

#### **Town of Hermon**

## **Public Safety Meeting Room**

August 22, 2024

**Town Council Meeting** 

6:30 PM

#### MINUTES

To watch Council Meetings go to hermonmaine.gov click Council click Town Council Meetings click Zoom

Please see the complete video at Town Council Meetings | Hermon (hermonmaine.gov)

## \*\*\*ALL ITEMS ARE SUBJECT TO APPROPRIATE COUNCIL ACTION\*\*\*

- I. CALL TO ORDER BY CHAIRPERSON:
- II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Chair Snyer led those in attendance in the Pledge of Allegiance

III. ROLL CALL:

Members Present: Joshua Berry, Richard Cyr, Christopher Gray, Terry Hamm-Morris, Ronald

Murphy, John Snyer III and Derek Wood

Members Absent: None

Others Present: Town Manager Stephen Fields, Town Clerk Kristen Cushman and

17 residents/guests

- IV. PUBLIC ITEMS OR COMMENTS: (ITEMS NOT ALREADY ON THE AGENDA)
  - Steven Thomas, Blackstream Rd
  - Danielle Haggerty, Bog Rd



V. REVIEW CONSENT CALENDAR: REGULAR BUSINESS, APPOINTMENTS, SIGNATURES, AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

MINUTES -APPROVE 7/18/2024

SIGNATURES -APPROVE Quitclaim account # 449 M/L 025-033-000

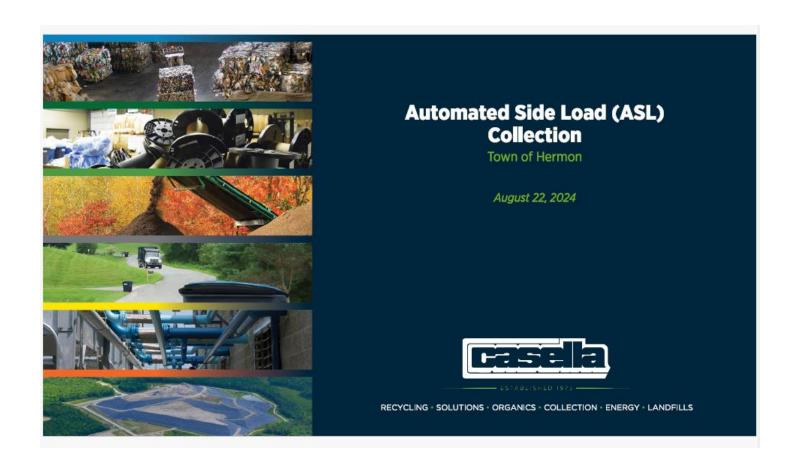
RESOLVES -SIGN

WARRANTS -SIGN 8/2/2024, 8/16/2024

<u>Councilor Murphy moved to approve the Consent Calendar as presented.</u> <u>Councilor Wood seconded the motion. Motion passes 7-0.</u>

VI. NEWS, PRESENTATIONS AND RECOGNITIONS:

Casella – James Dunning, Market Area Manager for Casella







## What is Automated Collection?

Instead of a driver and one or two helpers on a truck twisting turning and lifting up to 40,000 pounds of trash in a day, a single operator drives and controls a joystick that uses mechanical leverage to do the same amount of work.



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Collection workers rank as the 7th deadliest job in the country.

## **Driver Safety**

- Belted in a cab protected by 20 tons of steel
- Not exiting the driver's side into traffic to assist
- Operating the most modern equipment available
  - -less strenuous work environment and climate
  - -leads to increased moral and employee retention



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## **Laborer Safety**

- Minimize injuries related to:
  - -crush hazard from distracted drivers
  - -back strains from twisting & turning
  - -ankle and knee injuries from mounting/dismounting
  - -slip & fall hazards during inclement weather



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## **Public Safety**

- Far more efficient collection process
  - -Service time per stop is seconds not minutes
  - -Reduces the potential for accidents
    - •Rear end collisions while we are at a stop servicing
    - Oncoming traffic while vehicles attempt to go around



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# **Community Outreach**

- Public Meetings
- Postcard Mailings
- ·Social Media
- Press Releases
- Instructions attached on delivery



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LID CLOSED, FORWARD FACING, NOTHING OUTSIDE BIN, 3' OF CLEARANCE, CURBSIDE BY 7:00AM. **Thank you!** 





# PLACE CART HERE FOR COLLECTION Thank You!





## The cart is too big.

Households on town-maintained roads receive a 96-gallon cart.

