 2024 as the subcontractor was onsite completing rough HVAC system installation. As the month progressed along 2024 ended, contractors and/or subcontractor were onsite completing rough electrical installation with insulation subcontractor completing spray foam insulation details on the exterior wall and rim joist detail. As of the end of December 2024 the contractor had started to drywall finishing details with some minor rough plumbing details.

If you have any questions about my monthly report, please feel free to contact me.

Respectfully,

Michael J McQuade