Town of Rome
Nekoosa, WI 54457
www.romewi.gov

TOWN OF ROME BOARD MEETING MINUTES

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 2024 **IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE TOWN OF ROME BUDGET HEARING AND MEETING**

1. Call to Order

   Chairwoman Lori Djumadi called the meeting to order at 6:26 p.m.

2. Roll Call

   Present: Chairwoman Lori Djumadi; Supervisors, Cheryl Evenson, Daniel Minter, Jacki Koll and Thomas Gabriel; also present Clerk Wendy Newsom, Finance Director/Treasurer Robbie Schaub-Ruemler, Administrator/Police Chief Jason Lauby and Attorney Nicholas Flanagan

3. Certify Posting of Meeting

   Wendy Newsom certified that on, Friday, November 15, 2024, the Agenda for the Town of Rome Board meeting for Thursday, November 21, 2024 was posted at:

Posted at the Rome Town Hall	*12:46 p.m.*
Posted at Kwik Trip, LLC	*12:35 p.m.*
Posted at Nekoosa Port Edwards State Bank	*12:29 p.m.*
Emailed to the Wisconsin Rapids Tribune	*12:53 p.m.*

4. Approve the Agenda

   Motion by Gabriel/Koll to approve the agenda. Motion carried.

5. Pledge of Allegiance

6. Citizen Comments – During the Citizen Comment period of the agenda the Town Board welcomes comments from any town resident, not a member of the Town Board, on any item not on the agenda. Please know that pursuant to State law the Board cannot engage in conversation with you but may ask questions. The Board may refer the item to staff, a standing committee or a future board agenda for discussion and action. Each person wishing to speak will have up to 3 minutes to speak. Speakers are asked to submit a card to the Clerk providing their name, address and topic for discussion

   a. The board will also take comment from the public on agenda items as called by the Chair, but not during Citizen Comment. Please note that once the board begins discussion on an agenda item no further comment will be allowed from the public on that issue

   No Comments.

NO ACTION CONTEMPLATED EXCEPT POSSIBLE REFERRAL TO FUTURE AGENDA:

7. Information Updates, Meeting Recaps, Recent Correspondence, Current Events, Announcements

   Djumadi: Old Fashioned Holiday Craft Fair at the Town Hall from 9:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. Rome Town Hall is a drop box for Toys for Tots and can be dropped off anytime in the vestibule. There is a 5K Turkey Trot at Up North Brewing Co. on Thanksgiving starting at 8:00 a.m. On November 30th the Adams County Chamber is having a Jingle and Mingle on Main Street in Adams and Friendship for Shop Small Business Saturday. Rome Indoor Markets start on Friday, December 6th in the Rome Town Hall. The Home Town Rome players are sponsoring dance classes, information on this can be found in the Rome Town Hall. Adams County ATV/UTV Clubs have started an alliance and are interested in moving forward their interest for Adams County with a stronger voice to obtain more trails. The Town of Rome has seats available on several committees, if you are interested please contact the Rome Town Hall.

   Minter: Wishes everyone a safe and productive hunt. The P&R Committee met on Monday and they are in the process of the CORP plan and met with someone with the State and the Town will be aligning with the State's CORP plan to make sure we are eligible for grants.

   Koll: Visit Rome asked to mention that if you are interested in history to stop by their office to see an exhibit there. All Town related information can be found at www.romewi.gov *and all Town activities can be found at* www.visitromewi.com.

   Newsom: Recognized Scott Lorenzen and gave condolences to the family.

   Lauby: Gave an update on the Archer road paving project.

8. Department and Committee Reports

   - Administration
   - EMS District/Lifestar
   - Lester Public Library of Rome
   - Park & Recreation Committee
   - Police and Fire Commission
   - Rome Fire Department
   - Rome Police Department
   - Rome Public Works Department
   - Rome Water Utility
   - Visit Rome, WI
   - Zoning Department

DISCUSS AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON THE FOLLOWING ITEMS:

9. Discussion and possible action – Approval of the November 7, 2024 meeting minutes

   Motion by Koll/Evenson to approve the minutes of November 7, 2024. Motion carried.

10. Discussion and possible action – Checks, Vouchers, Receipts and Journal Entries - approve checks #46855 – 46936 totaling $557,527.12; Auto-payments totaling $70,336.25; State / Social Security / Medicare / Withholdings totaling $53084.13; Payroll Vouchers V22762 – V22960 totaling $155,025.34 and checks 21684 totaling $83.11; Receipts #25977 - 26060 totaling $1,697,892.77

    Motion by Minter/Gabriel to approve as presented. Motion carried.

11. Discussion and possible action – Approval of the Town of Rome 2025 budget

Motion by Evenson/Gabriel to approve the Town of Rome 2025 budget. Motion carried.

Finance Director/Treasurer Schaub-Ruemler asked to allow the Interim Public Works Director, Cody Knoblock, to present ideas for the purchase of the plow truck. Interim PW Director Knoblock presented that a used truck can be purchased for much less than a new truck and also introduced the idea of possibly purchasing a truck to haul the luggers ourself and not hire out to do so, which would pay for themselves in two years.

