



Village of Black Earth

Village Board Meeting

1210 Mills St., Black Earth, WI 53515
Wednesday August 7, 2024 | 6:00 p.m.

MINUTES

1. Call to Order/Roll Call – Meeting called to order by Mitch Hodson at 6:00PM. Motion by Pam Louis-Reindl for Mitch Hodson to chair meeting in Terry Moyer’s absence. Motion seconded by Dylan Helmenstine. In attendance – Scott Patchin, Mitch Hodson, Dylan Helmenstine, Pam Louis-Reindl, Tom Marks. Absent – Terry Moyer and Tyler Munson. Also in attendance Matt Kahl – Public Works Director and Kurt Meier – Vanguard Director.
2. Pledge of Allegiance stated by all in attendance.
3. Proof of Posting: A copy of the notice was delivered to the following By **Tuesday August 6, 2024**: emailed to the Star News, Editor-Star News, Breunig CPA, and Lake Ridge Bank – Black Earth; posted at the Black Earth Municipal Building, Black Earth Post Office, and Black Earth Web Page. – Proof of posting read aloud by Mitch Hodson
4. Public Comment (Please limit to 3 minutes) – None today.
5. Discussion/Action: Approval of Meeting Minutes from July 10, 2024. – Motion made to approve by Scott Patchin, seconded by Pam Louis-Reindl. All ayes, none opposed.
6. Discussion/Action: Applications/Licenses
 - a. Amplifying Devices – Peggy Grove at Veteran’s Park 9/14/2024 for a wedding reception – Motion to approve application by Pam Louis-Reindl, seconded by Scott Patchin, all ayes, none opposed. Application approved.
 - b. Amplifying Devices – BEvents Field Days 8/9-8/10 – Motion to approve application by Scott Patchin and seconded by Dylan Helmenstine. All ayes, none opposed. Application approved.
 - c. Road Closure (Park Street – Mills to Center) – BEvents Field Days – 8/9-8/10 – Motion to approve road closure made by Scott Patchin, seconded by Pam Louis-Reindl. All ayes, none opposed. Application approved.
 - d. Road Closure (Ray Street – Mills to Center) – Wild West Days Fundraiser 8/18 11AM-5PM. – Motion by Mitch Hodson to approve whole road closure if Laundromat Owner agrees, if disagrees, approve road closure to the end of the shack’s property and no parking on the remainder of the street to allow for 2 way traffic in and out of the Laundromat parking lot. Seconded by Pam Louis-Reindl. All ayes, none opposed. Application approved with contingencies.
 - e. Fireworks Possession and Display – BEvents Field Days – 8/10 – Motion to approve application by Scott Patchin, seconded by Dylan Helmenstine. Discussion of road closure during fireworks: closed within the village near the bridge at Community Park, Black Earth Township has never had an issue with this previously since it’s only for a very short time. All ayes, none opposed. Permit approved. Pam Louis-Reindl abstains.
 - f. Operator’s License – Kwik Trip (10 Applicants – 3 renewal, 7 new) – Motion by Pam Louis-Reindl to approve all licenses, renewal and new. Motion seconded by Scott Patchin. Discussion regarding notary on new licenses, not necessary if Ok’d by office staff. All ayes, none opposed. Motion passed.
 1. Renewal: John Peterson, Renee Adler, Johanna Geishirt
 2. New: Carrie Ellis, Cassie Owen, Nicholas Licitar, Haden O’Neil, Olivia Stephens, Justin Kiefer, Gabriel Humphreys
7. Discussion/ Action: Community Park: Parking/Playground – No discussion at this time, will leave with parks committee until budget time.
8. Discussion/Action: ARPA Spending – Now has \$153,418.08 after interest accrual. Half designated to Parks, other half designated to Public Works. Of the parks half, \$40,000 is already spent on the ball field. LGIP signed for authorization for Matt, Beth, Dani and Terry now to have access to use this funding.
 - a. Mower – Matt Kahl discussed purchase recommendations of a new mower. Unit can also double and be used for snow removal help. Discussion of an aftermarket cab discussed. Price of the new unit would be \$65,000 at this time. This price will go up 2% in September. If we purchase from John Deere, we would have this unit in our possession in 2 months. Toro turn around time is 18 months and \$15,000 higher. Motion made by Scott Patchin to approve purchase, seconded by Tom Marks. More discussion regarding specifics and details of the new unit to be purchased. All ayes, no one opposed. Motion carried.
9. Discussion/Action: Office H2O Water System for the Municipal Building – Skipped and put on September meeting agenda.
10. Discussion/Action: Ehlers Investments Bond – GO Note money was invested with CD’s and companies switched. The new investment company is not municipal friendly and is not gaining us anything. Ehlers recommends transferring funds to our general funds as it’s not benefiting the village. Pam Louis-Reindl motions to approve transfer, Scott Patchin seconds approval. All ayes, none opposed. Motion carries.
11. Discussion/Action: Invoices to be Paid – Motion by Pam Louis-Reindl, Seconded by Scott Patchin. Discussion about Vierbicher invoice and amount billed to Village by Scott Patchin. No grant opportunities presented from them yet. Would like to have a discussion with them regarding the last half of the funds to be paid. The majority of votes Ayes, Patchin opposed with a Nay. Motion passes.
12. Committee Reports
 - a. Vanguard Commission – Gave details regarding work progress.

