

****PROPOSED****

Village of Howard City
Council Meeting Minutes
June 15, 2026

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

Others Present: Village Manager Falcon, Treasurer/Clerk VanderPloeg, and Code Official Wright

The Pledge of Allegiance was given.

Motion by Smith seconded by MacTavish to approve the agenda with the addition of B-2) Music Festival - Tom Kropewnicki, owner of 210 E. Edgerton Street. Motion CARRIED (5-0)

Motion by Smith seconded by MacTavish to accept the consent agenda as presented. Motion CARRIED (5-0)

Public Comment: Dave Saucier 665 Orton requested an update on road repairs/repaving

Motion by Toner seconded by MacTavish for the application submitted by Allison Olsen for a Wellness Fair in October 3, 2026. It would require Edgerton St. to be closed from the alley by the Post Office through White St. from 8 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. Motion CARRIED (5-0)

Tom Kropewnicki and Kevin Shell requested that funds be transferred from the Music Festival Committee to them. Mr. Falcon suggested that the dissolved Music Festival Committee work with Tom Kropewnicki and Kevin Shell to try to reach a mutually acceptable resolution. While the Village supports and approves many community events, this was a citizen-led event and not an official Village event. As such, the Village has no authority over how the funds of this citizen committee are distributed or used.

Motion by Williams seconded by MacTavish to approve the bills with the additions presented by the Treasurer of \$5,511.70 for a total of \$219,569.03. Motion CARRIED (5-0)

Motion by MacTavish seconded by Williams to approve two additional Montcalm County Road Commission contracts at a cost of \$23,244.00 for ditching on Henkel and Washburn & replace a culvert on Edgerton St. at the Howard City drain. Motion CARRIED (5-0)

Motion by MacTavish seconded by Toner to have TKS Fire Monitoring set up digital system with a \$2500 startup fee and their monthly monitoring fee. Motion CARRIED (5-0)

Motion by Williams seconded by MacTavish to approve annual Investment Policy. Motion CARRIED (5-0)

While the Village Council is very supportive of Tri-County Schools and the educational opportunities they provide to our community, the Council believes that the request for donations to support the Back-to-School Open House is more appropriately directed toward local businesses and private sponsors. Therefore, the Council does not feel it is appropriate for the Village to make a financial contribution to this event.

Motion by MacTavish seconded by Smith for Mr. Falcon to sign annual Protec Membership for \$298.00. Motion CARRIED (5-0)

Motion by Smith seconded by MacTavish to table the discussion on the Social District. Motion CARRIED (5-0)

Motion by Williams seconded by MacTavish for the Village of Howard City to sign Fleis & VandenBrinks' DBIA agreement for CWSFT Project No. 5933-01

Mr. Falcon congratulated DPW employees Ben Pirkola and Nate Larson on obtaining their certifications. He also reported that he had issued a 30-day contract termination notice via email to Infrastructure Alternatives, Inc. Additionally, Mr. Falcon recognized Village Treasurer Stephanie VanderPloeg for her excellent work during her first audit.

Public Comment: Dave Saucier 655 Orton St. Confirmed that the Harvest Festival secured liability insurance to comply with the requirements on the event application and mentioned the Harvest Festival is scheduled for September 12, 2026.

President Heckman mentioned that the TC Youth Vikings PTO committee is planning a family event on October 2, 2026 at the Village Ball Fields. After receiving application, fees to the event will be waived for this nonprofit organization.

President Heckman mentioned looking into a Neighborhood Watch due to vandalism but acknowledged getting volunteers to help will be a challenge.

Trustee Smith suggested to look at committees/organizations using the Village of Howard City in their name to stop donations to be given to under false pretenses. Mr. Falcon said he would investigate the legality of this.

Motion by MacTavish seconded by Williams to adjourn the meeting at 8:12 pm. Motion CARRIED (5-0)

Stephanie VanderPloeg, Clerk

Randy Heckman, President