

MINUTES
ROME CITY TOWN COUNCIL
APRIL 16, 2025
PUBLIC MEETING
ROME CITY TOWN HALL
402 KELLY STREET
ROME CITY, IN 46784

Nick Heffner called the meeting to order at 4:32 pm. Members present Nick Heffner, Kirk Klein, Cheryl Clifton. Also present Leigh Pranger, Heidi Lang. See also sign in sheet.

New Business

Rural Water Financing Agency's Flex Term Program: Natalie Shelling, Chris Harrison and Jeremy Hardy (via phone) presented the Rural Water Financing Agency's Flex Term Loan Program and explained that we can use this program to fix the wastewater treatment plant and lift station improvements. The loan terms range from 1 to 30 years with a fixed interest rate and multiple financing options. Applying does not bind the Town into moving forward with the loan. The application is due by May 1, 2025. To fix all issues at the wastewater treatment plant would cost \$8,628,000 and the lift stations would cost \$3,195,000. To only do the sludge removal for ponds 1,2,3,5 would cost \$750,000. To only remove sludge from pond 1 would cost \$300,000. Cheryl asked if there could be an early payoff without penalty. Natalie will ask and find out. Natalie will also find out if we can apply for everything and scale back the loan if needed. Nick would also like to know what the cost to consumers would be at 20, 25 and 30 years.

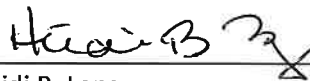
Next Town Council meeting May 12, 2025, at 6:30pm, Rome City Town Hall, 402 Kelly Street, Rome City, IN 46784

ROME CITY TOWN HALL



Nick Heffner, President

ATTEST:



Heidi B. Lang
Clerk-Treasurer

MINUTES
ROME CITY TOWN COUNCIL
APRIL 14, 2025
PUBLIC MEETING
ROME CITY TOWN HALL
402 KELLY STREET
ROME CITY, IN 46784

Nick Heffner called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm. Members present Nick Heffner, Kirk Klein, Cheryl Clifton. Also present Leigh Pranger, Heidi Lang, Paul Hoffman and attorney Dustin Glick. Not present Scott Neukom. See also sign in sheet.

Pledge was said.

Cheryl Clifton asked for a motion to waive the reading of the minutes from the last meeting. Kirk Klein seconded the motion. 3 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.

Old Business

Connection of St. Gasper's Catholic Church to Rome City Sewer Estimates: Natlie with Commonwealth presented two quotes to connect St. Gasper's to Rome City sewer. Estimate #1 is \$83,000.00 using less main line and more service line. Estimate #2 is \$86,000.00 using more main line and less service line. The Council is in agreement that it would not be beneficial for the town to install this line. If St. Gasper's would cover the cost of the line, the Council would accept that. Leigh is going to reach out to St. Gasper's to see if they will cover the cost of the line.

New Business

Jan & Mike Jones would like to ask about putting a chair lift to the basement in for bad weather: Cheryl and Leigh discussed that this had been discussed previously. Leigh is unsure if an elevator chair lift could be installed. The installation of a stairway lift might be a possibility. Leigh and Heidi will look into options. Leigh added the installation of a chair lift will make the basement accessible for disabled persons and help to make the town complaint with the ADA town policy.

Johnson Gear Right Angle Gear Drive for Watershed Plant in the Industrial Park: Leigh informed the Council that a quote was received to repair the watershed at a cost of \$128,000.00. Scott was able to find Johnson Gear on the web to get a direct quote on the part. The quote direct from Johnson Gear for a right-angle gear drive came in at a much lower cost of \$5,200.00. Leigh would like to ask for a Redevelopment meeting to use TIF Funds of approximately \$60,000.00 for maintenance and repairs at the water plant.

Sylvan Lake Properties Rezoning and stipulation for annexation: Leigh discussed the paperwork for this rezoning and stipulation was missed being signed in 2023 but was approved and documented in the minutes. Leigh asked for the paperwork for the rezoning to be signed. Limberlost Landing Addition.