- b. Electrical Superintendent Report (Meier) – Went into further detail of work progress.
 - c. Black Earth Fire District – Met on 7/11, discussed equipment and purchases. Ordering a new truck. Delivery is about 3 years out and they are discussing financing. Next meeting is 9/12.
 - d. Clerk/Treasurer & Financial Reports – Funds transferred to finish the COOP property purchase, and also to finish the purchase of the transformer.
 - e. Dane-Iowa Wastewater Commission – No violations, next meeting 8/15.
 - f. Economic Development Committee – Nothing new for updates, next meeting is 8/14.
 - g. Emergency Management – Next meeting is 8/8.
 - h. EMS Committee – No ACT Money. Next year, will plan to get 25% of ACT 12 money. Levy will remain at 2.5, and Black Earth gave 1/3rd. Staffing changes, not understaffed anymore. Discussing the future of EMS, merging with Fire Departments. Merge with Arena, regional model to include more municipalities. The next meeting will be 8/15 at 6:30 PM.
 - i. Gateway to the Driftless – Discussion regarding more publicity to community residents. Do not go to 12, but come down in our area.
 - j. Library Board – Met 7/17, discussed substitute librarians as Bailey is out on extended leave. Next meeting is 8/27.
 - k. Library Director Report (Anderson) - Skipped
 - l. President's Report (Moyer) - Skipped
 - m. Public Works Director Report (Kahl) – Matt went through last meeting minutes. Half of funds have been spent for the sidewalk. Vanguard helped with the tree removals at the Cooper property – Black Earth Creek Park. Was able to sell the walnut tree for \$2,000. Hillside paving will be done this fall. GO Note funding to be spent for building improvements. Updates on new meters for auto reading. Next meeting is 9/19 at 5:30PM.
 - n. Public Works Committee – See above (M)
 - o. Parks Committee - Met on 7/29. Discussion regarding trees, sprinkler system for ball field, and PA system. Concept 3 was chosen as the ideal concept for Black Earth Creek Park. The next meeting will be 8/26 at 5:30 PM.
 - p. Police Committee - Still looking at contracts for merging Black Earth with Mazomanie. The latest contract is at the attorney for review. The next meeting is TBD at this time.
- 13.** Motion to enter into closed session pursuant to Wis. Stats. 19.85(1)(c), Considering employment, promotion, compensation or performance evaluation data of any public employee over which the governmental body has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility.” (Considering Employment, promotion, compensation or performance) (Roll call vote) – Motion made by Mitch Hodson, seconded by Scott Patchin. Roll Call Vote: Dylan Helmenstine, Tom Marks, Scott Patchin, Mitch Hodson, Pam Louis-Reindl all agree. Motion to come out of closed session. Motion made to approve the agreement in closed session by Dylan Helmenstine and seconded by Tom Marks. All Ayes, none opposed.
- 14.** Any other business that may be brought before the board on future agendas. – None to mention at this time.
- 15.** Setting of the Next Village Board Meeting: September 3,2024.
- 16.** Adjournment – Motion made by Mitch Hodson, and motion seconded by Tom Marks. All Ayes, none opposed. Meeting adjourned.

Village Board Members

Terry Moyer, Scott Patchin, Pam Louis-Reindl, Tyler Munson, Mitch Hodson, Dylan Helmenstine, Tom Marks

Requests for persons with disabilities who need assistance to participate in this meeting should be made to The Village Office at 608-767-2563.

Public Attendance via Zoom
Meeting ID: 489 096 7284
Passcode: 9yq0nm