



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

AGENDA TOWN OF ROME PUBLIC WORKS & UTILITIES COMMITTEE

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 2026

9:00 A.M.

**ROME TOWN HALL
1156 Alpine Drive
Nekoosa, WI 54457**

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Pledge of Allegiance
4. Certify Posting of Meeting
5. Approve the Agenda
6. Citizen Comments – During the Citizen Comment period of the agenda the Utilities Committee welcomes comments from any town resident, not a member of the Utilities Committee, on any item not on the agenda. Please know that pursuant to state law the commission cannot engage in conversation with you but may ask questions. The commission 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 Rome Water Utility Office Manager providing their name, address and topic for discussion.

The commission 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 commission begins discussion on an agenda item no further comment will be allowed from the public on that issue

NO ACTION CONTEMPLATED EXCEPT POSSIBLE REFERRAL TO FUTURE AGENDA:

7. Information updates, meeting recaps, recent correspondence, and current events

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON THE FOLLOWING ITEMS:

8. Discussion and possible action – Approval of the July 28, 2026 meeting minutes
9. Discussion only – Review August 2026 Public Works Parks Financials & Water Utility Financials
10. Discussion only – Water Utility & Public Works Update
11. Discussion only – Town Hall Kitchen Renovation Update
12. Discussion only – Cyber Security Update
13. Discussion only – Dyracuse Camping

14. Discussion and possible action – Emergency Warning System through cell phones

15. Discussion and possible action – Cellular Towers

DATES AND ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDA/MEETINGS

16. Next agenda items

17. Next meeting date and time

ADJOURNMENT

“Speak Your Peace” Commitment – A reminder that the Town Board Members have adopted the Nine Tools of Civility which commits the Board Members and Public to be mindful of how we treat each other at meetings. Notification of this meeting has been posted in accordance with the Open Meeting Laws of the State of Wisconsin. The Public Works & Utilities Committee may take action on any item on the agenda. It is possible that the members of and possibly a quorum of members of other governmental bodies of the municipality may be in attendance at the above-stated meeting to gather information; no action will be taken by any governmental body at the above-stated meeting other than the Public Works & Utilities Committee. Please note that, upon reasonable notice, efforts will be made to accommodate the needs of disabled individuals through appropriate aids and services. For additional information or to request this service, contact Wendy Newsom, Town Clerk, at 1156 Alpine Drive, Nekoosa, WI 54457, ph. 715-325-8046.

***Positively applying the tools of government to serve and protect our people,
strengthen our community and promote prosperity.***



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MINUTES TOWN OF ROME PUBLIC WORKS & UTILITY COMMITTEE

TUESDAY, JULY 28, 2026

9:00 A.M.

1. Call to Order

Member Dave Loker called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

2. Discussion and possible action – Appointment of Officers

➤ Chairperson

Motion by Schumacher/Preuss to nominate Dave Loker as Chairperson. Motion carried, with Loker abstaining from the vote.

➤ Vice-Chairperson

Motion by Loker/Preuss to nominate Deb Schumacher as Vice-Chairperson. Motion carried, with Schumacher abstaining from the vote.

3. Roll Call

Committee Members Present: David Loker, Deborah Schumacher, Carl Hasdal, Mark Lewis and Colleen Preuss

Also Present: Finance Director/Treasurer, Robbie Schaub-Ruemler, Director of Public Works, Cody Knoblock, Deputy Clerk/Treasurer, Taylor Owczynsky and Zoning Administrator, Emily Arndt.

4. Pledge of Allegiance

5. Certify Posting of Meeting

Deputy Clerk/Treasurer, Taylor Owczynsky certified that on Thursday, July 23, 2026, the agenda for the Town of Rome Public Works & Utility Committee meeting for Tuesday, July 28, 2026 was posted at the following locations:

Rome Town Hall at 3:30 p.m.

Kwik Trip, LLC at 3:55 p.m.

Nekoosa Port Edwards State Bank at 1:38 p.m.

Emailed to the Wisconsin Rapids Daily Tribune at 2:00 p.m.

6. Approve the Agenda

Motion by Hasdal/Schumacher to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried.

7. Citizen Comments – During the Citizen Comment period of the agenda the Utilities Committee welcomes comments from any town resident, not a member of the Utilities Committee, on any item not on the agenda. Please know that pursuant to state law the commission cannot engage in conversation with you but may ask questions. The commission 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 Rome Water Utility Office Manager providing their name, address and topic for discussion.

The commission 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 commission begins discussion on an agenda item no further comment will be allowed from the public on that issue

No Citizen Comments Received

NO ACTION CONTEMPLATED EXCEPT POSSIBLE REFERRAL TO FUTURE AGENDA:

8. Information updates, meeting recaps, recent correspondence, and current events

Vice -Chair Schumacher- Camelot Frolics are August 14th at the Camelot Lodge.

