

Village of Howard City  
Council Meeting Minutes  
December 16, 2019

President Heckman called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Present: Smith, MacTavish, Hagstrom, VanWagner, Bassett, Williams and Heckman. Absent: None.

The Pledge of Allegiance was given.

Motion by Smith seconded by MacTavish to approve the agenda as presented. Motion CARRIED (7-0)

Motion by Smith seconded by Bassett to approve the consent agenda as presented. Motion CARRIED (7-0)

Public Comment: Dave Saucier inquired about the Santa parade and who was allowed to enter the parade. Jane Sherburne inquired about the time of the tree lighting ceremony.

John VanTholen from Granger Waste Services informed the Council that as of end of 2019 he would be retiring. He thanked the Village for a long and great relationship he has had with the Village over the years. He stated Scott Truman is the new sales manager and contact for the Village.

Motion by VanWagner seconded by MacTavish to authorize the \$197,500 to pay the Montcalm County Sheriff Department for 2020-22 with the Village Manager and County Sheriff to write a new contract. Motion CARRIED (7-0)

Motion by Hagstrom seconded by MacTavish to capture the unused millage up to 1 mill, increasing the tax millage to 14.4101 in 2020. Motion CARRIED (7-0)

Motion by MacTavish seconded by Bassett to accept Ordinance 2019-1 Consumers Energy Company Electric Franchise Ordinance. Motion CARRIED (7-0)

Motion by Williams seconded by VanWagner to accept the 2020 Village Council Meeting Schedule. Motion CARRIED (7-0)

Motion by Williams seconded by Smith to pay bills, with the addition of bills presented by the Clerk/Treasurer totaling \$3,811.32, for a total of \$471,111.43. Motion CARRIED (7-0)

Motion by MacTavish seconded by Hagstrom to pay off two USDA loans (grass rig and fire/dump trucks) for a total of \$54,532.20. Motion CARRIED (7-0)

Mr. Falcon informed Council that Helping Hands send a thank you letter for the donation the DPW gave from their Halloween party.

Motion by VanWagner seconded by MacTavish to approve adding Shane Smith's name to the memorial garden providing the family is consulted and gives permission to add him and the applicant pay for the etching fee. Motion CARRIED (7-0)

Motion by Williams seconded by MacTavish to allow the Village Manger to carry over 34 hours of vacation time to 2020. Motion CARRIED (7-0)

Council approved the Village Manager getting bids to fix the stormwater where it had collapsed.

Mr. Falcon is charging a resident for pumping water from his basement directly into our sewer system. He will contact other residents who may be doing the same thing.

Mr. Falcon is also addressing unauthorized residents who have been turning on their water when it has been shut off by the Village for non-payment.

Public Comment: Dave Saucier inquired about the culvert installed by Hazel and Orton Streets.

Trustee VanWagner inquired about the bulletin board on Poplar and Walnut. Mr. Falcon will contact Dean's Excavating to see if that board needs to be moved.

Motion by Williams seconded by Bassett to adjourn the meeting at 8:08 pm. Motion CARRIED (7-0)

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Melissa Kuzmik, Clerk

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Randy Heckman, President