

**TOWN OF HOWARD  
HOWARD BOARD MEETING  
MARCH 11, 2026**

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

**Present:** Supervisor Donald Evia, Councilman Andrew Burdin, Councilman Ron Dyer, Councilman Gary Rice and Highway Superintendent Lee Pyer.

**Absent:** Councilman Ed OBrochta

**Also Present:** Barry Kidder, Sean Turner, Shane Slayton, William Thew, Richard Stewart

The Pledge to the flag was led by Supervisor Don Evia.

**Previous Minutes:** The regular meeting minutes from the previous month were reviewed by the Board.

**A Motion** was made by Councilman Burdin and seconded by Councilman Rice to approve the February 2026 Minutes.

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

**Public Comment:** Richard Stewart commented that he had heard that Supervisor Evia was not going to seek the Office of Town Supervisor again. Supervisor Evia responded that that was true. Richard followed up and asked who was going to recede him and Supervisor Evia responded that there is a Deputy.

Legislator William Thew commented that there is a new Republican Board of Election Commissioner Brian Housel because Vicki Olin retired. He talks about the I.C.E. cooperation issue with the Sheriff's Department holding Immigrant detainees at the Steuben County Jail which he states that Sheriff Allard says there have been working with I.C.E. and there have been no problems. Councilman Burdin questioned if the County didn't already have a contract with the Federal Government before this issue and Mr. Thew responded they do and the only change would be the cost increasing to \$30.00 more per/day.

**Department Reports:**

- A. Monthly Highway Report-** Highway Superintendent Lee Pyer reports that they have been out sanding a few times, pushing back the snow banks, filling pot holes, put a new oil pan on the 2022 Dodge Ram 2500. He asked for a Highway resolution to purchase 5000 ton of sand from Dolomite located in the Town of Howard for \$7.00 p/ton. He also asked for a resolution to purchase gravel from Andy Dgien's pit (Townline Gravel, LLC.) for \$7.75 p/ton up to 15,000 ton. He also comments that

they had on auction the 2023 Dodge Ram 2500 and it brought in \$30,100.00. He asked for a resolution to go ahead and sell it or not to sell it.

**A Resolution (#8-2026)** was made upon a motion by Councilman Burdin and seconded by Councilman Rice to sell the 2023 Dodge Ram 2500 on auction.

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

**A Resolution (#9-2026)** was made upon a motion by Councilman Rice and seconded by Councilman Dyer to purchase the 5,000 ton of sand from Dolomite for \$7.00 p/ton.

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

**A Resolution (#10-2026)** was made upon a motion by Councilman Rice and seconded by Councilman Dyer to purchase the gravel from Andy Djien, Townline Gravel LLC. for \$7.75 p/ton up to 15,000 ton.

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

Superintendent Pyer comments that he has got a meeting with Dolomite regarding pricing on blacktop. And that they should know soon the state bid pricing and that should secure the pricing.

- B. Monthly Planning Board Report-** February Minutes in Member packets. Barry gives report on the park. He comments about the sticker shock regarding the ending price tag on what Hunt Engineers put in for the park project grant. He reports that there were 2 -3 concerned parents that reached out to him to let inform him of damaged arch ladder tubes on the playground. He talks about the possibility of moving the playground to a better spot because of the slope of the ground draining water towards the playground. He had a playground designer look at the new playground equipment which is designed to hold 100 kids which is why it cost so much. He also presents pictures of different playground equipment which also includes all-inclusive equipment to the Board and suggests that he can get them for a lot less money. He also talks about pricing for different ground covers examples; mats, wood fiber, etc. He comments that the Planning Board stated that they did not think that Hunt did not do enough for the town to justify the cost. Sean Turner, Planning Board comments that he did some checking and found that Hunt actually makes more than the standard 15%. He also comments as a tax payer that the Board should move slowly on this. Barry comments that he can get 4 different bids with designers that would come out and look at the park layout and visit the Board and not cost anything. Continued in Old Business at the request of Councilman Dyer.
- C. Monthly Fire Department Report-** Councilman Rice comments there was no monthly meeting and that they did physicals instead.
- D. Monthly Assessor's Report-** Supervisor Evia reports that Property Re-Vails have been mailed out.

