

Board of Trustees Meeting
Minutes
Date: March 16, 2020
Time: **7:00 p.m.**
Location: 361 Morton Street, Romeo, MI 48065
South Building Meeting Room

A Public Hearing was held by the Village of Romeo Board of Trustees on Monday March 16, 2020, at 7:00 p.m., at the Romeo Community Center 361 Morton Street, Romeo, MI 48065.

Purpose of the Hearing: To hear comments oral and written on the amendments to amend the Fence Ordinance, of the Village of Romeo Code of Ordinances in its entirety and replace with an update Ordinance.

No Comments from the public.

Public Hearing was closed at 7:01 p.m.

Present: Bartholomew
Edwards
Hart
Poznanski
Seidel
Malzahn

Absent: Fowler

1. CALL TO ORDER- PLEDGE OF ALLIGIANCE AND ROLL CALL. President Malzahn called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.
2. *Approval of Minutes*
MOTION by Bartholomew second by Hart to approve the minutes from February 18, 2020
AYES: All
NAYS: None
Motion carried.
3. *Approval of Bills*
MOTION by Poznanski second by Edwards to approve the March bills in the amount of \$26,487.24 and \$805,787.43
AYES: Poznanski, Edwards, Hart, Bartholomew, Seidel, Malzahn
NAYS: None
Motion carried
4. *Approval of Agenda*
MOTION by Hart second by Poznanski to approve the agenda with the addition of d. State of Emergency Resolution under New Business
5. *Special Presentations* – Vicky Radd, Director of the Macomb Economic and Development Corporation gave an update on the Ford Engine Plant closing and future plans for that facility/campus.

6. *Correspondences* – None to report

7. *Officer reports*

a. President –

Dear Friends,

The County and State have declared a state of emergency related to the Coronavirus. The declaration provides them with access to assistance that might be needed as the situation evolves. It is a prudent to be prepared and not panic at this time. Health experts have repeatedly stated that the majority of cases are mild. Those who are elderly and have other health issues that weaken their overall state have more to be concerned about and should take extra precautions.

Romeo is announcing the following actions:

Your Bruce Township fire and EMS personnel and the Romeo Police Department are still on the job and will continue to serve in these most uncertain circumstances. They are following certain protocols to protect themselves and reduce risk of contact with any virus. I ask you limit your calls to emergency situations only at this time.

Essential services such as water and sewer services are vital so those crews will continue to serve. I have however ordered to close both the DPW site and the WWTP facility to any non-personnel effective immediately. Staff may shift their duties for the next few weeks to avoid unnecessary entry into homes, when possible. Final meter reading may be delayed. Weekly recycling and trash pick-up will continue as scheduled.

Building Inspection(s) on-sight services may be restricted over the next few weeks. Please call our building administrator Cindy Wilson for availability.

Office personnel, many of whom support essential roles, will continue to serve until further notice though we are reducing face to face interactions with limited walk-in hours. As of Monday March 16th, walk-ins hours will be 8:30 am – 12:00 Noon. We have taken certain steps in our offices to ensure a clean and safe environment and ask that you use the hand sanitizer provided at the front counter upon your entry. We are strongly encouraging residents to communicate via phone or email if at all possible. We have a drop box located on the side of the Village Hall so that you can leave any documentation or bill payments at any time. We will empty its contents periodically throughout the day. You may also use our on-line bill payment system – contact the Treasurer Sherri Maddox if you need assistance with payments.

Beginning Tuesday March 17, ALL municipal meetings will be postponed until further notice.

Please note that the state of emergency declaration by the Governor has closed all restaurants and bars – these small businesses will need our continued support and most will be offering carry-out services. PLEASE CONTINUE TO PATRONIZE THESE ESTABLISHMENTS if possible to help them survive this extreme loss of revenue.

The Center for Disease Control has excellent guidance on identifying symptoms and avoiding the virus. You can read more at <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>.

This is a time to be cautious, not to panic. This is not a time to assign blame or create fear. It is simply a time to pull together to protect each other, especially our most vulnerable. Calm and prudent action will help avoid spreading the virus and reduce its impact on the fine people of Village of Romeo. Let's work together as a community to keep our families safe and healthy.

Please join me in continuing to pray for our Nation, our County and our Community. I have witnessed the coming together of so many wonderful, generous people and I know these efforts will continue to assist the most needy and vulnerable in our area. I thank you from the bottom of my heart for your cooperation and caring.

b. Clerk – No report was given

c. Treasurer – No report was given

d. Trustees – No report was given

e. Ex-Officio Planning Commission Member – No report was given, absent

8. *Committee Reports*

a. Parking Lot Sub Committee – No report

9. *Unfinished business:*

- a. Marihuana Opt In/Out Proposal

MOTION by Hart second by Edwards to investigate an ordinance that would allow both recreational and medical grow facility

AYES: Hart, Edwards, Seidel, Bartholomew, Malzahn

NAYS: Poznanski

Motion carried.

- b. Village to City exploration

MOTION by Seidel second by Edwards to proceed with the development of the exploration committee with a budget to not to exceed \$10,000.00

AYES: Seidel, Edwards, Hart, Bartholomew, Malzahn

NAYS: Poznanski

Motion carried.

10. *New Business:*

- a. Fence Ordinance and Permit Fee

MOTION by Hart second by Bartholomew to adopt the updated fence ordinance as presented along with the updated fees

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

NAYS: None

Motion carried.

- b. Arbor Day Proclamation

MOTION by Hart second by Poznanski to approve the Proclamation for Arbor Day

AYES: All

NAYS: None

Motion carried.

- c. Lawn Maintenance Bid

MOTION by Hart second by Bartholomew to table the Lawn Bid selection and request references from bidders and more detailed comparison spreadsheet

AYES: All

NAYS: None

Motion carried.

- d. State of Emergency Resolution

MOTION by Hart second by Seidel to adopt the State of Emergency Resolution as presented by President Malzahn

AYES: All

NAYS: None

Motion carried.

- 10.2 (Was not part of original agenda nor was it discussed to be added to the agenda.)

MOTION by Poznanski second by Bartholomew to excuse the absence of Zach Fowler of this meeting.

AYES: All

NAYS: None

Motion carried.

11. *Public Comments* – One comment/question Carolyn Sangerhausen, Village resident

12. *Adjournment*

MOTION by Bartholomew second by Hart to adjourn the meeting at 8:25 p.m.

AYES: All

NAYS: None

Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Kathryn Trapp, Village Clerk