

**TOWN OF HOWARD  
TOWN BOARD MEETING  
NOVEMBER 12, 2025**

The regular meeting of the Howard Board was called to order by Supervisor Donald Evia at 7:00pm.

**Present:** Supervisor Donald Evia, Councilman Ed Frey, Councilman Ed OBrochta, Councilman Ron Dyer, Councilman Gary Rice and Deputy Highway Superintendent Tom Dubois.

**Absent:** Highway Superintendent Lee Pyer

**Also Present:** Andrew Burdin, Richard Stewart

The Pledge to the flag was led by Supervisor Donald Evia

**Previous Minutes:** The Regular and the Budget Workshop minutes from the previous month were reviewed by the Board.

**A Motion** was made by Councilman Rice and seconded by Councilman OBrochta to approve the October 2025 minutes.

**Carried:** Councilman Frey, Aye; Councilman OBrochta, Aye; Councilman Dyer, Aye; Councilman Rice, Aye and Supervisor Evia, Aye.

**A Motion** was made by Councilman Rice and seconded by Councilman Dyer to approve the October Budget Workshop 2025 minutes.

**Carried:** Councilman Frey, Aye; Councilman OBrochta, Aye; Councilman Dyer, Aye; Councilman Rice, Aye and Supervisor Evia, Aye.

**Public Hearing:**

Supervisor Evia asked for a motion to open the Public Hearing on the Town of Howard Budget.

**A Motion** was made by Councilman Rice and seconded by Councilman OBrochta to open the Public Hearing at 7:10pm.

**Carried:** Councilman Frey, Aye; Councilman OBrochta, Aye; Councilman Dyer, Aye; Councilman Rice, Aye and Supervisor Evia, Aye.

Supervisor Evia opened the floor to Public Comment. Richard Stewart commented that he noticed that there were no amounts entered on some of the lines and asked why that was. He also asked if there was a Supervisor's Report. Supervisor Evia stated that there is not one and the reason was that Williamson Law was still working on it. Mr. Stewart also questioned why the Appropriated Fund Balance was not a higher amount and Supervisor explained why it was not. Councilman Frey comments that the town has a healthy cushion and is in real good shape and the property taxes are staying level. More discussion took place between Mr. Stewart and the Board. Supervisor Evia commented that Mr. Stewarts concerns were duly noted and asked if there were other questions. Andrew Burdin asked how much the FEMA and Salt Barn Grant was that the town was waiting on. Supervisor Evia said it was around \$500,000 - \$600,000. Supervisor Evia asked if there were any other questions and there were none.

**A Motion** was made by Councilman Rice and seconded by Councilman Frey to close the Public Hearing at 7:33pm.

**Carried:** Councilman Frey, Aye; Councilman OBrochta, Aye; Councilman Dyer, Aye; Councilman Rice, Aye and Supervisor Evia, Aye.

**A Resolution (#12-2025)** was made upon a motion by Councilman Rice and seconded by Councilman Frey to adopt the 2026 Town of Howard Budget.

**Adopted:** Councilman Frey, Aye; Councilman OBrochta, Aye; Councilman Dyer, Aye; Councilman Rice, Aye and Supervisor Evia, Aye.

**A Resolution (#13-2025)** was made upon a motion by Councilman Rice and seconded by Councilman OBrochta to keep the Property Tax Cap under the 2%.

**Adopted:** Councilman Frey, Aye; Councilman OBrochta, Aye; Councilman Dyer, Aye; Councilman Rice, Aye and Supervisor Evia, Aye.

**Public Comment:** None

**Department Reports:**

**A. Monthly Highway Report-** The Highway report was given by Deputy Highway Superintendent Tom Dubois; he reports that the department has been doing some ditching and cutting brush on Burleson Road. He reports that the 2010 Western Star Dump truck sold for \$20,200.00 on Auctions International. The department also sanded some roads. Councilman Rice asked if there were any issues with the trucks on the first time out sanding and Tom responded that there were no issues.

Supervisor Evia asked if there was anything else that needed to be reported and the Town Clerk responded that the Board needed to approve the closing of the Seasonal Roads from Dec. 1, 2025 – April 1, 2026 and to be able to post in the paper the “No Parking Notice” ad for the winter plowing.

**A Motion** was made by Councilman Rice and seconded by Councilman Dyer to approve the closing of the Seasonal Roads from Dec. 1, 2025 – April 1, 2026.

**Carried:** Councilman Frey, Aye; Councilman OBrochta, Aye; Councilman Dyer, Aye; Councilman Rice, Aye and Supervisor Evia, Aye.

**A Motion** was made by Councilman OBrochta and seconded by Councilman Rice to approve putting the “No Parking Notice” in the paper.

