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

TOWN OF ROME BOARD MEETING MINUTES

THURSDAY, MARCH 17, 2022 5:00 P.M.

1. Call to Order

   Chairman Carl Hasdal called the meeting to order at 5:06 p.m.

2. Roll Call

   Present: Chairman Carl Hasdal, Supervisors Dan Gohmann, Daniel Minter, Jerry Wiessinger; Administrator Jami Gebert; Clerk/Treasurer Amy Reuteman; Excused: Bob Baurhyte

3. Certify Posting of Meeting

   Amy Reuteman certified that on Monday, March 14, 2022, the Agenda for the Town of Rome Board meeting for Thursday, March 17, 2022 was posted at:

Emailed to the Wisconsin Rapids Tribune	*2:25 p.m.*
Posted at the Rome Town Hall	*3:15 p.m.*
Posted at Lester Public Library of Rome	*3:45 p.m.*
Posted at Nekoosa Port Edwards State Bank	*4:05 p.m.*

4. Approve the Agenda

   Motion by Wiessinger/Gohmann 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/Treasurer 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
   a. Welcome & introduction of Zoning Administrator Emily Zeddies

8. Department and Committee Reports

- □ Plan Commission
- □ Community Development Authority
- □ Rome Lester Library Board
- □ Utility Committee
- □ Police and Fire Commission
- □ Visit Rome WI, Inc
- □ Parks and Recreation Committee
- □ Zoning
- □ Alcohol Beverage License Review
- □ Rome Fire Department
- □ Rome Public Works
- □ Rome Police Department
- □ Administration
- □ Adams County Report
- □ EMS District Report

Supervisor Wiessinger announced that the Adams County Land and Water 9 Key Element Coordinator will be here on Tuesday, March 22, 2022 to do a presentation. Administrator Gebert announced that the Nature Conservancy purchased 4,300 acres part of which is in the Town of Rome. The Administrator also reminded everyone that the drop box in the vestibule cannot be used to drop absentee ballots off in Town Hall. There will be a Voter's Forum in the Board room on March 21, 2022. Update from Lifestar that the average response time for Rome is 6½ minutes.

DISCUSS AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON THE FOLLOWING ITEMS:

9. Discussion and action – Approval of the March 3, 2022 meeting minutes

Motion by Gohmann/Minter to approve the March 3, 2022 meeting minutes. Motion carried.

10. Discussion and action – Checks, Vouchers, Receipts and Journal Entries - approve checks #43887 – 43978 totaling $5,062,142.41; Auto-payments totaling $935,344.53; State / Social Security / Medicare / Withholdings totaling $35,769.43; Payroll checks 21639 – 21640 totaling $132.04; Payroll Vouchers V18385 – V18517 totaling $89335.16 and Receipts #22939 - 23035 totaling $75,484.65

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

11. Discussion and possible action – Approval of Ordinance No. 22-03, Recommendation from the Plan Commission on consideration of the proposed Comprehensive Plan map 9 amendment from Forestry to Rural Residential and zoning map amendment from FR (forest & outdoor recreation) to R-5 (Rural Estate Residence District) relating to the property owned by John Ames, described as follows: Parcel number 030-00536-0000 also described as the NW ¼, SW ¼, Section 03, Town 20N, Range 06E, Town of Rome, Adams County, WI, total area 40 acres

Applicant John Ames is requesting an amendment in zoning from FR (forest & outdoor recreation) to R-5 (Rural Estate Residence District). Mr. Ames would like an R-4 Rural Residence District, instead of R-5 due to the size of home he would construct on the property. R-5 is 1,500 square foot living space minimum and R-4 is 760 square foot living space minimum. Plan Commission approved R-4 Zoning with condition Mr. Ames would sign agreement to be recorded on deed restricting any future land division of the 40-acre parcel. Applicant did agree to condition and signed Findings of Fact.

Motion by Wiessinger/Gohmann to approve Ordinance 22-03, Recommendation from the Plan Commission on consideration of the proposed Comprehensive Plan map 9 amendment from Forestry to Rural Residential and zoning map amendment from FR (forest & outdoor recreation) to R-4 (Rural Residence District) relating to the property owned by John Ames, described as follows: Parcel number

030-00536-0000 also described as the NW ¼, SW ¼, Section 03, Town 20N, Range 06E, Town of Rome, Adams County, WI, total area 40 acres and authorize Chairman Hasdal to enter into an agreement with the resident. Motion carried.

12. Discussion and possible action – Approval of Ordinance No. 22-04, Recommendation from the Plan Commission on consideration of the proposed Comprehensive Plan map 9 amendment from Forestry to Outdoor Recreation and zoning map amendment from FR (forest & outdoor recreation) to PSP (Public/Semi-Public) relating to the property owned by Town of Rome described as follows: Parcel numbers 030-00977-0000, 030-00978-0000, 030-00998-0015, 030-00998-0020, 030-00998-0025, 030-01032-0000, 030-01033-0000, 030-01039-0000, 030-01066-0000 all parcels also described as part of Sections 28, 29, 32, 33, Town 20N, Range 06E, Town of Rome, Adams County, WI, total area 388.95 acres

    Attorney Flanagan stated that this item is in relation to rezoning 388.95 acres adjacent to Dyracuse Park. The Plan Commission has recommended the comprehensive plan amendments and rezoning.

