

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

Present at the March meeting of the Hornby Town Board were: Supervisor Justin Eberlin, Councilmembers Rebecca Litz, Hazel Russell, and John Hale, and Town Clerk Pam Smith. Eunie Taggart, Bill Clark, Amber Clark, Frank Phalen, Jen Cushing, Nancy McLaughlin, and Cassia Maloney from Sprague Insurance also attended the meeting.

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

MOTION by Hale, seconded by Russell,

To approve the minutes of the Town Board meeting dated February 9, 2026 as presented. No discussion was held.

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

MOTION by Russell, seconded by Hale,

To approve the payment of General Fund vouchers numbered 29-44 on abstract G-03-26 in the amount of \$9,786.02; the payment of Fire Protection District voucher number 42 in the amount of \$95,275.00; the payment of Highway Fund vouchers numbered 26-43 on abstract H-03-26 in the amount of \$69,938.03; and the payment of Trust and Agency voucher numbered 70 in the amount of \$7,937.63. No discussion was held.

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

Supervisor Eberlin stated that the assessor's monthly report states that the Town's equalization rate is now at 81%. A revaluation may be necessary. Discussion was held.

Highway Superintendent Divens was not present but requested that the Town approve the intermunicipal agreement with the County. Discussion was held. Also, the Town now needs PRC #'s for everything except vehicle maintenance, and he and the town clerk have called NYS twice and talked with the correct people, but neither person that they called and talked with has sent the promised documentation that is needed to get these PRC #'s. Discussion was held.

RESOLUTION by Hale, seconded by Litz,

To sign an agreement between the Town of Hornby and Steuben County Public Works.

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

Supervisor Eberlin gave the County updates:

- o The animal abuse registry went back to committee for clean up.
- o Tire days were approved and he will bring the dates to the next town board meeting.

The new dog shelter on 414 has now been inspected and can operate as a dog shelter. Discussion was held. The Town's kennel is still legal, so the town board would like to hold off until the kennel fails before signing a contract with the new dog shelter.

Prime Lawn Care submitted a quote for 2026 and discussion was held. The price is \$600 per mowing, done biweekly. Discussion was held on what properties they mow versus the town employees. The town board would like a list of the properties that Prime Lawn Care would mow and what properties the town mows. Discussion was also held on if the Town can use them because of the PRC # and the fact that the contractors/vendors have to be registered with the Department of Labor.

Discussion was held on the phone system situation and the need for a new phone system. The backup system for the phone system failed and was beeping continuously. A new backup system was purchased, but there were concerns from the phone system vendor CPE that the phone system would fail if it was unplugged, even to replace the backup system, because it is so old. It did not fail, so the phone system is currently working, with a new backup system. If it had failed, the Town would not have had phones to use, except for possibly one phone in the tech closet. The concern is that the phone system is so old that it needs to be replaced. The town clerk suggested going with less functionality and saving money by purchasing a cordless phone system from Walmart that has six cordless phones with it. Discussion was held. It is not known if that solution will work. It will have to be investigated.

The town clerk rewrote the Town of Erwin's Games of Chance law and modified it for Hornby. Erwin's law is so old, that she wanted verification on the references in the law. The proposed law must be put on the election ballot. Discussion was held. It is not known what games of chance are covered by the law. The town clerk will email the gaming commission and ask them. Councilmember Russell will verify the references.

MOTION by Eberlin, seconded by Hale,
To submit proposed Local Law # 1 of 2026 Games of Chance to Steuben County for approval as long as Councilmember Russell finds no issues that should be changed.
Vote: Eberlin – aye, Russell – aye, Litz – aye, Reed – not present, Hale - aye.

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

Cassia Maloney was invited to present the NYMIR renewal to the town board. Discussion was held. The museum is insured for a total rebuild, but the contents are not insured. Ed Crawford is not on the list of drivers, and it was questioned if the town still uses a couple of the listed vehicles. The insurance is increasing \$1881.10 from last year.

MOTION by Eberlin, seconded by Hale,

To pay NYIR insurance renewal at the current voucher, or the revised version if it is less.

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

Bill Clark talked about the plans for a bicentennial celebration that he and Amber Clark are planning. They will be using the firehall Friday night and Sunday, and Reese's Rodeo on Saturday. The 5K would be Sunday morning. Discussion was held on insurance, and Cassia Maloney stayed to help answer questions. For the 5K race, insurance would be needed with the town as being named as an additional insured. Most companies that do 5K races have their own insurance. To shut down roads for the 5K race, a public hearing and a resolution are needed. Nothing else is being done on town property, so no other insurance is needed.

MOTION by Eberlin, seconded by Hale

To hold a public hearing to close Haradon Road from Hornby Road to Roloson Road, and Roloson Road to Rogers Road for a 5K on Sunday June 28th from 8am to Noon. Public hearing to be held April 13 at 6pm.

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

Raffle tickets cannot be sold in Hornby until the new law is passed.

Discussion was held on a bicentennial plaque that the town will purchase.

The meeting was opened to visitors.

Jen Cushing asked about NYSEG costs and if anything can be done. She also asked if any County roads are being paved. There is an issue with a section of the Dyke Road that is sinking. Ms. Cushing will send details to Supervisor Eberlin.

MOTION by Russell, seconded by Hale,

to adjourn the meeting at 7:45 pm. No discussion was held.

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

Pamela A. Smith

Hornby Town Clerk