

April 13, 2022, TOWN BOARD

A regular meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Root, County of Montgomery and State of New York was held at the Town Hall, 1048 Carlisle Road, Sprakers, New York on the 13th day of April.

PRESENT:	Gary Kamp	Supervisor
	Donald Bramer	Councilman
	Dominic Cuomo	Councilman
	LuEmma Quackenbush	Councilwoman
	John VanKersen	Councilman
	Marcia Shults	Town Clerk

ABSENT: Clifton Dorrrough, Code Officer; Harold Wilday, Justice.

OTHERS PRESENT: Donald Oeser, Highway Superintendent; Stella Gittle, Assessor; Jade Weiss, Planning Board and a few residents

Supervisor Kamp opened the meeting at 7:00 PM with the pledge to the flag.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Councilwoman Quackenbush motioned seconded by Councilman VanKersen to approve the minutes from the March 9, 2022 meeting as presented.

Ayes 5 – Kamp, Bramer, Cuomo, Quackenbush, VanKersen Nays 0

PUBLIC COMMENT

Supervisor Kamp opened the floor for public comment.

Patrick Taft from A.N.S Signs came and talked to us about his L.E.D. Signs and Business. There were comments on how the Highway Department did very well taking care of the roads this winter.

REPORTS

Reports were available from the Code Enforcement Officer, the Dog Control Officer, the Justice, and the Supervisor.

The Assessor Reported about ongoing issues with the solar projects.

Planning Board member Jade Weiss reported how the Planning Board has also been working on the ongoing issues with Solar.

AGENDA

Supervisor Kamp presented the agenda for the meeting.

Councilwoman Quackenbush motioned seconded by Councilman Bramer to adopt the agenda.

Ayes 5 – Kamp, Bramer, Cuomo, Quackenbush, VanKersen Nays 0

OLD BUSINESS

Highway Superintendent Donald Oeser is going to get ahold of the Randal Transfer Station on how to dispose the old highway garage once it's taken down.

There is no new information regarding the cold storage building, Awaiting on an attorney. In regards to the Virus Recovery Funds, we are still awaiting on an email for a response on what to do with the remaining funds.

Supervisor Kamp stated there is a continuing vacancy on the Board of Appeals. To date there has been no interest in this position.

The board is still awaiting on a quote from Ed Anderson on redoing the entrances to the Town Hall.

The Town Board accepted the letter of interest from Jacqueline Gunderson for the Janitors position being hired at \$15/hour working 1 day a week.

Councilman Bramer motioned seconded by Councilwoman Quackenbush

Ayes – 5 Kamp, Bramer, Cuomo, Quackenbush, VanKersen Nays 0

In Regards to the county website, we are awaiting on more information from the county on new updates and will be tabled till the May meeting.

Resolution No. 7 of 2022

Hiring of Attorney Brett Preston

BOARD MEMBER Cuomo presented the following Resolution and moved its adoption.

WHEREAS The Town of Root Town Council Received Five Applications from the 5 individuals listed below inquiring about the Town Attorney's Position.

1. Brett Preston
2. Dunn & Dunn
3. Bethany Schumann-McGhee
4. Mycek
5. Robert M. Subik

WHEREAS The Town Council Conducted interviews with 3 out of 5 applicants listed below that they thought would be in the best interest for the town.

1. Brett Preston
2. Dunn & Dunn
3. Bethany Schumann-McGee

RESOLVED The following individual Brett Preston be hired as Town Attorney for the Town of Root.

SECONDED BY BOARD MEMBER Quackenbush

Adopted by the following vote:

Ayes 5- Kamp, Bramer, Cuomo, Quackenbush, VanKersen Nays 0

Highway Superintendent Donny Oeser Presented that the 2015 Chevy 1500 pickup Truck with 102,000 Miles, sold on Auction Internal for \$19,500.

Councilman Bramer motioned seconded by Councilman VanKersen

Ayes – 5 Kamp, Bramer, Cuomo, Quackenbush, VanKersen

Nays 0

NEW BUSINESS

Resolution # 6 of 2022

APRA Funding

Board Member Quackenbush presented the following Resolution and moved its adoption.

Whereas, the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 was signed into law on March 11, 2021 and the Town of Root has received “ARPA” funding from the United States Treasury; and

Whereas, the “ARPA” rules are specific in the purposes for which the funds may be utilized. The Town of Root has identified that providing premium pay to our essential workforce is a permissible and authorized use of said funds; and

Whereas, “Essential Work” is defined as work performed to maintain continuity of operations of critical services and infrastructure; and

Whereas, throughout the Pandemic and beyond, the Town of Root employees continued to provide critical and essential government services, while at risk for exposure to COVID-19.

Resolved, that the Town of Root hereby resolves and authorizes the use of Federal “ARPA” funds to make payment of premium pay to the essential workers of the Town of Root workforce based on the following criteria:

1. Employees who were on the payroll as either full time or part time during the period of March 15, 2020 through the end of the NYS Declared Emergency on June 24, 2021, will receive a prorated one-time payment of \$3,000 for full-time employees and prorated one-time payment of \$1,500 for part-time employees, fewer standard deductions for taxes.

Full-Time Employees Eligible (19)

Part-Time Employees Eligible (2)

SECONDED BY BOARD MEMBER VanKersen

Adopted by the following vote:

Ayes – 5 Kamp, Bramer, Cuomo, Quackbush, VanKersen

Nays 0

The town is looking for 3 estimates for putting in a water system for both the Town Hall and the Highway Garage.

The Floor tiles need to be replaced in the Hallway and in the clerk's office, Supervisor Gary Kamp is going to get ahold of Wade Miller who had previously put in the tiles for the town, and ask about possible being interested in retiling the floors.

The Supervisor and Clerks doors both need to be replaced, we are currently looking for Business and quotes to replace them.

Highway Superintendent Donny Oeser has received a request from another town on buying one of our old rollers in the amount of \$2,000. The Town board members agreed upon selling said roller in the amount of \$2,000.

Councilwoman Quackenbush motioned seconded by councilman VanKersen

Ayes – 5 Kamp, Bramer, Cuomo, Quackbush, VanKersen

Nays 0

The Town Board has received a letter of interest from Nicholas Bordieri for a position on the Planning Board.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Councilman Cuomo motioned seconded by Councilwoman Quackenbush to go into executive session for personnel issues at 7:33PM.

Councilwoman Quackenbush motioned seconded by Councilman VanKersen to come out of executive session at 8:01 PM.

ABSTRACTS

Abstract #4 of the general fund for vouchers numbered 75-109 were audited and ordered paid. Paid abstract total was \$46,543.44.

Abstract #4 of the highway fund for vouchers numbered 34-49 were audited and ordered paid. Paid abstract total was \$72,450.27.

Councilwoman Quackenbush motioned seconded by Councilman VanKersen to accept the audit of abstract #4 of the general fund in the amount of \$46,543.44 and abstract #4 of the highway fund in the amount of \$72,450.27. The vote was unanimous.

ADJOURN

Councilman VanKersen motioned seconded by Councilman Bramer to adjourn at 8:16 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Marcia Shults, Town Clerk