Resolution 2025-01 Adopting Updated Policies Regarding ADA Transition Plan: Leigh informed the Council that this is reviewed every two years to keep in compliance. Cheryl Clifton asked for a motion to approve Resolution 2025-01. Kirk Klein seconded the motion. 3 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.

Consent to Encroachment the "Arnolds" at 490 Spring Beach Road: Leigh presented the board with the Consent to Encroachment for the Arnold's. The Arnold's fence is 4' into the easement that Rome City owns for the location of a grinder station. Arnolds are asking for the encroachment to be sure they will not need to move the fence in the future. Leigh stated that there would not be a reason the Town would want or need this area back. Cheryl Clifton asked for a motion to approve the Consent for Encroachment for the Arnold's. Kirk Klein seconded the motion. 3 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.

2025 TIF Spending Plan: Leigh informed the Council that the 2025 TIF Spending Plan was previously approved in October 2024 by the Redevelopment Commission. However, with new legislation this also needs to be approved by the Council. Leigh talked through the Spending Plan. Cheryl Clifton made a motion to approve the 2025 TIF spending Plan. Kirk Klein seconded the motion. 3 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.

Town Ordinance Enforcement: Mark and Heather Shaver had complaints about property 102 Weston St. Paul had sent letters 4/14/2025 to the property regarding the complaints about vehicles being worked on and left in the road on jack lifts and the trash on the front porch. Cheryl also received a complaint on 102 Weston St. about rats on and under the porch of the property. Cheryl received other complaint about the old Speakman house, 255 Front St, three story green apartments that the basement has been flooding, and someone is welding and sanding late at night in the outbuilding. Paul stated he knew that this property was currently putting laminate flooring in. Paul also talked to the occupants at 215 Spring Beach Rd. on 4/11/2025 they were told to clean up the yard with no current date to meet. The Council requested a letter be sent with a date for compliance. Paul informed the board he purchased yard signs in 2024 to put in occupant's yards regarding mowing, by doing this he will no longer need to send additional letters every time the lawn needs mowed. The occupants have 5 days to bring the property into compliance from the date the letter was sent.

Limberlost Road Repair: Leigh explained with the washout road at 900 N (aka. Limberlost Road) and Lions Drive, the culvert needs to be replaced. Eshelman's Excavating quote for this repair totaling \$61,547.80. The current metal culvert will be replaced with HP plastic culvert that will last longer than a metal culvert. Eshelman will also replace the sewer lines in that section with plastic SDR 35 pipes during the culvert replacement. Cheryl Clifton asked for a motion to approve the contract with Eshelman. Kirk Klein seconded the motion. 3 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.

Reports were given by Leigh for the Utilities Department; Marshal Hoffman gave the Marshal's Department report.

Natalie with Commonwealth brought up the Rural Water Financing Agency's Flex Term Program as an option to receive funding for the sewer system. This is a loan program for municipalities that can offer loans with a variety of terms (1 to 30 years) at a fixed interest rate. Applications need to be submitted by

May 1, 2025. It was decided a Special Meeting needed to be held on 4/16/2025 at 4:30 p.m. to discuss what needs to be done at the wastewater plant for continuous discharge. Natalie also reminded the Council there are \$28,427 contingency funds still available to be used on the trail

Cheryl Clifton asked for a motion to approve payment of the town and sewer bills. Kirk Klein seconded the motion. 3 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried

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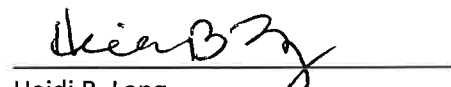
Kirk Klein asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:30. Cheryl Clifton seconded the motion. 3 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.

ROME CITY TOWN HALL



Nick Heffner, President

ATTEST:



Heidi B. Lang
Clerk-Treasurer