

Village of Howard City  
Council Meeting Minutes  
March 16, 2020

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

The Pledge of Allegiance was given.

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

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

Public Comment: Dave Saucier stated Reynolds Township is closed for at least two weeks, and their budget meeting has been cancelled and rescheduled at a later date. Tom Ginster introduced himself as a candidate for district judge. He presented his background and some of the changes he would like to implement if elected.

Motion by Smith seconded by Hagstrom to approve the Manager pay increase to \$68,000 for year one of the new contract, \$70,000 for year two of the contract, and \$72,000 for year three of the contract. Motion CARRIED (6-1)

Mr. Falcon will be meeting with the Montcalm County Sheriff to discuss the new police contract and how the passing of the millage will affect the Village. President Heckman will attend the meeting as well to sign the contract.

Motion by Williams seconded by VanWagner to pay bills with the addition of \$90,732.34 in bills presented by the Clerk/Treasurer and \$11,839.00 bill presented by the Manager for a total of \$197,612.28. Motion CARRIED (7-0)

Mr. Falcon informed Council that the Easter egg hunt will be postponed due to the COVID-19. A new date for the event will be determined once restrictions are lifted for public events.

Motion by MacTavish seconded by VanWagner to accept closing the Village office and DPW building to the public with staff still reporting to work as normal. Motion CARRIED (7-0)

Motion by VanWagner seconded by MacTavish to temporarily suspend water shut offs and keeping late fees and current due date of water/sewer bills. Motion CARRIED (7-0)

Motion by VanWagner seconded by MacTavish to sign the Montcalm County Road Commission contract for White Street from Shaw to Edgerton and West side of Village offices for \$61,876 and contract for seal coat and fog seal Shaw Street from Village limits to Orton Street for \$60,383. Motion CARRIED (7-0)

Council agreed to allow the Village Manager to sign the joint master plan scope of work presented by Main Street Planning Company.

Mr. Falcon discussed the quote received for permanent fencing to be installed at the ballfields. President Heckman stated he would like to speak with the Rocket Football program before going

forward with the fencing to see how it would affect the football program. If there is not a problem with Rocket Football, Council agreed to go ahead and install the fence at one of the fields this year.

Mr. Falcon informed Council that our local VFW hall will be closing before June of this year.

Mr. Falcon informed Council that he has two vacations planned in the next couple of months.

Public Comment: Dave Saucier verified that the Village Office will be open to phone calls just no public allowed into the office.

Trustee Bassett requested that the Village needs to give Peterman more of our business as we used to do as it was brought to his attention that we have not purchased as much from his business.

Motion by Williams seconded by MacTavish to adjourn the meeting at 7:44 pm. Motion CARRIED (7-0)

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Melissa Kuzmik, Clerk

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Randy Heckman, President