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

AGENDA
TOWN OF ROME BOARD MEETING

THURSDAY, MARCH 19, 2026 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, Tim Reppen; also present: Clerk Wendy Newsom, Interim Administrator/Finance Director/Treasurer Robbie Schaub-Ruemler

3. Certify Posting of Meeting

   Wendy Newsom certified that on, Tuesday, March 17, 2026 the Agenda for the Town of Rome Board meeting for Thursday, March 19, 2026 was posted at the following locations:

Rome Town Hall	*3:30 p.m.*
Kwik Trip, LLC	*3:41 p.m.*
Nekoosa Port Edwards State Bank	*3:50 p.m.*
Emailed to the Wisconsin Rapids Tribune:	*3:30 p.m.*

4. Approve the Agenda

   Motion by to approve the agenda, changing item number 21 the Police Contract Negotiations from closed session to open session and to be heard before the closed session items. 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

Mark Lubecke, 931 Sussex Ct, spoke regarding encouraging the County and other land owners to clean up their properties and to add additional Firewise pickups in the Town. Would like the Town Board to expand the tree and brush ordinance to possibly future.

NO ACTION CONTEMPLATED EXCEPT POSSIBLE REFERRAL TO FUTURE AGENDA:

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

   Hasdal: There was a Nekoosa School District meeting yesterday regarding the Referendum on the ballot this spring. He was unable to attend the meeting but he believes that the State needs to step up and help the schools more. He spoke to the amount of money that the people of the Town would pay per parcel.

8. Discussion only – Celebrate Recovery

   Christie Peitzmeier spoke regarding the Celebrate Recovery Program that she is starting up here in the Town of Rome. She would like the Town to help promote the program. Celebrate Recovery is a program is a faith-based program and meets in small groups. She is looking for people who have been sober or out of crisis for a year or more to get the training to be a leader. Her meeting will be on April 27, 2026 and is encouraging people to attend the meeting if they are in need of help. If you are interested in the program there is a flyer in the Town's vestibule with the contact and meeting information.

9. Discussion only – Wake Boat Ordinance

   Chairman Hasdal stated that this also came out at the WTA meeting he attended yesterday and the State is moving very slow on this.

   Supervisor Samelstad asked why we can't use what the Last Wilderness Alliance came up with. Chairman Hasdal stated that the Attorney indicated that the ordinance should be geared directly toward our lakes and not based on generality.

10. Discussion Only – Grants

    Chairman Hasdal stated that Grant Writing can be tricky and every I must be dotted and T's must be crossed.

    Interim Administrator/Finance Director/Treasurer Schaub-Ruemler stated that a conversation has been had with the Administrative Assistant, Taylor Owczynsky and she is willing to attend classes and assist the Department Heads with Grant Writing.

11. 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:

12. Discussion and possible action – Approval of the March 5, 2026 meeting minutes

    Motion by Evenson/Samelstad to approve the March 5, 2026 meeting minutes. Motion carried.

13. Discussion and possible action – Checks, Vouchers, Receipts and Journal Entries - approve checks #50337 – 50440 totaling $6,182,970.55; Auto-payments totaling $131,820.34; State / Social Security / Medicare / Withholdings totaling $40,041.53; Payroll Vouchers V24956 – V25073 totaling $108,825.41; Receipts #27179 - 27240 totaling $101,692.35

    Motion by Evenson/Giardino to approve as presented. Motion carried.

14. Discussion and possible action – Approval of Resolution No. 26 – 01; Updates to the 2026 Fee Schedule

    Clerk Wendy Newsom explained that this is to remove the in-person vs. online Zoning fees and to just make it one fee again.

    Motion by Evenson/Samelstad to approve Resolution No. 26 – 01; Updates to the 2026 Fee Schedule. Motion carried.

15. Discussion and possible action – Approval of Resolution No. 26 – 02; A Resolution Supporting A Comprehensive and Sustainable Transportation Funding Solution

    Clerk Newsom explained that this Resolution was requested by the Wisconsin Town's Association to be passed by each municipality and to forward it to the State in support of continuing the Just Fix It program that was put into place in 2017. This program has increased the GTA by about $901 per mile over the years.

    Motion by Reppen/Evenson to approve Resolution No. 26 – 02; A Resolution Supporting a Comprehensive and Sustainable Transportation Funding Solution. Motion carried.

16. Discussion and possible action – Approval of the dissolution of the Ad Hoc Solar Farm Committee

    At the last Ad Hoc Solar Farm Committee meeting it was decided that their services were no longer needed and that if they needed to meet they would meet as a community group rather than a Town Committee.

    Motion by Evenson/Reppen to approve dissolution of the Ad Hoc Solar Farm Committee. Motion carried.

17. Discussion and possible action – Review proposal by Delmore Consulting to provide additional expertise in road maintenance and grant opportunities

    Chairman Hasdal stated that the Delmore Consulting will find the Grants and write them for the Town. He stated that if they find and get one grant it pays for itself.

    No action taken, tabled to the next meeting.

18. Discussion and possible action - Recommendation of approval from Plan Commission regarding a preliminary plat for Dyracuse Acres, to be located at the properties 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 by Evenson/Reppen to approve the recommendation from the Plan Commission regarding a preliminary plat for Dyracuse Acres, to be located at the properties 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.

19. Discussion and possible action – Minor change in Police Contract

    Supervisor Mark Samelstad explained that the contract that was recently sent out to them only changed one word in the contract and he just wanted the Board to know that it was changed.

    Motion by Samelstad/Evenson to approve the Police Contract with the one word change.

20. The Board may go into closed session pursuant to Wis. Stat. Section 19.85(1)(e) deliberating or negotiating the purchasing of public properties, the investing of public funds or conducting other specified public business, whenever competitive or bargaining reasons require a closed session – conferring with energy legal counsel who is rendering advice to the governmental body concerning strategy on a proposed large-scale solar project

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, discussion with candidates and interviews for the Town Administrator position

    Motion at 5:37 p.m. by Samelstad/Evenson to enter into closed session pursuant to Wis. Stat. Section 19.85(1)(e) deliberating or negotiating the purchasing of public properties, the investing of public funds or conducting other specified public business, whenever competitive or bargaining reasons require a closed session – conferring with energy legal counsel who is rendering advice to the governmental body concerning strategy on a proposed large-scale solar project AND

    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, discussion with candidates and interviews for the Town Administrator position. Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.

    The Board exited closed session at 6:37 p.m.

22. 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 6:38 by Evenson/Giardino 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 from closed session.

DATES AND ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDA/MEETINGS

23. Next agenda items

- *Ehler's for borrowing*
- *Data Center Ordinance*
- *Approval of Visit Rome Temporary Class B licenses for the Summer Concerts*
- *Recommendation from the Parks and Recreation Committee*
- *Dead Timber and Brush*
- *Delmore Consulting contract*
- *Town Administrator Applications – Closed Session*

24. Next meeting date and time

April 2, 2026 – 5:00 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Giardino/Reppen to adjourn the meeting at 6:40 p.m. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Wendy Newsom
Wendy Newsom