Member Hasdal – Shared that there has been a court date set for October 26, 2026 in regards to the proposed Solar Farm status.

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON THE FOLLOWING ITEMS:

9. Discussion and possible action – Approval of the May 12, 2026 meeting minutes

Motion by Schumacher/Lewis to approve the May 12, 2026 meeting minutes. Motion carried.

10. Discussion only – Review June 2026 Public Works Dyracuse Financials & Water Utility Financials

Discussion regarding the Public Works Dyracuse Financials. Schaub-Ruemler explained that the park is funded solely through grant funds and user fees. Knoblock spoke to the fact that the users are steady/consistent throughout the season. Schaub-Ruemler gave an update on the financials for the Water Utility and that the budget is on track for the year. Discussion regarding the difference between a metered versus non-metered camping hydrant. Discussion regarding the process for a “rate increase”. The Committee asked several questions, and all were addressed.

11. Discussion only – Water Utility & Public Works Update

Knoblock gave an update that they recently met with their DNR representative and she plans to recommend to her superiors that the Rome Water Utility should proceed with a rate case.

Knoblock gave an update regarding the road work on the west side of HWY 13, in Lake Arrowhead. The parking lot at Station 2 has been prepped for paving; DPW workers performed this task. In the Rome Town Center, by the bandshell, they have begun prepping for the food truck pad as well as a shade structure for the performers. He explained that he has purchased new equipment for the Public Works Department and Dyracuse. He also shared that Glenn Janicki retired recently. He spoke to the current employee duties and tasks and the fact that they are all being cross-trained.

12. Discussion and possible action – Recommendation to the Town Board; Town Hall Kitchen Renovation/Design

Discussion regarding the concept drawings for the kitchen remodel. Hasdal requested the plans be updated to have a conference room rather than two smaller offices. Discussion regarding the possibility of adding an oven/stove into the kitchen and the potential liability that could cause.

Motion by Schumacher/Loker to request an additional rendering of the plans by changing the two offices to a conference room. They would also like another drawing to include a stove; then the Town Board can decide the final plan, once it is put out for bids. Item recommended to be forwarded onto the Town Board. Motion carried.

13. Discussion and possible action – Dyracuse Camping

Discussion regarding camping at Dyracuse. Item tabled pending further discussion.

14. Discussion and possible action – Emergency Warning System through cell phones

Fire Chief Kane to have a meeting with IPAWS at 6pm tonight to discuss the potential of the implementation of an Emergency Warning System through cell phones. Update to be given at next meeting.

15. Discussion and possible action – Cellular Towers

Discussion in regards to cellular towers. Zoning Administrator, Emily Arndt reached out to Vertical Bridge to ask whether they are willing to bring towers to the Town of Rome. She has not received a response yet, as the contact is currently out of the office. Hasdal gave an update that he spoke with Derrick Smith and a company that they can work with. Hasdal to share information with Schaub-Ruemler and Arendt. Arendt spoke to the towers that were proposed, that Verizon was not interested in placing a tower. Arendt indicated that Verizon requested bids for towers and they did not receive anything back. Update to be given at next meeting.

DATES AND ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDA/MEETINGS

16. Next agenda items

- *Emergency warning system through cell tower*
- *Cellular Tower*
- *Water Utility & Public Works Update*
- *Town Hall Kitchen Renovation Update*
- *Dyracuse Camping*

17. Next meeting date and time

September 22, 2026 at 9:00 a.m.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Schumacher/Lewis to adjourn at 10:06 am. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Taylor Owczynsky

Taylor Owczynsky

Deputy Clerk/Treasurer

Account Number		2026 August	2026 Actual 08/31/2026	2026 Budget	Budget Status	% of Budget
100-18-40000-000-000	PARKS PRIOR YR REV	0.00	0.00	65,972.10	-65,972.10	0.00
100-18-41110-000-000	PARKS PROPERTY TAXES	0.00	17,003.98	17,003.98	0.00	100.00
100-18-46720-000-000	PARKS MISC REV	0.00	826.38	0.00	826.38	0.00
100-18-48500-100-000	PARKS DONATIONS	28,793.72	38,979.99	30,000.00	8,979.99	129.93
=====						
18 PARKS REV		28,793.72	56,810.35	112,976.08	-56,165.73	50.29
=====						
Total Revenues		28,793.72	56,810.35	112,976.08	-56,165.73	50.29
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Account Number		2026 August	2026 Actual 08/31/2026	2026 Budget	Budget Status	% of Budget
100-18-51938-100-000	PARKS INSURANCE	5,181.53	15,544.58	20,726.08	5,181.50	75.00
100-18-55200-150-000	PARKS OPERATIONS	498.00	3,678.70	5,550.00	1,871.30	66.28
100-18-55200-200-000	PARKS UTILITIES	91.44	6,395.34	29,700.00	23,304.66	21.53
100-18-57620-100-000	PARKS CAPITAL OUTLAY	17,617.10	17,617.10	57,000.00	39,382.90	30.91
18 PARKS EXP		23,388.07	43,235.72	112,976.08	69,740.36	38.27
Total Expenses		23,388.07	43,235.72	112,976.08	69,740.36	38.27
Net Totals		5,405.65	13,574.63	0.00	-13,574.63	

