

Notice is hereby given that a Public Hearing will be held by the Village of Romeo Board of Trustees on Monday, August 16, 2021, at 7:00 p.m., at the Romeo Community Center 361 Morton Street, Romeo, MI 48065. Purpose of Hearing: To hear comments oral or written of the amendments proposed to Ordinance #498 Salary of Trustees and Ordinance #552 Salary of the President.

President Malzahn opened the Public Hearing at 7:00 p.m. No comments were made. President Malzahn closed the Public Hearing at 7:01 p.m.

Notice is hereby given that a Public Hearing will be held by the Village of Romeo Board of Trustees on Monday, August 16, 2021, at 7:00 p.m., at the Romeo Community Center 361 Morton Street, Romeo, MI 48065. Purpose of Hearing: To hear comments oral or written on **ORDINANCE #557 VILLAGE OF ROMEO, MACOMB COUNTY, MICHIGAN AN ORDINANCE TO PROVIDE FOR THE LICENSING AND REGULATING OF MARIHUANA BUSINESSES PERMITTED WITHIN THE VILLAGE OF ROMEO, MICHIGAN, AND TO PROVIDE PENALTIES FOR VIOLATIONS OF THE ORDINANCE.** The purpose of this ordinance is to regulate permitted marihuana businesses, which includes marihuana growers, marihuana safety compliance establishments, marihuana processors, marihuana retailers, medical marihuana provisioning centers and marihuana secure transporters, licensed by the State of Michigan, which are the only permitted uses in the Village of Romeo. It does not include a marihuana microbusiness, or any other type of marihuana-related business, which is or are not permitted by this ordinance.

President Malzahn opened the Public Hearing at 7:01p.m. No comments were made. President Malzahn closed the Public Hearing at 7:01 p.m.

**Board of Trustees Meeting  
MINUTES**

Date: August 16, 2021

Time: 7:00 p.m.

Location: 361 Morton Street, Romeo, MI 48065

South Building Meeting Room

**PRESENT:** BARTHOLOMEW  
EDWARDS  
FOWLER  
HART  
PARKER  
POZNANSKI  
PRESIDENT MALZAHN

1. Call to order – pledge of allegiance. President Malzahn called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.
2. Roll Call
3. **CONSENT AGENDA** (*minutes July 19, 2021, CLOSED SESSIONS (2) July 19, 2021*) (*council bills/vendor report \$32,940.16 AND \$211,954.92, Meeting Agenda*)

**MOTION by Hart second by Bartholomew to approve the agenda with the additions of Resolution for Signature Approval as d. under Unfinished Business and add the extension of the State of Emergency under New Business**

**AYES: All**

**NAYS: None**

**Motion carried.**

**MOTION by Malzahn second by Hart to approve the minutes with these amendments – item 3. has Parker voting twice and Fowler not voting at all, Bills – only one amount was noted, item e. Parker voted twice Poznanski didn't vote at all, item 12. Closed Session Malzahn voting twice**

**AYES: Malzahn, Hart, Bartholomew, Edwards, Hart, Parker, Poznanski**

**NAYS: Fowler**

**Motion carried.**

**MOTION by Malzahn second by Bartholomew to the July 19<sup>th</sup> Closed Session meeting minutes with one correction – Malzahn voted twice**

**AYES: All**

**NAYS: None**

**Motion carried.**

**MOTION by Edwards second by Malzahn to approve the bills in the amounts of \$32,940.16 and \$211,954.92**

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

**NAYS: Parker, Fowler**

**Motion carried.**

4. Special Presentations - None
5. Correspondence(s) - None
6. Public Comment – Ruth Heidebreicht, 334 S Salem made comments
7. Officer reports

- a. President

I want to extend my condolences the family of US Representative Paul Mitchell, who passed away this past week. Paul was a strong advocate for the Village of Romeo and we will miss his leadership and efforts at the Federal level on our behalf.

Trees Trees Trees! We love our trees but many of them have sustained significant damage with all of the recent storms. DPW Supervisor, Tim Metz has been directing his staff as well as working with several contractors to clean-up the storm damage and in some cases, take down the diseased Ash and hollow Maple trees.

The Tree Board is, as quickly as possible, drafting a planting, care and maintenance plan for trees, with the goal of net zero loss of tree scape. At this time, however, the Village is unable to address trees that are on private property, only those in the ROW. If you have a concern about a tree in your easement, please call the office so that I can add it to our ever-growing list.

Armada has expressed their sincere gratitude for our assistance, after the tragedy that struck their downtown last month. After hearing about the devastating tornado, I reached out to Supervisor John

Paterek to see how Romeo could assist. Our DPW crew were able to remove some of the downed trees and limbs. I know there were several other groups of Romeo volunteers that also went to lend a hand. That's what makes this such an amazing area to live in – neighbors helping neighbors, communities helping communities.

I attended the bi-monthly FORD Engine Plant focus group meeting coordinated by Vicki Raad of the MEDC on July 28<sup>th</sup>. The regional partnership group is focusing on a marketing plan for future uses at that site in hopes of attracting another large manufacturer.

