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

TOWN OF ROME BOARD MEETING MINUTES

THURSDAY, JUNE 19, 2025 5:00 P.M.

1. Call to Order

   Chairman Carl Hasdal called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

2. Roll Call

   Present: Chairman Carl Hasdal; Supervisors Cheryl Evenson, Vito Giardino, Mark Samelstad and Tim Reppen; also present Clerk Wendy Newsom and Finance Director/Treasurer Robbie Schaub-Ruemler

3. Certify Posting of Meeting

   Wendy Newsom certified that on Monday, June 16, 2025, the Agenda for the Town of Rome Town Board meeting for Thursday, June 19, 2025 was posted at:

Posted at the Rome Town Hall	*12:45 p.m.*
Posted at Kwik Trip, LLC	*4:15 p.m.*
Posted at Nekoosa Port Edwards State Bank	*4:20 p.m.*
Emailed to the Wisconsin Rapids Tribune	*12:55 p.m.*

4. Approve the Agenda

   Motion by Giardino/Reppen 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

   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

   Matt Johnson, 4888 Brassic Rd, Fitchburg, WI, Community Engagement Manager for the Solar Project offered to come to a future Town Board meeting to provide an update and answer questions for the community.

Brian Fischer, 1093 E Queens Way, spoke to say thank you and recognize the staff for their courteous and professional help received from the staff at the Town Hall for the 14 Mile Watershed Luncheon.

NO ACTION CONTEMPLATED EXCEPT POSSIBLE REFERRAL TO FUTURE AGENDA:

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

   Hasdal: Chairman Hasdal recognized Administrative Assistant, Taylor Owczynsky, for going over and above the call of duty for a tax payer who was very grateful.

   The Chairman also made a statement regarding the citizen comment made at the June 5, 2025 Town Board Meeting regarding the Town Administrator position, clarifying the number of meetings held since the current Board took over as four (4) meetings and explained that the reason why the Board has not acted on this at this time is they were reviewing the job description and the budget for the position.

   Giardino: On June 27, 2025, Visit Rome will be donating 100% of the proceeds of all merchandise sold at the Farmers Market to the Library. August 8th is the Library's anniversary. Papa Bear's will be having a fundraiser for the Humane Society on July 22nd at 6:30 p.m., and the Military Banner applications will be available starting next week.

   Reppen: This Saturday, June 21st is the Lake Camelot Property Owners Association Annual Meeting at 9:00 a.m.

8. Department and Committee Reports

☐ Administration	☐ Rome Police Department
☐ EMS District/Lifestar	☐ Rome Public Works Department
☐ Lester Public Library of Rome	☐ Rome Water Utility and Utility Committee
☐ Parks Committee	☐ Community Development Authority
☐ Police and Fire Commission	☐ Visit Rome, WI
☐ Rome Fire Department	☐ Zoning Department

DISCUSS AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON THE FOLLOWING ITEMS:

9. Discussion and possible action – Approval of the June 5, 2025 meeting minutes

   Motion by Evenson/Samelstad to approve the June 5, 2025 meeting minutes. Motion carried.

10. Discussion and possible action – Checks, Vouchers, Receipts and Journal Entries - approve checks #49463 – 49568 totaling $204,559.29; Auto-payments totaling $79,469.13; State / Social Security / Medicare / Withholdings totaling $55,709.06; Payroll Vouchers V23675 – V23843 totaling $150,005.90 and checks #21693 – 21699 totaling $2,024.60; Receipts #26470 - 26546 totaling $206,061.61

    Motion by Samelstad/Giardino to approve the financials as presented. Motion carried.

11. Discussion and possible action – Presentation of Rome Town Center Master Plan, adoption of Master Plan and Rome Town Center subcommittee continuation

Erica Freeman gave a presentation to the Town Board regarding the history of the Master Plan, adoption of the Master Plan and asked for continuation of the Rome Town Center Subcommittee to continue the vision of the Rome Town Center.

Donna Hasdal, 241 Penhurst Way, asked what happened to the Farmer's Market, the answer is that it was included in the Plan. She also stated that it looks like there are more houses than businesses. The committee stated that the housing would be above the businesses, which would provide for both.

Discussion was had between the Board Members and Ms. Freeman. Chairman Hasdal stated that the Comprehensive Plan needs to be completed first before this can happen.

Bill Kappel, 104 Juniper Ln, spoke regarding the housing and that this supports the Vision and Mission of the Town and will help control the growth of the housing and provide the density for the businesses to come to the Town of Rome.

Mat Elmhorst, Heartland Custom Homes, spoke regarding the infrastructure and asked if there are wells and septic or water and sewer for these businesses. The cost of infrastructure is currently part of the development agreements.

Tiffany Seavecki, 673 Hampton Trl, spoke to the growth of the Town.

Chairman Hasdal recommended that the Sub-Committee move forward by meeting with the CDA and working closely with them.

Thomas Wright, 1320A Arrowhead Trail, spoke regarding amending the Comprehensive Plan, and the work that the sub-committee has done. He would like the board to move forward with the Master Plan along with the Comprehensive Plan.

