

**VILLAGE OF ROMEO
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**

On Tuesday February 22, 2022, a public hearing was held to obtain the views of the citizens concerning community development and housing needs, as required by the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, as amended. The Village of Romeo will be receiving \$2,500.00 in Community Development Block Grant funds for FY 2022 from the Macomb “Urban County” program.

Federal guidelines require that maximum priority be given to activities which primarily benefit low-or-moderate-income families or which aid in the prevention of elimination of slums or blight. A variety of projects are eligible for community funding. These include:

Property acquisition	Handicapped Barrier Removal	Public Facilities
Code Enforcement	Rehabilitation of Buildings	Public Infrastructure
Housing Rehabilitation	Public Services	Homebuyer Assistance
Planning and Administration		

Citizens residing in blighted areas or lower-income persons are encouraged to participate.

President Malzahn opened the public hearing at 7:00 p.m.

Comments were heard by:

Interfaith Care Givers

President Malzahn closed the public hearing at 7:06 p.m.

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
VILLAGE OF ROMEO BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

On Tuesday February 22, 2022, a public hearing was held to hear comments from the public, written or oral, regarding proposed ordinance, as drafted by legal counsel. If adopted, the elected offices of Village Clerk and Village Treasurer would become appointed positions. Under General Village Law for the State of Michigan, Section 62.1, the Village has the ability to create an ordinance if approved by 2/3 majority vote of its voting members.

President Malzahn opened the hearing at 7:06 p.m.

Comments were heard by:

Dori Vasquez-Nolan from Care House (She made comments about the previous public hearing, CDBG Grant Funding)

Dick Rosenberg from Samaritan House (He made comments about the previous public hearing, CDBG Grant Funding)

Debbie Obrecht - Morton Street, made comments

Gregg Tarr – Business owner in Romeo, made comments

Zach Fowler – Dickenson Street, made comments

Susan Parker – Residency unknow, made comments

Carl Blanchard – Dickenson Street, made comments

Margaret Simunic – N Main Street, made comments

Debbie Obrecht – Morton Street, made additional comments

Susan Parker – Residency unknow, made additional comments

Laura Trotter – Romeo resident, made comments

President Malzahn closed the public hearing at 7:37 p.m.

Board of Trustees Meeting
Minutes

Date: February 22, 2022

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 7:37 p.m.
2. CONSENT AGENDA (*minutes January 18, 2022, Special Meeting February 7, 2022 and CLOSED SESSION February 7, 2022*), (*council bills/vendor report \$49,783.61 AND \$238,700.45, meeting agenda*) – *was requested to pull out the agenda for separate approval*

MOTION by Hart second by Bartholomew to approve the Consent Agenda [with the removal of the agenda]

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

NAYS: Parker

Motion carried.

MOTION by Hart second by Edwards to approve the agenda with the additions of F. Parks and Rec proposal and G. Audit report (Trustee Poznanski's request)

AYES: All

NAYS: None

Motion carried.

3. Special Presentations – None
4. Correspondence(s) – Letter from State Senator Doug Wozniak was discussed.
5. Public Comment - None
6. Officer reports
 - a. President
Negotiations have begun for the Romeo Middle School Resource Officer. I hosted a consortium meeting with all parties on January 24th to determine the proper process. Next steps include an intergovernmental agreement between Bruce and Romeo to grant jurisdiction to Romeo at the RMS campus. Bruce Twp BOT authorized their legal counsel to draft the agreement and at their February 16th meeting approved Mr. Sieberts initial draft, I should receive it shortly for Romeo's review. Once jurisdiction is established we will then look at funding options and seek approvals from all Boards – RCS, Bruce and Romeo. We hope to have an officer on site by April.

Romeo Waste Water Treatment Plant Supervisor Al Lapeer and I hosted a fact-finding tour of our WWTP facility on February 7th. In attendance were County Drain Commissioner Candice Miller and members of her team, Macomb County Commission Chairman Don Brown, Lisa Damon Brown representing Senator Wozniak's office, Bruce Township Supervisor Mike Fillbrook, and engineers from the firms of Hubble Roth and Clark and Fishbeck. The purpose of the tour was to provide a site-inspection and discussion for possible future expansion. A partnership with funding from Macomb County would allow our 2.2 million gallons per day Romeo facility, to expand, permitting the acceptance of additional flows from neighboring industrial businesses in both Bruce and Armada Twp's. The financial benefit to Romeo in maintaining this facility (especially with the loss of revenue from the closure of the Ford Engine Plant) combined with job creation and new tax revenues from the industrial growth in that area will be significant.

Our guided walking tour was a tremendous success and Al and his staff received many compliments on the condition and efficiencies for plant operations. Candice Miller and Don Brown, both who had never been invited to tour the facility before, stated what an important role our infrastructure provides for this area. Everyone on the tour agreed that Romeo should be very proud of this investment, how meticulously it is cared for, and what a great job Al and his staff do out there.

My sincere thanks to Al, Dennis, Doug, Steve and Calvin for the job you do. Unlike our DPW and Police Officers who are out and about, visible to our residents as they do their jobs receiving kudos and thank you's, these guys are more behind the scenes and we should not take them for granted. Without out them we would be up to our you-know-whats in the muck and mire that they take in, treat and return to the east pond creek as drinkable water.

The MittTV went along with their crew and made a short PSA. I encourage all of you to watch the video on their page @ <https://themitttv.com/video.php?id=5127&cid=59>

I attended the Samaritan House Pasta Night fundraiser on February 9th. Thank you to Ruth Heidebreicht for inviting me to sit at her sponsored table. The Samaritan House does such an amazing job in caring and supporting so many in need right here in our community. They are currently collecting goods and monetary donations for their Easter Food drive. If you are able to lend them your support there are many who will benefit from it.