    Motion by Wiessinger/Minter to approve Ordinance No. 22-04, Recommendation from the Plan Commission on consideration of the proposed Comprehensive Plan map 9 amendment from Forestry to Outdoor Recreation and zoning map amendment from FR (forest & outdoor recreation) to PSP (Public/Semi-Public) relating to the property owned by Town of Rome described as follows: Parcel numbers 030-00977-0000, 030-00978-0000, 030-00998-0015, 030-00998-0020, 030-00998-0025, 030-01032-0000, 030-01033-0000, 030-01039-0000, 030-01066-0000 all parcels also described as part of Sections 28, 29, 32, 33, Town 20N, Range 06E, Town of Rome, Adams County, WI, total area 388.95 acres. Motion carried.

13. Discussion and possible action – Recommendation from the Plan Commission regarding a preliminary plat for Sedge Village subdivision to be located on a 288.42-acre parcel owned by Wisconsin Dunes LLC described as Section 26, Town 20N, Range 5E, Town of Rome, Adams County, WI, parcel numbers of 030-00327-0000, 030-00328-0000, 030-00330-0000, 030-00331-0000, 030-00332-0000, 030-00333-0000, 030-00340-0000, 030-00334-0000, 030-00335-0000, 030-00339-0010

    Attorney Flanagan stated that this is a preliminary plat for Sedge Village Subdivision. Plan Commission has recommended it for approval with a proposed access plan for emergency access vehicles on the Northwest. The final plat will go back to Plan Commission and then back to the Board for approval. Motion by Gohmann/Wiessinger to approve the preliminary plat with the Plan Commission recommendations for a revised map. Motion carried.

14. Discussion and possible action – Acceptance of land donation from Archer North LLC, also described at Section 19, Town 20N, Range 6E, Lot 18 of the Lido Conservancy, with a parcel identification number of 030-07004-0118, 20-acres total

    Administrator Gebert explained that this is 20 acres that was part of the Lido Conservancy and Lot 18 could be used if the Transfer Site needed to expand. Motion by Wiessinger/Minter to accept land donation from Archer North LLC, also described at Section 19, Town 20N, Range 6E, Lot 18 of the Lido Conservancy, with a parcel identification number of 030-07004-0118, 20-acres total. Motion carried.

15. Discussion and possible action – Town acceptance of monetary donations from Sand Valley & Nekoosa Port Edwards State Bank towards Bandshell/Pavilion in Rome Town Center Park

    Administrator Gebert announced that there are donations from Sand Valley and Nekoosa Port Edwards State Bank for a total of $100,000.00 and thanked them for the donations. Motion by Minter/Wiessinger

to accept monetary donations from Sand Valley and Nekoosa Port Edwards State Bank towards the Bandshell/Pavilion in the Rome Town Center Park.

Supervisor Gohmann asked an update on this project. The Administrator stated that the low bid has been discussed and those bids will be coming to the Town Board to accept and construction could begin. This project is close to being fully funded. Supervisor Gohmann would like estimated revenues and expenses for operations.

Motion carried.

16. Discussion and possible action – Formation of a Joint Community Development Authority (CDA) and Plan Commission Sub-committee for the update of the Town of Rome Comprehensive Plan and potential recommendation of Zoning Code amendments

    Motion by Wiessinger/Gohmann to form a Joint Community Development Authority (CDA) and Plan Commission Sub-committee for the update of the Town of Rome Comprehensive Plan and potential recommendation of Zoning Code amendments. Motion carried.

17. Discussion and possible action – Approval of American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) project funds use towards 2022 Road Maintenance Projects

    Motion by Minter/Wiessinger to approve use of the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) project funds towards 2022 Road Maintenance Projects that came in slightly over budget in the amount of $9,845.00. Motion carried.

18. Discussion and possible action – Approval of American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) project funds use towards WisDOT FFY22 Surface Transportation Program (STP)-Local 2022 Grant for engineering cost towards Apache Avenue from 8th to 10th Avenue

    Administrator Gebert explained that this is to cover $7,000.00 in engineering costs that will not be included and covered by the grant.

    Motion by Gohmann/Wiessinger to approve use of the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) project funds towards WisDOT FFY22 Surface Transportation Program (STP)-Local 2022 Grant for engineering cost towards Apache Avenue from 8th to 10th Avenue. Motion carried.

19. Discussion and possible action – Continue consideration of potential American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) project funding options

    Administrator Gebert stated that she is updating the memo on the traffic light and road projects beyond 2022. The Administrator has spoken to the DOT and the light on Highway 13 is set up for emergency controls but a switch would have to be created for it. She is going to request an estimated cost from the DOT and report back to the Board. The Administrator stated that a report needs to be done on ARPA in April and then annually after that. The Administrator then reviewed the four projects that Public Works Superintendent Martinson proposed. Supervisor Wiessinger felt that crack and chip fill would be most important to maintain the roads. Administrator Gebert stated that the Town should hear from WE Energies shortly on the cost of their project. After the Town gets those numbers she will have an idea of the amount of ARPA funds that will remain. Chairman Hasdal wants a separate estimate on crack and chip sealing for each road that is being proposed.

20. 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 – Continue consideration of possible ARPA Fund hazard/premium pay amounts to Town employees

    Motion at 5:42 p.m. by Wiessinger/Gohmann to enter 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 – Continue consideration of possible ARPA Fund hazard/premium pay amounts to Town employees. Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.

21. 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 6:10 p.m. by Minter/Wiessinger 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

22. Next agenda items

    Update to Bassuener Trucking Agreement
    Authorize TRIP for Lifestar
    ARPA funds approval

23. Next meeting date and time

    April 7, 2022 – 5:00 p.m.
    Annual Meeting, Tuesday, April 19, 2022 – 6:00 p.m. with regular Town Board Meeting to follow
    April 21, 2022 Town Board Meeting cancelled

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Gohmann/Wiessinger to adjourn at 6:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Amy Reuteman
Clerk/Treasurer