

Town of Black Earth
Minutes of Plan Commission Meeting
Thursday, April 11, 2024

1. Meeting call to Order. Plan Commission Chair Steve Parrell called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM. Plan Commission members Don Ripp, Chuck Bruhn, Peter Weil, Pat Helmenstine, and Clerk Stephanie Zwettler were present. Also in attendance: Joann Bennett and Sinon Galvin.
2. Proof of Posting. An affidavit of posting was provided.
3. Approval of the Agenda. Peter Weil moved and Chuck Bruhn seconded a motion to approve the agenda. Motion carried. 5-0
4. Consideration of Solar Energy Licensing Ordinance – discuss, develop draft. Plan Commission members reviewed solar ordinances adopted by two Wisconsin towns. Members discussed ideas for consideration: protecting areas with ag land and residences, protecting vistas and views, protecting wildlife and natural habitats, burying cables, lights, noise, effects on property values, damage to roads and right-of-ways, time of contracts, removal and clean-up post-contract, and inspections. Commission members also discussed what regulations towns can enforce per state statutes.

Clerk Stephanie Zwettler will contact the Wisconsin Towns Association, Dane County Towns Association, and Wisconsin DNR for more information and provide ordinances from other towns for further discussion at the next meeting.
5. Discussion of future agenda items. Develop a Solar Energy System Ordinance.
6. Adjourn. Don Ripp moved and Peter Weil seconded a motion to adjourn. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 7:37 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Stephanie Zwettler, Town Clerk