- After deployment, a smaller 64-gallon cart can be ordered.
- The fee to swap the container is \$25.
  - -The larger cart weighs just a little more than the smaller one, and with larger wheels, is easier to move around and provides additional capacity during vacations, holidays, etc.



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## The cart is too small.

After deployment, additional carts can be ordered.

- Nearby communities average less than 1, to 2% participation.
- Breakdown bulky items, gallon jugs, cereal boxes, cardboard, etc.
- Participate in the Towns single-stream recycling program.
- The fee is \$5 per week, \$260 paid annually.
  - -prorated to the Town's fiscal year July 1st
- For a small home-based business, this much more affordable than dumpster service.



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# How well do they work in the snow?

Better than what we have now.

- Large wheels make them easier to move.
- No more white bags buried in white snowbanks.
- The arm removes them from the snow, and places them right back in.



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# Why does the lid need to be closed?

Safety - again, ours and yours.

- Stacked material can land on the top or the truck.
- -Material could come loose and impact oncoming traffic.
- -Places pedestrians at risk, especially on corners.
- Fire hazard should the material land on or shift onto the exhaust.

## Public Health

• The lids also minimize nuisance issues such as wind-blown litter and wildlife issues such as birds, racoons, etc. (freeze-in issues as well)



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## Can I put my address on the cart?

Yes, on the lid.

- Feel free to use a paint pen or marker on the LID of the cart.
- · Do not mark the body of the cart.



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## What do I do with my existing containers(s)?

Reuse them.

- · Many folks have repurposed theirs.
  - -bottles and cans
  - -leaf and yard waste
  - -salt, sand, grain

Dispose of them.

• We will set a large roll off container at the town office after collection begins for those who prefer not to keep them.



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## What do I do with tires?

## Recycle them.

- When you get new tires, most tire stores assess a per tire fee so they can mange that particular waste stream effectively.
- Should you decide to dispose of them on your own, some privately owned transfer stations accept them for a fee.



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## What I do with all my cardboard these days?

## Recycle it.

- The Town Office has multiple containers onsite for carboard drop-off.
- If you prefer to put it in the container, break it down so it fits into the cart with the lid closed.
- Please cut oversized material into 2' x 2' squares so gravity can do its job when the cart is tipped overhead.



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# How about all my holiday wrapping paper?

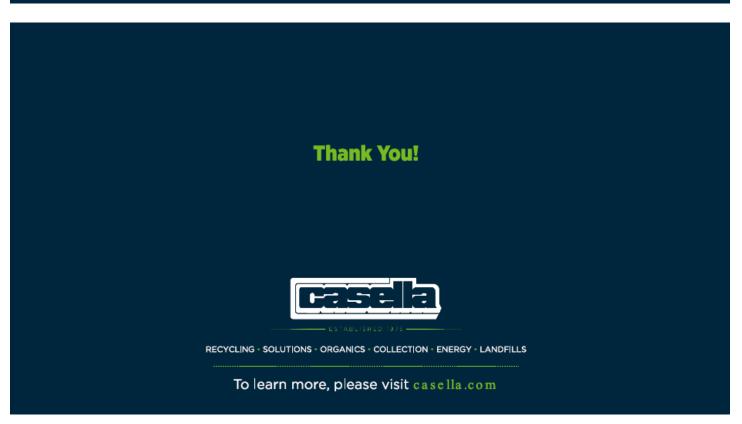
We have you covered there too.

 Just like the communities around you, we provide a large "roll-off" container after the holidays at the Town Office or Transfer Station for folks to bring wrapping paper, ribbons, etc.



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- VII. PUBLIC HEARINGS:
- VIII. COMMITTEE REPORTS:
- IX. SCHEDULED AGENDA ITEMS:
  - A. OLD BUSINESS:

O23-24-06 Consider amendment to the FY 24-25 Council schedule

Councilor Murphy moved to approve O23-24-06 with amendments. Councilor Cyr seconded the motion. The motion was accepted. Motion passes 7-0.

