

**TOWN OF HORNBY
REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING
AUGUST 11, 2025**

Present at the August meeting of the Hornby Town Board were: Supervisor Justin Eberlin, Councilmembers Hazel Russell, Ken McLaughlin, John Hale and Steve Reed, and Town Clerk Pam Smith. Emily Lando, Shawn Peterson, Jeanne Beebe, Marge DiMeo, Dan Bulkley, Frank Phalen, Nancy McLaughlin, Carol Kellogg, Doug Kellogg, Donna Cummings, Sheila Cook, Historian Eunie Taggart and County Legislator Carol Ferratella also attended the meeting.

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

MOTION by McLaughlin, seconded by Russell,
To approve the minutes of the Town Board meetings dated June 9, 2025, June 26, 2025, July 9, 2025, and July 14, 2025. No discussion was held.
Vote: Eberlin – aye, Reed – aye, Russell – aye, McLaughlin – aye, Hale – aye.

MOTION by Hale, seconded by Russell,
To approve the payment of General Fund vouchers, numbered 120-134 on abstract G-08-25 in the amount of \$12,756.94; the payment of Highway Fund vouchers numbered 102-114 on abstract H-08-25 in the amount of \$50,468.38; and the payment of Trust and Agency voucher numbered 61 in the amount of \$7,086.93. Discussion was held on the Carol Goldern bill.
Vote: Eberlin – aye, Reed – aye, Russell – aye, McLaughlin – aye, Hale – aye.

Supervisor Eberlin stated that there are new rules for kennels. Discussion was held. He also stated that he has a call into a local person regarding the website. He also has a flyer for another website company.

Supervisor Eberlin stated that there is an issue with NYS Retirement and one employee. Per his understanding, the employee needs to be the one to call NYS Retirement, but the employee does not agree and says it is a Town of Hornby issue.

The new bulletin board has been installed. The town clerk has the key, if anyone needs it.

The Town is paying unemployment claims for the previous code enforcement officer, at a cost of approximately \$60 a month. Discussion was held.

Supervisor Eberlin went over the August assessor's report with the board.

There is no highway superintendent report.

Discussion was held on the Hornby Congregational Church. The church was built in 1851, and is currently owned by the Hornby Congregational Church. The church is closing and would like to give the building to the Town for the historical society to use. The historical society has used the church for many years for parking, bathrooms, water and has their farm display in the back room of the church. It was decided that the town board should inspect the church and see what will need to be fixed/maintained. A survey of the property should also be done. There is concern regarding the cost to the taxpayers. Currently the museum is owned by the Town, and the contents are owned by the Hornby Historical Society. The historical society pays the electric, and half of any maintenance work and supplies that are needed for the museum. The Town pays for the insurance, lawn cutting and half of any maintenance and supplies that are needed for the museum. However, there is no contract with the historical society. The historical society would like the same arrangement with the church. It was suggested that the town board hold a public hearing to see what the town residents think about the Town acquiring the church for the historical society to use. Councilmember McLaughlin will contact Mike Martin, to see if he will go through the church and create a list what needs to be fixed/maintained. Supervisor Eberlin will contact a lawyer to find out approximate closing costs, and he will contact Sprague for an approximate cost for insurance.

MOTION by Eberlin, seconded by Hale,

TO hold a public hearing on the Town accepting the church for historical society use, to be held on September 8, 2025 at 6pm.

Vote: Eberlin – aye, Reed – aye, Russell – aye, McLaughlin – aye, Hale – aye.

MOTION by McLaughlin, seconded by Russell,

To accept the resignation of Candi Buchanan as planning board and zoning board clerk, effective July 1, 2025.

Vote: Eberlin – aye, Reed – aye, Russell – aye, McLaughlin – aye, Hale – aye.

Discussion was held on the propane quote from Fingerlakes Propane. Fingerlakes Propane is quoting \$1.50/gallon for both the town hall and the town garage. Councilmember Hale will call to verify the pricing is for both locations.

MOTION by Eberlin, seconded by McLaughlin,

To change to Fingerlakes Propane with the quote of \$1.50/gallon for propane for the town hall and the town garage; timeframe of 10/1/2025 – 4/3/2026.

