

# February 12,2025, 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 12<sup>th</sup> day of February.

PRESENT:	Gary Kamp	Supervisor
	LuEmma Quackenbush	Councilwoman
	John VanKersen	Councilman
	Donald Bramer	Councilman
	Jade Weiss	Councilwoman
	Marcia Shults	Town Clerk
	Brett Preston	Attorney

ABSENT: Donald Oeser

## PUBLIC HEARING:

~Resolution Adopting Local Law No. 1 of 2025; A local Law designating Scenic Byways in the Town of Root.

~Resolution Adopting Local Law No. 2 of 2025; A Local Law providing Real Property Tax Exemptions for Volunteer Firefighters and Ambulance Workers.

~Resolution Adopting Local Law No. 3 of 2025; Moratorium on Battery Energy Storage Facilities Law in the Town of Root.

## PUBLIC COMMENT:

Resident Claude Pietrowiez would like the Town to consider changing the law that restricts residents from putting more than one dwelling on the same parcel without selling and splinting up said parcel.

## CORRESPONDENCE:

County Executive Pete Vroman came and introduced himself along with discussing things that are happening within Montgomery County.

Town of Canajoharie Supervisor Michael Muhlebeck attended the meeting and introduced himself as well.

OTHERS PRESENT: Dustin Pank, Planning Board; Colleen Pank, Board of Appeals; Stella Gittle, Assessor; William Maring, Town Historian; Clifton Dorrrough & Nick Borderi Code Enforcement Officers; 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 Councilwoman Weiss to approve the minutes from the January 12, 2025 meeting as presented.

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

#### REPORTS

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

There were no reports from the

The Attorney

The Town Clerk

The Highway Superintendent

Town Assessor Stella Gittle informed Town Residents that all Exemptions must be turned in by March 1, 2025.

Planning Board member Dustin Pank informed the Town that they had 3 Subdivision that they had recently done, they are also still working on digitizing the Comprehensive Plan and updating the Codes Book. It was also mentioned that Vice Chairman Geoge Vosburgh along with Planning Board Member JoAnn Tinc are working on Surveys to send to Town Residents asking for input of what they would like to see going forward in the Town for the Comprehensive Plan. Planning Board will also be needing funding for said mailers along with a list of Town Residents.

#### AGENDA

Supervisor Kamp presented the agenda for the meeting. Councilwoman Quackenbush motioned seconded by Councilwoman Weiss to adopt the agenda.

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

#### OLD BUSINESS:

Awaiting on bids for redoing both Town Hall Entrances.

#### NEW BUSINESS:

R.E Repair sent in an estimate from a new Pressure Tank along with Replacement Trim. Due to problems with old Pressure Tank.

Resolution No. 10 of 2025

Snow & Ice Contract

Beginning January 1,2025 and ending December 31,2025

**Whereas;** the commissioner of Public Works of this County has submitted a contract for the removal of snow and ice control on county roads within the Town of Root under Section 135A of the Highway law, now therefore be it an it.

Resolved; that pursuant to Section 135A of the Highway law, this Board accepts the contract for snow removal and ice control, and authorizes the Town Supervisor to execute the aforesaid contract.

Motioned made by VanKersen, Seconded by Weiss

Adopted by the following vote: Kamp, Bramer, Quackenbush, VanKersen, Weiss

Ayes: 5

Nays: 0

Resolution No. 11 of 2025

Resolution Adopting Local Law No. 1 of 2025

A Local Law Designating Scenic Byways in the Town of Root.

**Whereas**, proposed Local Law No. 1 of 2025 of the Town of Root entitled “A Local Law Designating Scenic Byways in the Town or Root”. Which proposed Local Law was presented in its final form to the Town Board at the meeting held on January 8,2025 and a copy thereof was kept with the Town Clerk and copies were laid upon the desks of the members of said Town Board at least ten (10) days, exclusive of Sundays, prior to its final passage; and

**Whereas**, a public hearing on the advisability of enacting said proposed Local Law was held on February 12,2025, before this Town Board, pursuant to public notice duly published in the Daily Gazette, as well as notice on the Town website and the Town notice board as required by law; and

**Whereas**, the Town Board of the Town of Root, New York is of the opinion that adoption of said proposed Local Law No. 1 of 2025 is in the best interest of the Town of Root; and

**Whereas**, the Town Board has determined that the adoption of the new Local Law is a type II action pursuant to the NYS Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA); and

**Now, Therefore, be it resolved**, by the Town Board of the Town of Root, New York that said proposed Local Law No. 1 of 2025 be and the same is hereby adopted and such Local Law shall be entered in the Minutes of the Root Town Board; and

**Be it further resolved**, that certified copies of said Local Law No. 1 of 2025 in its final form be filed with the New York State Secretary of State in accordance with law; and

**Be it further resolved**, that this Local Law in its final form shall become effective as provided by law upon its filing in the offices of Secretary of State.