O24-25-02 Review and sign warrant for November 5, 2024 election

Councilor Murphy moved to review and sign the warrant for the November 2024 election O24-25-02. Councilor Berry seconded the motion. Council went into discussion. Councilor Murphy suggested to remove the word non-financial from: The School Committee members appointed by RSU 87 shall only be authorized to vote on non-financial Hermon High School matters.

Councilor Hamm-Morris moved to remove the words non-financial. The sentence to read: The School Committee members appointed by RSU 87 shall only be authorized to vote on Hermon High School matters. Councilor Cyr seconded the motion. Motion was accepted. Motion passes 6-1. Councilor Gray voted in opposition.

Councilor Murphy moved to approve the complete warrant for the November 2024 election. Councilor Wood seconded the motion. Motion was accepted. Motion passes 6-1. Councilor Gray voted in opposition.

- **B. NEW BUSINESS:**
- C. WORKSHOPS:
- D. OTHER ITEMS: (FROM TABLE PACKAGE)
- X. APPOINTMENTS:



#### XI. MANAGER STATUS REPORT:

- Thank you to the Recreation Staff and volunteers for the Summer Sizzler event. Another successful day! Look forward to next year. I would like to also recognize the Fire Department and Public Works for supporting this event.
- The Hermon Fire Department has received certification from Maine EMS to the Paramedic level. This will allow the department to provide higher patient care on EMS calls for our residents and visitors.
- August 29<sup>th</sup>, Thursday, is the first day of school for students, please be aware of children walking and waiting for bus. Thank you for your understanding as the first day of school buses may have small delays.
- The Town Office will be closed on Monday, September 2<sup>nd</sup> to recognize Labor Day Holiday.
- Town Office Clerk's Department (Motor vehicles, tax payment, Moses, etc. transactions) will be closed for mandatory elections training from the Secretary of State on Wednesday, Sept 4<sup>th</sup> and Thursday, Sept 5<sup>th</sup>. The office will reopen for business on Friday, Sept 6<sup>th</sup>.
- Thank you to Casella for providing the information tonight for the community. I look forward to the transition of services and how the Town and Casella can continue to move forward with the service provided.
- Maine Obsolete Pesticide Collection Program is posted on the town website.
   Participation guidance and applications are accepted until Wednesday, September 25, 2024. This collection is not being sponsored by the Town. Collection point and date/time will be provided to requesting participants.

#### XII. FINAL PUBLIC ITEMS OR COMMENT: (ITEMS NOT ALREADY ON THE AGENDA)

• Ed Ford, Union St

#### XIII. COUNCIL ITEMS:

Joshua Berry: Town Office renovations look good and hopefully working well for the staff.

Hoping Mr. Fields transition is going well.

Derek Wood: Fall sports are starting up to include soccer, football and the new track.

Kids have a new opportunity and excitement for the new track.

Welcome Mr. Fields.

Christopher Gray: The Sizzler was a great event for the town and it was well attended.

The BBQ at the church had over 500 people attending.



XIV. EXECUTIVE SESSION:

**XV. ADJOURNMENT:** 

Councilor Murphy moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:01 PM. Councilor Berry seconded. With no objection the meeting was adjourned at 8:01 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kristen Cushman Town Clerk

## Please see the complete video at Town Council Meetings | Hermon (hermonmaine.gov)

**Explanatory note #1**: All items in the CONSENT CALENDAR are considered routine and are proposed for adoption by the Town Council with one motion without DISCUSSION or deliberation. If DISCUSSION on any item is desired, any member of the Council or public may request the removal of an item for it to be placed in the regular agenda prior to the motion to approve the Consent Agenda.

Explanatory Note #2: In the interest of effect decision-making: At 10:00 p.m., the Chairman shall poll the Council and Town Manager to identify remaining items which shall be carried forward to the next Regular Meeting.

Explanatory Note #3: A Councilor who feels the need for the Council excusing his/her absence will make the request to the Town Manager or the Town Clerk prior to the meeting.