It was reported, by Dee Skinner, current plant manager that preliminary soil boring sampling has been done in a few areas of that site that are not currently active. The group is hoping to get a report on the initial testing from the VP of Ford Land at our next meeting. The scope of remediation necessary once the production lines have been shut down, will ultimately dictate the length of time before another user can be up and running.

The Michigan Association of Mayors & Presidents, of which I am a member, hosted an in-person summer workshop in Sault Ste Marie last week. It was an extreme pleasure to network with over 60 other municipal leaders, and learn some best practices that others have put into place in their communities.

One of the sessions I attend was to hear some legislative updates from Chris Holbarth, from the Michigan Municipal League. Of particular interest was the topic of state budgeting. It was reported that the state has seen a historic high in sales tax revenue and the legislators are trying to figure out what to do with their 1-billion-dollar increase in revenues. From that surplus we can anticipate getting a 2% increase in revenue sharing – no word yet on constitutional revenues.

Mr. Holbarth also discussed the proposed short-term rental legislation, that is currently being lobbied in Lansing. If that bill is adopted it would remove the municipalities' ability to regulate it locally, including zoning ordinances. We currently have several properties that are looking to become AirB&B type of rentals, so this could be a potential issue. I will be working on a meeting with our state representative as soon as possible to get better understanding of the local effects.

Workshop participants and their guests were treated to a private walking tour of the Sault Locks. This was so fascinating to be down in the tunnels to see the inner workings of that critical piece of national infrastructure. If you haven't taken a trip to the UP, I highly recommend that you add it to your bucket list.

Yesterday, I had the extreme privilege to worship at the First Congregational Church and participate in the opening of not one but three-time capsules that were recently found at the church. Thank you to Pastor Kim Newport, for the invitation, and for her inspirational message regarding the difficult decisions we sometime have to make, stepping out of our comfort zone and embracing change.

Romeo will certainly miss the physical presence of your leadership Pastor Newport, but are comforted in the fact that you are working to create a newer, bigger and better vision, led by our creator God.

The contents of the time-capsule will be on display for a short time so please take an opportunity to view those artifacts and the glimpse of our history.

The 2<sup>nd</sup> joint Paper Shred and E-Waste recycling event, sponsored by Bruce Twp and Romeo is scheduled for Saturday, October 16<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 AM – Noon. Please mark your calendars and bring your items for this FREE event.

As always, I continue to hold regular office hours to meet with our property and business owners to address their concerns. If you have a concern, compliment or complaint that you need assistance with, please call my office at 586-752-3565, ext 3

b. Clerk

The Cemetery board met to discuss a road proposal we have received. The board is still reviewing the proposal before they make a final decision on when and how to go forward

I attended an in-person CDBG meeting of continuing grand funds that could be available for COVID  
A special THANK YOU and GOOD LUCK to these 3 interns and volunteers that were with us the in the office over the past year:

Sam who will be attending Georgetown in a few weeks

Lauren who will be attending U of M in a few weeks

And Tori who is in the middle of her associates degree at Macomb Community College and will finish that starting in a few weeks

c. Treasurer

Tax payments are accepted into the Village Office until September 14. Come on into the office and say “hello” we miss seeing and talking with you. The best part of my job is servicing the residents and business owners. Payments can be made online through the Village Website or mailed. Caroline Miller is working diligently in learning the process of her position.

d. Trustees

Trustee Hart – attended the Tree Board meeting. Possibly planting 4-8 new trees. Donations of trees, lots of interest to donate trees. Attended the Parks and Rec meeting.

Trustee Poznanski – attended an Asset Management meeting (via Zoom), hosted a Trustee Talk, attended the Parks and Rec meeting

Trustee Bartholomew – Side Committee update. Sidewalks are looking good! Starting near Dickenson for the next round of repairs

- e. Ex-Officio Planning Commission – Trustee Fowler was not in attendance at the last Planning Commission meeting. President Malzahn gave report of agenda items that were discussed as she was in attendance along with Clerk Trapp at the Planning Commission meeting.

8. Committee Reports

- a. Sidewalk Subcommittee – haven’t met, no report
- b. Rental Inspection Subcommittee – haven’t met, no report
- c. Bruce Sewer Capacity Subcommittee – haven’t met, no report

9. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

A. ORDINANCE #557 Marihuana

**MOTION by Hart second by Edwards to remove “Vocation Schools” from the definitions, add the word “or” so “and/or” is involved in the implementation and strike the use of “or tobacco products on the premises”**

**AYES: Hart, Edwards, Parker, Bartholomew, Malzahn**

**NAYS: Poznanski, Fowler**

**Motion carried.**

**MOTION by Hart second by Parker amend the amend the ordinance to change from 1,000 feet to 750 feet and add definitions of “marihuana retailer” and “provisioning center”**

