

January 8, 2025, 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 8th day of January.

PRESENT:	Gary Kamp	Supervisor
	LuEmma Quackenbush	Councilwoman
	John VanKersen	Councilman
	Donald Bramer	Councilman
	Jade Weiss	Councilwoman
	Marcia Shults	Town Clerk
	Brett Preston	Attorney

ABSENT: Donald Oeser Hwy Superintendent

PUBLIC HEARING:

Resolution #7 Introducing Local Law No. 1 of 2025 – Designating Scenic byways in the Town of Root.

Resolution # 8 Introducing Local Law No. 2 of 2025 – Local Law providing real property tax exemptions for volunteer fire fighters and ambulance workers.

Resolution # 9 introducing Local Law No. 3 of 2025 – The Battery Energy storage facilities law of the Town of Root.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Prayed offered at the opening of the meeting.

Representatives from Cordeollo Solar Company updated us with newer information on its company and some of their changes they have done.

CORRESPONDENCE: No correspondence at this time.

OTHERS PRESENT: Dustin Pank and John Bramer, Planning Board; Collen Pank, Board of Appeals; Stella Gittle, Town Assessor, Nick Borderi, Deputy Code Officer & few residents.

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 December 30, 2024 meeting as presented.

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

REPORTS

Reports were available from the Assessor, Code Enforcement Officer, Highway Superintendent, the Justice, the Supervisor.

There were no reports from the

The Attorney

The Town Clerk
The Dog Control Officer
Planning Board

The Assessor reported that all exemption forms are due by March 1, 2025.

Highway Superintendent reported to the Supervisor that their Plow Truck has been in the shop for two weeks awaiting on a new motor and still hasn't received any new updates.

AGENDA

Supervisor Kamp presented the agenda for the meeting. Councilwoman **Quackenbush** motioned seconded by Councilwoman **Weiss** to adopt the agenda.

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

Nays 0

OLD BUSINESS: No Old Business at this time.

NEW BUSINESS:

Awaiting on two {2} Possible bids on Town Office Entrances.

NYS Minium wage has increased to \$ 15.50 an hour.

Councilwoman **Weiss** seconded by Councilman **Quackenbush** to agree to pay all Minium wage employees \$16.50 an hour.

Resolution No. 1 of 2025

Annual Appointment's

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, 2025to December 31, 2025.

Registrar, Records Officer – Marcia Shults

Deputy Records Officer – Melinda McDuffee

Deputy Town Supervisor – LuEmma Quackenbush

Deputy Highway Superintendent – Scott Booth

Health Officer – Jane Hubschmitt

Attorney – Brett Preston.

Code Enforcement Officer – Clifton Dorrough

Dog Control Officer – Richard Rickard; secondary, Steven Fredenburg

Court Clerk – Patricia Ricotta

Deputy Court Clerk – Sarah Bramer

Historians – William Maring

Bank – NBT

Newspaper – The Recorder

SECONDED BY BOARD MEMBER, **Bramer**.

Adopted by the following vote:

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

Nays 0

Resolution No. 2 of 2025

Transfer of Funds from Highway reserve acct. to the Machinery Contractual acct.

Whereas: the Town of Root Town Board is desirous of transferring funds from the highway reserve account, in the amount of \$27,059.18 to the DA 5130.4 machinery contractual account for purposes of equipment repairs; and

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved: that the Root Town Board hereby authorizes the transfer of \$27,059.18 from the highway reserve account to the DA 5130.4 machinery contractual account.

Motioned made by Quackenbush, Seconded by Weiss

Adopted by the following vote: Kamp, Bramer, Quackenbush, VanKersen, Weiss

Ayes: 5

Nays: 0

Resolution No. 3 of 2025

Approval of the Ayers Memorial Animal Shelter, Inc Contract for 2025.

