

Town of Black Earth
Minutes of Town Board Meeting
Tuesday, September 3, 2024

1. Meeting call to Order. Town Chair Tom Turk called the meeting to order at 6:44 PM. Supervisors Barb Parrell, Joann Bennett, Treasurer Brenda Kahl, and Clerk Stephanie Zwettler were present. Also in attendance: Steve Parrell, Jason Handel, Deputy Hager, Peter Weil, Paulette Glunn, Susan Michaud, Christopher Long, Brenda and Bill Pulvermacher.
2. Proof of Posting. An affidavit of posting was provided.
3. Approval of the Agenda. Barb Parrell moved and Joann Bennett seconded a motion to approve the agenda. Motion carried. 3-0
4. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting – August 6, 2024. Barb Parrell moved and Joann Bennett seconded the motion to approve the minutes from August 6, 2024, as presented. Motion carried. 3-0
5. Public Comments – non-agenda items. Brenda Pulvermacher requested gravel be added to the shoulder on Midland Road due to the steep bank.
6. Financial Report.
 - a. Money Market: \$405,154.67 Checking: \$12,386.31
 - b. Approval of checks written. Barb Parrell moved and Joann Bennett seconded the motion to approve written checks numbered 12434-12449, including direct deposit paychecks. Motion carried. 3-0
7. Reeve Road speed limit – Dane Co. Deputy J. Hager report. Dep. Jodi Hager discussed the results of the speed board placed on Reeve Road: 3539 vehicles were recorded during the 13 days; average speed was 28 mph, maximum speed was 55 mph. Dep. Hager explained that the data does not currently warrant supporting a deputy be positioned at the location; speed limit signs northbound are posted at 35 mph, and one sign southbound is posted at 45 mph and should have the same limit in both directions. Christopher Long emphasized concerns about speeding on Reeve Road, and Susan Michaud commented on the yield intersection at Morton Park and noted an increase in traffic and speed on Fesenfeld Road as well. Dep. Hager reviewed residents' comments on speeding, suggested flags could be added to speed signs, and grants for electronic speed boards are possible.
8. Plan Commission: Solar Energy Licensing Ordinance – update. Supervisor Joann Bennett presented the Plan Commission's progress on developing a Solar Energy Licensing Ordinance.
9. Patrolman's Report. Road Patrolman Jason Handel reported trimming trees and evaluating town roads, noting ditch repairs needed on Reeve and Turkey Roads; he will soon begin patching potholes. Patrolman Handel also requested marker poles be mounted on the phone and electric transformer boxes to improve visibility for mowing and plowing; utility companies will be

contacted for assistance. Town Chair Tom Turk reported that former patrolman Al Schroeder has agreed to meet with Jason Handel to provide additional training; the Town will compensate him for his time.

10. Patrolman CDL classes – tuition payment. Road Patrolman Jason Handel received his CDL “A” permit and has registered for CDL courses in Iowa. The Town will reimburse him for the tuition.
11. Ditch repair at Morton Park. Town Chairman Tom Turk met with Dane County Parks representatives to discuss sharing the cost of the ditch repair needed in front of Dane County’s Morton Park. He will contact them again to solicit any support they can provide.
12. NW Dane Senior Services Exec Director Paulette Glunn – nutrition program, budget discussion. Paulette Glunn presented the annual accomplishments and services of NW Dane Senior Services – nutrition program, case management and advocacy, transportation, Adult Day Program, wellness activities, salon, thrift shop, pet grant, and upcoming event – Dine On Harvest Moon. Town resident Susan Michaud emphasized the importance of the local organization. NWDSS is seeking a financial contribution from the Town for 2025.
13. Reeve Road bridge replacement – WisDOT Municipal Agreement. Tom Turk moved and Barb Parrell seconded a motion to approve the WisDOT Municipal Agreement for the Reeve Rd bridge replacement. Motion carried. 3-0
14. Insurance – outdoor property coverage, review proposal. The Town Board reviewed the coverage proposal.
15. Broadband internet service – update. Peter Weil reported an email discussion with Jaron McCallum, Broadband Coordinator for the Dane County Planning & Development Department, regarding TDS’s lack of timeline information since their participation in the E-ACAM funding program.
16. Omitted property tax bill – review attorney costs, distribution of funds. Tom Turk moved and Joann Bennett seconded a motion to distribute funds collected as directed per the Dept of Revenue’s 2020 Approved Request for Sharing Omitted Taxes Notice: \$1050.15 to Dane County, \$3,391.76 to Wisconsin Heights, and \$279.33 to Madison Area Technical College. Town Chair Tom Turk will contact Wisconsin Heights to solicit assistance with legal expenses incurred in recovering the omitted taxes.
17. Set date for Budget Work Meeting. The Budget Work Meeting is scheduled for October 1, 2024, following the Town Board meeting.
18. EMS Board Report. Tom Turk reported on the 2025 levy and noted discussions of a possible merger with Arena.
19. Fire Board Report. The meeting is next Thursday.

20. Discussion of future agenda items. Ditch repair on Reeve Rd.
21. Adjourn. Joann Bennett moved and Barb Parrell seconded the motion to adjourn. Motion carried.
The meeting adjourned at 8:05 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Stephanie Zwettler, Town Clerk