

**HOWELL TOWN CORPORATION**

Minutes of the Howell Town Council Meeting held April 10, 2026, at 6:00 p.m. at the Sgt. Rocky D. Payne Memorial Center.

Present:	Bruce Morris	Mayor
	Rex Nessen	Council Member
	Josh Anderson	Council Member
	McKenzie Sorensen	Council Member
	Drew Sorensen	Council Member

Others Present:	Shelly Logan	Town Treasurer
	Residents:	

Timber	Jessica Richards	Cole Johnson
Rinderknecht	Chris Richards	Linda Hawkes
Odell	Nicole Sorensen	Craig Hawkes
Rinderknecht	Jeaninne Hawkes	Kendall Morris
Ron Rushton	Bradley Hawkes	Cynthia Nessen
Tim Douglas	Dale Wood	Robert Logan
Christi Anderson	Leon Kotter	Matti
Dee Wheeler	Danny Hawkes	Rinderknecht
Erin Jensen	Collette Hawkes	Parker Nessen
Bart Sorensen	McKenzie	Cassidy Nessen
Dakota Tuck	Pontius	Gary Burton
Byron Tuck	Luke Pontius	

Call to Order: Mayor Bruce Morris

Welcome, roll call, prayer, Pledge of Allegiance, Approve the Agenda.

Mayor Morris welcomed everyone to the Howell Town Council Meeting.

Prayer: Shelly Logan

Pledge of Allegiance was led by: Mayor Morris

Public hearing

**Town water infrastructure:**

Christi Nessen thanked the town and previous board members for all their work in bringing the town's water system to where it is now.

Craig Hawkes reported on the town's current system and referenced the most recent impact study (2007). The study shows the town can handle more water hook ups. Craig also reported that the town has recently updated their water system maps. As a town, a majority of our water usage goes to lawns and livestock.

Brad Hawkes advised the town to be wise when putting in new lines in regard to size and future growth. He also mentioned his issues with getting water is partly due to his elevation. It was agreed by many that elevation plays a big part in the water consistency of homes above a certain

level. Brad also mentioned when there is a large volume of water being used, his pressure and water supply drops drastically.

Pressure pumps would be necessary for homes at higher elevations to ensure they get the desired pressure at their residence.

Robert Logan emphasized the importance of pressure regulators in the home to help regulate the water coming into the home which ensures water pressure surges won't damage any water systems in the home. It is required for all new homes.

Tim Douglas said with the larger line that was installed on the east side, his water supply is much more consistent. If fees are to be raised, he would prefer it be raised in the impact fees and not the monthly water fees. He suggested a new study be done to determine if our impact fees need to be raised.

**Impact fees:**

The town impact fees are \$7970 with \$500 for the meter. Craig talked about the various grants they have used to upgrade certain lines. It would take more grants along with the impact fees to do more upgrades. Impact fees are only used for upgrading water infrastructure. A new impact study would help the town see where they are deficient.

**Water meters:**

Dakota Tuck stated that the town cannot deny a water meter unless they have a licensed engineer come in and say we are at our water capacity and can't issue more water meters. The town cannot discriminate who they choose to approve and who they deny. Only if the town is at water capacity can they deny water hook ups

Board Member Sorensen brought up the concern of anyone tapping into a water line. The town does not allow anyone to tap into a water line without their approval and inspection. All meter locations are determined by the town with input from the landowner. It was suggested that when installing new water lines, the town should look at the possibility of future growth in that area and plan the size of line accordingly. The landowner has been the one to pay for the line from both the main line and from the meter to their home with the town assuming responsibility of the line before the meter after 1 or 2 years. In the past, the town has helped with the cost difference in the upgraded line if such is deemed necessary.

It was mentioned to limit water meter approvals to a certain number a year to make sure we are not over taxing our water systems. Many agreed.

Rezoning was also addressed. The town used to use conditional use permits to allow smaller lots, but this was incorrect. The town now goes through a rezoning process for any requests under 20 acres. Gary Burton urged the public that if they have issues with the growth, then attend meetings where rezoning is requested and voice their concerns.

Adjourned at: 7:06 p.m.

Approved:

  
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Shelly Logan, Town Treasurer

