

Village of Romeo Board of Trustees
Meeting Minutes
Monday September 16, 2019, 7:00 p.m.

Location: 361 Morton Street, Romeo, MI 48065

Present: Nathan Bartholomew
Matt Edward
Zach Fowler
Bob Hart
Meagan Poznanski
Randy Seidel
Christine Malzahn

Absent None

1. CALL TO ORDER-PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND ROLL CALL
President Malzahn called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m. and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

2. Approval of Minutes
MOTION by Bartholomew second by Poznanski to approve the meeting minutes for August 19, 2019
AYES: All
NAYS: None
Motion carried.
MOTION by Hart second by Bartholomew to approve the meeting minutes for Closed Session August 19, 2019
AYES: All
NAYS: None
Motion Carried
MOTION by Hart second by Poznanski to approve the meeting minutes for Closed Session September 9, 2019
AYES: Hart, Poznanski, Seidel, Bartholomew, Edwards, Hart, Malzahn
NAYS: None
OBSTAIN: Fowler
Motion carried.

3. Approval of Bills
MOTION by Bartholomew second by Hart to approve the bills in the amounts of \$1,770,895.04 and \$82,510.71.
AYES: Bartholomew, Hart, Edwards, Seidel, Fowler, Poznanski, Malzahn
NAYS: None

Motion carried.

4. Approval of Agenda

MOTION by Malzahn second by Hart to approve the agenda with the change of moving Turning Point Presentation from New Business to Public Forum

AYES: All

NAYS: None

Motion carried.

5. Correspondences – One letter was read by President Malzahn

6. Public Forum –Turning Point in Mt. Clemens gave a presentation for Domestic Violence Awareness Month that takes place in October.

7. Officer Reports:

a. President - Clerk Trapp and I both attend our 2nd Meet the Leaders morning at the Romeo Senior Center. It so nice to see our seniors gathering here to enjoy exercise, cards, a meal etc. We had some discussion regarding the P&R millage and encouraged them to get the facts and understand the language before they cast their vote. There continues to be very heated debate regarding Washington Townships 20 year millage proposal – we are encouraging everyone to get out and vote – especially the South side of Romeo voters since they are within the township and will be subject to this tax if it passes. If you need an absentee ballot application we have some here tonight on the back table or you can stop in to the Village Hall and fill one out. Since this is an off-election year low voter turnout is expected but we don't want our 500+ voters to be overshadowed by the 10,000+ voters of the rest of Washington Township. The Sidewalk Sub-committee has met twice since the last meeting along with DPW Supervisor Tim Metz, and as you can see in our packets we are going to recommend a plan be approved tonight.

I have to thank EVERYONE of our Village Employees, especially Police, Dispatch and DPW for doing such a great job over Labor Day Weekend. There was a record turn-out of attendees and I have heard of no major incidents. So thank you for keeping us all safe. Tomorrow morning I will be attending a celebration hosted by Arlington Industries and the MEDC. They will be formally announcing that Arlington will be moving into our industrial park at 121 Peyerk Court. A big thank you to the Macomb Economic Development Corporation for all your efforts in securing this investment in Macomb County and more importantly close to home – here in Romeo.

Has everyone noticed how clean and spiffy the water tower looks? Thanks again to Tim Metz for getting the crew here to power wash it. It should also be inspected in the next few weeks to make sure everything a being maintained adequately.

And lastly, don't forget to stop by our new Coffee House – MainsTreats and grab a latte then walk down to the mural, you can watch DIA artist Nicole MacDonald adding color to the outline. Be sure to join the DDA, Starkweather Arts Center and the DIA for the grand unveiling and dedication on Saturday October 12 during our harvest Day Celebration.

b. Clerk - Romeo Peach Festival was a great success for the Romeo Lions. I enjoyed being a judge for the Floral Parade. I would like to thank the Romeo Police

Department for keeping everyone safe during the festival weekend and to the DPW for cleaning up after everyone during festival weekend. Both of your departments contribute to the success of the Peach Festival.

Friday September 6 President Malzahn and spent some time with the seniors at the Community Center on Morton Street. Coffee was provided by Rule 62. We got a chance to meet a lot of seniors that utilize the programs there and enjoyed conversations about a variety of topics. Tuesday Sept 10 Macomb County Partners meeting that was held in Ray Township. Macomb County Economic and Development presented the meeting.

