

OCTOBER 9, 2019, 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 9th day of October 2019.

PRESENT:	Gary Kamp	Supervisor
	Dominic Cuomo	Councilman
	LuEmma Quackenbush	Councilwoman
	John Thayer	Councilman
	John VanKersen	Councilman
	Laurel Eriksen	Town Clerk
	Robert Subik	Attorney
	Donald Oeser	Superintendent of Highways

OTHERS PRESENT: Stella Gittle, Assessor; Clifton Dorrough, Code Enforcement Officer; James Herrick, Planning Board Member; Members of the Root Historical Society; Debbie Buck, reporter Courier-Standard-Enterprise; several residents

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

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Councilman Thayer motioned seconded by Councilman VanKersen to approve the minutes from the September 11, 2019 meeting as presented.

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

REPORTS

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

There were no reports from the Assessor and the Planning Board.

The Town Clerk reported that there are still approximately 70 dogs still unlicensed and the report has been given to the Dog Control Officer.

The Attorney reported on the progress of the Code Book.

The Highway Superintendent reported that summer work has been completed and that winter preparations are underway.

AGENDA

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

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

OLD BUSINESS

Disposal of the old lighting was discussed. Councilman VanKersen motioned seconded by Councilwoman Quackenbush to declare the old lighting that was removed and the box

of new bulb as surplus equipment accepting sealed bids for the lights and fixtures as is with no guarantee.

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

A budget workshop for the 2020 budget season was scheduled for October 19, 2019 at 8:00 AM. Councilman VanKersen motioned seconded by Councilwoman Quackenbush to hold a public hearing on the 2020 proposed town budget on November 13, 2019 at 6:45 PM.

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

The fire contract with Ames is due for renewal. Councilman VanKersen motioned seconded by Councilwoman to hold a public hearing on the proposed fire contract with Ames Volunteer Fire department on November 13, 2019 at 6:50PM.

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

The following resolution was presented moving funds in the Highway 2019 Budget.

RESOLUTION No 7 of 2019

BOARD MEMBER Quackenbush presents the following resolution and moves its adoption.

RESOLVED That for the purpose of enabling the Highway Superintendent to move funds in line DA5130.2 Machinery Purchases in the amount of \$30,000.00 to DA5142.4 Snow related repairs.

The Highway Superintendent, Donald Oeser has requested this transfer in anticipation of needing the funds before year end and not planning to use the funds in the equipment line.

SECONDED BY BOARD MEMBER VanKersen.

ADOPTED by the following vote:

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

The following resolution was presented appointing a new Assessor.

RESOLUTION No 8 of 2019

BOARD MEMBER Cuomo presents the following resolution and moves its adoption.

WHEREAS Robert Harris has retired from the position of Town Assessor on September 30, 2019.

WHEREAS the Town Assessor position is now vacant and resumes from interested individuals were received and reviewed for the Town Assessor position.

RESOLVED That the Town of Root Town Board appoints Stella Gittle to the position of Town Assessor for the term of October 1, 2019 through September 30, 2025.

SECONDED by Board Member Quackenbush

ADOPTED by the following vote:

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

The Town Clerk informed the Town Board that Marcia Shults will be filling the role of Deputy Town Clerk in her office.

Regarding the need for a Janitor, Tasheem Capirci has agreed to clean the Town hall on Thursday mornings during the Town Clerk's office hours.

NEW BUSINESS

David Clinansmith's term on the Board of Appeals expired on July 31, 2019. Councilman VanKersen motioned seconded by Councilman Thayer to reappoint David Clinansmith to the Board of Appeals with his new term expiring on July 31, 2024.

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

Letters of interest were received for the open positions on the Planning Board. Councilwoman Quackenbush motioned seconded by Councilman Thayer to make the following appointments to the Planning Board: To reappoint James Herrick to the Planning Board with an expiration date of June 30, 2026; to appoint David Nightingale to complete the Planning Board term expiring June 30, 2020 and to appoint him to an additional term with an expiration date of June 30, 2027; to appoint Ariel Shaul to complete the Planning Board term expiring June 30, 2022; to appoint Noah Radliff to the position of alternate member, to serve in the instance of an absence that prevents the Planning Board from holding a business meeting due to a lack of a full quorum.

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

There is a company that is available to come to the Town Board meeting to answer any questions the Town Board or residents may have regarding the electric transmission lines replacement that will be taking place at a later date within the Town. This company will be asked to come in at their convenience.

The Mohawk Hudson Land Conservancy has submitted a letter to the Town seeking the approval for a grant preserving farm land and operations. Councilman Thayer motioned seconded by Councilman Cuomo to authorize Supervisor Kamp to sign the letter supporting preservation of farm land allowing the Mohawk Hudson Land Conservancy to apply for available grants.

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

The Historical Society spoke with the Board seeking to get out of the lease they hold on the old highway garage due to serious structural issues with the building. Board members will investigate options for removal of the building after the Historical Society removes their stored equipment. Rescinding the lease will be revisited.

ABSTRACTS

Abstract #10 of the general fund for vouchers numbered 240-269 were audited and ordered paid. Paid abstract total was \$46,274.19.

Abstract #10 of the highway fund for vouchers numbered 133-149 were audited and ordered paid. Paid abstract total was \$62,438.93.

Councilman Coumo motioned seconded by Councilwoman Quackenbush to accept the audit of abstract #10 of the general fund in the amount of \$46,274.19 and abstract #10 of the highway fund in the amount of \$62,438.93. The vote was unanimous.

ADJOURN

Councilman VanKersen motioned seconded by Councilwoman Quackenbush to adjourn at 7:46 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Laurel Sherrie Eriksen, Town Clerk