

February 09, 2022, 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 February 2022.

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

ABSENT: Donald Oeser Superintendent of Highways

OTHERS PRESENT: Stella Gittle, Assessor; Harold Wilday, Justice; Andrew Waite, The Daily Gazette and 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 January 12, 2022 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, the Justice the Supervisor, The Assessor and the Planning Board.

There were no reports from the

The Town Clerk

The Attorney

The Highway Superintendent

The Assessor reported she has been taking multiple classes in regards to Solar Farms.

AGENDA

Supervisor Kamp presented the agenda for the meeting.

Councilman VanKersen motioned seconded by Councilwoman Quackenbush to adopt the agenda.

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

OLD BUSINESS

The power has been disconnected from the old Highway Garage.

There has been no new information regarding the Cold Storage Building.

In regards of the Virus Recovery Funds, The board has received three quotes on a LED sign and a decision will be made at the March meeting.

Supervisor Kamp stated there is still an open position on the board of Appeals, one resident spoke of interest and would be writing a letter of interest for the March meeting.

The board is still waiting on a quote from Ed Anderson on redoing the entrances to the Town Hall.
Resolution No. 1 of 2022

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 1,2022 to December 31, 2022.

Records Officer – Marcia Shults

Deputy Town Supervisor – LuEmma Quackenbush

Deputy Highway Superintendent – Scott Booth

Health Officer – Jane Hubschmitt

Code Enforcement Officer – Clifton Dorrough

Dog Control Officer – Rickard Rickard; Secondary, Steven Fredenburg

Court Clerk – Virginia Clinansmith

Historians – William Maring

Bank – NBT

Newspaper – The Recorder/The Daily Gazette

Seconded by board member Cuomo

Adopted by the following vote:

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

Nays 0

In regards to the county website, everything is now updated besides some of the minutes that need to be added.

NEW BUSINESS

Resolution No. 2 of 2022

Funds to purchase Hwy. Truck, Tractor and Equipment Will be tabled to the March meeting.

Resolution No. 3 of 2022

Assessor Renewal Application

Board Member VanKersen presented the following resolution and moved its adoption.

Whereas, The town is desirous of adopting such resolution while also allowing the assessor to require a renewal application to be filed when he or she has reason to believe that an owner who qualified for the exemption on the 2021 assessment roll may have since changed his or her primary residence, added another owner to the deed, transferred the property to a new owner, or died, now therefore be it.

Resolved that the Town Board hereby authorizes and directs the Town Assessor to grant exemptions pursuant to such section on the 2022 assessment roll thereby dispensing with the need for renewal applications from such person, and further dispensing with the requirements for the assessor to mail renewal application to such person and it is further.

Resolved that nothing in this resolution shall prevent the assessor from requiring a renewal application to be filed when there is reason to believe that an owner who is qualified for the exemption on the 2021 assessment roll may have: changed his primary residence, added another owner to the deed, transferred the property to a new owner or died.

Seconded by Board Member Bramer
Ayes 5- Kamp, Bramer, Cuomo, Quackenbush, VanKersen

Adopted by the following vote:
Nays 0

Resolution No. 4 of 2022

Solar Farm Moratorium

Board Member Quackenbush presented the following resolution and moved its adoption.

Whereas, A six (6) month moratorium on UTILITY SCALE SOLAR ENERGY SYSTEMS was passed by resolution No. 4 of 2020 on February 12,2020 and consecutively updated by the following resolutions: Resolution No. 9 of 2020 on August 12,2020: Resolution No. 6 2021 on February 10, 2021 Resolution No.14 of 2021 on July 14, 2021, be it further.

Resolved, that for a period of six (6) months commencing on February 9,2022 with the expiration of the previous moratorium and upon the passage of this resolution by the Town Board, a Moratorium is hereby enacted on the construction or installation of and new UTILITY SCALE SOLAR ENERGY SYSTEMS, 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 home owner from installing solar panels for the generation of electrical power from his/her own domestic consumption and usage.

Seconded by Board Member Cuomo
Ayes 5 – Kamp, Bramer, Cuomo, Quackenbush, VanKersen

Adopted by the following vote:
Nays 0

Resolution No. 5 of 2022

Board Member Quackenbush presented the following Resolution and moved its adoption.

Whereas the Town of Root Board make the following transfer to the general fund budget to keep budget lines current.

Resolved A1910.4 Insurance \$1500.00 (to cover sharp increase in insurance) To A3510.4 control of Animals \$4500.00 (to cover 2021 contract)

To be taken from: A1990.4 contingency

Total \$6000.00

Seconded by Board Member VanKersen
Ayes 5- Kamp, Bramer, Cuomo, Quackenbush, VanKersen

Adopted by the following vote:
Nays 0

There is an open position for A town Attorney. An ad will be placed in the Daily Gazette.

Councilman VanKersen motioned seconded by Councilman Cuomo

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

There is still an open Janitor position. No interest has been received for this position.

The Canajoharie Little had contacted the Board to renew their contract in the sum amount of \$200.00

Councilwoman Quackenbush motioned seconded by Councilman VanKersen

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

The Town board is looking into and discussing guide lines into starting a Facebook page for the town to keep town residence informed of upcoming information and events.

ABSTRACTS

Abstract #2 of the general fund for vouchers numbered 24-53 were audited and ordered paid. Paid abstract total was \$65,967.01.

Abstract #2 of the highway fund for vouchers numbered 6-18 were audited and ordered paid. Paid abstract total was \$57,593.99.

Councilwoman Quackenbush motioned seconded by Councilman VanKersen to accept the audit of abstract #2 of the general fund in the amount of \$65,967.01 and abstract #2 of the highway fund in the amount of \$57,593.99. The vote was unanimous.

ADJOURN

Councilman Cuomo motioned seconded by Councilman Bramer to adjourn at 7:30 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Marcia Shults, Town Clerk