

The regular meeting of the Town Board was held October 10, 2023 at the Hermon Town Hall.

Present was Supervisor Arthur Baker.

Council Bernard Reed Jr., Kathy Carpenter, Robert LaClair Jr., and John Reed.

Also present were Steve Allen, Chris Stransky, Ed Carpenter, Shane Brunet, Larry Denesha, Lenore Zaubere, Kim Matthews, Kate Stransky, Lori Carpenter, Victoria Day, Brian and Sharon Brunet, Sheri Smith, Chris Velez.

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. Minutes of the previous 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

- Preliminary 2024 Budget Presentation Monday October 30
- SLC is losing \$600K in revenue due to the surplus associated with the foreclosure Auction.
- FMAP changes will increase County costs over the next 2 years by over \$3 million.
- TVTR (true value tax rate)
 - 2023-7.60
 - 2022-8.02
 - 2021-8.19
 - 2020-8.28
 - 2019-8.28
 - 2018-8.36
- Considering a Resolution to override 2024 tax cap.
- Resolution proclaiming October as SLC History Month and recognizing SLC Historian and all other local Historians for their contributions.
- Resolution urging NYS Legislature-Governor Hochul to draft, enact Legislation regarding identification process for voter.

Officers Report Supervisor Arthur Baker

- Received 4-5 filing cabinets for the Historian.
- Good job on blacktopping the roads to the County and Brian and crew.

Highway Superintendent Brian Brunet

- Shoulders on East Dekalb Road
- Harnessed 1 truck for winter.

Chris Stransky September 2023 Water Report

Total Discharge 1,994,000

Total Pumped 2,455,500

Hermon 1,761,400

Dekalb 694,100

PreConstruction Meeting held today at the Town Offices to discuss the Water/Sewer Construction with Barton & Loguidice and crew, Contractors TJ Fiacco and crew, Supervisor Baker, Chris Stransky, Joseph Brant, Kathy Carpenter, Karen Wayering, Sharon Brunet.

Historian Lenore Zاونere

We recently received a completely hand-forged chain from Ronnie Perrin as a donation to the Hermon History Center. Regionally forged by a blacksmith, it was used on the Day farm in Hermon, is about 40 pounds and has large hooks on both ends. We are appreciative of this special gift from Ronnie.

Thank you to Art Baker, our supervisor, for his help in securing and delivering five file cabinets for the Hermon History Center. His efforts are much appreciated, and the cabinets are already being filled with historical and genealogical documents that will enhance the ease of access and availability of these valuable archival materials.

On October 2, 2023, we joined with other town historians, at the St. Lawrence County Legislature's Board Meeting, to celebrate its proclamation of October as St. Lawrence County History Month. The Board recognized the County and all Local Historians for their contributions in preserving St. Lawrence County History.

Prior to the start of the meeting, there was a reception to recognize an exhibition of biographies of each town historian in the beautiful hallway of the Court House. It is open to the public and all are welcome to view it. Following is the text of your Hermon Historian's biography submitted for the presentation which historians were asked to prepare.

Lenore Zاونere, Town of Hermon Historian

organized as Depeau in 1830 by the NYS Legislature

renamed in 1834 to Hermon

History has always been one of my greatest interests and when I, my husband and young son permanently settled in Hermon in 1981, its rich history afforded us an opportunity for research and further appreciation of the early lives spent here and in the greater St. Lawrence County. We worked to restore our 1850s farmhouse and in the process of learning about the families that had inhabited it, the town of Hermon's history became the focus of many research projects. We built hermonhistory.org, a website to showcase old newspapers, documents, photographs, and maps. As secretary of Hermon Heritage Hall, a chartered organization during the late 1990s and early 2000s, we worked on genealogical inquiries, community presentations, and transcribed the Hermon Heritage Newsletter into digital format. In January 2013, I was appointed to the Village and Town of Hermon Historian and when they merged into one municipality on January 1, 2017, my role transitioned into the position of town historian.

On July 17th of that year, the Hermon History Center opened its doors in the municipal building, a space created with the help of dissolution funds and cooperation of town officials so that historical records could be displayed and preserved for the future. As the Town of Hermon Historian, I have continued the project to digitize the town's historical documents and artifacts, first launched more than twenty years ago. The website has broadened in scope, including two contemporary videos. One illustrates a local maple syruping project and the second, a road paving project which offers a narrative for future viewing. Thus, the website serves a dual purpose: to record and preserve documents and artifacts digitally, as well as make them available to a broader audience via the web.

I've been a member of APHNYS since 2013, and from 2019 – 2022, a Board of Trustees Member of the St. Lawrence County Historical Association (SLCHA.) As Chairwoman of the Technology Committee, I mobilized a technology upgrade for the Association to modernize and advance its technology facilities, also serving on the education and personnel committees. With the support of talented volunteers, the website was maintained and migrated to a new platform. During 2020-2021, two educational digitization projects were developed for the website, working with Carlton Stickney, (Town of Stockholm Historian until his death in 2022.) Hundreds of Carls early lighting and lamp artifacts as well as textile tools from the past two centuries were displayed and annotated.

Applying to the Pomeroy Foundation on behalf of the Town of Hermon, we were awarded its first two NYS Historic Markers, the first in 2020 honoring E. Merton McBrier and the second in 2021 commemorating Hermon's Trout Lake Hamlet.

- *The Hermon History Center continues to be open on Tuesdays, from 10 – Noon. I am also available to meet by appointment – email hermonhistorian@yahoo.com or call 315 347 2373.*

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

Old Business

- Still waiting for John Collins-Attorney
- Letter was mailed to the residents receiving water/sewer bills in the Hamlet.
- Library Grant
- Letter received from Daniel Moyer requiring all his Towns to help get his Dog kennels up to Codes- updates, would like a \$1500.

New Business

- November 1, 2023, at 4:00 p.m. 2024 Budget Public Hearing
- CD's mature November 1st-will consult with William Dashnaw
- Welcoming the New Bakery opening "Little Miss Muffets" on 107 Church Street.

The Town Clerk and Supervisor submitted their bank statements.

The Supervisor's and Town Clerks monthly report was examined and approved on motion by Robert LaClair Jr. Seconded by Kathy Carpenter. All in favor and carried.

Kathy Carpenter made the motion to transfer monies to appropriate funds. Seconded by John Reed. All in favor and carried.

General, Highway, Water/Sewer, Library, Street Lights bills were audited and approved on motion by John Reed. Seconded by Bernard Reed Jr. All in favor and carried.

Kathy Carpenter made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:45 p.m. Seconded by John Reed.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Wayering

Town Clerk