Whereas: the Town of Root and the Ayers Memorial Animal Shelter, Inc. have had a contractual relationship for several years relative to the delivery of dogs to the shelter by the Towns's Dog control officer (DCO); and

Whereas: the parties desire to continue this contractual relationship for the provision of these services to the Town of root; and

Whereas; a proposed contract for these services for the year 2025 has been received and reviewed by the parties;

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved; that the Root Town Board Hereby adopts the proposed contract for the year 2025 and authorizes the Town Supervisor to sign the same; and be it further.

Resolved; that, pursuant to the terms of the contract, the Ayers Memorial Animal Shelter, Inc. shall receive the sum of \$5,500.00 to be paid within thirty days of the inception of the contract.

Motioned made by; Weiss Seconded by: Bramer

Adopted by the following vote: Kamp, Bramer, Quackenbush, VanKersen, Weiss

Ayes: 5

Nays: 0

Resolution No. 4 of 2025

Rescinding Resolution No. 17 adopted by the Town Board at the Board's meeting on September 11,2024 Meeting.

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

Whereas; At the September 11, 2024 regular meeting of the Root Town Board, the Board adopted Resolution No. 17 for 2024 adopting Local Law No. 3 for 2024, providing Real Property Tax Exemptions for Volunteer Firefighters and Ambulances Workers pursuant to Section 466 -A of the Real Property Tax Law; and

Whereas; The Root Town Board hereby rescinds Resolution No. 17 of 2024.

Seconded by Board Member VanKersen

Adopted by the following vote: Kamp, Bramer, Quackenbush, VanKersen, Weiss
Ayes: 5 Nays: 0

Resolution No. 5 of 2025

Rescinding Resolution No. 18 adopted by the Town Board at the Boards meeting held on September 11, 2024.

Board Member: Quackenbush presented the following Resolutions and moved its adoption.

Whereas; The Town Board is now desirous of rescinding the adoption of said resolution. Now therefor be it,

Resolved; That the Root Town Board hereby rescinds Resolution No. 18 of 2024.

Seconded by Board Member Weiss

Adopted by the following vote: Kamp, Bramer, Quackenbush, VanKersen, Weiss
Ayes: 5 Nays: 0

Resolution No. 6 of 2025

Rescinding Resolution No. 24 adopted by the Town Board at the Board's meeting on October 9, 2024.

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

Whereas; At the October 9, 2024 regular meeting of the Root Town Board, the Board adopted resolution No. 24 for the 2024 introducing Local Law No. 6 for 2024, the Battery Energy Storage Facilities Law for the Town of Root; and

Resolved; That the Root Town Board hereby rescinds Resolution No. 24 of 2024.

Seconded by Board Member Bramer

Adopted by the following vote: Kamp, Bramer, Quackenbush, VanKersen, Weiss
Ayes: 5 Nays: 0

Resolution No. 7 of 2025

Introducing Local Law No. 1 of 2025

A Local Law Designating Scenic Byways in the Town of Root

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

WHEREAS, the Town of Root is desirous of adopting Local Law No. 1 of 2025 designating scenic byways in the Town of Root; and

WHEREAS, the proposed Local Law No. 1 of 2025 has been presented to the Town Board for its review and consideration; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board has determined that this law is a Type II action under the state Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA);

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board hereby introduces the attached proposed new law, know as Local Law No. 1 for 2025, designating scenic byways in the Town of Root;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Town Board calls for a public hearing to be held on the attached proposed Local Law No. 1 during a regular Town Board meeting scheduled for Wednesday, February 12, 2025 at 7:00 p.m. at the Town of Root Town Hall located at 1048 Carlisle Rd. Sprakers, New York 12166;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Town Clerk is directed to publish a notice of public hearing in the Daily Gazette, to post it on the town website and the town notice board as required by the New York State General Municipal Law.

Seconded by Board Member Bramer

Adopted by the following vote: Kamp, Bramer, Quackenbush, VanKersen, Weiss

Ayes: 5

Nays: 0

Resolution No. 8 of 2025

Resolution introducing Local Law No. 2 of 2025

A Local Law providing Real Property Tax Exemptions for volunteer Firefighters and Ambulance workers pursuant to section 466-A of the Real Property Tax Law.

