

Town of Black Earth
Minutes of Town Board Meeting
Tuesday, December 1, 2020

1. Meeting call to Order. Town Chair Vern Wendt called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM. Supervisors Don Ripp and Barb Parrell, Treasurer Brenda Kahl, and Clerk Stephanie Zwettler were present. Also in attendance: Al Schroeder, Jeannie Campbell.
2. Proof of Posting. Affidavit of posting was provided.
3. Approval of the Agenda. Barb Parrell moved and Don Ripp seconded the motion to approve the agenda. Motion carried. 3-0
4. Approval of the Minutes of the November 5 meeting. Don Ripp moved and Barb Parrell seconded the motion to approve the minutes as amended. Motion carried. 3-0
5. Public Comments. Resident Jeannie Campbell inquired about the 'Tree Cutting' line in the town budget and wanted to know if it was approved.
6. Discussion/action re: Financial Report.
 - a. Money Market: \$98,709.54 Checking: \$22,653.70
 - b. Approval of checks written. Barb Parrell moved and Vern Wendt seconded the motion to approve written checks numbered 11618-11642. Motion carried. 3-0
7. Discussion/action re: Patrolman's Report. Patrolman Al Schroeder discussed the plans received from Century Link to bury cable facilities on Mahocker Rd; requests they mark/flag the proposed location and contact him before beginning work.
8. Discussion/action re: Plan Commission Report. No report this month.
9. Discussion/action re: David Born, 5375 Mahocker Rd – request for parcel survey. Barb Parrell moved and Don Ripp seconded a motion to authorize the Town Clerk to contact a surveyor to prepare a certified survey map for the property at the turnaround near 5375 Mahocker Rd. Motion carried. 3-0
10. Discussion/action re: Rural Mutual insurance policy – review scheduled equipment. Supervisor Don Ripp presented information from a recent teleconference discussion with the Rural Mutual representative. The Town Board members considered possible updates to the policy and will discuss further at the next town board meeting.
11. Discussion/action re: Newsletter to accompany tax bills – review. Barb Parrell moved and Don Ripp seconded the motion to approve the newsletter with changes. Motion carried. 3-0

12. Discussion/action re: Set Caucus dates – January 2021. Don Ripp moved and Barb Parrell seconded a motion to hold the 2021 Town caucus on Tuesday, January 5, at 6:00 PM with the regular town board meeting to immediately follow. Motion carried. 3-0
13. Discussion re: Election recount – report. Clerk Stephanie Zwettler presented a report of the recent election recount; the Town of Black Earth ballots balanced exactly to the results submitted on Election Day.
14. Discussion re: Routes to Recovery Grant – submission of report. Clerk Stephanie Zwettler presented the expenses that were submitted to the Routes to Recovery Grant; the submission has been approved for reimbursement.
15. EMS Board Report. Supervisor Barb Parrell reported that the recent EMS meeting was canceled due to increased COVID-19 cases in the area.
16. Fire Board Report. Supervisor Don Ripp reported that the roof repair for the fire department building was recently approved.
17. Discussion of future agenda items. Rural Mutual policy, certified survey for property on Mahocker Rd, planting in the road right of way.
18. Convene Closed Session, under WI Stat. 19.85(1)(b) and (c). Considering employment, promotion, compensation, or performance evaluation data of any public employee over which the governmental body has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility. Vern Wendt made the motion and Don Ripp seconded to convene into closed session. The board convened into closed session at 7:34 PM. Roll call vote: Wendt – aye, Ripp – aye, Parrell – aye.

Barb Parrell made the motion to close the closed session and Don Ripp seconded. Roll call vote: Wendt – aye, Ripp – aye, Parrell – aye.
19. Reconvene Open Session per WI Stat. 19.85(2). Don Ripp made a motion to reconvene to open session and Barb Parrell seconded. Roll call vote: Wendt – aye, Ripp – aye, Parrell – aye. The board reconvened to open session at 7:39 PM.
20. Set employee 2021 compensation. Vern Wendt moved and Barb Parrell seconded a motion to change the hourly compensation effective January 1, 2021 for Town Patrolman Al Schroeder to \$27.50 per hour. Motion carried. 3-0

Vern Wendt moved and Barb Parrell seconded a motion to change the annual compensation for Town Clerk to \$18,000 effective January 1, 2021. Motion carried. 3-0
21. Adjourn. Vern Wendt moved and Don Ripp seconded the motion to adjourn. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:49 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Stephanie Zwettler, Town Clerk