Rome Water Utility Actual to Budget Comparison - Revenue and Expenses 2026

	Aug-26	2026 YTD	2025 YTD	2026 BUDGET	TOTAL YEAR BUDGET TO 2026 YTD	YTD Bud % <u>67%</u> 2025 YTD %	Ref
REVENUES							
Residential Sales	\$ (621)	\$ 307,974	\$ 309,011	\$ 682,490	\$ (374,516)	45%	
Commercial/Pub. Auth Sales	-	\$ 13,865	13,153	82,931	(69,066)	17%	
Public Fire Protection	840	\$ 299,295	297,885	345,943	(46,648)	87%	
Interest Income	-	\$ 2,485	1,588	4,000	(1,515)	62%	
Misc Revenue/Late Fees	(3)	\$ 6,293	4,973	15,000	(8,707)	42%	
Non Operating Revenue	1,988	5,500	14,708	35,000	(29,500)	16%	
TOTAL SALES, REVENUE & INCOME	\$ 2,204	\$ 635,411	\$ 641,319	\$ 1,165,367	\$ (529,953)	55%	
Funds Reserved					-		
RESERVE							
TOTAL REVENUES	\$ 2,204	\$ 635,411	\$ 641,319	\$ 1,165,367	\$ (529,953)	55%	
Commissioner Wages	\$ -	\$ 96	\$ 0	\$ 900	\$ 804	11%	
Personnel Wages	12,443	89,218	86,481	142,243	53,025	63%	
Employee Insurance/HSA	8,353	58,363	38,726	69,932	11,569	83%	1
Training and Education	-	390	2,300	3,500	3,110	11%	
Payroll Taxes	473	4,219	3,215	9,812	5,593	43%	
Fringe-Retirement	809	6,106	5,362	9,235	3,129	66%	
Utilities	1,604	14,256	12,822	33,000	18,744	43%	
Plant Expense	923	14,047	15,535	42,000	27,953	33%	
Transportation Expense	-	713	3,780	15,000	14,287	5%	
Lg Equipment & Plant Repairs	910	2,784	1,852	14,000	11,216	20%	
Water Line Repair/Maint.	-	941	1,427	30,000	29,059	3%	
Cross Connection Control	-	-	-	2,500	2,500	0%	
Meter Expense	380	2,829	852	7,500	4,671	38%	
Office Expense	107	10,638	8,205	21,253	10,615	50%	
Accounting Fees	-	12,620	15,969	27,000	14,380	47%	
Bank Charges	-	39	1,050	2,000	1,962	2%	
Attorney Fees	-	-	-	500	500	0%	
Outside Services	1,325	2,317	5,524	12,100	9,783	19%	
Contract Work- Jobbing	-	-	10,014	20,000	20,000	0%	
Insurance Expense	-	9,418	4,719	18,500	9,082	51%	
Bad Debt Expense	-	-	-	500	500	0%	
Payment in Lieu	-	37,396	45,249	125,300	87,904	30%	
Interest Expense	-	-	32,357	10,163	10,163	0%	
TOTAL EXPENSES	27,328	266,390	295,438	726,938	460,548	37%	
SUBTOTAL REVENUE OVER (UNDER) EXPENSES	(25,124)	369,021	345,880	319,664	(69,405)		
Depreciation Expense	20,000	160,000	160,000	-	-	0%	
Bank Loan	-	-	-	-	-	0%	
Revenue Bond Amortization	-	-	-	-	-	0%	
SDWLP-Prinipal	-	-	-	319,664	319,664	0%	
Revenue Bond-Principal	-	-	-	-	-	0%	
Reserves/Capital Exp.	-	-	-	110,000	110,000	0%	
OTHER NON-CASH USE	\$ 20,000	\$ 160,000	\$ 505,880	\$ 429,664	\$ 429,664	37%	
TOTAL REVENUE OVER (UNDER) EXPENSES	\$ (45,124)	\$ 209,021	\$ 185,881	\$ (110,000)	\$ 360,260		

Rome Water Utility Actual to Budget Comments

1. Health Savings Payments made; account will balance out throughout the year