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

WHEREAS, the Town of Root is desirous of adopting Local Law No. 2 of 2025 providing real property tax exemptions for volunteer firefighters and ambulance workers pursuant to section 466- A of the Real Property Tax Law; and

WHEREAS, the proposed Local Law No. 2 of 2025 has been presented to the Town Board for its review and consideration; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board hereby introduces the attached proposed new law, know as Local Law No. 2 for 2025, providing real property tax exemptions for volunteer firefighters and ambulance workers pursuant to Section 466- A of the Real Property Tax Law; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Town Board calls for a public hearing to be held on the attached proposed Local Law No. 2 during a regular Town Board meeting scheduled for Wednesday, February 12,2025 at 7:00 p.m. at the Town of Root Town Hall located at 1048 Carlisle Road, Sprakers, New York 12166;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Town Clerk is directed to publish a notice of public hearing in the Daily Gazette, to post it on the town website and the town notices board as required by the New York State General Municipal Law.

Seconded by Board Member Quackenbush

Adopted by the following vote: Kamp, Bramer, Quackenbush, VanKersen, Weiss

Ayes: 5

Nays: 0

Resolution No. 9 of 2025

Resolution Introducing Local Law No. 3 of 2025

The Battery Energy Storage Facilities Law of The Town of Root

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

WHEREAS, the Town of Root is desirous of adopting Local Law No. 3 of 2025 establishing a moratorium on Battery Energy Storage Facilities within the Town of Root; and

WHEREAS, the proposed Local Law No. 3 of 2025 has been presented to the Town Board for its review and consideration; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board has determined that the adoption of Local Law No. 3 of 2025 is a Type 1 action under the State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA);

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board hereby introduces the attached proposed new Battery Energy Storage Facilities Law, know as Local Law No. 3 for 2025;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Town Board hereby declares its intent to be SEQRA lead agency for the review of this Type 1 action; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Town Board calls for a public hearing to be held on this attached proposed Local Law No. 3 during a regular Town Board meeting scheduled for Wednesday, February 12, 2025 at 7:00 p.m. at the Town of Root Town Hall located at 1048 Carlisle Road, Sprakers, New York 12166;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVE that the Town Clerk is directed to publish a notice of public hearing in the Daily Gazette, to post it on the town website and the town notice board as required by the New York State General Municipal Law.

Seconded by Board Member Weiss

Adopted by the following vote: Kamp, Bramer, Quackenbush, VanKersen, Weiss

Ayes: 5

Nays: 0

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Councilwoman **Quackenbush** motioned seconded by Councilman VanKersen to go into executive session at 7:04 Pm. to discuss Part Time employee's raise increase due to Minimum wage increase.

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

Nays 0

Councilwoman **Quackenbush** seconded by Councilwoman Weiss to come out of executive session at 7:23 Pm.

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

Nays 0

ABSTRACTS

Abstract # 1 of the general fund for vouchers numbered 1-19 were audited and ordered paid. Paid abstract total was \$ 80,819.29.

Abstract # 1 of the highway fund for vouchers numbered 1-8 were audited and ordered paid. Paid abstract total was \$ 31,999.32.

Abstract # 1 of the Fire Protection fund for vouchers numbered 1-3 were audited and ordered paid. Paid abstract total was \$ 180,750.00.

Councilwoman **Quackenbush** motioned seconded by Councilman **VanKersen** to accept the audit of abstract # 1 of the general fund in the amount of \$ 80,819.29, abstract # 1 of the highway fund in the amount of \$ 31,999.32 and the abstract # 1 of the Fire Protection fund in the amount of \$ 180,750.00. The vote was unanimous.

ADJOURN

Councilwoman Weiss motioned seconded by Councilman VanKersen to adjourn at 7:34 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Marcia Shults, Town Clerk