

AUGUST 12, 2020, 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 12th day of August 2020.

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

ABSENT: Robert Subik Attorney
Donald Oeser Superintendent of Highways

OTHERS PRESENT: Stella Gittle, Assessor; Clifton Dorrrough, Code Enforcement Officer; Planning Board Members, James Herrick & Ariel Shaul; Members of the Historical Society

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

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Councilman VanKersen motioned seconded by Councilwoman Quackenbush to approve the minutes from the March 11, 2020 meeting as presented.

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

REPORTS

Reports were available from the Justice and the Supervisor.

There were no reports from the Attorney, Dog Control Officer,

The Town Clerk reminded residents of the need to do their dog licenses.

The Code Enforcement Officer reported on the new home construction within the Town as well as all construction and excavating for new construction must have a building permit before any work can begin.

The Assessor reported on the online classes she is attending as well as issues with the STAR program and the State.

The Highway Superintendent was absent but is seeking to have the 1-ton F-350 truck replaced or direction given about the repairing of said truck; regarding the old Town garage we are still waiting for the county to test for asbestos and provide a time for the removal of the old structure. This was halted due to the COVID-19 pandemic that shut the state down.

The Planning Board asked that the Town aggressively seek to have the speed limit lowered on all Town roads.

AGENDA

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

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

OLD BUSINESS

The adjustments that the Planning Board is seeking to implement in the Solar Energy Systems, Local Law #1 of 2017 have been delayed due to the state shutdown and an extension of the 6-month moratorium is necessary.

RESOLUTION No. 9 of 2020

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

RESOLVED that for a period of six (6) months commencing upon passage of this Resolution by the Town Board a Moratorium is hereby enacted on the construction or installation of any new UTILITY SCALE SOLAR ENERGY SYSTEMS which are also known as SOLAR FARMS within the Town, and it is further

RESOLVED that the Town Code Enforcement Officer is hereby prohibited from approving or issuing any building permits for any SOLAR FARMS while this Moratorium is in effect. Nothing in this Resolution shall prohibit a homeowner from installing solar panels for the generation of electrical power for his/her own domestic consumption and usage.

SECONDED BY BOARD MEMBER Bramer. Adopted by the following vote:

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

The Grass and Brush contract was received from the County in May for the time period on June 1, 2020 – May 31, 2021. A resolution was signed by all Town Board Members on June 12th, 2020 accepting the contract and authorizing the Supervisor to sign said contract.

RESOLUTION No. 7 of 2020

Resolution by Council Member Quackenbush

WHEREAS, the Commissioner of Public Works of this County has submitted a contract for the control of grass and brush on county roads within the Town of Root under Section 135A of the Highway law, now therefore be it and it

RESOLVED, that pursuant to Section 135A of the Highway law, this Board accepts the contract for control of grass and brush, and authorizes the Town Supervisor to execute the aforesaid contract.

Seconded by Council Member VanKersen Adopted by the following vote:

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

The Historical Society asked the Town Board in March for \$500.00 in funding. They were to provide a letter stating their need for this money. They will have this for the September meeting but desire to use it for electrical needs on the old Town Hall. The committee working on the solution to the need for the cold storage of town equipment met in March but did not have anything to present to the Town Board.

NEW BUSINESS

The Retirement Resolution was presented.

RESOLUTION No. 8 of 2020

BOARD MEMBER Quackenbush presented the following resolution and moved its adoption,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town of Root hereby establishes the following as standard work days for elected and appointed officials and will report the following days worked to the New York State and Local Employees' Retirement system based on the record of activities maintained and submitted by these officials to the clerk of this body.

