

**TOWN OF HORNBY
REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING
DECEMBER 8, 2025**

Present at the December meeting of the Hornby Town Board were: Supervisor Justin Eberlin, Councilmembers John Hale, Ken McLaughlin, Highway Superintendent Ron Divens, and Town Clerk Pam Smith. Dog Control Officer Shawn Peterson, Morris Smith, Rebecca Litz, Brian Litz, County Legislator Carol Ferratella, and Jen Cushing also attended the meeting.

The Town Board meeting was opened at 6:00 pm by Supervisor Eberlin.

MOTION by McLaughlin, seconded by Hale,
To approve the minutes of the Town Board meetings dated November 5, 2025 and November 10, 2025. No discussion was held.
Vote: Eberlin – aye, Reed – not present, Russell – not present, McLaughlin – aye, Hale – aye.

MOTION by McLaughlin, seconded by John,
To approve the payment of General Fund vouchers, numbered 180-192 on abstract G-12-25 in the amount of \$5,999.29; the payment of Highway Fund vouchers numbered 159-169 on abstract H-12-25 in the amount of \$6,843.37; and the payment of Trust and Agency vouchers numbered 66-67 in the amount of \$53,038.93. Discussion was held on cutting edges for the plows.
Vote: Eberlin – aye, Reed – not present, Russell – not present, McLaughlin – aye, Hale – aye.

Supervisor Eberlin submitted the request for our domain name of hornbyny.gov.

Supervisor Eberlin would like to have a website subcommittee to work on the design and logo of the website and asked the newly elected town councilmember, Rebecca Litz, if she was interested. The town clerk requested to be on the committee. Discussion was held.

The Town received the insurance check in the amount of \$15,204.75, for the cover on the salt shed. This should pay for the new cover, but not the labor. The new

cover will be guaranteed for 25 years. Highway Superintendent Divens has requested a quote.

NYMIR reappraised the buildings.

Dog Control Officer Shawn Peterson stated that there are new guidelines that take effect December 15, 2025 for dog shelters. Among other things, there can be no rust, must have running water, the dogs must be completely separated, and there must be both heat and air conditioning. Discussion was held. There are grants available, however, Hornby has a grant login, but no one knows the login, and Supervisor Eberlin is having a difficult time trying to get in touch with someone at grants to get help with the login.

Jen Cushing suggested the Schuyler County shelter. The Town had received a quote from them previously, which seemed high. The Town has a quote from Kadie & Jake Reese for their new shelter being built on 414 in the Town of Hornby. Another suggestion was shared services with other towns.

MOTION by Hale, seconded by McLaughlin,

To contract with Kadie & Jake Reese's dog shelter for 6 months to a year.

Vote: Eberlin – aye, Reed – not present, Russell – not present, McLaughlin – aye, Hale – aye.

The meeting was opened to visitors:

County Legislator Carol Ferratella stated that she had two more ideas for a contact for a sign to give Eunie: Southern Tier Central and Gaffer District. Carol is retiring and this was her last meeting. She was thanked for her service.

The organizational meeting wording was given out to the town board members, and the town clerk asked them to review it before the January meeting, and to come to the January meeting with any changes. Discussion was held.

MOTION by McLaughlin, seconded by Hale,

To purchase a bicentennial plaque, cost not to exceed \$300.00.

Vote: Eberlin – aye, Reed – not present, Russell – not present, McLaughlin – aye, Hale – aye.

It was stated that the minimum wage is going up to \$16 an hour on January 1st.

Councilmember McLaughlin's term office ends 12/31/2025. The Town Board thanked Ken McLaughlin for his time and service for the last 16 years.

MOTION by McLaughlin, seconded by Hale,

To go into executive session at 6:39pm to discuss matters relating to collective negotiations pursuant to Article 14 of the Civil Service Law, with Rebecca Litz, town councilmember-elect also invited to join the executive session.

Vote: Eberlin – aye, Reed – not present, Russell – not present, McLaughlin – aye, Hale – aye.

The regular meeting resumed at 7:01pm.

MOTION by McLaughlin, seconded by Hale,

To transfer up to \$40,000.00 from general checking to highway checking for highway bills and payroll until CHIPS is reimbursed.

Vote: Eberlin – aye, Reed – not present, Russell – not present, McLaughlin – aye, Hale – aye.

Discussion was held on Highway Superintendent Diven's list of expenditures from his four main highway accounts not matching the numbers on the October supervisor's report. Per Mr. Divens, he should still have approximately \$118,000.00 left in those four accounts. Discussion was held. The town board will invite the bookkeeper, Ann Taft, to the next town board meeting to help figure out the issues with the highway accounts.

Discussion was held on the sales tax payments and how it is alternated between the general and highway accounts. It was suggested that every payment be divided into two equal payments to go into both general and highway every time a payment is received. The town clerk was instructed to put that into the organizational meeting wording.

Councilmember Ken McLaughlin thanked everyone and said goodbye.

MOTION by McLaughlin, seconded by Hale,

To adjourn the meeting at 7:31pm.

Vote: Eberlin – aye, Reed – not present, Russell – not present, McLaughlin – aye, Hale – aye.

Pamela A. Smith
Hornby Town Clerk