

Town of Black Earth
Minutes of Town Board Meeting
Tuesday, September 7, 2021

1. Meeting call to Order. Town Chair Barb Parrell called the meeting to order at 6:18 PM. Supervisors Don Ripp and Tom Turk, Treasurer Brenda Kahl, and Clerk Stephanie Zwettler were present. Also in attendance: Peter Weil, Jim Welsh, Ken and Barbara Olson, Steve Parrell, and Al Schroeder.
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 August 3 meeting. Don Ripp moved and Tom Turk seconded the motion to approve the minutes as presented. Motion carried. 3-0
5. Public Comments. Peter Weil presented comments from meetings that aim to improve broadband internet for underserved rural areas. He discussed possible grant opportunities and partnerships with local utility companies. The topic will be placed on the next agenda for discussion.
6. Financial Report.
 - a. Money Market: \$227,649.62 Checking: \$266,554.17 (includes funds for road project payment)
 - b. Approval of checks written. Don Ripp moved and Tom Turk seconded the motion to approve written checks numbered 11816-11831. Motion carried. 3-0
7. Plan Commission Report.
 - a. Olson's Brown Swiss Farm, 10113 US Hwy 14 – zoning change for existing residence and creating two conservancy lots, from FP-35 to RM-16 and NR-C, DCPREZ-2021-11759. Steve Parrell presented the Plan Commission's recommendation to approve the zoning changes.

Don Ripp moved and Tom Turk seconded the motion to approve the zoning changes from FP-35 to RM-16 for 17.76 acres for the existing residence, and from FP-35 to NR-C for the two conservancy lots of 27.7 and 10.94 acres. Motion carried. 3-0
8. Patrolman's Report. Patrolman Al Schroeder reported that the contractor for the Kahl Road repairs indicated the landscaping portion should be completed this week, and that they will be seeking another bid for the pavement repairs. Al Schroeder also commented that the salt is being delivered this week.
 - a. Reeve Road – tree trimming. Alliant Energy will be trimming tree tops the week of October 4; they will provide one woodchipper. Patrolman Al Schroeder will inform neighbors of the daily road closures, closing only between the school bus routes. The Town will provide an additional woodchipper, if needed.
 - b. Tires for tractor. Patrolman Al Schroeder presented estimates from Hartje Tire and Pomp's Tire to replace the front tires on the tractor. Don Ripp moved and Tom Turk seconded a motion to approve the purchase of tires from Hartje Tire & Service. Motion carried. 3-0

9. David Born, 5375 Mahocker Rd – easement agreement update. The Town Board reviewed the final draft of the easement agreement indicating the compensation of \$2500. Tom Turk moved and Don Ripp seconded a motion to approve the turnaround easement agreement as presented. Motion carried. 3-0 Clerk Stephanie Zwettler will contact David Born for signatures and notarization.
10. Traffic Safety Project for Dane County Geographic Area 11 – review of project and survey. The Town Board discussed the questions on the traffic survey. Clerk Stephanie Zwettler will add the survey to the town website for residents to complete.
11. Mailbox Replacement Policy – review draft policy. The Town Board discussed the policy. The draft policy will be placed on the next agenda for further discussion.
12. Set date for Budget Work Meeting. The Budget Work Meeting is scheduled for Monday, October 11, 2021 at 6:30 PM.
13. EMS Board Report. Supervisor Tom Turk reported the next EMS meeting will be Thursday, September 9, 2021.
14. Fire Board Report. Supervisor Don Ripp reported the budget passed with a 2% increase; the roof is not yet completed due to the shortage of steel; the brush vehicle will need a replacement soon and the department is looking to purchase a used vehicle; they also discussed refurbishing two older trucks instead of replacing them.
15. Discussion of future agenda items. Broadband internet, Mailbox Replacement Policy, updating the event permit application.
16. Adjourn. Tom Turk moved and Don Ripp seconded the motion to adjourn. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 7:15 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Stephanie Zwettler, Town Clerk