

Village of Howard City  
Council Meeting Minutes  
May 18, 2026

President Heckman called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Present: Heckman, Toner, Williams, MacTavish, and Smith. Wert arrived at 7:05 p.m.

Absent: Hagstrom

The Pledge of Allegiance was given.

Motion by Smith seconded by MacTavish to approve the agenda as presented. Motion CARRIED (6-0)

Code Enforcement gave updated on court appearance on 5/18/2026.

Motion by Smith seconded by MacTavish to accept the consent agenda as presented. Motion CARRIED (6-0)

Public Comment: Ed Sternisha 546 Wolridge Rd. Belding MI – acknowledging the Panhandle Area that usually gets forgot. Made known that he was running for 8<sup>th</sup> Circuit Court Judge.

Sarah Rich 723 W Shaw St.- Expressed concerns about noise due to garbage being picked up by refuse trucks at 4:25 a.m.

Trustee Wert gave updates on restrooms at Little League ball field.

Motion by Williams seconded by Wert to approve \$26611.02 to purchase skid unit for the fire dept. CARRIED (6-0)

Motion by Williams seconded by MacTavish to approve the bills with the additions presented by the Treasurer of \$10,832.28 for a total of \$135,476.10. Motion CARRIED (6-0)

Motioned by MacTavish seconded by Williams for Mr. Mr. Falcon to sign Uniti agreement to extend the agreement until April 2028.

Mr. Falcon provided update on ditching on Henkel & Washburn.

Motion by MacTavish Seconded by Trustee Williams to proceed with Griffith Builders for the Depot renovation project and ask that the DDA to clarify their vote of May 14, 2026. Rollcall: Wert -Y, MacTavish - Y, Williams - Y, Heckman - N, Smith - N, Toner - Y. Motion CARRIED (4-2).

Motion by MacTavish seconded by Toner to purchase new playground equipment for Ensley Park for \$19,702. CARRIED (6-0)

Motion by Toner seconded by Wert to approve deductible to be paid for replacement Welcome sign on Federal and M82 CARRIED (6-0)

Approved too remove analog phone system for the fire dept and seek options from Simply Sage or ADT CARRIED (6-0)

Public Comment: Sarah Rich 723 W Shaw St. suggested to contact insurance company to confirm requirements for our insurance policy to avoid additional costs with new fire alarm system.

Danny Wright Code Enforcer stated he has worked with Griffith before and is confident they will be a good fit for the depot renovation project.

Janice Willaims – Reminder that Music in the Park starts June 16, 2026. Parks and Recs is looking for volunteers. Suggested that vendors should make announcements prior to music starting.

Randy Heckman – Tire recycling will happen this fall at the Reynolds parking lot. Council members that will be running again need to notify Reynolds Township prior to July 24, 2026. Reynolds Township requested that, going forward, no information will be acknowledge without a written notification on their letterhead.

Motion by Wert seconded by MacTavish to adjourn the meeting at 8:17 pm. Motion CARRIED (7-0)

---

Stephanie VanderPloeg, Clerk

---

Randy Heckman, President