**Town of Hermon Public Hearing**

On November 8, 2022 at 5:50 p.m. Supervisor Arthur Baker opened the Public Hearing for the 2023 Town Budget.

Present were Supervisor Arthur Baker. Council Kathy Carpenter, John Reed, Robert LaClair Jr., and Bernard Reed Jr.

Also present were Chris Stransky, Ed Carpenter, Bill Dashnaw, Sharon and Brian Brunet, Kim Matthews, John and Kate Stransky, Chris Velez.

John Stransky-Hermon Fire Department explained that they wanted a 15% increase this year. The expenses of everything have increased. He told the Board he would accept anything.

Suggestion was made to increase the tax cap- Bill Dashnaw explained you cannot override the tax cap.

Robert LaClair Jr. suggests finding $3000 for the fire department. John Stransky said thanks and anything was better than nothing.

Kim Matthews asked about the Librarian-why she hasn’t had a raise. She was told everyone got a 3% in the 2022 budget.

Kim also asked about what and how the expenses for when Dr. Berk vacated the building. She was told the Town would figure all that out.

Robert LaClair Jr. made the suggestion to add $500 for the Librarian’s wages.

Bernard Reed Jr. made the motion to adjourn Public Hearing at 6:30 p.m. Seconded by Robert LaClair Jr.

 **Town Board Meeting**

The regular meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Supervisor Arthur Baker.

Also present was Larry Denesha

 Pledge of Allegiance said by all.

Minutes of the previous meeting as submitted were approved on motion by Kathy Carpenter. Seconded by John Reed. All in favor and carried.

**Legislator Larry Denesha**

Covid stats are reported monthly now. There are 88 new cases. St. Lawrence County 5.7% and Statewide is 7.5%

SLC 2023 Tentative Budget was presented and SLC has a 5.2% decrease, this is the 6th year in a row with a property tax decrease.

There is $268,000 in SLC (Fund Balance)

SLC Property tax auction sold 86 parcels and had 288 registered bidders, Total amount of sold properties was $1,506,000.

SLC is again accepting pistol permit applications.

**Officers Reports**

 Supervisor Arthur Baker reports that our Insurance Company did not pay the claim for the damage on the Miles Road. They did pay the claim on Washington Street at the water plant.

**Bill Dashnaw Budget Officer**

2023 Sales tax should be as good as this year has been. We will use the sales tax money for the additional cost of Library payroll and fire department.

This is the last chance to make any changes to the Budget, but we need to adopt by November 20 at the latest.

Make sure all Town properties are covered by Insurance.

**Chris Stransky-October Report**

1,774,000 Total Discharge 26 UFPO’s

2,334,800 Total Pumped

1,739,900 Hermon

594,900 Dekalb

**Highway Superintendant Brian Brunet**

Plows are ready to begin the winter season

New truck priced at $40,000, more than the last one we bought.

Going to pay off Loader and truck

**Hepburn Library**

Kim Matthews explained that there are 4 appointees to replace the resigning trustees:

Taylor Smith- November 2022 and Carrie Foster- November 2022

Jesse Wentzel-December 2022 and Debbie Smith-December 2022

We are gathering signatures for School Board to be on the 2023 ballot.

**Historian Lenore Zaunere**

Lenore wants to Thank Brian Brunet and his department for installing the Trout Lake Historical Marker sign on County Route 19.

We have updated the Hermon History website. We added pictures of the two Hermon Historic Markers that have been awarded. This can be found on the Hermon Historian Facebook page.

One inquiry that recently came in was for pictures of the Podunk School (Trout Lake Road next to Sam Day Road)

Assessor and Code Officer Report was handed out to the Board members.

**New Business**

Discussion was had about the November 1, 2022 meeting where the Board did the Resolution 21-2022 to increase the water rates from 60.00 to 200.00 and sewer rates from 90.00 to 150.00.

**Robert LaClair Jr. made the motion to Amend Resolution 21-2022.**

**This is to change the water rate from 200.00 down to 100.00 and continue with the sewer rate that was increased to 150.00. Seconded by Kathy Carpenter. All in favor. Motion Carried.**

Discussion was had about Dan Forbes. He is retiring, but said he would continue to be a substitute for Chris Stransky. He agrees to $60.00 a day but does not want to do any repairs.

Bernard Reed Jr. made the motion to consider the option. Seconded by Kathy Carpenter. All in favor and carried.

 **Resolution 22-2022**

**Town Board adjusted the following additions to Budget 2023; adding $3000.00 for the Fire Department and adding $500.00 for Library.**

**Bernard Reed Jr. made the motion to adopt the 2023 Town Budget. Town Board voted as follows:**

**John Reed -yes**

**Kathy Carpenter-yes**

**Robert LaClair Jr.-yes**

**Bernard Reed Jr.-yes**

**Seconded by John Reed. All in favor. Motion carried.**

 **Resolution 23-2022**

Town Clerk presented Resolution 23-2022 for water and sewer relevies

Water-$12,190.50 Sewer-$17,473.50

Kathy Carpenter made the motion for the water/sewer relevies to be sent to Real Property and Treasurers office to be put onto the 2023 Town and County tax bills. Seconded by John Reed. All in favor. Motion carried.

 **Resolution 24-2022**

Kathy Carpenter made the motion to allow the library to use the remainder of the Celebration Budget Fund balance of $257.00; to go toward supplies for the December 10 event for Santa and Grinch. Seconded by Robert LaClair Jr. All in favor. Motion carried.

 **Resolution 25-2022**

Kathy Carpenter made the motion for Supervisor Baker to make the necessary transfers. Seconded by John Reed. All in favor. Motion carried.

The Town Clerk and Supervisor submitted their bank statements.

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

General, Highway and Water/Sewer bills were audited and approved for payment on motion by Kathy Carpenter. Seconded by John Reed. All in favor and carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Wayering

Town Clerk