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

On January 20th, I was honored to hold the Macomb County Clerk's Association luncheon her in Romeo. This is the first time this organization has had their meeting in Romeo. There were over 25 clerks in attendance including Macomb County Clerk Anthony Forlini.

Also, this past January I attended classes and passed my exam to become a State of Michigan Assessors Technician. We now can say we have an assessor in the Village offices.

Thank you to Al Lapeer for hosting a grand tour of our Waster Water Treatment Plant. What an eye opener to see behind the scenes of what goes on there.

I also have started classes for Citizen Planner through MSU extension. Those classes will wrap up in the end of March.

When you come through town this week make sure you check out the Village Hall's snowman. She is ready for Mardi Gras!

Romeo Winterfest is looking for a few additional volunteers. For the warming stations and the crossing guard. Talked with Elizabeth just before the meeting today.

- c. Treasurer – Told the trustees that she had sent out an email prior to the meeting in regard to the audit report. Received approval of computerized tax roll from Department of Treasury
- d. Trustees
 - Trustee Poznanski – Received Master Citizen Planner Certification. Did some training with the MML. Hosted Trustee Talk with Trustee Fowler last week. Attended the February 7th Special Meeting and was disappointed.
 - Trustee Hart – Had the pleasure of attending tree board meeting. Addressed Trustee Poznanski’s concern about Open Meetings Violation.
 - Trustee Parker – Expressed frustration about not being able to open files on his computer.
 - Trustee Fowler – FOIA request from marihuana license applicants are coming.
- e. Ex-Officio Planning Commission – No meeting in February.

7. Committee Reports

- a. Bruce Sewer Capacity Subcommittee – No update

8. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- a. Payment In Lieu of Parking Ordinance
 - MOTION by Hart second by Bartholomew to approve the ordinance amendments as drafted**
 - AYES: All**
 - NAYS: None**
 - Motion carried.**
- b. Romeo Village Treasurer and Clerk Positions
 - MOTION by Malzahn second by Parker to table this topic until further discussion**
 - AYES: Malzahn, Parker, Hart, Edwards, Bartholomew**
 - NAYS: Poznanski, Fowler**
 - Motion carried.**
- c. Friends of the Village of Romeo Park
 - MOTION by Poznanski second by Fowler to direct the Village President to contact the chair of the Friends of the Village Park Inc., and respectfully request all the Ford Fund monies be passed on to the Village Romeo post haste**
 - AYES: Poznanski, Fowler, Parker**
 - NAYS: Edwards, Bartholomew, Hart, Malzahn**
 - Motion failed.**
 - MOTION by Bartholomew second by Edwards to approve President Malzahn to send letter of correspondence to the Ford Fund as drafted**
 - AYES: Bartholomew, Edwards, Hart, Malzahn**
 - NAYS: Parker, Fowler, Poznanski**
 - Motion carried.**

9. NEW BUSINESS:

a. Annual Community Development Block Grant Distributions

CDBG Funds Granted	REQUESTING	AWARDED
CHORE	\$500.00	\$500.00
MCREST	\$3780.00	\$750.00
Samaritan House	\$1000.00	\$700.00
Care House	\$1800.00	\$250.00
Interfaith Volunteer Caregivers	\$148.00	\$100.00
Turning Point	\$1000.00	\$200.00
Total:	\$7728.00	\$2500.00

MOTION by Edwards second by Fowler to approve the CDBG allocation as presented

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

NAYS: None

Motion carried.

b. Younger’s Tavern Special Even Permit

MOTION by Fowler second by Hart to approve the Special Event Permit for Younger’s Tavern for St Patrick’s Day

AYES: All

NAYS: None

Motion carried.

c. Business District Resolution

MOTION by Hart second by Bartholomew to approve the resolution as written declaring the boundaries of the DDA as a “Business District” for the purposes of establishing the speed limit as 25 mph

AYES: All

NAYS: None

Motion carried.

d. Washington Township Water Service Agreement

MOTION by Bartholomew second by Edwards to authorize President Malzahn to execute the agreement as submitted

AYES: All

NAYS: None

Motion carried.

e. Special Meeting dates

Board discussed dates for an upcoming Special Meeting.

f. Parks and Rec Proposal (Added item)

MOTION by Poznanski second by Edwards to approve the Parks and Rec proposal as written

AYES: All

NAYS: None

Motion carried.

g. Audit Report (Added item by Trustee Poznanski)

Treasurer discussed audit reports that she emailed out to the Trustees prior to the meeting. Copies of these reports were not available to the public from the Treasurer. No board action was taken.

MOTION by Parker second by Hart to extend the meeting to 10:15 p.m.

AYES: All

NAYS: None

Motion carried.

10. CLOSED SESSION – POAM Labor Union Negotiations

MOTION by Bartholomew second by Hart to enter into Closed Session for the purpose of Union Labor negotiations of the POAM [at 9:53 p.m.]

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

NAYS: None

Motion carried.

MOTION by Malzahn second by Fowler to exit Closed Session and enter regular session [at 10:05 p.m.]

AYES: All

NAYS: None

Motion carried.

11. Adjournment

MOTION by Malzahn second by Fowler to adjourn the meeting [at 10:05 p.m.]

AYES: All

NAYS: None

Motion carried.

Meeting was adjourned at 10:05 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

KATHRYN TRAPP

VILLAGE CLERK