This item will be brought back to a future meeting with details on the cost of the trucks.

12. Discussion and possible action – Review specifications of a 2027 Fire Engine and possible approval of proceeding with the order

    Fire Chief Kane presented information regarding the purchase of a fire engine and the time frame for receiving it. A down payment would not be due until January 2026 and the balance would be due in June of 2026.

    There was discussion regarding the purchase of the truck.

    Motion by Minter/Koll to authorize the Town of Rome and the Fire Department to order the truck from Custom Fire with the specifications as presented. Motion carried.

13. Discussion and possible action – Approve one-time carryforward of $50,000 for the Police Department 2025 budget

    Motion by Evenson/Koll to approve a one-time carryforward of $50,000 for the Police Department 2025 Budget. Motion carried.

14. Discussion and possible action – Recommendation from the Community Development Authority regarding consideration of the Rome Sno-Bandit's Christmas in Rome Winter Wonderland/Up North Theme

    Supervisor Koll explained that the Town asked that the Christmas in Rome Committee and the Rome Sno-Bandits collaborate on the decorations on the Town Hall corner. They will be calling it a Winter Wonderland.

    Motion by Koll/Evenson to approve the Christmas in Rome Winter Wonderland/Up North Theme. Amended to continue doing annually as long as everything is maintained and in working order and that the sign be approved by the Zoning Administrator and decorations should be removed by February 1st. Motion carried.

15. Discussion and possible action – Approval of sale of safe in Clerk's office on Wisconsin Surplus with a minimum bid of $100.00

    Motion by Evenson/Koll to approve the sale of the safe in the Clerk's office on Wisconsin Surplus with a minimum bid of $100.00. Motion carried.

16. Discussion and possible action – Recommendation from Plan Commission regarding Consideration of a Site Plan and Plan of Operation for Visit Rome for construction of walking path for link the lakes

project, to utilize a portion of parcel numbers 030-00794-0000, 030-00796-0000, & 030-00798-0020, all parcels also described as follows; Part of Section 17, Town 20N, Range 06E, Town of Rome, Adams County, WI; total utilized parcel area 0.23 acres

Attorney Flanagan gave a background of the item stating the Plan Commission held a public hearing on this item and did recommend approval to the Town Board with some additions in the Findings of Facts as follows:

1. *Provide pedestrian signage and crosswalks for safety where they cross a road.*
2. *Work with the Sno-Bandits to provide alternative locations for the snowmobile trails that were around Rome Center Drive.*

Lisa Kubis presented the project to the Board and Mary Bryniarski presented the financial aspects of the project. She stated that the trail will contain pedestrian signage for safety of the users at any point that the path will cross the road and Visit Rome is organizing a resolution to the snowmobile trails with the Sno-Bandits.

Motion by Gabriel/Koll to approve the Site Plan and Plan of Operation for Visit Rome, WI for construction of a walking path for the link the lakes project, to utilize a portion of parcel numbers 030-00794-0000, 030-00796-0000, & 030-00798-0020, all parcels also described as follows; Part of Section 17, Town 20N, Range 06E, Town of Rome, Adams County, WI; total utilized parcel area 0.23 acres. Amended by Gabriel/Koll to incorporate the findings of facts as presented. Motion carried.

17. Discussion and possible action – Recommendation from Plan Commission regarding Consideration of an amendment to the Site Plan and Plan of Operation for Gabriel Development LLC (Papa Bear's Mini Golf/The Gift Shoppe) to build a garage in the Rome Town Center (RTC) at 266 Matterhorn Trail, also described as Lot 2 of plat 5947, located in NE ¼, SW ¼, Section 8, Town 20N, Range 06E, Town of Rome, Adams County, WI, with a parcel number of 030-01136-0576

Attorney Flanagan explained why this item is before the board explaining that the Plan Commission sent this to the Town Board with no recommendation.

Discussion was had regarding this item.

Motion by Evenson/Minter to approve the Site Plan and Plan of Operation for Gabriel Development LLC (Papa Bear's Mini Golf/The Gift Shoppe) to build a garage in the Rome Town Center (RTC) at 266 Matterhorn Trail, also described as Lot 2 of plat 5947, located in NE ¼, SW ¼, Section 8, Town 20N, Range 06E, Town of Rome, Adams County, WI, with a parcel number of 030-01136-0576 with the conditions that the accessory building can have one door to be 14' x 7' and the door must be red or tan and no mural can be placed on the door. Motion carried with Gabriel abstaining and Djumadi- No.

DATES AND ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDA/MEETINGS

18. Next agenda items

Possible recommendation from the sub committee
Resolution for fee schedule
Resolution for wages
Public Works Director information on Public Works vehicles
Ordinance recommendation from the Parks and Recreation Committee

19. Next meeting date and time

December 5, 2024 – 5:00 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

Chairwoman Djumadi adjourned the meeting at 7:38 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Wendy Newsom
Wendy Newsom
Town of Rome Clerk