

**HOWARD TOWN BOARD MEETING
WEDNESDAY
June 12, 2019**

The regular meeting of the Howard Town Board was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Supervisor Donald Evia. Councilmen present were Richard Stewart, Robert Palmer, and Gary Rice. Councilman Lowell Smith was absent. Also present were Town Clerk David Price, Robin Phenes, Bill Holevinski, and Eric Hosmer.

Supervisor Donald Evia led the pledge to the flag.

The minutes of the previous meeting were reviewed by the Board. A motion was made by Councilman Stewart and seconded by Councilman Rice to approve the minutes of the previous meeting with the *proviso* that a paragraph regarding Councilman Stewart's interaction with a resident be deleted. Carried: Stewart, Aye; Rice, Aye; Palmer, Aye; Evia, Aye.

Supervisor Evia noted there was no need to ask for public comment as at this time there was nobody in attendance.

Supervisor Evia reported that the Town Offices were now hooked up to Spectrum and Superintendent Pyer was happy with his internet connection. He was now able to get weather radar on a separate screen in his office. Councilman Stewart reported that the Town Assessor Laura Snow had told him that she too was pleased with the internet connection.

Supervisor Evia introduced the subject of a disclaimer on the Town's unofficial Website. Several residents had mentioned to the Clerk that they had not received responses to queries addressed to the Website. Eric Hosmer, who created the website and is the Webmaster stated that there was a disclaimer at the bottom of the home page and there were links at the top of the page to the town Clerk's e-mail. He was unaware of any responses made to the website but would check the spam folder.¹

Supervisor Evia stated that the Town Crew had been oil and stoning for the last few rain free days. He further stated that he had received several positive comments from residents regarding the mowing.

Supervisor Evia presented a pre-printed Resolution Authorizing Town Highway Machinery Purchase regarding the purchase of One (1) used 2016 Western Star Ten Wheel Dump Truck with plows and wing from the Town of Eaton. Said purchase for the maximum price of \$163,000.00. Councilman Stewart wondered, "how we can agree to a price this far in advance?"

Resolution (#11-2019) was made by Councilman Palmer and seconded by Councilman Rice to authorize the Town to purchase One (1) used 2016 Western Star Ten Wheel Dump Truck with plows and wing from the Town of Eaton. Said purchase for the maximum price of \$163,000.00. Payment due May 1, 2020. Delivered at the Town of Howard

¹ The foregoing paragraph was two separate discussions, but for clarity it has been combined into one entry.

Highway Department in the Spring of 2020. Adopted: Palmer, Aye; Rice Aye; Stewart, Aye; Evia, Aye.

Councilman Rice reported that at the Planning Board Meeting in May there had been a quorum. At that meeting it had been decided pursuant to approval of the Town Board, Jason Holevinski would be appointed Chairman and Sean Turner would be appointed to the Planning Board.

Councilman Stewart made a motion to approve the appointment of Jason Holevinski as Chairman of the Planning Board and Sean Turner as a member of said Board. The motion was seconded by Councilman Rice. Carried: Stewart, Aye; Rice, Aye; Palmer, Aye; Evia, Aye

At this time, Supervisor Evia commenced to present reports for review.

There was no Planning Board report *per se*, other than the foregoing appointments.

There was no Assessor's report.

There were 2 Fire Department reports one each for the months of April and May, which were reviewed.

Supervisor Evia presented the Supervisor's report, to which he added that he had received a check for mortgage interest in the amount of \$5,763.45.

Building Inspector Robert Riekofski's report was reviewed.

The Justice Report was reviewed.

Town Clerk David Price, reported that the Clerk's office received payments from sales of dog licenses, building permits, and certified copies in the amount of \$415.00. He further reported that he had dispersed funds via two checks, one made payable to Supervisor Donald F. Evia, Supervisor in the amount of \$402.00 and the other made payable to NYS Animal Population Control Program in the amount of \$13.00.

The Town Clerk also reported that a free rabies vaccination clinic would be held on Saturday, June 29th at the Fire Hall from 10:00 am to 12 noon.

Gary Hadsell, the Animal Control Officer, had filed a report which was reviewed and discussed. Mr. Hadsell reported picking up "one black dog." Councilman Stewart asked it was being kept at the Canisteo facility and how long would they keep it without it being reclaimed by the owner.

Councilman Stewart then inquired as to the status of recouping the Towns funds from Betty Walden as we no longer had use of her facility. Supervisor Evia responded, that he would check with Gary Hadsell regarding the last date that we were able to use Betty's facility. The Town Clerk suggested sending a certified letter to her and her attorney if she has one.

At this time, the review of the Highway, General, and Lighting District vouchers commenced.

The following bills were presented for audit:

Highway (Abstract #94-100)	\$	304,443.19
General (Abstract #105- 130)	\$	4,903.60
Street Lighting (Abstract #106)	\$	267.45

A motion was made by Councilman Palmer and seconded by Councilman Rice to pay these bills. Carried, Palmer, Aye; Rice, Aye; Stewart, Aye; Evia, Aye.

Supervisor Evia solicited public comment.

Councilman Stewart questioned Supervisor Evia as to whether we had given the Fire Department the \$97,500.00 budgeted for them, and if so, had we received the required Form 990? Supervisor Evia responded that we had received information from them.

Eric Hosmer asked if there had been a quorum for the Planning Board Meeting? When Councilman Rice responded in the affirmative, Mr. Hosmer asked if he could expect minutes from the meeting. The Councilman informed him that no minutes had been taken.

Councilman Stewart retorted, “there was a meeting, but no minutes were taken. That’s municipal accountability!”

A motion to adjourn at 8:25p.m. was made by Councilman Rice and seconded by Councilman Palmer Carried: Rice, Aye; Palmer, Aye; Stewart, Aye; Evia, Aye.

David Price
Town Clerk