Motioned made by VanKersen, Seconded by Quackenbush

Adopted by the following vote: Kamp, Bramer, Quackenbush, VanKersen, Weiss

Ayes: 5

Nays: 0

Resolution No. 12 of 2025

Resolution Adopting Local Law No. 2 of 2025

A Local Law providing Real Property Tax Exemptions for volunteer Firefighters and Ambulance Workers pursuant to section 466 -A of the Real Property Tax Law.

**Whereas**, proposed Local Law No. 2 of 2025 of the Town of Root entitled “ A Local Law providing Real Property Tax Exemptions for Volunteer Firefighters and Ambulance Workers pursuant to Section 466-A of the Real property Tax Law”, which proposed Local Law was presented in the final form to the Town Board at the meeting held on January 8,2025 and a copy thereof was kept with the Town Clerk and copies were laid upon the desks of the members of said Town Board at least ten (10) days, exclusive of Sundays, prior to its final passage; and

**Whereas**, a public hearing on the advisability of enacting said proposed Local Law was held on February 12,2025, before this Town Board, pursuant to public notice duly published in the Daily Gazette, as well as notice on the town website and town notice board as required by law; and

**Whereas**, the Town Board of the Town of Root, New York is of the opinion that adoption of said proposed Local Law No. 2 of 2025 is in the best interest of the Town of Root; and

**Now, Therefore, be it resolved**, by the Town Board of the Town of Root, New York that said proposed Local Law No. 2 of 2025 be and the same is hereby adopted and such Local Law shall be entered in the minutes of the Root Town Board; and

**Be it further resolved**, that certified copies of said Local Law No. 2 of 2025 in its final form be filed with the New York State Secretary of State in accordance with law; and

**Be it further resolved**, that this Local Law in its final form shall become effective as provided by law upon its filing in the office of Secretary of State.

Motioned made by **Bramer**, Seconded by **VanKersen**

Adopted by the following vote: Kamp, Bramer, Quackenbush, **VanKersen**, Weiss

Ayes: 5

Nays: 0

Resolution No. 13 of 2025

Resolution adopting Local Law No. 3 of 2025

Moratorium on Battery Energy Storage Facilities Law in the Town of Root

**Whereas**, proposed Local Law No. 3 of 2025 of the Town of Root entitled “ Moratorium on Battery Energy Storage Facilities in the Town of Root”, which proposed Local Law was presented in its final form to the Town Board at the meeting held on January 8,2025 and a copy thereof was kept with the Town Clerk and copies were laid upon the desks of the members of said Town Board at least ten (10) days, exclusive of Sundays, prior to its final passage; and

**Whereas**, a public hearing on the advisability of enacting said proposed Local Law was held on February 12,2025, before this Town Board, pursuant to public notice duly published in the Daily Gazette, as well as notice on the town website and the town notice board as required by law; and

**Whereas**, the Town Board of the Town of Root, New York is of the opinion that adoption of said proposed Local Law No. 3 of 2025 is in the best interest of the Town of Root; and

**Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved**, by the Town Board of the Town of Root, New York that said proposed Local Law No. 3 of 2025 be and the same is hereby adopted and such Local Law shall be entered in the minutes of the Root Town Board; and

**Be It Further Resolved**, that certified copies of said Local Law No. 3 of 2025 in its final form be filed with the New York State Secretary of State in accordance with law. and

**Be It Further Resolved**, that this Local Law in its final form shall become effective as provided by law upon its filing in the Office of Secretary of State.

Motioned made by **Weiss**, Seconded by **Quackenbush**

Adopted by the following vote: Kamp, Bramer, Quackenbush, **VanKersen**, Weiss

Ayes: 5

Nays: 0

Resolution No. 14 of 2025

Resolution establishing the hourly rate of pay for part – time non – contractual employees of the Town of Root.

**Board Member Weiss** presented the following Resolution and moved its adoption.

**Whereas**, the Root Town Board is desirous of establishing an hourly rate of pay for the part-time, non-contractual employees of the Town of Root; and

**Whereas**, the Root Town Board is desirous of establishing said hourly rate at \$16.50 per hour;

**Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved**, that, effective January 1,2025, all part -time, non-contractual employees of the Town of Root shall be paid at the hourly rate of \$16.50 per hour.

