

Board of Trustees Meeting
MINUTES

Date: November 15, 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 7:00 p.m.
2. **Roll Call**
3. **CONSENT AGENDA** (*minutes October 18, 2021, CLOSED SESSIONS October 18, 2021*) (*council bills/vendor report \$16,854.54 AND \$150,158.42, meeting agenda*)
Trustee Parker asked that the Vendor Report be removed to only ask for clarification on a particular Cemetery expense. President Malzahn reminded Trustee Parker that the Cemetery Board does not been Board of Trustee approval to spend their money.
MOTION by Hart second by Bartholomew to approve the consent agenda with the removal of the Agenda and the Vendor Report
AYES: All
NAYS: None
Motion carried.
MOTION by Malzahn second by Bartholomew to approve the agenda remove item E. Marihuana Ordinance discussion, add item G. Romeo Lions Special Event Permit
AYES: Malzahn, Bartholomew, Edwards, Hart
NAYS: Parker, Poznanski, Fowler
Motion carried.
4. **Special Presentations** – Tillson Residents
Letter from Belinda Weiter was presented. Residents from Tillson Street made comments.
5. **Correspondence(s)** – none
6. **Public Comment**
Jamie Lucero – West St Clair, made comments
Elizabeth Miller – Chandler Street, made comments
Danielle Lee – Tillson Street, made comments
Sarah Earp – Tillson Street, made comments
President Malzahn made comments
Trustee Parker - Sisson, made comments
Carol – Tillson Street, made comments
Trustee Bob Hart – Tillson Street, made comments

Jill Hudson – Tillson Street, made comments

Comments were heard about the Marihuana Business License application process

Officer reports

a. President

Leaf update...The DPW has been busy leaf vac'ing our streets the last 4 weeks. They will be doing one last sweep of the Village on Wednesday November 24th (weather permitting) to remove what is racked to the easement. So please get those leaves out to the curb (no sticks, pumpkins or gourds in the piles please). GFL's last yard waste pickup will be on Friday November 26th. That is a one day delay due to the Thanksgiving holiday. Trash and recycling will also be on Friday next week.

The Macomb County Board of Commissioners rejected Romeo's Annexation request for the Armada parcels owned by Mr. Zochowski at their meeting on October 28th. I have been in contact with Chairman Don Brown to provide additional information so that he has an opportunity to seek a re-consideration vote or possible re-submission of our request. This annexation request was one of the reasons for the delay in getting a boundary survey needed for the Village-to-City process. I plan to continue to wait for that work to be completed until, we are certain of the status to those parcels included in the annexation, which if approved eventually need to be accounted for in a survey.

The second Coffee & Conversation at the Romeo Senior Center was a success. Supervisor Fillbrook and I were on hand to listen to some of our residents and their concerns, of particular concern were their utility bills. Mike and I have asked Parks & Rec to schedule a February and March 2022 date, so be on the lookout in their upcoming program brochure for those specific dates so you can join us for an hour to share your thoughts. We'd love to hear from you.

Elizabeth Miller our Executive DDA Director and I attended an open house networking event hosted by the Four County Community Foundation in Almont, held on November 8th. This was a great opportunity to share the exciting happenings going on here in Romeo, but to also learn from the representatives from Almont, Armada and Metamora on what programs they are bringing to their communities.

It was my honor to attend the Romeo Bus Driver Appreciation Luncheon that was held Last Thursday, to thank these hard-working men and women who transport our children to and from school on a daily basis. The organizers did a stellar job in treating them to a wonderful meal prepared by Pamela's Catering and gave them each a gift bag stuffed with all sorts of gift cards and donated items in a show of appreciation. Please remember when you get your kids on our off the bus to say a kind word of thanks to them – if truly goes a long way in brightening their days!

Thank you to our Romeo VFW and to all who came out, for the Veterans Day Ceremony they hosted in the Romeo Cemetery last Thursday. We remembered and honored all of the vets near and far, who gave so much in the protection of our freedoms. Thank you to all the brave men and women who serve this Country. James Routheaux is still collecting items and seeking volunteers to help serve or deliver FREE Thanksgiving Dinner meals on Thursday November 25th from Noon-3:00 PM. Dine-in service will be at the Masonic Lodge, 231 N. Main Street. If you are able to make a donation or lend a hand or know of someone in need of a delivered meal, please contact James at 586-781-7590.

If you have not heard there is a great deal of excitement over the joint DDA and Romeo Library's project to bring the Polar Express to the Village in a story walk. The locations have been chosen and the window displays will begin soon. The projected date to have everything completed is next Monday, November 22nd. Please watch the DDA's website and Social Media posts for updates and a walking map as soon as they are available.

If you haven't noticed the seasonal Christmas décor is up in downtown. Thank you to the DDA for funding this project and to Matt and Lisa Jaroch for the installation. The wreaths on the Village Hall windows are beautiful once again the lights add so much to the season's festivities here in Romeo.