Master Plan tabled to a future meeting.

12. Discussion and possible action – Consideration of recommendation from the Plan Commission on a Site Plan/Plan of Operation for Golden Ferret Golf Sims, to lease space from Heartland Custom Homes, owned by Mat Elmhorst, for the property located at 1144 CTH D, also described as Lot 1 of CSM 6905, located in the SW1/4, NE1/4, Section 08, Town 20N, Range 06E, Town of Rome, Adams County, WI with a parcel number of 030-00637-0020

    Mat Elmhorst from Heartland Custom Homes was present and explained that they were told that they have 2 years to pave the lot. He would like to get this business in and working and would have it paved prior to the winter months.

    Motion by Samelstad/Giardino to approve the recommendation from the Plan Commission on a Site Plan/Plan of Operation for Golden Ferret Golf Sims, to lease space from Heartland Custom Homes, owned by Mat Elmhorst, for the property located at 1144 CTH D, also described as Lot 1 of CSM 6905, located in the SW1/4, NE1/4, Section 08, Town 20N, Range 06E, Town of Rome, Adams County, WI with a parcel number of 030-00637-0020 with the condition of the paving by the end of the year. Motion carried.

13. Discussion and possible action - Consideration of recommendation from the Plan Commission on a Preliminary Plat for Alpine Estates 1st Addition on 40 acres owned by T & S Land Investments, to be located on two separate parcels totaling 40 acres described as follows: being all of lot 18 and 19 of

Alpine Estates, located in part of the SW ¼ SE ¼ of section 7, township 20 north, range 6 east, town of Rome, Adams County, WI

Motion by Evenson/Giardino to approve the recommendation from the Plan Commission on a Preliminary Plat for Alpine Estates 1st Addition on 40 acres owned by T & S Land Investments, to be located on two separate parcels totaling 40 acres described as follows: being all of lot 18 and 19 of Alpine Estates, located in part of the SW ¼ SE ¼ of section 7, township 20 north, range 6 east, town of Rome, Adams County, WI. Motion carried.

14. Discussion and possible action – Approval of Resolution No. 25 – 09; A Resolution Revising the Town of Rome Fee Schedule

    Motion by Evenson/Samelstad to approve Resolution No. 25 – 09; A Resolution revising the Town of Rome Fee Schedule. Motion carried.

15. Discussion and possible action – Approval of the Town Administrator job description and obtaining Public Administration Associates, LLC for recruitment

    Motion by Evenson/Giardino to approve obtaining Public Administration Associates, LLC for recruitment of the Town Administrator. Motion carried.

16. Discussion and possible action – Wake Boat Ordinance update

    Chairman Hasdal stated that they met with the Wake Boat Last Wilderness Alliance regarding a Wake Boat Ordinance. Supervisor Samelstad stated that he will be meeting with this firm to help write the ordinance for the Town. Chairman Hasdal also stated that they will be working with the DNR on this as well.

    Kurt Johnson, 951 Wellington Ct, would like to see restricted hours on the wake surfing instead of banning it.

    Supervisor Samelstad stated that he would like to have a special Town Meeting to discuss this with the members of the Town.

    Donna Hasdal, 241 Penhurst Way asked that the presentation that was given at the Tri-lakes meeting be given at that meeting.

17. Discussion and possible action – Appointment of Tim Reppen as Plan Commission Chairman

    Motion by Evenson/Samelstad to appoint Tim Reppen as Chairman of the Plan Commission. Motion carried.

18. Discussion and possible action – Transfer Site Open Top options

    Public Works Director Cody Knoblock presented three (3) options for open top containers at the Transfer Site to reduce the cost of tippage:

    1. *Remove open tops. Customers will need to take bulk items, fee items and construction waste to Adams County. This will provide the largest cost savings.*

2. *Have two weekends, most likely Memorial Day and Labor Day Weekends where fee items could be brought into the Transfer Site. There could be the possibility of the 4th of July weekend also. Other dates would be open for discussion. Only fee items and household items will be allowed. (sofas, mattresses, chairs, tables, etc.) NO construction waste.*

3. *Keep open tops for only bulk household and fee items. NO construction waste. This will allow some savings, but will be hard to regulate due to hiding materials under bulk items.*

He would not like to see any changes until after Labor Day as this would be too big of a change during the busy season. Discussion was had regarding the open top containers.

Rick Czerwinski, 373 Abbington Ct, stated that he sees a lot of construction and likes both options two and three.

Taylor Owczynsky, 182 West Walden Way, complimented the new people at the Transfer Site and stated that they are doing a good job.

Motion by Giardino/Reppen to approve option number two with the change to once a month and no construction waste and make the changes effective after the Labor Day Holiday. Motion carried.

19. Discussion and possible action – Approval of Temporary "Class B" Beer license for the Summer Solstice Concert with Chris Kroeze on June 20, 2025 from 4:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m. at the Bandshell in the Rome Town Center hosted by the American Legion Red Cloud Post 250 and Edward Jones as a benefit for the Adams County Humane Society

    Motion by Samelstad/Evenson to approve the Temporary "Class B" Beer license for the Summer Solstice Concert with Chris Kroeze on June 20, 2025 from 4:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m. at the Bandshell in the Rome Town Center hosted by the American Legion Red Cloud Post 250 and Edward Jones as a benefit for the Adams County Humane Society. Motion carried.