**Carried:** Councilman Frey, Aye; Councilman OBrochta, Aye; Councilman Dyer, Aye; Councilman Rice, Aye and Supervisor Evia, Aye.

**B. Monthly Planning Board Report-** September and October minutes in packets.

Supervisor Evia states that we have the copy of the revised Battery Storage Law. He also announced that the Board was going to have to set a date and time for a Public Hearing on this law.

Councilman Rice asked about a comment made by Richard Stewart on the Public Comment section of the Planning Board minutes; he states that Richard commented that the Battery Storage project as presented in the meeting would double the tax base in the Town of Howard. He asked Richard how that was going to work. He responded that that was also his question to Mrs. Montgomery (EIP Battery Storage Co.) at the Planning Board meeting. He also asked her if she know what the tax base was for the town and she did not know. Councilman Frey asked if they were going to do a Pilot program and Supervisor Evia responded that Mrs. Montgomery said they would just pay taxes.

- C. **Monthly Fire Department Report-** No report, Councilman OBrochta commented that Butch Burdin said they had gotten the new fire truck. Councilman Rice said there was a holdup on picking the new truck and is not sure if they have it as of yet. He also commented that the Fire Department has a plan on how they will pay it off in 7 years. Councilman Rice said the total cost was over \$400,000.
- D. **Monthly Assessor's Report-** No report
- E. **Monthly Building Inspector's Report-** No report
- F. **Monthly Town Justice Report-** A written report was submitted consisting of cases and fines for the month of October 2025. A check was written to the Town in the amount of \$386.00. It was also acknowledged that Judge Cornell has completed his Continuing Judicial Education for 2025. Supervisor Evia also commented that the Judge would be needing his books audited for one month and he would be speaking with the Bookkeeper to do this.
- G. **Monthly Animal Control Report-** A written report was submitted that there were 2 dogs deceased at a home, it was turned over to the Canisteo Dog Control Officer because it was over the town line. Gave a warning to license and vaccinate all dogs on the property.
- H. **Monthly Library Report-** A written report was submitted consisting of a letter addressed to the Town Board Members, Expense sheet, Miscellaneous attendance sheet and November and December program calendar. The letter informed the Board Members that there were no issues with the new furnace.
- I. **Monthly Town Clerk's Report-** A written report was given for October 2025 consisting of revenue brought in from 1 Marriage Officiant License (\$25.00), 3 Certified Copies (\$30.00), 4 Building Permits (\$258.00), 15 Dog Licenses (\$144.00) totally \$457.00.  
**Disbursements:** Paid out to Town Supervisor (\$457.00), NYS Animal Population Control Program (\$21.00) totally \$478.00.

Town Clerk, Fran Sharp also commented that this was her first Marriage Officiant License.

J. **Monthly Supervisor's Report-** Supervisor Evia reports that the town received a sales check in the amount of \$77,426.60. He also reports that there was a scheduled meeting with the Town Supervisors for the wind projects and it was canceled. He reports that Prattsburg has not signed any Road Use Agreement because they still have questions regarding the use of seasonal roads and how it would affect the town's seasonal road closures in the winter.

**Old Business:**

Supervisor Evia requested to have a motion to set a date and time for a Public Hearing on the "Battery Storage Law" and that it would need to be done before the December Board meeting.

**A Motion** was made by Councilman Rice and seconded by Councilman Dyer to hold a special meeting for the Public Hearing on the "Battery Storage Law" on November 24, 2025 at 7:00pm.

**Carried:** Councilman Frey, Aye; Councilman OBrochta, Aye; Councilman Dyer, Aye; Councilman Rice, Aye and Supervisor Evia, Aye.

**New Business:** None

**Regular Business:** The regular bills were presented to the Board for Audit.

Highway	(Abstract #644 – 663)	\$104,641.46
General	(Abstract #68 – 704)	\$37,924.70
Lighting District	(Abstract #696)	\$223.40

**A Motion** was made by Councilman Rice and seconded by Councilman Frey to approve and pay these bills.

**Carried:** Councilman Frey, Aye; Councilman OBrochta, Aye; Councilman Dyer, Aye; Councilman Rice, Aye and Supervisor Evia, Aye.

**Executive Session:** None

**Town Board Discussion:** None

**Adjournment:**

**A Motion** was made by Councilman Dyer and seconded by Councilman Rice to adjourn the meeting at 8:10pm.

**Carried:** Councilman Frey, Aye; Councilman OBrochta, Aye; Councilman Dyer, Aye; Councilman Rice, Aye and Supervisor Evia, Aye.



Frances Sharp  
Howard Town Clerk