

Town of Black Earth
Minutes of Town Board Meeting
Tuesday, October 3, 2023

1. Meeting call to Order. Town Chair Tom Turk called the meeting to order at 6:35 PM. Supervisor Don Ripp, Treasurer Brenda Kahl, and Clerk Stephanie Zwettler were present. Barb Parrell was excused. Also in attendance: Cody Eastman, Steve Parrell, Peter Weil, David Lucey, Chuck Bruhn, and Bill and Brenda Pulvermacher.
2. Proof of Posting. An affidavit of posting was provided.
3. Approval of the Agenda. Don Ripp moved and Tom Turk seconded a motion to approve the agenda. Motion carried. 2-0
4. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meetings – September 5, 2023. Don Ripp moved and Tom Turk seconded the motion to approve the minutes from September 5, 2023, as presented. Motion carried. 2-0
5. Financial Report.
 - a. Money Market: \$361,192.60 Checking: \$29,753.76
 - b. Approval of checks written. Don Ripp moved and Tom Turk seconded the motion to approve written checks numbered 12245-12257, including direct deposit paychecks. Motion carried. 2-0
6. Plan Commission:
 - a. Pork-n-Pines Dairy, Inc, approx. 10500 Fesenfeld Rd – driveway construction permit. Plan Commission Chair Steve Parrell presented the Plan Commission's approval recommendation. Don Ripp moved and Tom Turk seconded a motion to approve the driveway access entrance up to 50 feet into Lot 1, and require a culvert at Fesenfeld Road. Motion carried. 2-0
 - b. Consideration of ordinances – wind energy, solar energy, communication tower siting. Plan Commission Chair Steve Parrell reported the Commission will first focus on developing an ordinance to address solar energy.
7. Patrolman's Report. Patrolman Cody Eastman reported missing road signs and culvert markers and that more have been ordered; the Village of Black Earth pumped the drain reservoir at the town garage; the weather stripping on the door seals in the garage will be replaced. He also presented an estimate from Madison Spring for repairing shocks and suspension on the F450 truck. Don Ripp moved and Tom Turk seconded the motion to approve repairs on the F450 truck. Motion carried. 2-0
8. Zoning violation, 11079 US Highway 14 – update. Zoning Inspector Wade Osterholz has contacted the property owner and reported that 100-200 sq feet have been cleaned up; he will conduct a follow-up inspection in a couple of weeks.

9. Reeve Rd Bridge replacement – WI DOT aid. Clerk Stephanie Zwettler presented the application that will be submitted to WI DOT for bridge replacement.
10. Emergency Operations Plan – draft plan, resolution. The updated plan and resolution will be presented at the November meeting.
11. Dane Co. Ordinance Amend. OA-009 – salvage operations amended text. The Town Board reviewed the proposed amendments.
12. Broadband internet service. Broadband Task Force member Peter Weil presented updates regarding the BEAD and ACAM funding programs available to broadband service providers.
13. Omitted property tax bill. Clerk Stephanie Zwettler reported that Attorney Mark Hazelbaker is researching judicial collection to collect on the debt.
14. Set date for Public Budget Hearing and Special Meeting of the Electors. The Budget Hearing and Special Meeting of the Electors is scheduled for Tuesday, November 7, 2023, at 6:15 PM. The Town Board meeting will follow at approximately 6:30 PM.
15. EMS Board Report. Town Chair Tom Turk reported on budget preparations and discussed the 2024 supplemental shared revenue program.
16. Fire Board Report. Supervisor Don Ripp reported a slight increase in the 2024 budget; the grant for the air packs was received and the department will begin searching for a fire engine for 2028.
17. Discussion of future agenda items. Zoning violation update, Reeve Road bridge update, Emergency Operations Plan, omitted tax update, broadband update.
18. Adjourn. Don Ripp moved and Tom Turk seconded the motion to adjourn. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 7:12 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Stephanie Zwettler, Town Clerk