

O24-25-02

2024 WARRANT SECRET BALLOT ELECTION TOWN OF HERMON

November 5, 2024

To: Keely Gonyea, a Resident of the Town of Hermon, Penobscot County and State of Maine,

Greeting: In the name of the State of Maine you are hereby requested to notify and warn the inhabitants of the Town of Hermon, in said County of Penobscot, qualified by law to vote in said Town affairs, to meet at the Patricia A Duran School (Hermon Elementary School) on November 5, 2024 at 6:45 AM then and there to act upon Article 1 and by secret ballot on Articles 2 through 6 as set out below, the polling hours therefor to be from 7:00 AM to 8:00 PM, said articles being the following:

Note: The Election of Moderator by written ballot will be at 6:45 AM and voting will be from 7:00 AM to 8:00 PM on November 5, 2024

ARTICLE 1. To elect a moderator by written ballot to preside at said meeting.

ARTICLE 2. Shall the municipality approve an amendment to Article VI of the Articles Summary of the Charter of the Town of Hermon, as set forth below?

Articles Summary

Article VI

School Committee. A Department of Education is created with seven School Committee members, five elected at large from Hermon, being responsible for the care and management of the public schools of the town, and two from S.A.D. #23 RSU 87 empowered to vote on Hermon High School Secondary Education matters.

SUMMARY: This amendment replaces "S.A.D. #23" with RSU 87 and replaces "Secondary Education" with "Hermon High School".

TOWN COUNCIL RECOMMENDATION: The Town Council recommends approval.

NOTE: New text is <u>underlined</u>; deleted text is struck out.

ARTICLE 3. Shall the municipality approve an amendment to Section 4.01 of Article IV of the Charter of the Town of Hermon, as set forth below?

ARTICLE IV - TOWN MANAGER

Sec. 4.01 – APPOINTMENT; QUALIFICATION

The Town Council shall appoint a Town Manager for <u>any length it desires</u> an indefinite term and fix his/her compensation. The manager shall be appointed on the basis of his/her executive and administrative qualifications. He/she need not be a resident of the Town or State at the time of his/her appointment but may reside outside the Town while in office only with the approval of the Council.

SUMMARY: This amendment seeks to make this charter provision consistent with State Law which permits a municipality to contract with a Town Manager for a term of any length it desires.

TOWN COUNCIL RECOMMENDATION: The Town Council recommends approval.

NOTE: New text is <u>underlined</u>; deleted text is struck out.

ARTICLE 4. Shall the municipality approve an amendment to Section 6.01 of Article VI of the Charter of the Town of Hermon, as set forth below?

ARTICLE VI – SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Sec. 6.01 – NUMBER, ELECTION, AND TERM

The School Committee shall consist of five (5) members, each of whom shall be nominated and elected by the registered voters of the entire Town to administer and provide oversight for the School Department.

Each member shall be elected for a term of three (3) years and shall serve until his/her successor is elected and qualified. After serving three full consecutive terms as a School Committeeperson, an individual must wait one year before serving on the Committee again.

In addition to the five (5) members above, there shall also be two (2) members of the School Committee to be appointed by the directors of RSU 87 R.S.U. #87 for as long as high school secondary school tuition students from RSU 87 #87 d/b/a/ SAD #23 are contracting with the Town of Hermon compromise and comprise no less than 25% of the high school secondary education student population at Hermon High School. The School Committee shall have all the powers and duties prescribed for school committees by the general laws of the State of Maine, except as otherwise provided by the Charter as follows:

- (a.) A specific agenda item shall be provided at all regular meetings to allow public input.
- (b.) The School Committee shall provide for keeping a verbatim record of its proceedings to be retained and disposed of in accordance with State Law.
- (c.) The contract between the School Department and RSU 87 shall be for a period of three (3) years.
- (d.) The School Committee members appointed by RSU 87 shall only be authorized to vote on Hermon High School matters.

SUMMARY: This amendment:

- 1. Replaces "S.A.D. #23" with "RSU 87":
- 2. Replaces "secondary school" and "secondary education" "high school";
- 3. Corrects the spelling of the word "comprise";
- 4. Specifies that the length of any contract between RSU 87 and the Hermon School Department must be for a three (3) year period; and
- 5. Clarifies that members appointed by RSU 87 to the Hermon School Committee are limited to voting on non-financial, Hermon High School matters only.

TOWN COUNCIL RECOMMENDATION: The Town Council recommends approval.

NOTE: New text is underlined; deleted text is struck out.

ARTICLE 5. Shall the municipality approve an amendment to Section 6.08 of Article VI of the Charter of the Town of Hermon, as set forth below?

ARTICLE VI – SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Sec. 6.08 - BUDGET

The School Committee shall submit <u>and present</u> its proposed annual budget to the Town <u>Manager Council at a time to be determined by the Town Council pursuant to Section 8.02 of this Charter. no less than thirty (30) days prior to the Annual Town Meeting or Special Town Meeting called for adoption of the school budget along with explanation of any pending items.</u>

SUMMARY: This amendment seeks to clarify the format of the budget presented by the School Department to the Town Council.

TOWN COUNCIL RECOMMENDATION: The Town Council recommends approval.

NOTE: New text is <u>underlined</u>; deleted text is struck out.

ARTICLE 6. Shall the municipality approve an amendment to Section 8.02 of Article VIII of the Charter of the Town of Hermon, as set forth below?

ARTICLE VIII - BUDGET

Sec. 8.02 - PREPARATION AND SUBMISSION OF THE BUDGET

The Town Manager, at a time to be determined by the Town Council, shall submit to the Council a budget and an explanatory budget message. The budget authority of the Town Council shall include amending or approving the budget proposed by the Town Manager and determining the total appropriations made to various municipal offices, departments or agencies. The school budget will be presented to the Town Council, which shall determine the total amount of school budget to be presented for school budget validation vote, pursuant to 20-A M.R.S.A. Section $\frac{2308(2)}{2307(2)}$ and the Town Council will forward the School Committee's recommendation to the voters in accordance with State law.

SUMMARY: This amendment seeks to correct the statutory reference.

TOWN COUNCIL RECOMMENDATION: The Town Council recommends approval.

NOTE: New text is <u>underlined</u>; deleted text is struck out.

ARTICLE 7. Shall the municipality approve an amendment to the Charter of the Town of Hermon that removes all references to S.A.D. 23, wherever used, and replaces the reference with RSU 87?

SUMMARY: This amendment seeks to correct the references to the RSU School System.

TOWN COUNCIL RECOMMENDATION: The Town Council recommends approval.

SIGNED THIS 22nd day of August 2024, BY THE MUNICIPAL OFFICERS:

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Joshua Berry	Ronald Murphy Richard Cyr Richard Cyr Luntamn - Morris
Christopher Gray Derek Wood	Terry/Hamm-Morris August 22, 2024
Attest Original: MISTUM Curhman	
Motion Hamm - Mollis Yeas 6 Second YV Nays	Councilor Gray Date 8/22 by