

Town of Howard
Town Board Meeting
Wednesday, May 13, 2020

A regular meeting of the Howard Town Board was called to order by Supervisor Donald Evia at 19:00. Roll was called and Councilmen present were Richard Stewart, Gary Rice, and Eric Hosmer. Absent Councilman Smith. Also in attendance was Lee Pyer, Town of Howard Highway Superintendent. Also present were: Michael Adams, Ed Frey, Darryl Burdin, Rob Patrick, and Robin Phenes.

The Pledge to the American Flag was led by Supervisor Donald Evia.

Public Comment: Rob Patrick mentioned that current plans for the Town's Summer Rec program were being discussed. Because of the Covid19 Pandemic, it is unlikely that the usual activities will be offered. Will keep the public apprised of activities that could possibly take place instead. There was no further public comment.

The minutes of the prior meetings of March and April were reviewed by board members. A motion to accept those minutes as presented was made by Councilman Stewart and seconded by Councilman Rice. *Carried: Councilman Stewart aye, Councilman Rice aye, Councilman Hosmer aye, Supervisor Evia, aye*

New business: Highway Superintendent Pyer presented information regarding the past month's activity in his department. In general discussion, it was noted that Pave New York and Extreme Winter Recovery funds are currently on hold – to be dispersed at Governor Cuomo's discretion. There is a new summer hire, David Crosby (to work 40 hours/week till September). Supt. Pyer plans to take delivery of 2016 Western Star highway dept. truck from the Town of Eaton on Monday, 18 May.

Resolution #2020-2

Council man Gary Rice made a motion to approve the 284 Agreement, as written, with the proviso that the CHIPS money will not be spent until the Town is in receipt of the Letter of Guarantee from NYSDOT . Seconded by Councilman Richard Stewart. *Carried. Councilman Stewart aye, Councilman Hosmer aye, Councilman Rice, aye, Supervisor Evia aye.*

Resolution #2020-3

Gary Rice made the motion that the bridge project on McCaddam road will proceed with use of reserve funds (if necessary) until Chips funds available. Second by Councilman Stewart. *Carried: Councilman Stewart aye, Councilman Rice aye, Councilman Hosmer, aye; Supervisor Evia, aye.*

After completion of New Business, reports were received.

Planning Board report: No report. There was a packet regarding a subdivision application that will be forwarded to the Planning Board. Included were two checks for application fees totaling \$50.00.

Assessor's Report: no report.

Town of Howard Fire Department: Rob Patrick presented the Fire Department Financial Report. There was discussion about the lack of an IRS 990 form, which had been requested previously. Rob Patrick reported that the Department's accountant will be filing a new application for the department's non-profit status in 2021. In the meantime, Rob Patrick will furnish the remainder of the information found on Form 990 to the Town Board. The Fire Department is scheduled to meet on Thursday, May 14, 2020 and will forward their minutes. In addition, they will present a draft of the 2020 fire services agreement to the Board for evaluation. These items were tabled until the June meeting.

Supervisor's Report: Supervisor Don Evia presented his report. A discussion was held regarding the anticipated dip in sales tax income related to the Covid19 Pandemic. The Town received a check in the amount of \$39,223.65 for the Fourth Quarter True-Up. Also received check for First Quarter in the amount of \$3,449.86 Also in receipt of check in amount of \$68,258.84 for First Quarter Sales Tax. Remainder of report under separate file.

Building Inspector: no report.

Justice report: under separate cover. There was no discussion regarding that record.

Town Clerk Report: Town Clerk Rhonda Burdin reported that the reconciliation for Town and County taxes was done on April 20, 2020 with the Steuben County Finance Department. There were no issues. Documents have all been filed. There remains two outstanding refund checks in the Tax Account. Clerk Burdin reported that currently the Rabies Clinics that were scheduled to be held are being suspended indefinitely until guidance is sent from the Governor regarding resumption following the Pandemic.

Animal Control Report: filed under separate cover. There was no discussion.

At 20:18, Councilman Rice made a motion that the Board enter into Executive Session to discuss a personnel issue. Councilman Hosmer seconded. *Carried. Councilman Stewart aye, Councilman Hosmer aye, Councilman Rice, aye, Supervisor Evia aye.*

The Board returned from Executive Session at 20:33. Councilman Rice made a motion to return to the regular meeting. Seconded by Councilman Hosmer. *Carried. Councilman Stewart aye, Councilman Hosmer aye, Councilman Rice, aye, Supervisor Evia aye.*

Bills were presented for audit. Councilman Stewart made a motion that the bills for the evening be paid, and Councilman Rice seconded the motion. *Carried: Councilman Stewart aye, Councilman Rice aye; Councilman Hosmer aye; Superintendent Evia aye.*

General	Abstracts #78 - #95	(\$5,359.66)
Lighting	Abstract #77	(\$526.12)
Highway	Abstracts #70 - #79	(\$175,993.90)

Public Comment: Robin Phenes wished to thank the Board for doing their due diligence, and for working on the taxpayers' behalf.

Board discussion: Town Clerk Burdin mentioned special acknowledgement of Deputy Colleen Shutt for her efforts in terminally cleaning the Town Offices in preparation for the return of business, specifically for tonight's meeting. Done with the guidance provided from the DOH.

At 21:46, a motion was made by Councilman Rice and seconded by Councilman Hosmer to adjourn the meeting. *Carried: Councilman Rice aye, Councilman Stewart aye; Councilman Rice, aye; Supervisor Evia, aye.*

Adjourned 21:46.

Rhonda Burdin

Town Clerk

Town of Howard