Vote: Eberlin – aye, Reed – aye, Russell – aye, McLaughlin – aye, Hale – aye.

The door system was installed in 2019, and is not able to be transferred to the town clerk's new laptop. Boss Security gave a quote of \$5,531.40 to change the door system over to the cloud. Discussion was held. The town board is concerned that in another 6 years they would have to upgrade the door system again. The

Town will not be changing to the new door system that was quoted. The town clerk was told that she could use the window to take care of people, and we can go back to using keys for the doors and just rekey the doors if a key is lost or misused/copied. The door system will remain on the town clerk's old computer but will be moved so that she can use her printer with her new computer.

There is a rotten tree at the museum. The town has a quote for \$1500 from Fingerlakes. Councilmember Reed will get another quote for the job. The Town requested bids for the sidewalk work, but did not get any additional quotes. Rigby Builders gave the Town a quote for \$7,500.00. This money will be taken out of the ARPA funds.

MOTION by Russell, second by Hale,

To hire Rigby Builders to do the town hall sidewalk for \$7,500.00; monies to be taken from ARPA.

Vote: Eberlin – aye, Reed – aye, Russell – aye, McLaughlin – aye, Hale – aye.

Supervisor Eberlin gave an update on union negotiations. The Syracuse lawyer told the Supervisor that negotiations will begin in late August or early September. The lawyer suggested a second person to help negotiate. Councilmember Russell will help Supervisor Eberlin with the negotiations.

Discussion was held on the solar moratorium law.

MOTION by Russell, seconded by Reed,

To forward to the County Planning Department the 12 Month Moratorium on Solar Farms and Solar Energy Power Plants law.

Vote: Eberlin – aye, Reed – aye, Russell – aye, McLaughlin - aye, Hale – aye.

The wording on the current fire contract was discussed. The town clerk was asked to add the work 'annual' to #7. The fire department is not currently giving us the information in the contract, such as the list of firefighters that has to go to the County, not informing the Town after elections as to who was elected, and other things.

The Fire Department has given the Town their proposed budget for 2026, which comes to \$100,425.00. Discussion was held. There is no income in this budget. They do dinners and rentals. They would like a 3 year contract, with a 3% increase each year. In 2025, the Town gave the Fire Department \$92,500.00.

Councilmember McLaughlin suggested a 3% increase from last year, and then each of the following two years:

2026 - \$95,275.00

2027 - \$98,134.00

2028 - 101,078.00

Supervisor Eberlin will present the offer to the Fire Department.

Questions on the budget sheets were discussed with the Town Board.

The meeting was opened to hear from visitors.

County Legislator Carol Ferratella stated that the Federal Reconciliation bill will cost the County 6 million; 1 million of that being SNAP. The County is working with FEMA on getting money for the flooding costs.

MOTION by Eberlin, seconded by Reed,

To go into executive session for personnel matters at 7:25pm.

Vote: Eberlin – aye, Reed – aye, Russell – aye, McLaughlin - aye, Hale – aye.

The regular meeting was resumed at 8:08pm.

MOTION by Eberlin, seconded by McLaughlin,

To offer the position of planning and zoning clerk to Jeanne Beebe, effective immediately upon her acceptance.

Vote: Eberlin – aye, Reed – aye, Russell – aye, McLaughlin - aye, Hale – aye.

MOTION by Eberlin, seconded by Hale,

To appoint Emily Lando to the planning board, term of 08/11/2025 through 12/31/2026.

Vote: Eberlin – aye, Reed – aye, Russell – aye, McLaughlin - aye, Hale – aye.

The draft local override law for 2026 was given to the town board. Discussion was held.

MOTION by McLaughlin, seconded by Russell,

To appoint Shawn Peterson as Dog Control Officer, effective the day after Ed Fratarcangelo resigns.

Vote: Eberlin – aye, Reed – aye, Russell – aye, McLaughlin - aye, Hale – aye.

Supervisor Eberlin talked to Jason Rial and he is reaching out to someone for a quote on the parking lot lights.

MOTION by McLaughlin, seconded by Russell,
To adjourn the meeting at 8:27pm.

Vote: Eberlin – aye, Reed – aye, Russell – aye, McLaughlin – aye, Hale – aye.

Pamela A. Smith
Hornby Town Clerk