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

TOWN OF ROME BOARD MEETING MINUTES

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 18, 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, Finance Director/Treasurer Robbie Schaub-Ruemler and Administrator Karin Derauf

3. Certify Posting of Meeting

   Wendy Newsom certified that on, Monday, December 15, 2025, the Agenda for the Town Board meeting for Thursday, December 18, 2025 was posted at:

Posted at the Rome Town Hall	*11:50 a.m.*
Posted at Kwik Trip, LLC	*5:12 p.m.*
Posted at Nekoosa Port Edwards State Bank	*5:07 p.m.*
Emailed to the Wisconsin Rapids Tribune	*11:54 a.m.*

4. Approve the Agenda

   Motion by Samelstad/Giardino to approve the agenda moving item number 11 to Item number 7. 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

   No comments.

NO ACTION CONTEMPLATED EXCEPT POSSIBLE REFERRAL TO FUTURE AGENDA:

7. Discussion and possible action – Presentation by Greg Johnson from Ehler's on the Annual Tax Incremental District Report

   Chairman Hasdal gave an explanation of the mistake that happened this year on the tax bills and apologized for the mistake.

   Greg Johnson from Ehlers presented the updated TIF information to the Board. The district is projected to close in 2028.

   Rob Sigler from Nekoosa Port Edwards State Bank stated that the tax advantages to the Town from this TID are very good and congratulations to the Town for this successful TID.

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

   Evenson – New Years Day there will be a Polar Plunge at the Lure for Children's Miracle Network
   Hasdal – Quick update on the Solar Farm. Pond Hockey at Sand Valley will take place this winter. Recognized the sponsors of Christmas in Rome.

9. 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
☐ Town Clerk	☐ Finance Director/Treasurer

DISCUSS AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON THE FOLLOWING ITEMS:

10. Discussion and possible action – Approval of the December 4, 2025 meeting minutes

    Motion by Evenson/Reppen to approve the December 4, 2025 meeting minutes. Motion carried.

11. Discussion and possible action – Checks, Vouchers, Receipts and Journal Entries - approve checks #50011 – 50087 totaling $526,758.87; Auto-payments totaling $88,485.62; State / Social Security / Medicare / Withholdings totaling $38,257.02; Payroll Vouchers V24584 – V24707 totaling $103,300.38; Receipts #27019 - 27063 totaling $176,870.70

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

12. Discussion and possible action – Establish dates for January Board Meetings

    Clerk Newsom explained that because the first meeting would fall on the 1st of January the Board needs to determine dates for the January Meetings. Do they want to move the first meeting to January 8th and

then have meetings two weeks in a row or have the meetings on the 8th and the 22nd or just have one meeting on the 15th.

Motion by Reppen/Evenson to change the January meeting date to January 15, 2026. Motion carried.

13. Discussion and possible action – Request for waiver of Fire Department fees for the Polar Bear Jump on January 1, 2026 at The Lure

    Motion by Samelstad/Evenson to approve the waiver of Fire Department fees for the Polar Bear Jump on January 1, 2026 at the Lure. Motion carried.

14. Discussion and possible action - Approval of recommendation from the Plan Commission on consideration of an amendment to the site plan/plan of operation for Up North Brewing Company c/o 4 Veterans, LLC, for the property located at 304 Matterhorn Tr, also described as PT Lot 9 of Alpine Village located in SE ¼, SW ¼, Section 08, and NE ¼, NW ¼, Section 17, Town 20N, Range 06E, Town of Rome, Adams County, WI, with a parcel number of 030-01136-0589

    Motion by Giardino/Reppen to approve the recommendation from the Plan Commission on consideration of an amendment to the site plan/plan of operation for Up North Brewing Company c/o 4 Veterans, LLC, for the property located at 304 Matterhorn Tr, also described as PT Lot 9 of Alpine Village located in SE ¼, SW ¼, Section 08, and NE ¼, NW ¼, Section 17, Town 20N, Range 06E, Town of Rome, Adams County, WI, with a parcel number of 030-01136-0589. Motion carried.

