

Village of Howard City  
Council Meeting Minutes  
March 16, 2026

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

The Pledge of Allegiance was given.

Motion by Toner seconded by Williams to approve the agenda as presented. Motion CARRIED (5-0)

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

Public Comment: Dave Saucier stated Reynolds Township voted to change their meeting dates to the second Tuesday of every month.

Motion by Williams seconded by MacTavish to approve Resolution 2026-02 Computerized Database as the Tax Roll. Motion CARRIED (5-0)

Motion by Wert seconded by Toner to approve Redemption Farms Ensley Park Event Application and waiving food truck vendor fees with the Village. Motion CARRIED (5-0)

Motion by MacTavish seconded by Wert to approve the Harvest Festival Event Application with the following requirements: Thirty days prior to the event, Village DPW staff and event leaders must meet in person to coordinate road closures and logistics. A copy of insurance must be submitted and verified for the beer tent. In addition to the Harvest Festival holding the policy, the Village must also be named as an additional insured. Thirty days prior to the event, the Village must know who will be providing security for the beer tent and the exact location within the Buck Pole area where the tent will be placed. This will be coordinated with the Village Manager. Thirty days prior, the Village will also need to know where any signage will be placed. Vendor numbers sprayed on the grass must be placed on the grass and not on the walking trail. Motion CARRIED (5-0)

Motion by Wert seconded by Toner to approve the Tri County Community Church Event Application with the revision of street closures to be from the post office to White Street. Motion CARRIED (5-0)

Mr. Falcon spoke with the Montcalm County Housing Commission Director and it was agreed that the PILOT payment will be paid at the 10% rate.

Motion by Wert seconded by Toner to add Stephanie VanderPloeg to all Village bank accounts as a signer effective March 16, 2026, and remove Melissa Kuzmik as a signer on all bank accounts effective March 27, 2026. Motion CARRIED (5-0)

Motion by MacTavish seconded by Williams to approve the bills with the additions presented by the Treasurer of \$8,825.88 for a total of \$176,498.11. Motion CARRIED (5-0)

Motion by MacTavish seconded by Wert to approve Resolution 2026-03 Village of Howard City 2026 CWSRF – RES Notice of Intent. Motion CARRIED (5-0)

Motion by Wert seconded by MacTavish to approve the bid from Silversmith Data for GIS software, Hardware and yearly support contract. Motion CARRIED (5-0)

Council approved the 1776 USA 250 Years 1776-2026 banner proof.

Council approved accepting the bench donation to be installed by DPW and placed by the band shell from the Gleaners organization.

Mr. Falcon presented Council with a thank you letter from the Senior Center for DPW keeping the parking lot and walkway area clear this winter.

Motion by MacTavish seconded by Toner to approve the Change Request #1 from Innovative Builders & Remodelers for the Ensley Park restroom remodel not to exceed \$5,000. Motion CARRIED (5-0)

Council approved the Pizza Café Open Mic Nights Event Application for Thursdays from May to September.

Council approved the Downtown Edgerton 4<sup>th</sup> of July Celebration Event Application.

Public Comment: Dave Saucier requested access to the restrooms at the Village Office while holding Harvest Festival meetings in the Council room.

Trustee Wert inquired about the Pierson Township fire contract.

Trustee Williams reminded everyone that the Easter Egg Scramble is going to be Saturday, March 28, at 11 am.

President Heckman and trustees thanked Melissa Kuzmik for her 13 years of service. President Heckman informed Council that interviews have started for the part-time Utility Billing Clerk position as Stephanie VanderPloeg will be taking over the Clerk/Treasurer position as of March 27, 2026.

Motion by Williams seconded by MacTavish to adjourn the meeting at 7:37 pm. Motion CARRIED (5-0)

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Melissa Kuzmik, Clerk

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Randy Heckman, President