

Town of Black Earth
Minutes of Town Board Meeting
Tuesday, August 3, 2021

1. Meeting call to Order. Town Chair Barb Parrell called the meeting to order at 6:29 PM. Supervisors Don Ripp and Tom Turk, Treasurer Brenda Kahl, and Clerk Stephanie Zwettler were present. Also in attendance: Al Schroeder, Steve Parrell, Mitch and Julie Seston, Paul Wilichowski, Trent Turk, and Peter Antonie.
2. Proof of Posting. Affidavit of posting was provided.
3. Approval of the Agenda. Tom Turk moved and Don Ripp seconded a motion to approve the agenda. Motion carried. 3-0
4. Approval of the Minutes of the July 6 and July 14 meetings. Don Ripp moved and Tom Turk seconded the motion to approve the minutes as presented. Motion carried. 3-0
5. Public Comments. There were no public comments.
6. Financial Report.
 - a. Money Market: \$380,009.37 Checking: \$24,817.80
 - b. Approval of checks written. Tom Turk moved and Don Ripp seconded the motion to approve written checks numbered 11799-11815. Motion carried. 3-0
7. Plan Commission Report.
 - a. Mitch & Julie Seston, 10301 County Road KP – zoning change for (2) lots from FP-35 to RM-8 and RM-16, DCPREZ-2021-11730. Steve Parrell presented the Plan Commission’s recommendation to approve the zoning change application submitted by Mitch and Julie Seston. Tom Turk moved and Don Ripp seconded the motion to approve the zoning changes of 13.72 acres from FP-35 to RM-8, and 34.18 acres from FP-35 to RM-16. Motion carried. 3-0
 - b. Mitch & Julie Seston, 10301 County Road KP – driveway construction permit. Steve Parrell presented the Plan Commission’s recommendation for approval. Tom Turk moved and Don Ripp seconded the motion to approve the driveway construction permit submitted by Mitch and Julie Seston. Motion carried. 3-0
 - c. Aaron & Ifeyinwa Walker, Blackberry Road – driveway construction permit. Steve Parrell presented the Plan Commission’s recommendation to approve the driveway construction permit application submitted by Aaron and Ifeyinwa Walker. Don Ripp moved and Tom Turk seconded the motion to approve the driveway construction permit as presented. Motion carried. 3-0
 - d. Paul Wilichowski & Erin Hanou, 5362 Mahocker Road – zoning change for existing residence, DCPREZ-2021-11738. Steve Parrell presented the Plan Commission’s recommendation to approve the zoning change. Don Ripp moved and Tom Turk seconded the motion to approve of the zoning change of 8.5 acres from FP-35 to RM-8. Motion carried. 3-0
 - e. Land Use Plan amendments – update. The Joint Town Board and Plan Commission meeting for further discussion of amendments to the Land Use Plan will be Thursday, September 16 at 6:30 PM.

8. Patrolman's Report. Patrolman Al Schroeder reported that the road paving project on Mahocker Road is complete; front tires are needed on tractor; would like the contractor's written approval to be reimbursed before repairing their right-of-way damage on Kahl Road.
 - a. Reeve Road – tree trimming. Alliant Energy contact has not called back yet.
 - b. Kahl Road closure on August 14 for Village of Black Earth event. The Village of Black Earth will be dedicating their new park on August 14. Kahl Road will be closed to traffic for a couple of hours during the event.
9. Gardiner Appraisal Service – 2022-2023 revaluation contract. The Town Board reviewed the contract for revaluation. Tom Turk moved and Don Ripp seconded the motion to approve the 2022-2023 revaluation contract from Gardiner Appraisal Service. Motion carried. 3-0
10. David Born, 5375 Mahocker Rd – easement agreement update. Clerk Stephanie Zwettler reported that the compensation details were given to the attorney for finalization of the agreement; no update at this time.
11. Gateway to the Driftless – update report. Board Vice Chairperson Peter Antonie presented a report discussing the various outdoor recreation opportunities created from their multi-use trail system; the CARPC project to mitigate flood impacts in the watershed; and partnering with the Black Earth Library in offering a “Driftless Passport” for children to promote the exploration of area parks, prairies, and conservancies.
12. EMS Board Report. Supervisor Tom Turk reported the EMS budget meeting is coming up; EMS department has lost multiple EMTs this year; they hope to hire a full-time Assistant Director soon.
13. Fire Board Report. Supervisor Don Ripp reported the next meeting is September 2.
14. Discussion of future agenda items. Easement agreement, tires for tractor, set date for budget work meeting.
15. Adjourn. Don Ripp moved, and Tom Turk seconded the motion to adjourn. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 6:56 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Stephanie Zwettler, Town Clerk