Elected Officials

Title	Name	Standard Work Day (Hrs/day)	Term Begins/Ends	Participates in Employer's Time Keeping System (Y/N)	Days/Month (Based on record of Activities)
Supervisor	Gary Kamp	6	01/01/2020-12/31/2021	N	2.89
Town Clerk	Laurel S. Eriksen	6	01/01/2018-12/31/2021	N	15.07
Highway Superintendent	Donald Oeser	8	01/01/2018-12/31/2021	N	35.73
Board Member	LuEmma Quackenbush	6	01/01/2018-12/31/2021	N	1.67
Board Member	Donald Bramer	6	01/01/2020-12/31/2023	N	1.08

Appointed Officials

Assessor	Stella Gittle	6	10/09/2019-09/30/2025	N	2.22
Code Officer	Clifton Dorrough	6	01/01/2020-12/31/2020	N	4.20
Court Clerk	Virginia Clinansmith	6	01/01/2020-12/31/2020	N	8.81
Dog Control	Richard Rickard	6	01/01/2020-12/31/2020	N	2.50
Town Attorney	Robert Subik	6	01/01/2020-12/31/2020	N	2.98
Bookkeeper	Patricia Laux	6	04/11/2020-12/31/2020	N	7.56

Seconded by Board Member VanKersen.

Adopted by the following vote:

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

Nays – 0

The 2020 contract with the Community Youth Center was received.

RESOLUTION 10 of 2020

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

RESOLVED that the Town Board has agreed to accept the 2020 contract with the Community Youth Center in the amount of \$2,902.00 and that the Supervisor is hereby authorized to sign said contact.

SECONDED by Board Member VanKersen. ADOPTED by the following vote:
Ayes 5 – Kamp, Bramer, Cuomo, Quackenbush, VanKersen Nays 0

Richard Bingham’s term on the Planning Board expired on June 30, 2020. Councilman Cuomo motioned seconded by Councilman Quackenbush to reappoint Richard Bingham to the Planning Board with his new term expiring on June 30, 2028.

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

Paul Toleno’s term on the Board of Appeals has expired and he is not seeking reappointment thereby creating a vacancy. Letters of interest will be accepted to fill this 5-year position.

Due to the Town Attorney’s inability to attend meetings, the Supervisor will contact the attorney to ask him about his intentions and availability to continue to serve the Town as the Town’s Attorney.

The November Town Board meeting falls on Veterans Day this year. Councilwoman Quackenbush motioned seconded by Councilman Cuomo to move the November meeting from Wednesday, November 11, 2020 to Tuesday, November 10, 2020 at the normal time of 7:00 PM.

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

The need to replace or do extensive repairs on the 1-ton F-350 Ford truck was discussed. The Highway Superintendent was tasked obtaining state contract approved quotes on a new 1-ton truck and plow for the next meeting.

ABSTRACTS

Abstracts for April, May, June and July were audited and signed by all Board Members for the general fund and the highway fund thereby authorizing payment of these abstracts during the state shutdown. Below is a list of these abstracts.

Abstract #4 - general fund for vouchers numbered 75-98 in the amount of \$23,344.53

Abstract #4 - highway fund for vouchers numbered 39-51 in the amount of \$38,452.38

Abstract #5 - general fund for vouchers numbered 99-119 in the amount of \$29,706.65

Abstract #5 - highway fund for vouchers numbered 52-64 in the amount of \$65,620.80

Abstract #6 - general fund for vouchers numbered 120-141 in the amount of \$19,446.04

Abstract #6 - highway fund for vouchers numbered 65-76 in the amount of \$102,852.48

Abstract #7 - general fund for vouchers numbered 142-166 in the amount of \$29,402.03

Abstract #7 - highway fund for vouchers numbered 77-90 in the amount of \$44,902.36

Abstract #8 of the general fund for vouchers numbered 167-192 were audited and ordered paid. Paid abstract total was \$28,549.20.

Abstract #8 of the highway fund for vouchers numbered 91-111 were audited and ordered paid. Paid abstract total was \$69,740.88.

Councilman Cuomo motioned seconded by Councilwoman Quackenbush to accept the audit of abstract #8 of the general fund in the amount of \$28,549.20 and abstract #8 of the highway fund in the amount of \$69,740.88. The vote was unanimous.

ADJOURN

Councilman VanKersen motioned seconded by Councilwoman Quackenbush to adjourn at 7:42 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Laurel Sherrie Eriksen, Town Clerk