

DECEMBER 9, 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 9th day of December 2020.

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

OTHERS PRESENT: Marcia Shults, Deputy Town Clerk; Stella Gittle, Assessor; Richard Bingham, John Lyker and Noah Radliff, Planning Board Members; several residents

PUBLIC HEARING

Supervisor Kamp opened the public hearing on the fire contract with the Rural Grove Volunteer Fire Department at 6:52 PM. The contract amount for 2020 was \$113,500.00. The new contract amounts are \$116,000.00 for 2021; \$119,000.00 for 2022 and \$122,500.00 for 2023. Councilman Cuomo motioned seconded by Councilman VanKersen to close the public hearing at 6:54 PM.

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

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

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Councilman Bramer motioned seconded by Councilman VanKersen to approve the minutes from the November 10, 2020 meeting as presented.

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

REPORTS

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

There were no reports from the Town Clerk and the Justice

The Attorney Subik reported on his health but had nothing else to report at this time. Attorney Greg Dunn reported that he had handled another court case related to the fencing law.

The Assessor reported that Thomas Better has resigned from the Board of Assessment Review creating a vacancy, his term was set to expire on 09/30/2022. She also reported that statewide The Assessor is waiting to see if Governor Coumo signs the order exempting individuals from coming into the office to prove their income for the STAR program due to COVID-19. This would be for this 2021-22 school tax cycle only. She also reported that Thomas Better has resigned from the Board of Assessment Review thereby creating a vacancy.

The Highway Superintendent reported that he has obtained 2020 pricing for a new 2022 plow truck. This will be discussed at the end of the year meeting. He also noted that he needs to contact the insurance company and update the vehicles the Town currently operates.

The Planning Board reported that they are recommending that the residential housing requirement be changed from 900 square feet to 400 or 450 square feet. They are also in favor of limiting the age of used trailers being brought into the Town for residential purposes to 10-years. Supervisor Kamp should be receiving letters from the Chairman of the Planning Board on these issues soon.

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 new fire contract with the Rural Grove Volunteer Fire Contract was discussed during the public hearing and the following resolution presented.

RESOLUTION No. 18 of 2020

BOARD MEMBER VanKersen 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 Rural Grove Volunteer Fire Department for fire protection in the town for the years 2021-2023, a copy of which is annexed hereto as Schedule “A”.

SECONDED by Board Member Quackenbush.

Adopted by the following vote:

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

Nays 0

The utility scale solar law is still being researched by the Planning Board and they are asking that the moratorium be extended as long as possible. The current moratorium is set to expire on February 12, 2021.

An estimate on the cold storage facility was distributed to the Board. This estimate is for just the shell of the structure including the concrete floor and the doors in the amount of \$116,000.00.

NEW BUSINESS

The date for the end of year meeting was discussed and set for Monday, December 28th at 6:30 PM.

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 Bramer motioned seconded by Councilwoman Quackenbush 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, Bramer, Cuomo, Quackenbush, VanKersen

Nays 0

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Councilwoman Quackenbush motioned seconded by Councilman VanKersen to go into executive session for personnel issues at 7:26 PM and to include Attorney Subik.

Councilwoman Quackenbush motioned seconded by Councilman VanKersen to come out of executive session at 7:54 PM.

ABSTRACTS

Abstract #12 of the general fund for vouchers numbered 264-287 were audited and ordered paid. Paid abstract total was \$28,933.05.

Abstract #12 of the highway fund for vouchers numbered 168-182 were audited and ordered paid. Paid abstract total was \$45,137.93.

Councilman VanKersen motioned seconded by Councilwoman Quackenbush to accept the audit of abstract #12 of the general fund in the amount of \$28,933.05 and abstract #12 of the highway fund in the amount of \$45,137.93. The vote was unanimous.

ADJOURN

Councilman VanKersen motioned seconded by Councilman Coumo to adjourn at 7:55 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Laurel Sherrie Eriksen, Town Clerk