

**HOWARD TOWN BOARD MEETING  
WEDNESDAY  
July 10, 2019**

The regular meeting of the Howard Town Board was called to order at 7:04 p.m. by Supervisor Donald Evia. Councilmen present were Richard Stewart, and Gary Rice. Councilmen Lowell Smith, and Robert Palmer were absent. Also present were Town Clerk David Price, Highway Superintendent Lee Pyer, Robin Phenes, 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. Carried: Stewart, Aye; Rice, Aye; Evia, Aye.

Councilman Stewart while reviewing the June minutes asked Supervisor Evia if he had in fact received Form 990 from the Fire Department. Supervisor Evia reported that he had been told, the Fire Department bookkeeper was working on it.

Supervisor Evia asked for public comment as there was none, he continued with the meeting.

Highway Superintendent Pyer reviewed his monthly report. He confirmed that in spite of the rain that we had been having, the highway crew had been busy mowing and cutting brush. He further reported the Nicholson Road Bridge had been opened and the County had done a terrific job.

Superintendent Pyer reported that our part-time summer help had left to go back to his old job. He was not happy that he was not called in to work when the weather prevented road work. Mr. Pyer also reported that the temporary worker who had been hired to fill-in for our employee who was out on sick leave had walked of the job without explanation.

Superintendent Pyer announced that he had found a young man that has been trained in heavy equipment at BOCES, who will be getting drug tested and be ready to come on board in a week or two.

There followed a discussion regarding Giant Hogweed.

Superintendent Pyer reported that the Town had received \$43,469.76 from the State for "Extreme Snow Recovery." He requested a resolution allowing him to put those funds toward paving 1.8 miles of Burt Hill Road. He then proceeded to explain the upcoming schedule of road paving.

There was a general discussion regarding the availability of crushed stone from the two pits that we are currently getting our gravel from. Helms and Pfitzenmaier. Superintendent Pyer stated that we have about 250 loads left on Pfitzenmaier and it will take a couple of weeks to get a new permit for Helms.

There was a general discussion regarding paving of roads. Superintendent Pyer thought he could pave about ten miles of road per year. Councilman Stewart noted that the more paved roads there where the less gravel we would need. This will become more critical as we run out of stone in the local pits.

**Resolution (#12-2019)** was made by Councilman Rice and seconded by Councilman Stewart to authorize Superintendent Pyer to put the Forty-three Thousand Four Hundred Sixty-nine and 76/100 Dollars (\$43,469.76) we received from the State for “Extreme Snow Recovery” toward paving 1.8 miles of Burt Hill Road. Adopted: Rice, Aye; Stewart, Aye; Evia, Aye.

Councilman Stewart asked Superintendent Pyer how much paving cost. Mr. Pyer stated that it cost about \$41,000.00 per mile. He then explained in detail the cost breakdown to the Councilman. Councilman Stewart thanked the Superintendent for explaining in such detail.

Eric Hosmer asked Superintendent Pyer if he was limited to what you can charge for the use of equipment for recouping State funds through CHIPS. The Superintendent explained that in fact it was all calculated by the State. There are different rates for summer and winter. You cannot use winter rates for CHIPS.

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

There was no Planning Board Report. However, Councilman Rice reported that Sean Turner had taken minutes at the last meeting so the Town Clerk should be receiving them soon.

There was no Assessor’s report.

The Fire Department report was reviewed.

Supervisor Evia presented the Supervisor’s report, to which he added that he had received cash in the amount of \$991.67 from Betty Walden. Said sum representing the return of the prorated amount that we had paid her for the year before she would no longer allow Gary Hadsell to use her facility.

Building Inspector Robert Riekofski’s report was reviewed.

The Justice Report was reviewed. The Town received \$1,858.00 from the Justice.

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 \$650.00. He further reported that he had dispersed funds via two checks, one made payable to Supervisor Donald F. Evia, Supervisor in the amount of \$565.00 and the other made payable to NYS Animal Population Control Program in the amount of \$85.00.

The Town Clerk also reported that the free rabies vaccination clinic that was held on Saturday, June 29<sup>th</sup> had resulted in 70 vaccinations and the Town had received \$111.75 in

donations. He further stated that Dr. Guy Hammond had been the attending Veterinarian, Gary Hadsell along with his wife and daughter and the Town Clerk, with his wife and daughter had been unpaid volunteers. Supervisor Evia had also been present to lend a hand.

Gary Hadsell, the Animal Control Officer, had filed a report which was reviewed and discussed. Councilman Stewart wondered what became of the funds received for fines.

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

The following bills were presented for audit:

Highway (Abstract #107 - 123)	\$	150,102.34
General (Abstract #132 - 154)	\$	33,431.48
Street Lighting (Abstract #131)	\$	257.30

Councilman Stewart questioned voucher #154, which noted an annual payment to SAM's Club for dues in the amount of \$48.60. He wondered if anybody used the SAM's Club account. It was determined that nobody was using it, Councilman Stewart than stated that it was a waste of town funds to pay for something we weren't using.

A motion was made by Councilman Stewart and seconded by Councilman Rice to pay these bills with the exception of voucher #154. Carried, Stewart, Aye; Rice, Aye; Evia, Aye.

Supervisor Evia solicited public comment, there was none.

A motion to adjourn at 8:53 p.m. was made by Councilman Rice and seconded by Councilman Stewart Carried: Rice, Aye; Stewart, Aye; Evia, Aye.

David Price  
Town Clerk