

**TOWN OF HORNBY
REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING
FEBRUARY 9, 2026**

Present at the February meeting of the Hornby Town Board were: Supervisor Justin Eberlin, Councilmembers Rebecca Litz, Hazel Russell, Steve Reed and John Hale, Highway Superintendent Ron Divens, and Town Clerk Pam Smith. Eunie Taggart, John Dobson, Bill Clark and Amber Clark also attended the meeting.

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

MOTION by Reed, seconded by Russell,

To approve the minutes of the Town Board meeting dated January 12, 2026 as presented. No discussion was held.

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

MOTION by Hale, seconded by Reed,

To approve the payment of General Fund vouchers numbered 13-28 on abstract G-02-26 in the amount of \$11,918.90; the payment of Highway Fund vouchers numbered 13-25 on abstract H-02-26 in the amount of \$27,687.14; and the payment of Trust and Agency voucher numbered 69 in the amount of \$7,937.63. No discussion was held.

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

Supervisor Eberlin stated that he audited the Justice Court funds in December of 2025.

The NYS Public Service Commission will be having a virtual meeting regarding upgrading the power lines, and Supervisor Eberlin is planning on attending.

Highway Superintendent Divens stated that they have been busy plowing snow and drifting snow.

The NYMIR renewal is on the agenda, but the quote is not yet back, so the renewal will be reviewed at the March town board meeting.

The contract with the dog shelter on 414 is not yet signed, because they are not inspected yet. Per Hannah at NYS Ag & Markets, Hornby's shelter is still legal until the Town gets a letter stating that it failed inspection. She also stated that the Town will have to put a significant amount of money into upgrading the dog shelter and recommends outsourcing. Discussion was held. One of the new NYS inspections is

inspecting the dog control officer's truck. There are now three NYS inspections that a Town has to pass. More discussion was held.

Supervisor Eberlin gave the County updates:

- o The County wants to do an animal abuse registry, but the people are only on the registry for three years.
- o The land bank is still active, however, Hornby does not have any properties to put in it.
- o The County offers ambulance service to parts of the County.
Supervisor Eberlin asked if he could sign a letter stating that Hornby supports the County for their health certificate and was told yes.
- o The County approved both tire days at the landfill and town clean up days.

The Town received the 2026 budget for the fire department and the Town can pay the fire department contractual amount next month.

Theresa Novak, the new justice, would like to put free NARCAN in the town hall at no expense to the Town. Discussion was held. There are no objections to having it in the town hall.

RESOLUTION by Eberlin, seconded by Litz,
For the bookkeeper to balance the budget line items for 2025.
Vote: Eberlin – aye, Russell – aye, Litz – aye, Reed - aye, Hale - aye.

RESOLUTION by Eberlin, seconded by Hale,
To pay the legal overages from the contingency fund.
Discussion was held.
Vote: Eberlin – aye, Russell – aye, Litz – aye, Reed - aye, Hale - aye.

There is no updates regarding the union negotiations, so there was no executive session.

Supervisor Eberlin would like to keep the code enforcement officer on top of Councilmember Russell's neighbors, maybe sending them a letter every month, to keep on top of the situation. Discussion was held. This is Paul Race's old house.

Justice Novak had to dismiss a ticket for a dog bite that the dog control officer presented to the Court. The ticket was not filled out correctly. The Justice has concerns after the dog control officer told her that he told the accused that if she did not show, a warrant would be issued for her arrest. However, he is not law enforcement, and he cannot state that a warrant will be issued if the accused does not appear for court.

Superintendent Divens has a quote of \$64,587.00 for the salt storage shed cover from Hybrid Building Solutions. It has a 25 year warranty. The Town received approximately \$15,000 from the insurance settlement. Discussion was held. This is a piggyback quote.

MOTION by Russell, second by Hale,

To accept the Hybrid Building Solutions quote to replace the cover at a cost of \$64,587.00. Discussion was held.

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

Superintendent Divens discussed a quote that he has for replacing the tires on the six 10 wheelers. This is an annual task. The quote is \$4650 per truck. This annual cost has been budgeted in the 2026 budget. Discussion was held.

The meeting was opened to visitors.

Historian Eunie Taggart submitted the annual historian's report. March 7th is the 200th anniversary of the Hornby town board meeting. Discussion was held.

John Dobson asked if a small batch distillery was allowed in the Town, and he was referred to both the code enforcement officer and the planning board. Discussion was held.

Bill Clark talked about the plans for a bicentennial celebration that he and Amber Clark are planning. There will be a car show, 5K, bands, chicken barbeque, etc. The Clarks have reserved the fire department. They would like permission to use the town land for tents as the land is more level. Discussion was held. Supervisor Eberlin has a concern with insurance coverage. The Town's insurance agent told him to keep it on the fire department land as much as possible. The Clarks asked if the Town could get a rider just for that weekend to cover the celebration. Discussion was held. The Clarks would also like to do a raffle to raise money for the celebration and want a gaming law in the Town so that they can do the raffle. Discussion was held. A law takes several months to do, and this was explained to the Clarks. Discussion was held on why the Town was not doing or funding the celebration. Discussion was then held on why Caton Days stopped, and it is because the event could not be funded with taxpayer money. There are specific rules on what taxpayer money can be used for, and a celebration is not one that taxpayer money can legally fund.

MOTION by Hale, seconded by Russell,

to adjourn the meeting at 7:06 pm. No discussion was held.

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

Pamela A. Smith
Hornby Town Clerk