**AYES: Hart, Parker, Poznanski, Edwards, Malzahn, Fowler, Bartholomew**

**NAYS: None**

**Motion carried.**

- b. Trustee Salary/President Salary

**MOTION by Parker second by Hart to approve Ordinance #559 with changes**

**AYES: Parker, Hart, Bartholomew, Edwards, Malzahn**

**NAYS: Fowler, Poznanski**

**Motion carried.**

**MOTION by Parker second by Hart to approve the Trustee Pay ordinance of the removal of 16 meetings**

**AYES: Parker, Hart, Edwards, Poznanski, Fowler, Bartholomew, Malzahn**

**NAYS: None**

**Motion carried.**

- c. Village Hall Carpet

**MOTION by Fowler second by Edwards to approve the bid from Romeo Floors in the amount of \$5320.00**

**AYES: Fowler, Edwards, Bartholomew, Hart, Parker, Poznanski, Malzahn**

**NAYS: None**

**Motion carried.**

- d. Purchase Agreement (added item)

**MOTION by Fowler second by Parker to approve President Malzahn to sign the purchase agreement for the Church Street lot**

**AYES: Fowler, Parker, Poznanski, Bartholomew, Hart, Edwards, Malzahn**

**NAYS: None**

**Motion carried.**

## **10. NEW BUSINESS:**

- a. Armada Annexation

**MOTION by Edwards second by Poznanski to approve the annexation request from Chet Zahowski**

**AYES: All**

**NAYS: None**

**Motion carried.**

- b. DPW Snow Plow Trucks

DPW Supervisor Tim Metz spoke about the snow plow truck quotes that were given to the board

**MOTION by Edwards second by Parker to approve Freightliner chassis and Shultz Equipment Snow Plow for the DPW in the amounts of \$90,466.00 and \$74,900.00 each (2 trucks)**

**AYES: Edwards, Parker, Poznanski, Bartholomew, Fowler, Hart, Malzahn**

**NAYS: None**

**Motion carried.**

- c. WWTP Pump Replacement

WWTP Supervisor Al Lapeer spoke about the need for replacing the pump

**MOTION by Bartholomew second by Poznanski to go with Kerr Pump and Supply for the new pump**

**AYES: Bartholomew, Poznanski, Parker, Hart, Fowler, Edwards, Malzahn**

**NAYS: None**

**Motion carried.**

d. Roads

Consultant Jaymes Vettraino made a presentation about our roads and the road study he provided.

No board action was taken.

e. Wage and Salary\* (Trustees were asked to bring these items from their July board packets)

Discussion to continue in CLOSED SESSION.

f. Village to City (Poznanski) – Trustee Poznanski asked President Malzahn what is the status of the Village to City initiative. President Malzahn responded by saying that the final report, that has been previously discussed at Village Trustee meetings, is still the latest information available. Also, the next step would involve a boundary survey of the Village. However, that is on hold right now due to the latest Annexation request that was discussed earlier in the meeting. Trustee Poznanski asked President Malzahn for continuing updates.

No Board action was taken.

g. State of Emergency (added item)

\*Local State of Emergency allowing to go back to remote meetings until December 31, 2021

**MOTION by Fowler second by Hart to approve the Local State of Emergency**

**AYES: All**

**NAYS: None**

**Motion carried.**

11. **CLOSED SESSION – Wage/Performance**

**MOTION by Fowler second by Hart to enter into CLOSED SESSION for the purpose of Wage/Performance Reviews [at 8:52 p.m.]**

**AYES: Fowler, Hart, Bartholomew, Edwards, Parker, Poznanski, Malzahn**

**NAYS: None**

**Motion carried.**

**MOTION by Parker second by Fowler to enter into Regular Session [at 8:53 p.m.]**

**AYES: Parker, Fowler, Bartholomew, Poznanski, Edwards, Hart, Malzahn**

**NAYS: None**

**Motion carried.**

**MOTION by Poznanski second by Parker to extend the meeting past 10:00 p.m. if needed**

**AYES: All**

**NAYS: None**

**Motion carried.**

**MOTION by Parker second by Fowler to enter into CLOSED SESSION for the purpose of Wage/Performance Reviews [at 8:53 p.m.]**

**AYES: Parker, Fowler, Bartholomew, Poznanski, Edwards, Hart, Malzahn**

**NAYS: None**

**Motion carried.**

12. **CLOSED SESSION – Union Labor Negotiations**

Closed Session for Union Labor Negotiations was discussed while in Closed Session for Wage/Performance Reviews

**MOTION by Fowler second by Parker to enter in Regular Session [at 10:25 p.m.]**

**AYES: All**

**NAYS: None**

**Motion carried.**

13. Adjournment

**MOTION by Fowler second by Bartholomew to adjourn the meeting [at 10:27 p.m.]**

**AYES: All**

**NAYS: None**

**Motion carried.**

**Meeting adjourned at 10:27 p.m.**

**Respectfully Submitted,  
KATHRYN TRAPP  
VILLAGE CLERK**