

Town of Black Earth  
Minutes of Town Board Meeting  
Tuesday, August 6, 2024

1. Meeting call to Order. Town Supervisor Barb Parrell called the meeting to order at 6:37 PM. Supervisor Joann Bennett and Clerk Stephanie Zwettler were present. Town Chair Tom Turk and Treasurer Brenda Kahl were excused. Also in attendance: Peter Weil, Steve Parrell, Sinon Galvin, Chris Cook, Daniel Tataje, Jason Handel, and Peter Wood.
2. Proof of Posting. An affidavit of posting was provided.
3. Approval of the Agenda. Joann Bennett moved and Barb Parrell seconded a motion to approve the agenda. Motion carried. 2-0
4. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meetings – July 2 and July 29, 2024. Joann Bennett moved and Barb Parrell seconded the motion to approve the minutes from July 2 and July 29, 2024, as presented. Motion carried. 2-0
5. Public Comments – non-agenda items. None presented.
6. Financial Report.
  - a. Money Market: \$303,680.04                      Checking: \$80,749.56
  - b. Approval of checks written. Joann Bennett moved and Barb Parrell seconded the motion to approve written checks numbered 12418-12433, including direct deposit paychecks. Motion carried. 2-0
7. Plan Commission.
  - a. Borodinlaan, LLC/Sinon Galvin, approx. 10525 Fesenfeld Rd – zoning change for 8.34 acres. Plan Commission Chair Steve Parrell presented the Plan Commission’s recommendation for approval. Barb Parrell moved and Joann Bennett seconded the motion to approve the zoning change of 8.34 acres from FP-35 to RR-8. Motion carried. 2-0
  - b. Daniel & Scarlett Tataje, 5612 Midland Rd – zoning change for 35 acres. Plan Commission Chair Steve Parrell presented the Plan Commission’s approval recommendation. Barb Parrell moved and Joann Bennett seconded a motion to approve the zoning change of 35 acres from FP-1 to RR-16. Motion carried. 2-0
  - c. Solar Energy Licensing Ordinance – update. A draft ordinance will be reviewed at the next Plan Commission meeting.
8. Ditch repair at Morton Park. An update will be provided at the next meeting.
9. Election report. Clerk Stephanie Zwettler reported election day activities.
10. Insurance – outdoor property coverage, review proposal. Postponed discussion until next month.

11. Broadband internet service – update. Peter Weil provided a review of the grant programs.
12. Omitted property tax bill – review attorney costs. Postponed discussion until next month.
13. EMS Board Report. No report this month.
14. Fire Board Report. No report this month.
15. Approve Town Patrolman applicant, compensation package. Joann Bennett moved and Barb Parrell seconded the motion to approve the Town Patrolman’s compensation package - \$32.00 per hour, 32 hours per week mandatory; compensatory hours for 33-40 hours at the regular pay rate, optional compensatory hours in lieu of overtime pay for 40+ hours; retirement – ETF match of 6.9%; 64 hours of paid time off; Town cell phone; and six (6) Holidays per year – New Year’s Day, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Thanksgiving Day, and Christmas Day. Motion carried. 2-0

The Town Board reviewed the Town Patrolman application and interview. Barb Parrell moved and Joann Bennett seconded a motion to offer the Town Patrolman full-time position and compensation package to Jason Handel, and after six months of service, the Town will review the hourly rate and paid time off. Motion carried. 2-0

16. Discussion of future agenda items. Omitted tax bill distribution, broadband update, Reeve Rd speed signs.
17. Adjourn. Joann Bennett moved and Barb Parrell seconded the motion to adjourn. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 7:17 PM.

Respectfully submitted,  
Stephanie Zwettler, Town Clerk