ROME CITY PARK BOARD

AGENDA

Zoom:

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81142307919?pwd=mwudvbslOBP6bzecRxmpyoQuEmqboR.1

YouTube @TOWNOFROMECITY

September 21, 2026 @ 5:30 p.m.

Rollcall & Minutes of the Last meeting.

a. **Joe Ryne-Tree Tribute Program**
b. **Joel Wilkinson-social media update?**
c. **Baseball: Dustin-discussion on additional baseball diamond and dirt for Grant diamond (flag area Grant that needs the dirt and guys will deliver). When will Restrooms, concession stands and storage areas be cleaned for the season? Banners down and stored.**

Kelly Park

a) **Baseball additional diamond ?**
b) **Benches installed in tennis/pickleball courts**
c) **Still waiting on contact from Brightspeed*Discuss Contract extension with Brightspeed for telephone hut and ground-No contact information on document-**

Grant Park

a. **Walkway installation from Parking lot to Dog Park and entryway to Dog Park-Construction date? Next 2 weeks**
b. **Ideas for 2026-27: add pavilion over existing concrete pads, add Entrance off Canal Rd., concrete pads under bleachers**
c. **Dog Park: Lions Club want to install a small pavilion over a bench in dog park.**

Sycamore Park

a. Tree Removed along with dead limbs in trees surrounding the parking lot. Hoping to add another small Sycamore this fall.

Lakeside Park

a. Lady statue: work with GSP for plants and design-Hope to plant more this fall
b. Mulch received-the guys are installing it in sections around the equipment as they have time.

Gaff Park

a. Next Level Grant Approved the amenities for purchase - Pranger waiting on payment to Mr. Wilkinson on sign. Need canceled checks to close out.
b. Purchase more musical items or meet with ARC? Roberta is purchasing a kiosk to put in the instructions for the songs
d. Waiting on Pulver to discuss locations of paths and cost. (Should we get quotes on paving parking lot? If so, do we want the same design?

Miscellaneous

A) **Friends of the park sign**
B) **2027 Concert Series**

Park Donation Account	**$31,760.13**		
#1119-Park Maintenance		**$2,711.68**	
#1135-Contractual		**$ 984.18**	
#1234-Park Supplies		**$ 1,553.23**	
#1341-Park Insurance-Don't Spend		**$ 3,661.80**	
#1352-Park Light-Don't spend			**$2,458.41**
#1362-Park Repairs			**$3,872.76**
#1430-Park Improvement			**$26,200.62**
#1442-Park Equipment			**$16,235.91**
	Total		**$57,678.59+ 31,760.13=$89438.72**

Adjournment –Next Meeting: October 19,2026

Encumbered funds: walkway for Dog Park by Pulver.

Park Board Member	Appointing Authority	Date of Terms 1st Monday of January
Tina Wilkinson	TC President	1-6-2025 TO 1-1-2028
John Martin	TC President	1-2-2026 TO 1-1-2029
Open Seat	TC President	1-5-2024 TO 1-1-2027
Dustin Hicks	TC President	5-12-2025 TO 1-3-2028
Open Seat-Rep. of Library or School Board	Governing Board	

Pursuant to IC 5-14-9 Section 6; above is a roster of the current Rome City Park Board members, names, appointing authority and their elected terms.

THIS IS A PRELIMINARY AGENDA FOR THE MEETING DESIGNATED ABOVE AND IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE UP TO AND INCLUDING THE CONCLUSION OF THE DESIGNATED MEETING

Suggestions/Ideas for Future

Kelly Park

a) *Replace baseball back stop or reinforce-on hold-

b) *Secretary Pranger informed the board the sports complex had horseshoe and shuffleboard courts, and Strawser Brothers did the work.

Grant Park

a) *Hold indefinitely-Concrete pads under bleachers.

Lakeside

a) Member Maley showed the board his power point on items that might be considered for the playground area. Musical Flowers $1600, Xylophone $6000, Musical Bench. He showed the board play equipment in the shape of a boat-the board expressed interest to keep with the lake theme. Exercise Stations for adults and kids could be added along the sidewalk. Secretary Pranger showed the board a new catalog from Summit Supply with ideas for a musical park or adult workout stations.

b) The board requested Pranger look into a possible grant for the installation of a small boat ramp at the east end of Lakeside Park. Pranger stated there is money available through Land & Water Conservation funds for this type of project. Boat ramp for kayak, canoes, and paddleboards-Land Water Conservation Grant

Sycamore Park

On Hold-The board discussed the need for a hitching post in Sycamore Park so the Amish quit tying their horses to the trees. Secretary Partner suggested we contact the Amish bishop and ask them to maintain a poop station, so the manure is not leaching into the Little Lake. President Wilkinson stated she might have a contact. The board also stated if a hitching post is installed someone needs to be responsible for cleaning up the horse waste-this can also be discussed with the Amish.

Miscellaneous Business: The board discussed member ethics and stated they would like the Town Council to pass a policy that background checks be performed for all board members prior to appointment. Any board member arrested for a felony will be automatically placed on leave of absence from the board until the court hearing. The board members' seats are to remain open and not filled until a determination is made in court. Secretary Pranger stated she will forward their concerns to the Town Council for their input and possible policy update.

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ROME CITY PARK BOARD

Regular Meeting
September 21, 2026

The Rome City Park Board held their regular meeting on Monday, September 21, 2026, at 5:30 p.m. in the Rome City Town Hall. Called to order by President Wilkinson.

Members Present:

Leigh A. Pranger-Secretary	Tina Wilkinson
John Martin	Dustin Hicks

Roll call a quorum was present.

Member Martin made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Seconded by Member Hicks. All in favor-aye. Motion carried.

