

JANUARY 13, 2021, 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 13th day of January 2021.

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: Stella Gittle, Assessor; Clifton Dorrough, Code Enforcement Officer; Tom Eriksen, Justice; John Lyker and Noah Radliff, Planning Board Members; several 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 Councilman VanKersen to approve the minutes from the December 28, 2020 meeting as presented.

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

REPORTS

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

There were no reports from the Dog Control Officer and Town Clerk.

The Attorney

The Assessor reported that agricultural exempts have gone out and are being returned by landowners.

The Highway Superintendent asked about the upcoming disposal of the old trucks when the new ones arrive. There is a municipality that would like to purchase them.

The Planning Board spoke about the dwelling unit size deduction from 900 square feet to 600 square feet. They have also asked to review the language in the proposed chapter 41 which is for utility scale solar energy systems before the Town adopts this. They also discussed the trailer age limit with regards to used trailers coming into the Town for residential purposes. A letter will be given to the Town Board with their recommendations.

AGENDA

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

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

OLD BUSINESS

There is still an open position on the Board of Assessment Review. No interest has been received for this position.

The trailer age limit is waiting further discussion pending a letter of recommendation from the Planning Board.

At the December 28, 2020 the Town Board authorized the purchase of a new plow truck, following is the resolution for said purchase.

RESOLUTION No. 2 of 2021

WHEREAS funds have been allocated for the purchase of equipment by the Highway Superintendent, and

WHEREAS Towns may piggyback the cost of major purchases through contracts already agreed upon and purchased by other municipalities, and

WHEREAS the Highway Department is in need of a new 10-Wheel Plow/Dump Truck, BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board has hereby authorized the Highway Superintendent to purchase a 2022 10-Wheel Western Star 4700SF Truck from Tracey Road Equipment, Inc., 6803 Manlius Center Rd, East Syracuse, NY 13057 in the amount of \$137,579.00 under the Onondaga County Contract #8996 and in addition to purchase the plow and dump body through Tracey Road Equipment from Henderson Products, Inc., 22686 Fisher Road, Watertown, NY 13601 in the amount of \$106,859.00 also under the Onondaga County Contract #8996. The total cost of the new 10-Wheel Plow/Dump Truck to be \$244,438.00.

Motion made by Councilwoman Quackenbush, seconded by Councilman Bramer.

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

A resolution was introduced for the dwelling unit size change.

RESOLUTION No. 4 of 2021

Board Member Quackenbush presents the following Resolution and moves its adoption.

WHEREAS, the Town Planning Board has recommended a change in the minimum living space in the town code from 900 square feet to 600 square feet.

NOW BE IT RESOLVED, that local law No. 1 of 2021 be introduced as follows.

TITLE AMENDMENTS to chapter 36 entitled Dwellings and Sanitation, Section 36-5 standards subsection J entitled “Minimum Living Space”

‘That all new or replacement dwellings shall be a minimum of six hundred (600) square feet of living space. Temporary dwellings sometimes known as “skid houses” which have living space less than the minimum of six hundred (600) square feet shall not be permitted for more than one (1) year on any parcel.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that said proposed local law be laid upon the table of the Town Council for a minimum period of ten (10) days.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a public hearing be scheduled for the 10th day of February 2021 at 6:50 o’clock in the evening to consider said Local Law.

SECONDED BOARD MEMBER Cuomo. Adopted by the following vote:

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

NEW BUSINESS

The yearly appointments were presented.

RESOLUTION No. 1 of 2021

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

WHEREAS The Town of Root Town Council is required annually to appoint certain offices, therefore be it.

RESOLVED The following individuals are appointed to their corresponding position for the term of January 1, 2021 to December 31, 2021.

- Registrar, Records Officer – Laurel Sherrie Eriksen
- Deputy Town Clerk – Marcia Shults
- Deputy Town Supervisor – LuEmma Quackenbush
- Deputy Highway Superintendent – Scott Booth
- Health Officer – Jane Hubschmitt
- Attorney – Robert Subik, Esq.
- Code Enforcement Officer – Clifton Dorrough
- Dog Control Officer – Richard Rickard; secondary, Steven Fredenburg
- Court Clerk – Virginia Clinansmith
- Historians – William Maring
- Bank – NBT & Key Bank (Justice Court)
- Newspaper – Courier-Standard-Enterprise

SECONDED BY BOARD MEMBER Cuomo. Adopted by the following vote:
 Ayes 5 – Kamp, Bramer, Cuomo, Quackenbush, VanKersen Nays 0

The Ayres Memorial Animal Shelter contract was received.

RESOLUTION 3 of 2021

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

RESOLVED that the Town Board has agreed to accept the 2021 contract with the Ayers Memorial Animal Shelter in the amount of \$4,500.00 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

Another revision of the marriage policy was requested by the Division of Human Rights.

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

RESOLVED, that in compliance with the town’s STIPULATION OF SETTLEMENT with the New York State Division of Human Rights. The Town does hereby adopt a new policy with regard to issuance of marriage licenses by the Town Clerk a copy of said policy is annexed hereto as SCHEDULE “A”

This language shall replace the policy language originally adopted by the Board as Resolution No. 6 of 2020 on March 11, 2020.

SECONDED BY BOARD MEMBER VanKersen. Adopted by the following vote:
 Ayes 5 – Kamp, Bramer, Cuomo, Quackenbush, VanKersen Nays 0

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Councilman Cuomo motioned seconded by Councilman VanKersen to go into executive session for personnel issues at 7:29 PM and to include the Town Justice and the Town Attorney.

Councilman Bramer motioned seconded by Councilman VanKersen to come out of executive session at 8:01 PM.

ABSTRACTS

Abstract #1 of the general fund for vouchers numbered 1-24 were audited and ordered paid. Paid abstract total was \$53,843.22.

Abstract #1 of the highway fund for vouchers numbered 1-12 were audited and ordered paid. Paid abstract total was \$37,741.99.

Abstract #1 of the special fund for vouchers numbered 1-3 were audited and ordered paid. Paid abstract total was \$138,050.00.

Councilman Cuomo motioned seconded by Councilman VanKersen to accept the audit of abstract #1 of the general fund in the amount of \$53,843.22, abstract #1 of the highway fund in the amount of \$37,741.99 and abstract #1 of the special fund in the amount of \$138,050.00. The vote was unanimous. It was however noted that the Root Seniors need to provide a letter explaining the use of the \$500.00 they receive from the Town.

ADJOURN

Councilman Bramer motioned seconded by Councilman VanKersen to adjourn at 8:11 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Laurel Sherrie Eriksen, Town Clerk

SCHEDULE "A"
TOWN OF ROOT

POLICY REGARDING ISSUANCE OF MARRIAGE LICENSES

It shall be the policy of the Town of Root to issue marriage licenses to any and all persons whose protected class under the New York State Human Rights Law include but is not limited to race, creed, religious affiliation or sexual orientation upon the presentation to the Town Clerk of the appropriate documents showing that the application are legally eligible to receive such a license.

This shall be done by the applicants at the Office of the Town Clerk during regular business hours. No prior appointment shall be required.