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

TOWN OF ROME BOARD MEETING MINUTES

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 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 Cyndee Lewis, Vito Giardino, Mark Samelstad and Tim Reppen; also present: Clerk Wendy Newsom and Finance Director/Treasurer/Interim Administrator Robbie Schaub-Ruemler

3. Certify Posting of Meeting

   Wendy Newsom certified that on, Wednesday, November 4, 2026, the Amended Agenda for the Town of Rome Board meeting for Thursday, November 5, 2026 was posted at:

Posted at the Rome Town Hall	*11:30 a.m.*
Posted at Kwik Trip, LLC	*11:45 a.m.*
Posted at Nekoosa Port Edwards State Bank	*11:50 a.m.*
Emailed to the Wisconsin Rapids Tribune	*11:23 a.m.*

4. Approve the Agenda

   Motion by Giardino/Lewis 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

   No citizen comments.

NO ACTION CONTEMPLATED EXCEPT POSSIBLE REFERRAL TO FUTURE AGENDA:

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

   Giardino: Supervisor Giardino contacted the County regarding the ADA Pier and they have submitted 2 applications for grants and hope that they will have an answer in January. He would like to give kudos to Visit Rome and the businesses who contributed to the Trunk or Treat event which was very successful.

   Hasdal: Next Wednesday is Veterans Day and there will be a ceremony at the cemetery with a luncheon to follow.

   Clerk Newsom: Thanked the Election Workers for their hard work at the election on Tuesday.

DISCUSS AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON THE FOLLOWING ITEMS:

8. Discussion and possible action – Approval of the October 15, 2026, October 21, 2026, October 26, 2026 and October 27, 2026 meeting minutes

   Motion by Samelstad/Reppen to approve the October 15, 2026, October 21, 2026, October 26, 2026 and October 27, 2026 meeting minutes. Motion carried.

9. Discussion and possible action – Approval of the dissolution of the Rome Town Center Sub-Committee

   Motion by Giardino/Lewis to approve the dissolution of the Rome Town Center Sub-Committee. Motion carried.

10. Discussion and possible action – Update on the Solar Farm

    Chairman Hasdal stated that there was a court date on the 26th and the Court found in favor of the Town. There is another suit with the County and the PSC and there may be a settlement on that one and the County may want the Town to join with them on that lawsuit.

11. Discussion and possible action – Approval of Resolution No. 26 – 08; A Resolution for Inclusion Under the Income Continuation Insurance Plan with the State of Wisconsin Employee Trust Funds

    Clerk Newsom explained that this is a short/long term disability program offered by the State to our employees. There is no cost to the Town and currently there is a premium holiday for this program for local employers until March of 2028.

    Motion by Lewis/Giardino to approve Resolution No. 26 – 08; A resolution for inclusion under the Income Continuation Insurance Plan with the State of Wisconsin Employee Trust Funds. Motion carried.

12. Discussion and possible action – Approval of a request from Sand Valley for the Chairman to sign an insurance claim release of funds

Clerk Newsom explained that Sand Valley had to make an insurance claim and in order for them to receive the funds the Town has to sign off that Sand Valley does not owe money to the Town for the TIF.

Motion by Reppen/Samelstad to approve the request from Sand Valley for the Chairman to sign an insurance claim release of funds. Motion carried.

13. Discussion and possible action – The Board may go into closed session pursuant to Wisconsin Statutes 19.85(1)(c) for the purpose of considering employment, promotion, compensation or performance evaluation of any public employee over which the governmental body has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility

    a. Deputy Clerk/Treasurer
    b. Town Administrator

    Motion at 5:12 p.m. by Samelstad/Reppen to go into closed session pursuant to Wisconsin Statutes 19.85(1)(c) for the purpose of considering employment, promotion, compensation or performance evaluation of any public employee over which the governmental body has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility

    c. Deputy Clerk/Treasurer
    d. Town Administrator

    Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.

    The Board exited closed session at 5:45 p.m.

14. Discussion and possible action – The Board reserves the right to come out of closed session and go into open session authorized by Wisconsin Statutes 19.85(2) to possibly take action from the closed session and continue with the agenda

    Motion at 5:45 by Samelstad/Reppen to enter into open session authorized by Wisconsin Statutes 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/Lewis to proceed as discussed with the contract to authorize the hiring of the candidate and make it public once the person accepts the position. Motion carried.

    Motion by Lewis/Giardino to go back to number 10 regarding the discussion on the Solar Farm. Motion carried.

    The Attorney would like to have a closed session at the next meeting to discuss if the Town should join suit with the County.

DATES AND ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDA/MEETINGS

15. Next agenda items

    - *Change of Agent for the Lodge on Lake Camelot*

- *Plan Commission items*
- *Closed session for the Solar Farm Legal*
- *Reimbursement for gas mileage for the Police Department*
- *Recording of meetings*
- *Administrator position*

16. Next meeting date and time

November 12, 2026 – 6:00 p.m. Town Budget Meeting
November 19, 2026 – 5:00 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Giardino/Lewis to adjourn the meeting at 5:54 p.m. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Wendy Newsom
Wendy Newsom
Clerk