

Town of Black Earth
Minutes of Plan Commission Meeting
Tuesday, June 18, 2024

1. Meeting call to Order. Plan Commission Chair Steve Parrell called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM. Plan Commission members Peter Weil, Pat Helmenstine, Joann Bennett and Clerk Stephanie Zwettler were present. Also in attendance: Barb Parrell and Tom Ripp.

Moment of Silence. Plan Commission Chair Steve Parrell requested a Moment of Silence to honor recently passed Plan Commission member and Town Board Supervisor Don Ripp.

2. Proof of Posting. An affidavit of posting was provided.
3. Approval of the Agenda. Peter Weil moved and Joann Bennett seconded a motion to approve the agenda. Motion carried. 4-0
4. Solar Energy System Licensing Ordinance – discuss, develop draft. The Plan Commission reviewed and compared solar ordinances from various Dane County and Wisconsin towns. Clerk Stephanie Zwettler also provided responses and information from the Wisconsin Towns Association and Dane County Towns Association. Commission members discussed the sizes, scales, and watts of solar energy systems and which ones can be regulated by local governments, prioritizing the health and safety of town residents, maintaining consistency with the Land Use Plan, license renewal, bonds for road damage, and groundcover plantings. Clerk Stephanie Zwettler will contact WI DNR to inquire about regulations for water runoff and creek easements.

The Plan Commission will continue further discussion at the next meeting on July 30, 2024.

5. Discussion of future agenda items. Develop a Solar Energy System Ordinance.
6. Adjourn. Pat Helmenstine moved and Joann Bennett seconded a motion to adjourn. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 7:14 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Stephanie Zwettler, Town Clerk