Please mark your calendars and join us in the Village Park for our annual Tree Lighting and Santa Parade – Thursday December 2nd. The parade begins at 7:00 pm and will travel down Main Street beginning at Washington Street and ending in the Village Park. Mr. & Mrs. Claus will be there to visit with all our good

little boys and girls. Thank you to the Parks and Rec for making this such a wonderful holiday tradition here in Romeo.

Text My Gov – Romeo’s newest option to report issues and receive updates right from your smart phone is up and running smoothly. To get started please text in the keyword “Romeo” to 91896 to receive notifications. Reporting issues have also never been easier – just text in a keyword or two to 586-281-9281 for what your issue is. For example, text “Trash Pickup” or “Recycling” to that number to report a missed pickup, or text the keyword “light” to report a street lamp not working. There is a link right on the home page of our website – villageofromeo.org which will direct you to a “How to” video as well as a reporting option if you do not have a smart phone.

I will be attending the Michigan Mayors & Presidents overnight conference in Mt. Pleasant this Thursday and Friday. Agenda items include sessions on the Open Meetings Act, Social Media and other policies, Dealing with the Media, Consensus and Coalition Building and the role of Presidents & Mayors. I am excited to bring back best practices and ideas from other elected officials who serve in my positions like mine.

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 or send me an email to president@villageofromeo.org

b. Clerk

On November 2nd the Village Cemetery laid to rest Chauncey D. Garfield. It was an honor to lay him to rest in our cemetery. The Mitt Tv did cover the ceremony if you want to check it out. Again, his story along with many like him, is told in the Amazon Prime documentary “Libraries of Dust” It’s that time of year again! Santa’s Mail box will be coming to the Village of Romeo sometime early next week. The mail box is scheduled to be out until approximately December 17th.

c. Treasurer

October 25, 2021 Macomb County Treasurer and Clerk signed Tax Settlement Certificates notarized indicating 2021 Tax Finalized.

November 12, 2021 received check from Macomb County Treasurer for delinquent tax in the amount of \$178,974.68. Bruce \$108,628.36 Washington \$70,346.22.

November 15, 2021 Water Bills processed and receipted, thereafter a late fee charged.

d. Trustees

Trustee Parker – Still has not been given a response from The Mitt Tv in regards to the Village Park donations update.

Trustee Poznanski – attended Officer Blevins retirement party, attended the Bruce Fire Dept. open house, contacted senators’ office in regards to the House Bill that pertains to rentals such as AirBNB and VRBO, honored to be a part of the Halloween costume competition, attended Ladies Night Out November 12, attended the Zoom meeting on October 28th in regards to the AARPA funds.

Trustee Bartholomew – repairs for sidewalks will start in the spring

e. Ex Officio Planning Commission Member - Special Land Uses were tabled until the next meeting

2. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

a. PILOP Zoning Amendments Ordinance 482, Sec. 46-315

President Malzahn and Attorney Mark Clark to meet to edit updates

MOTION by Malzahn second by Hart to table until December

AYES: All

NAYS: None

Motion carried.

b. RFP Utility Rate Study

MOTION by Edwards Poznanski to post the RFP with (2) additions

AYES: Edwards, Poznanski, Hart, Bartholomew, Malzahn

NAYS: Parker Fowler

Motion carried.

3. NEW BUSINESS:

- a. WWTP Variable Speed Drive Purchase

MOTION by Bartholomew second by Parker to approve the purchase of the Variable Speed Drive for \$5500.00

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

NAYS: None

Motion carried.

- b. WWTP Crown Vic Sale

MOTION by Malzahn second by Fowler to post the WWTP Crown Vic for sale at a minimum bid of \$1500.00

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

NAYS: None

Motion carried.

- c. Cares Act Funding Project/Programs

Board discussion. No board action taken.

- d. Re-Zoning Request for Parcels 05-06-100-010 and 05-06-100-009

MOTION by Fowler second by Parker to approve the Planning Commission recommendation of rezoning of parcel #05-06-100-010

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

NAYS: None

Motion carried.

MOTION by Fowler second by Parker to approve Planning Commission recommendation of rezoning parcel #05-06-100-009

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

NAYS: None

Motion carried.

- ~~e. **Marihuana Ordinance 557, Section 46-393 (9) Special Land Uses Allowed in the IND—Industrial Zoning District Zoning Amendment Discussion* (Trustee Fowler)** — **Item removed.**~~

- f. FOIA Requirements and Regulations Discussion* (Trustee Parker)

Board discussion. No board action taken.

- g. Romeo Lions Club Special Event Permit

MOTION by Poznanski second by Parker to approve the Special Events Permit for December 12, 2021

AYES: All

NAYS: None

Motion carried.

11. Adjournment

MOTION by Bartholomew second by Fowler to adjourn the meeting [at 9:18 p.m.]

AYES: All

NAYS: None

Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 9:18 p.m.

**Respectfully Submitted,
KATHRYN TRAPP
VILLAGE CLERK**

***- No board packet information was provided by the Trustee(s) who requested this agenda item.**