    Clerk Wendy Newsom made a remark reminding everyone that, just like at any establishment that serves any type of alcohol, when beer is sold at these events carry ins of beer/wine/alcohol are not allowed.

20. Discussion and possible action – Approval of a Temporary "Class B" Beer and Wine license for the final Visit Rome, WI LLC summer concert on September 12, 2025 from 5:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. at the Bandshell in the Rome Town Center

    Motion by Evenson/Giardino to approve the Temporary "Class B" Beer and Wine license for the final Visit Rome, WI LLC summer concert on September 12, 2025 from 5:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. at the Bandshell in the Rome Town Center. Motion carried.

21. Discussion and possible action – Approval of "Class A" Combination Retail Liquor Licenses for the period of July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2026

    Kwik Trip, Inc dba Kwik Trip Store Number 1218, 251 State Highway 13 So, Nekoosa, WI
    DolgenCorp, LLC dba Dollar General Store #16744, 229 State Highway 13 So, Nekoosa, WI

    Motion by Giardino/Reppen to approve the "Class A" Combination Retail Liquor License for the period of July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2026 for Kwik Trip, Inc dba Kwik Trip Store Number 1218, 251 State

Highway 13 So, Nekoosa, WI and DolgenCorp, LLC dba Dollar General Store #16744, 229 State Highway 13 So, Nekoosa, WI. Motion carried.

22. Discussion and possible action – Approval of Class "B" Beer Licenses for the period of July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2026

    Papa Bear's Mini Golf, LLC, 266 Matterhorn Trl, Nekoosa, WI 54457
    Wisconsin Trapshooting Association, Inc, 1312 Akron Dr, Nekoosa, WI 54457

    Motion by Evenson/Giardino to approve the Class "B" Beer Licenses for the period of July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2026 for Papa Bear's Mini Golf, LLC, 266 Matterhorn Trl, Nekoosa, WI 54457 and the Wisconsin Trapshooting Association, Inc, 1312 Akron Dr, Nekoosa, WI 54457. Motion carried.

23. Discussion and possible action – Approval of Renewal for "Class B" Combination Liquor Licenses for the period of July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2026

    Sand Valley, LLC, 597 Leopold Way, Nekoosa, WI 54457
    Barnum Bay Enterprises, LLC dba Lure Bar & Grill, 1735 Archer Ln, Nekoosa, WI 54457
    Avocados 2 LLC, 386 State Hwy 13 So, Nekoosa, WI 54457
    Lake Arrowhead Association, Inc. dba Lake Arrowhead & Greenside Grill, 1195 Apache Ln, Nekoosa, WI 54457
    East Briar, Inc. dba The Lakes Course, The Lakes Lounge, 1472 Apache Ave, Nekoosa, WI 54457
    KMC Tucks, LLC dba Cal's Corner, 382 State Hwy 13 So, Nekoosa, WI 54457
    Lake Camelot Lodge, LLC dba The Lodge on Lake Camelot, 298 Leisure Ln, Nekoosa, WI 54457
    Lake Sherwood Property Owners Association dba Lake Sherwood Lodge, 1146 W Queens Way, Nekoosa, WI 54457
    Hoozels Lakeside Bar, LLC dba Hoozels at the Lakes, 1497 Alpine Dr, Nekoosa, WI 54457
    Romano's LLC, 108 County Road Z, Nekoosa, WI 54457

    Motion by Evenson/Samelstad to approve renewal of the "Class B" Combination Liquor Licenses for the period of July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2026 for the establishments listed. Motion carried.

24. The Board may go into closed session pursuant to Wis. Stat. Section 19.85(1)(c) Considering employment, promotion, compensation or performance evaluation data of any public employee over which the governmental body has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility: Zoning Administrator Interviews

    Motion at 6:44 p.m., by Evenson/Samelstad, to go into closed session pursuant to Wis. Stat. Section 19.85(1)(c) Considering employment, promotion, compensation or performance evaluation data of any public employee over which the governmental body has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility: Zoning Administrator Interviews. Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.

    The Board exited closed session at 7:12 p.m.

25. The Board reserves the right to enter into open session authorized by Wis. Stat. Section 19.85(2) to possibly take action from the closed session and continue with the agenda

    Motion at 7:14 p.m., by Samelstad/Reppen, to enter into open session authorized by Wis. Stat. Section 19.85(2) to possibly take action from the closed session and continue with the agenda. Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.

No action taken

DATES AND ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDA/MEETINGS

26. Next agenda items

- *Solar Farm*
- *Town Administrator*
- *Zoning Administrator*

27. Next meeting date and time

July 3, 2025 – 5:00 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Evenson/Giardino to adjourn the meeting at 7:15 p.m. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Wendy Newsom
Wendy Newsom
Town of Rome Clerk