Interested parties in attendance: Joel Wilkinson-social media manager, Cindy O'Brien, Joe Ryne

a) Rome City/Brimfield Lions Club: Representative Cindy O'Brien informed the board the club would like to construct a small 8'x 6' pavilion with a bench in the park for shade and shelter from rain. She noted Members Brian Baker and Dave Hartman. The board welcomed the addition. The stated the unit cannot be placed near or in front of the double gate as we need to get equipment in and out. They suggested the bench be placed facing south to avoid looking into the sun. Pranger passed out a picture with the dimensions of the pavilion to the board. Member Martin made a motion to approve the installation of the pavilion by the Lions Club. Second by Member Hicks. All in Favor-aye. Motion Carried.
b) Joe Ryne-Tribute Tree Program: President Wilkinson stated to Mr. Ryne that between the park board and the Tree Tribute program there are two different visions. The park board wants trees that are low maintenance, native to Indiana, providing shade and longevity. The program seems to be geared to non-native-flowering trees which take more care. Mr. Ryne requested the dates to discuss the trees and placement be changed to March and August from April and September. The board agreed to the change. The board then discussed locations for trees in Gaff, Lakeside, and Kelly Parks with location maps. Pranger made copies and distributed them to the board and Mr. Ryne. President Wilkinson stated no mulch has been installed around the Gaff Park sign plantings.
c) Social Media Update: Joel Wilkinson stated he is working on an end of year collage for social media. President Wilkinson suggested adding the projects in Grant Park to the collage; concrete walkway from parking lot to dog park along with a concrete entrance with the sponsorship blocks to be inlaid.
d) Baseball: Dustin Hicks stated the Baseball Board will be attending the Trunk or Treat at the School for recruitment. He informed the board he will be using the Kelly Diamond for a scrimmage on October 11th. The banners and equipment have been stored for the season, and he will take care of cleaning the restrooms and concession stands to ready for season closure. Dustin asked the board to explore the possibility of adding an additional baseball diamond (200' to 225') in Kelly Park where the football field is located. The board discussed installing a practice field on the old soccer field. Dustin stated they will need a backstop for the practice field. Dustin informed the board he is still looking for a contractor to install the practice diamond. Dustin stated he will till up the Grant Diamond

and flag the area for fill. Grant water will be shut off around the first week of October. The tractor still needs to be looked at it has a few hydraulic leaks.

e) Brightspeed Contract: Still waiting on contact from Brightspeed regarding the new contract

Kelly Park

a. **Scoreboard Controller upgrade** -We just need to install new bulbs in the board. Dustin will investigate the bulb size and let Pranger know

b. Tennis/Pickleball court -Pranger informed the board the benches have been installed.

c. Tennis Court Restroom Closure-last week of October

Grant Park -Dog Park

a) Walkway and entrance: Pranger informed the board the installation should be the last week of the month or first week of October.

b) Restroom closure can be anytime the guys can work it in.

c) Ideas for 2026: add a pavilion over the existing concrete pad, add entrance off Canal Rd., large rocks for dogs to climb-keep an eye out.

d) Lions Club pavilion/bench project in Dog Park

Sycamore Park

a) Port-a-john set until October

b) Damaged cottonwood tree removed and looking for replacement Sycamore Tree.

Lakeside Park

a) Lady statue plants-Work with GSP Tiffany on plants and locations.

b) Playground Mulch to be installed in sections as the town guys have time.

Gaff Park/Trail head:

a) Next Level Grant-In progress: Pranger finished purchasing amenities-waiting on canceled checks to close out grant.

b) Board needs to determine where to locate the ADA path from the parking lot to the restrooms. Then Pranger can get quotes for installation. Pranger asked if they want the paths in concrete or asphalt. Concrete would match

c) Pranger asked the board if they want the same layout for the Parking lot. They board discussed aligning the east side of the lot. They asked Pranger to obtain quotes to asphalt the parking lot in Gaff Park

d) Purchase additional musical items-add to October agenda. Pranger informed the board Roberta Stone with ARC purchased a Kiosk to be installed by the musical area to hold the QR code for the music to the instruments and introduce the park.

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS

a) President Wilkinson stated we need to update the friends of the park sign on the south end of the Kelly Park Pavilion. She met Brian Anderson, Hoosier Signs, he suggested black plaques with white lettering. Tina distributed three designs for the sign the plaques will be attached too. Member Martin made a motion to approve the sign with trees on both edges ($670) and the black with white lettering for the plaques ($12 each). Second by Member Hicks. All in favor-aye. Motion Carried.

b) 2027 Concert Series: The board will begin working on bands for the series immediately and sponsorships in January and February. Consider renting stage equipment-possibly Kendallville.

c) President Wilkinson asked when to cut off mowing in the parks. The board stated with the recent rains it will probably need to be done for 2-3 more weeks.

d) President Wilkinson asked about Leaf removal in Grant Park. The board stated have the leaves picked up once in November. Member Hicks stated the baseball league will do the spring clean-

2026 Budget

Park Donation Account	$31,760.13
#119-Park Maintenance	$2,711.68
#135-Contractual	$ 984.18
#234-Park Supplies	$1,553.23
#341-Park Insurance-Don't Spend	$3,661.80
#352-Park Light-Don't spend	$2,458.41
#362-Park Repairs	$3,872.76
#430-Park Improvement	$26,200.62
#442-Park Equipment	$16,235.91
Total	$57,678.59 + 31,760.13=$89,438.72

Next Meeting: October 19, 2026

Member Martin made a motion to adjourn the regular meeting at 6:35 p.m. Second by Member Hicks. All in favor-aye. Motion Carried.

Respectfully Submitted: Leigh A. Pranger

Leigh A. Pranger, Secretary