

NOVEMBER 13, 2019, TOWN BOARD

Two Public Hearings and the 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 November 2019.

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

ABSENT: Donald Oeser Superintendent of Highways

OTHERS PRESENT: Stella Gittle, Assessor; Clifton Dorrough, Code Enforcement Officer; Tom Eriksen, Justice; Marcia Shults, Deputy Town Clerk; Debbie Buck, reporter Courier-Standard-Enterprise; a few residents

Supervisor Kamp opened the public hearing on the proposed 2020 Town Budget at 6:45PM. There were no comments. Councilman VanKersen motioned seconded by Councilman Thayer to close the public hearing at 6:46PM.

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

Supervisor Kamp opened the public hearing on the proposed 2020-2022 Ames Volunteer Fire Department contract at 6:50PM. There were no comments. Councilman Thayer motioned seconded by Councilman Cuomo to close the public hearing at 6:51PM.

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

Supervisor Kamp opened the meeting at 7:00 PM with the pledge to the flag. Following the pledge Supervisor Kamp and the Town Board recognized the Veterans that were in attendance at the meeting, thanking them for their service to our country.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Councilman Thayer motioned seconded by Councilman VanKersen to approve the minutes from the October 9, 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 Planning Board.

The Town Clerk introduced her Deputy, Marcia Shults to the Town Board and residents.

The Attorney reported on attending a phone conference with Supervisor Kamp and Clerk Eriksen with the Division of Human Rights

The Assessor is working on the exemptions.

The Highway Superintendent was absent but has asked that the Board surplus a bucket.

AGENDA

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

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

OLD BUSINESS

There were no bids received for the old lighting. This will be advertised again.

The following resolution was brought forth for the 2020 Town Budget:

RESOLUTION 9 of 2019

BOARD MEMBER Thayer presents the following Resolution and moved its adoption.

WHEREAS the 2020 proposed Town Budget has been presented and reviewed by the Town Board and the public and a public hearing was held on November 13, 2019,

RESOLVED that the 2020 Town Budget for the Town of Root be adopted as presented.

SECONDED by Board Member Quackenbush. Adopted by the following vote:

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

The 2020-2022 contract with the Ames Volunteer Fire Department was presented with the following yearly amounts: 2020 - \$10,000.00, 2021 - \$10,300.00, 2022 - \$10,750.00.

RESOLUTION No. 10 of 2019

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

RESOLVED that Supervisor Kamp be and he is hereby authorized to execute a new 3-year contract with the Ames Volunteer Fire Department for fire protection in the town for the years 2020-2022, a copy of which is annexed hereto as Schedule “A”.

The audit report of the Town records for 2018 was received from Craig Speers with a few recommendations for the Supervisor/Bookkeeper. The Justice asked that the Town Board have Mr. Speers come in earlier in the year to complete the audit on his books for Court Administration.

The Highway Superintendent spoke with the County about taking down the old Town Highway building. Asbestos testing will need to be done before any future action can be done. The County will provide future information on this.

NEW BUSINESS

Casey Carroll from LS Power Grid New York spoke with the Town Board and residents about the upgrade that will be taking place on the power transmission lines from New Scotland to Marcy including approximately 6 miles within the Town. This work is not expected to take place until 2021-2023. They have requested that the Town sign a Road Use and Crossing Agreement to access the work areas. Councilman VanKersen motioned seconded by Councilman Cuomo to authorize Supervisor Kamp to sign the Road Use and Crossing Agreement with LS Power Grid New York and to attach a copy of said agreement to the Town minutes.

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

The following resolutions were presented moving 2019 budgeted funds as stated:

RESOLUTION 11 of 2019

BOARD MEMBER VanKersen presents the following Resolution and moved its adoption,

RESOLVED That for the purpose of keeping appropriation lines current to cover expenses in the general fund Justice line that the Town of Root Town Board approve to move from the contingency expense line A1990.4 to general fund Justice, the amount of \$1,000.00 to A1110.4 Justice contractual expense.

SECONDED by Board Member Quackenbush. Adopted by the following vote:

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

RESOLUTION 12 of 2019

BOARD MEMBER Quackenbush presents the following Resolution and moved its adoption,

RESOLVED That for the purpose of keeping appropriation lines current to cover expenses in the highway fund snow expense line that the Highway Superintendent requests the Town of Root Town Board approve to move from the machinery equipment purchase expense line DA5130.2 to snow expense line DA5142.4 the amount of \$6,000.00.

SECONDED by Board Member Thayer. Adopted by the following vote:

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

The Forest Preserve Users Snowmobile Club has asked that the Town sign their consent to use the strip of land owned by Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation for the purpose of snowmobile trail riding. The Town has signed said consent form in the past. Councilman Thayer motioned seconded by Councilman Cuomo to authorize Supervisor Kamp to sign the consent form for the Forest Preserve Users to utilize the area owned by Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation for the purposes of a snowmobile trail within the Town.

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

Regarding the Highway Superintendent's request to declare as surplus equipment the trenching bucket from the caterpillar excavator that was destroyed in the highway garage fire Councilman VanKersen motioned seconded by Councilwoman Quackenbush to declare as surplus said trenching bucket thereby allowing the Highway Superintendent to sell this piece of equipment.

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

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Councilman Cuomo motioned seconded by Councilwoman Quackenbush to go into executive session for litigation issues at 7:35 PM and to include Clerk Eriksen.

Councilwoman Quackenbush motioned seconded by Councilman VanKersen to come out of executive session at 8:05 PM. There was no action taken in this executive session.

ABSTRACTS

Abstract #11 of the general fund for vouchers numbered 270-297 were audited and ordered paid. Paid abstract total was \$60,802.26.

Abstract #11 of the highway fund for vouchers numbered 150-167 were audited and ordered paid. Paid abstract total was \$123,671.41.

Councilman VanKersen motioned seconded by Councilwoman Quackenbush to accept the audit of abstract #11 of the general fund in the amount of \$60,802.26 and abstract #11 of the highway fund in the amount of \$123,671.41. The vote was unanimous.

ADJOURN

Councilman Thayer motioned seconded by Councilwoman Quackenbush to adjourn at 8:12 PM.

Respectfully Submitted, Laurel Sherrie Eriksen, Town Clerk