



Village of Black Earth

VILLAGE BOARD MEETING

1210 Mills St., Black Earth, WI 53515

Wednesday, January 10, 2024 | 6:00 p.m.

Minutes

1. Call to Order/Roll Call President Terry Moyer called the meeting to order at 6:00pm. Upon roll call present: Terry Moyer, James Coyle, Scott Patchin, Pam Louis-Reindl, Mitch Hodson, Sarah Morrow. Absent: Tyler Munson. Also Present: Public Works Director Matt Kahl, Clerk Dani Fields.
2. Pledge of Allegiance *Recited.*
3. Proof of Posting: *Read aloud by Moyer.*
4. Public Comment: *None/no one present.*
5. Discussion/Action: Approval of Meeting Minutes from December 5, 2024
Louis-Reindl/Hodson motion to approve as presented. Motion carried unanimously.
6. Discussion/Action: Bartender License Application – Carmen Aide
Louis-Reindl/Hodson motion to approve as presented. Morrow abstained from voting. Motion carried unanimously.
7. Discussion/Action: Electric Rate Case Proposal – Ehlers
 - a. Discussion on having Jeff Stanek to an independent review of electric utility.
*Hodson/Patchin motion to approve independent review with Jeff Stanek not to exceed \$1500. Motion carried unanimously.*Discussion on need for electric rate case proposal; was ordered in last rate case to complete a rate case in 2024.
Louis-Reindl/Hodson motion to approve Ehlers to complete case proposal. Motion carried unanimously.
8. Discussion/Action: Insurance – Bonding
 - a. Discussion on increasing crime policy limit. Fields to check quotes on \$250k and \$500k limit.
9. Discussion/Action: Municipal Building Keys
 - a. Hodson and Louis-Reindl need keys, Fields to issue keys.
10. Discussion/Action: Invoices to be Paid
 - a. *Louis-Reindl/Morrow motion to approve as presented.*
11. Reports:
 - a. Vanguard Commission (Patchin) – Scott exits meeting at 6:21 pm.
 - b. Electrical Superintendent Report (Dilley) Absent
 - c. Black Earth Fire District (Moyer) Meet 1/11.
 - d. Clerk/Treasurer & Financial Reports (Fields) Been extremely busy. New employee starts 1/24. Working on end of year projects.
 - e. Dane-Iowa Wastewater Commission (Coyle) 52 loads of bio solids taken by farmers. Arena looking at pump, needs work done. No discharge violations. Made an offer to a candidate for new operator position.
 - f. Economic Development Committee (Louis-Reindl) Working on creating goals. Developing subcommittee for trail planning and visitor center.
 - g. Emergency Management Scheduled for 1/16.
 - h. EMS Committee (Louis-Reindl) ongoing search to hire a director.
 - i. Gateway to the Driftless (Munson) absent.
 - j. Library Board (Morrow) combined report, Bailey absent. Met Dec 19. Timeline for fundraising. Approved a proclamation for library week. Started a spice of the month club. Working on spreading the word about blood pressure monitoring kits.
 - k. Library Director Report (Anderson) Absent
 - l. Public Works Committee (Patchin) Absent
 - m. Public Works Director Report (Kahl) Shawn gave updates on transformer testing. Well updates still work in progress. Discussed grants for parcels in town. Discussion on stormwater projects near Ripp subdivision. Discussion on street funding. GIS/mapping, renting device from Town and Country Engineering. Training discussions, Tony attending in La Crosse, Matt finding class in UW Madison PW Construction classes, Luke working on

groundwater certification. Snow storm yesterday, very heavy. One truck has an issue with emissions, scheduling for tomorrow. New tires scheduled. Touch screen broke, needed to order a new touch screen for wellhouse. Next meeting Feb 19 at 530, 3rd Monday of month.

- n. Parks Committee (Hodson) TBD
 - o. Police Committee (Morrow) TBD
- 12.** Motion to enter into closed session pursuant to Wis. Stats. 19.85(1)(e), Deliberating or negotiating the purchasing of public properties, the investing of public funds, or conducting other specified public business, whenever competitive or bargaining reasons require a closed session. (Cell Tower Lease Negotiations) (Roll call vote) *The notice was read aloud.*
Hodson/ Louis-Reindl motion to enter into closed session. Roll call: Terry Moyer, James Coyle, Pam Louis-Reindl, Mitch Hodson, Sarah Morrow. All unanimous. Entered into closed session at 6:42 pm.
- 13.** Motion to arise from Closed Session and reconvene in Open Session
Hodson exited the meeting at 6:59pm.
Morrow/Louis-Reindl motion to arise from closed session. Motion carried unanimously.
Arose from closed session at 7:01pm.
- 14.** Discussion/Action on Closed Session items
- a. Fields to distribute cell tower contracts to board members.
- 15.** Any other business that may be brought before the board on future agendas
- a. Crime policy
- 16.** Setting of the Next Village Board Meeting: February 6, 2024
- 17.** Adjournment
Louis-Reindl/Morrow motion to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 7:06pm.

Minutes prepared by Dani Fields, Clerk/Treasurer