

Town of Hortonia-March 2025 Monthly Board Meeting Minutes

Pledge of Allegiance and Meeting Order

- The monthly town board meeting is called to order.
- Public notice is verified.
- **Clerks Report and Minutes**-Motion to approve the minutes of the last town board meeting is made and seconded. Motion carried.
- The upcoming election on April 1st with in-person voting on Friday, next Monday, and next Thursday/Friday.
 - This Friday: 2 PM to 7 PM
 - Next Monday: 10 AM to 3 PM
 - Thursday and Friday next week: 2 PM to 7 PM
 - April 1st election: 7 AM to 8 PM at the fire station.
- Absentee voting is at the town hall office.
- Dates are posted on the website.
- The Clerk will be working out of Town April 5-16th Expense and checks will be issued when she gets back

Treasurer's Report for February

- Income:
 - PIL payment: \$621.08
 - February settlement: \$124,418.94
 - Permits: \$750
 - Franchise fees: \$327.54
 - Interest: \$789.34
 - Total: \$126,906.90
- Balances:
 - Money market: \$470,621.25
 - Earmarked contingency: \$189,866.11
 - Half a percent sales tax: \$65,863.48
 - Funds to repair Lower Givens: \$57,858
 - New town hall fund: \$20,000
 - Checking account: \$27,917.75 (adjusted to \$23,853.49 with outstanding checks)
 - Park account: \$23,143.45
 - New fire truck loan: \$227,612.75
 - Tax account: \$78,510.90
 - Dog license: \$1,418.25
- Motion made and seconded to accept the treasurer's report.

East Central Comp Plan Contract Review

- Matt reviewed the contract and found it acceptable.
- Ben may not have received the email with the contract.
- The contract includes the caps discussed during the interview process.
- Plan to schedule meetings to work through the comp plan process.
- East Central Planning Commission recommended using East Central for comp plan and zoning updates.
- The decision to approve the contract will wait until the contract is fully approved.

Public Comment

Joel Angela (Fallen Wings Resident)

- Issue with being first on Monday morning pickup of Garbage.
- Bins are not stable, trash ends up in the yard due to wind.
- Suggests a rotating schedule to avoid always being the first pickup.
- Issue with early garbage pickup on Packer game days. Concerns about dumpster placement due to roadway and winter plowing.
- Considering modifying trash bins due to slippery streets.
- The plastic base of the trash bins is slippery, causing them to blow around easily.
- Recycle bins are generally light, even when full.
- Ideas to prevent skidding:
 - Skid plate on the bottom.
 - Piece of rubber tacked to the bottom.
 - One by two with non-abrasive slip material.
 - Bolting a weight to the bottom of the bin, but there is a weight limit.
- There is a weight limit on the bins and exceeding it can result in a call back.
Some residents on Highway 45 have trouble getting bins to the road due to snow.
- One resident reported trash pickup at 2:30 PM instead of the usual morning schedule.
- Delays can occur if Outagamie County shuts down recycling due to wind or other reasons.
- The town was the last to switch to bins, due to county requirements for recycling reimbursement

CONTACT:

- Residents can contact Nick Carter about pickup issues, especially if the trash is out by 6 AM as required.
- Nick Carter's mobile number is 715-881-1698, and the home number is 715-881-1700.
- Suggestion to ask Harder's to vary their route so the first pickup isn't always first.

GFL and Recycling Changes

- GFL has purchased the land that the county uses for recycling.
- "All of the recycling contracts are going to be changing for everyone because of that."
- The town has a five-year contract with Harder's.
- Recycling has increased since the bins were introduced.
- All plastic numbers are recyclable except for food containers.

Village Road Maintenance

- Discussion about road maintenance and cost sharing on Nye Street.
- Matt sent out a contract for review.
- Question about culverts along Nye Street.

Agreement Regarding End of NY Street and Industrial Park Road

- The village will take care of the east end of NY street to Industrial Park Road.
- Question: If farms like Naps and Stivers need a culvert to go into their fields, will the village provide one?
- Similar question regarding the area from Industrial Park Road to T: Businesses will need culvert permits from Hortonville to access property the village owns.

Nye Street Plan

- The town is taking over Nye Street because the county took over 15 and doesn't want two parallel roads.
- The town needs to maintain the road to have a say as to people's access to culverts and permits, and the village will need to review signage, especially since it's a truck route.
- The county received money from the state to redo the road.

- Dean-Highway Supervisor assured the Chair that the driveways will be blacktopped.

Old Business

- Wickman's property has something that needs to be looked at.
 - Property on Lower Givens Road still has pigs, despite being told to remove them.
 - He claims they're his kids' project, but they're in a residential area.
 - Matt needs to be contacted to send a certified notice of cease and desist.
 - He did move his dogs away from the neighbors due to barking.
 - There is a state chicken bill in progress (HB number not recalled).
 - The state may take over regulation of small animals (particularly chickens) in residential areas.
- This is a bipartisan push due to people wanting to have chickens for eggs.
- State law would supersede local regulations.
 - Hortonia allows chickens but no roosters.

New Business

- N.L. yard waste: Residents from Oak Street and New London want to bring yard waste to the New London yard waste area.
 - They are willing to pay a permit fee.
 - New London stopped allowing this a couple of years ago.
 - New London disposes of and chops up yard waste near the Water Supper Club.
- Oak Street was redone, but New London refused to pay for their half of the street.
- Roads like Greendale have maintenance lines figured out in the field, with Greenville and Hortonia each taking care of a half.
- Fire department calls can be confusing on roads that are split between municipalities.
 - When burning, call the fire department and inform them of the controlled burn.
 - One person had a brush pile burn and a cop from the village showed up, even though the fire chief was informed.
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Fire Incident

- The fire chief did not inform the village about the fire.
- Someone called the fire chief after noticing smoke.

Weight Limit Signs

- Weight limit signs were installed will come down within the next few weeks.

State Salt Shed

- Construction was temporarily halted because the material used lacked proper approval.
- The state shut down the project until the materials were verified.
- The state did not obtain a building permit and refused to sign the application forms.

County Garage

- The county is planning to build a new garage.
- They changed the zoning and need a conditional use permit.
- The project is currently in the conceptual phase.

Payment of Expenses

- A motion was made, seconded, and carried to approve the expenses.

Upcoming Meetings

- The next town board meeting is on April 15th at 10:30 AM at the town hall.
- The annual meeting is possibly on April 22nd at 7:00 PM at the old town hall.
- The May and June meetings will remain at 10:30 AM.

Planning and Zoning Meeting

- The planning and zoning meeting for the fourth Tuesday of the month has been canceled.
- The MCC meeting is scheduled for March 31st at 6:00 PM at Whistler's Knoll.
 - The location was moved because of the election the next day.
 - Lighting at Whistler's Knoll is an issue that needs to be addressed.