Thursday Sept 12, I attended the Michigan Association of Municipal Clerks Free Education Day in Mt. Pleasant. The morning had the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency division of the Department of Homeland Security come speak about cyber security and computer networks. Most of the conversation revolved around cybersecurity for the upcoming 2020 elections. The next topic was the 2020 Census. The presentation was given by the Executive Director of the Census in Michigan. It was noted that in 2010 Michigan was the only state to LOSE population so this census count will be very important in this state. Next spring enumerators, people going to door to door, will be in the Village knocking on doors taking census count. Because it is in the US Constitution those employees are exempt from obtaining a Village of Romeo Solicitors Permit. So, watch out for them late spring of next year. Between January and April mailers from the Census will be coming to your mailbox. The Director also wanted us Clerks to pass along that the census is hiring! More information is at the Village office or online at 2020census.gov. The final topic was elections. Since proposal 3 passed last year many changes will be coming to elections in the year 2020. No-Reason Absentee will be big so that application will be worded different. The appearance of absentee envelopes and communications will be different, also. On October 12th, the Village of Romeo will be joining Bruce Township for an Electronic Recycle Day. It will take place at Bruce Township Hall. *(The date was later corrected as October 19, 2019).*

c. Treasurer – Treasurer Maddox was not in attendance for the meeting therefore Clerk Trapp gave her report as follows:

- 1). Processing Tax Payments (working late)
- 2). Invested in Certificate of Deposits

d. Trustees – Trustee Poznanski attended 2 Parks and Rec meetings, attended Coffee with Lucido, thank you to our police and Romeo/Bruce fire department for doing such a good job at Peach Festival.

e. Ex-Officio Planning Commission Member – Trustee Fowler spoke about the property lot split/combo ordinance.

8. Committee Reports

a. Armada Sewer Committee – hasn't met

9. Unfinished Business

a. Sidewalk Repair Program and Ordinance Change

**Trustee Hart spoke about what the Sidewalk Committee discussed
MOTION by Bartholomew second by Seidel to move forward with
sending letters to residents in need of sidewalk repair**

AYES: Bartholomew, Seidel, Hart, Edwards, Poznanski, Malzahn

NAYS: Fowler

Motion carried

MOTION by Hart second by Poznanski to update the sidewalk ordinance as amended, eliminating the sentence that a permit is not required.

AYES: Hart, Poznanski, Seidel, Edwards, Bartholomew, Malzahn

NAYS: Fowler

Motion carried.

10. New Business

- a. Lot Split/Combo – Conrad

MOTION by Fowler second by Hart to accept the Lot Split/Combo application request as presented by resident Jennifer Conrad

AYES: All

NAYS: None

Motion Carried.

- b. Lot Split/Combo – Cushingberry

MOTION by Fowler second by Bartholomew to accept the Lot Split/Combo application request as presented by residents Marvin and Debbie Cushingberry

AYES: All

NAYS: None

- c. Turning Point Presentation – Was moved to Public Forum

- d. Industrial Park Sign Ordinance Change

Ex-Officio Planning Commission Member Trustee Fowler discussed the ordinance language update as drafted by Village Planner Steve Cassin

MOTION by Hart second by Edwards to adopt the new language for the Industrial Park Sign Ordinance Change

AYES: All

NAYS: None

Motion carried.

- e. Snow Emergency Parking Ordinance

MOTION by Bartholomew second by Edwards to adopt the ordinance as presented

AYES: All

NAYS: None

Motion carried.

- f. 2019-2020 Mils Renewal

MOTION by Poznanski second by Hart to approve the 2019-2020 Mils Renewal at the rates of 13 mils for general and 1.5 for streets

AYES: All

NAYS: None

Motion carried.

- g. North West Parking Lot Quadrant (requested by Trustee Poznanski)

No board action was taken.

- h. DDA Appointment

MOTION by Bartholomew second by Hart to approve the appointment of Thom Stephens to the vacant seat on the Downtown District Authority

AYES: All

NAYS: None

Motion carried.

11. Public Comments –

- Business owner Gregg Tarr spoke at the podium about his sign ordinance issue and his business.
- Trustee Poznanski reminded everyone about Harvest Days coming up on October 12th which will also include the unveiling of the new mural.
- Trustee Bartholomew announced that the Romeo United Methodist Church will be hosting a community breakfast to honor Magistrate Jennifer Andary.
- President Malzahn asked the Board of when they would like to schedule the upcoming HRC (Hubble Roth and Clark) SAW Grant presentation for our next meeting in October.

12. Adjournment

MOTION by Bartholomew second by Fowler to end the meeting at 8:33 p.m.

AYES: All

NAYS: None

Motion Carried.

Meeting adjourned at 8:33 p.m.

Submitted by,
Kathryn Trapp
Clerk, Village of Romeo