**Seconded by Board Member Quackenbush**

Adopted by the following vote: Kamp, Bramer, Quackenbush, VanKersen, Weiss

Resolution No. 15 of 2025

Transfer of Funds

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

**Whereas;** The Town of Root Town Board resolve and approve the following account to be transferred to for budget shortage.

**Whereas;** The Hazard Insurance policy changeover to a new company and to cover all items was short in the 2025 budget allowance.

Resolved; To: A1910.4 Insurance

From: A1990.4 Contingency

**Seconded by Board Member, Bramer**

Adopted by the following vote: Kamp, Bramer, Quackenbush, VanKersen, Weiss

Resolution No. 16 of 2025

Standard Work Day Resolution

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

Standard Work Day and Reporting Resolution for Elected and Appointed Officials.

Be It Resolved; that the Town of Root hereby established the following standard work days for these titles and will report the officials to the New York State and Local Retirement based on their record of activities;

Name	S S N	NYSLRS ID	TITLE	CURRENT TERM	Standard Work Day	Record Of Activities Results	Not Submitted	PAY Frequency							
Marcia Shults	-	-	Town Clerk	1/1/22- 12/31/25	6	16.78		MO							
Donald Oeser	-	-	Highway Superintendent	1/1/22- 12/31/25	8	35.73		By-Weekley							
Luemma Quackenbush	-	-	Council Person	1/1/22 13/31/25	6	1.86		Mo							
Stella Gittle	-	-	Sole Assessor	10/9/19 9/30/25	6	2.22		Mo							
Brett Preston	-	-	Town Attorney	1/1/24 12/31/25	6	1.02		Mo							
Jade Weiss	-	-	Council Person	1/1/24 12/31/27	6	.75		Mo							
Donald Bramer	-	-	Council Person	1/1/24 12/31/27	6	1.08		Mo							
Patricia Ricotta	-	-	Justice Clerk	1/1/24 12/31/24	6	5.28		Mo <table border="1" style="display: inline-table; vertical-align: middle;"> <tr> <td style="width: 20px; height: 20px;"></td> <td style="width: 20px; height: 20px;"></td> <td style="width: 20px; height: 20px;"></td> <td style="width: 20px; height: 20px;"></td> <td style="width: 20px; height: 20px;"></td> <td style="width: 20px; height: 20px;"></td> <td style="width: 20px; height: 20px;"></td> </tr> </table>							

Patricia Laux	-	-	BookKeeper	1/1/24 12/31/24	6	7.56		Mo.
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I Marcia Shults, Secretary / Clerk of the governing board of the Town of Root, of the State of New York, do hereby certify that I have compared the foregoing with the original resolution passed by such board at a legally convened meeting held on the 12<sup>th</sup> day of Feb,2025 on file as part of the minutes of such meeting, and that same is a true copy thereof and the whole of such original. In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and the seal of the Town of Root on the 12<sup>th</sup> day of Feb. 2025, Affidavit of posting; I Marcia Shults being duly sworn, deposes and says that the posting of the Resolution began on and continues for at least 30 days. That the Resolution was available to the Public on the Official Sign Board at 1048 Carlisle Rd, Sprakers, NY, 12166

**Seconded by Board Member, Weiss**

Adopted by the following vote: Kamp, Bramer, Quackenbush, VanKersen, Weiss

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

Councilman VanKersen motioned seconded by Councilwoman Weiss to go into executive session at 7:36 Pm. to discuss personnel reasons.

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

Nays 0

Councilwoman Weiss seconded by Councilwoman Quackenbush to come out of executive session at 8:20 Pm.

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

Nays 0

**ABSTRACTS**

Abstract #2 of the general fund for vouchers numbered 20-53 were audited and ordered paid. Paid abstract total was \$40,256.32.

Abstract #2 of the highway fund for vouchers numbered 9-24 were audited and ordered paid. Paid abstract total was \$133,547.38.

Councilwoman Quackenbush motioned seconded by Councilman VanKersen to accept the audit of abstract #2 of the general fund in the amount of \$40,256.32, abstract #2 of the highway fund in the amount of \$133,547.38. The vote was unanimous.

**ADJOURN**

Councilwoman Quackenbush motioned seconded by Councilman VanKersen to adjourn at 8:21 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Marcia Shults, Town Clerk