15. Discussion and possible action – Approval of Ordinance No. 25 - ____; Recommendation from the Plan Commission on consideration of the proposed Comprehensive Plan map 9 amendment from Forestry to Residential and zoning map amendment from FR (Forest and Outdoor Recreation District) to R-1 (Single-Family Residence District) relating to the properties located in Section 29, Town 20N, Range 06E, Town of Rome, Adams County, WI; with parcel numbers of 030-00989-0000 and 030-00991-0000; total area 77.77 acres

    Zoning Administrator Arndt explained that this is a proposed Zoning Map Amendment from Forest and Outdoor Recreation District to R1 Single-Family Residence District.

    Motion by Reppen/Giardino to approve Ordinance No. 25- ; Recommendation from the Plan Commission on consideration of the proposed Comprehensive Plan map 9 amendment from Forestry to Residential and zoning map amendment from FR (Forest and Outdoor Recreation District) to R-1 (Single-Family Residence District) relating to the properties located in Section 29, Town 20N, Range 06E, Town of Rome, Adams County, WI; with parcel numbers of 030-00989-0000 and 030-00991-0000; total area 77.77 acres. Motion carried.

    Julie Casper, 101 14th Avenue – Would like address on the agenda for these items. It was explained that there isn't usually an address for these parcels.

16. Discussion and possible action – Discussion regarding policies for Town Government on Lexipol

    Mark Samelstad spoke regarding the Lexipol Policies and asked Chief Lauby to explain what Lexipol is.

    Supervisor Samelstad stated that he would like the Town to start using the Lexipol Policy system since it was previously voted on by the Board to use it and one individual will need to be assigned to learn the system and use it.

Supervisor Evenson asked who would be the person to take on the role.

Supervisor Samelstad asked the Administrator to work with the Police Chief to get onboarded to work on the policies.

17. Discussion and possible action – Deer hunting in residential neighborhoods

    Chairman Hasdal stated that he had received complaints from a couple of people regarding hunting in residential areas. Chief Lauby clarified the law, you must be 300 feet from any home to hunt on your property.

    Chairman Hasdal stated that he will send all future calls to the Police Chief to handle.

18. Discussion and possible action – Approval of reappointment of Bruce Rokke to the Lester Public Library Board

    Motion by Giardino/Samelstad to approve reappointment of Bruce Rokke to the Lester Public Library Board. Motion carried.

19. Discussion and possible action - Approval of appointment of Lori Fatla to the Lester Public Library Board

    Motion by Reppen/Giardino to approve the appointment of Lori Fatla to the Lester Public Library Board. Motion carried.

20. The Board may go into closed session pursuant to Wis. Stat. Section 19.85(1)(g) Conferring with legal counsel for the governmental body who is rendering oral or written advice concerning strategy to be adopted by the body with respect to litigation in which it is or is likely to become involved regarding parcel number 030-05053-0000

21. 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 – Review Police contract negotiations

22. 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 – Town Administrator 2-month evaluation

    Motion at 5:48 p.m. by Samelstad/Reppen to go into closed session pursuant to Wis. Stat. Section 19.85(1)(g) Conferring with legal counsel for the governmental body who is rendering oral or written advice concerning strategy to be adopted by the body with respect to litigation in which it is or is likely to become involved regarding parcel number 030-05053-0000 and

    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 – Review Police contract negotiations and

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 – Town Administrator 2-month evaluation. Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.

23. 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 8:40 p.m. by Evenson/Samelstad 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.

    Motion by Samelstad/Evenson to proceed as discussed in closed session on all three items. Motion carried.

DATES AND ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDA/MEETINGS

24. Next agenda items

    - *Proposed Wake Board Ordinance*
    - *Direction for the Parks and Recreation Committee*
    - *Parking Ban Ordinance*

25. Next meeting date and time

    Thursday, January 15, 2026 – 5:00 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Reppen/Samelstad to adjourn the meeting at 8:42 p.m. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Wendy Newsom
Wendy Newsom
Clerk