- 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 February 2026. A check was written to the town in the amount of \$193.00.
- G. Monthly Animal Control Report-** A written report was submitted reporting 1 unleashed dog, 1 injured/sick dog. Warnings were given.
- H. Monthly Library Report-** A written report was submitted consisting of a letter addressed to the Town Board Members, Expense Sheets, Miscellaneous attendance sheet and March and April 2026 calendars. They gave thanks to the board for another year of funding.
- I. Monthly Town Clerk's Report-** A written report was given for the month of February 2026 consisting of revenue brought in from 1 Certified Copy (\$10.00), 1 Building Permit (\$25.00), 13 Dog Licenses (\$123.00) totally \$158.00.  
**Disbursements:** Paid out Town Supervisor (\$158.00), NYS Animal Population Control Program (\$17.00) totally \$175.00.  
The Clerk also reports there are other detailed reports included in the packet. She also talks about getting ready for the July Rabies Clinic and mentions that Spectrum Business is ready to hook us up to the new phone system (combined phone and internet) she states she requested that they hold off until April when tax collection is over.
- J. Monthly Supervisor's Report-** Supervisor Evia reports that the 2026 Annual Financial Report is complete and filed. He comments that there has been discussion with where to purchase the gravel this year with Highway Superintendent Pyer and they are pleased with the outcome.

**Old Business:**

- A.** Town Clerk, Fran Sharp reports that the purging of town records has begun and it is a slow process, Deputy Loreen Karr has been purging a lot of useless records while finding a lot of historical records. Supervisor Evia comments that she found a card where he had passed his hunter safety course dated back 1962. Fran feels that with the purging we will be able to stay in the records room without having to utilize another room for more storage.
- B.** Councilman Dyer comments on the park grant being an outrageous amount of money. He comments that he had spoke with the website coordinator regarding putting updated information regarding the park on the town website for residents to be able to be kept informed. He also explained that there is a link that can be utilized so individuals can put it on their Facebook page to share. He continues on to

discuss putting in place a plan regarding the park going forward. The Board discusses the condition of the pavilion and the playground equipment and what should be prioritized. Barry Kidder brings up the issue with running water and restrooms. The Board members explain the issues regarding putting in running water and restrooms and that it is not feasible to do so. They explain that the town provides a handicap porta john for the summer months and a stand-alone wash station for the summer youth program. Councilman Rice questions whether to wait and see what happens with the grant before putting a plan in place or start now. Barry Kidder suggests starting now. Councilman Burdin suggests getting a park designer to come in a design for whole park. Supervisor Evia comments that he doesn't believe they can count on these grants. He states he has no problem making the park better, however it is in his opinion that they do this a little at a time as the town can afford it. Supervisor Evia comments about the DEC Salt Storage Grant money that we have been awarded and have been waiting on for 3 years now. He states that it had been discussed using some of that money for the park. The Board is in agreement that the expense of the park improvements and upgrades will need to be feasible for the town budget. Discussion on the park ideas continues.

**New Business:**

- A. Town Clerk, Fran Sharp informs the Board that they have the yearly Discrimination/Harassment Policy is in their packets to review and they need to fill out and sign the front page and turn into the office. She also informs Planning Board Chairman Barry Kidder that she will have the same packets ready for their next meeting.
  
- B. Supervisor Evia states that there is a copy of a Resolution that has been shared with us and is being circulated with other towns to be sent to the Governor's office, NYSEG and the NYS Public Service Commission regarding the escalating cost of electricity. He asked the Board to make a motion to pass this Resolution.  
**A Resolution (#11-2026)** was made upon a motion by Councilman Dyer and seconded by Councilman Burdin to adopt this resolution.  
**Adopted:** Councilman Burdin, Aye; Councilman Dyer, Aye; Councilman Rice, Aye and Supervisor Evia, Aye.

**Regular Business:**

The regular bills were presented to the Board for Audit.

Highway	(Abstract #41-54)	\$35,142.47
General	(Abstract #52-80)	\$33,670.28
Lighting District	(Abstract #52)	\$209.76

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

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

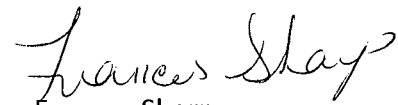
**Executive Session:** None

**Town Board Discussion:** None

**Adjournment:**

**A Motion** was made by Councilman Dyer and seconded by Councilman Rice to adjourn the meeting at 8:21pm.

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

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Frances Sharp".

Frances Sharp

Howard Town Clerk