



Village of Black Earth

Village Board Meeting

1210 Mills St., Black Earth, WI 53515

Tuesday September 3rd, 2024 | 6:00 p.m.

MINUTES

1. Call to Order/Roll Call – Terry Moyer called to order at 6:00 PM – Present: Scott Patchin, Mitch Hodson, Terry Moyer, Dylan Helmenstine, Pam Louis-Reindl and Tom Marks. Absent: Tyler Munson. Also in attendance: Matt Kahl – Public Works Director 6:05PM Tyler Munson arrived.
2. Pledge of Allegiance – Recited by all in attendance.
3. Proof of Posting: A copy of the notice was delivered to the following By Friday August 27th, **2024**: emailed to the Editor of Star News, MBE CPA – Black Earth, and Lake Ridge Bank – Black Earth; posted at the Black Earth Municipal Building, Black Earth Post Office, and Black Earth Web Page. – Read aloud by President Terry Moyer.
4. Public Comment (Please limit to 3 minutes)
 - a. Troy Esser and Kris Evans – 1027 Mills St – Looking for direction/request on adding a “loading zone” area on Webb Street along the side of the business. Would like an area painted on the road designating the area as a loading/unloading zone for back door deliveries and a handicapped entrance. The board recommended that this topic go before the Public Works Committee – the next meeting is September 16th.
 - b. Kris Evans – Requesting a liquor license for Orphic Gardens. Should she apply for a second license or is there a way to operate both locations under one license. Recommended by the board to apply for a second license as she normally would, and we will reach out to legal council to be advised if we can allow operation of both locations under a single license, or if they need to be separate licenses.
 - c. Wayne Barsness – Black Earth Historical Society – Effigy Mound – The Historical Society would like to put a sign describing the mound that lies within the village limits and notify all of the property owners that the mound effects. The Historical Society would take care of all of the informational and monetary obligations and would inform and get approval from the Ho-Chunk Nation as well. The Historical Society would like a resolution of support from the village. This will be drafted and put before the next board meeting.
5. Discussion/Action: Approval of Meeting Minutes from August 7th, 2024. – Motion made by Scott Patchin, seconded by Mitch Hodson. Approved by all, none opposed.
6. Discussion/Action: ARPA Spending
 - a. Mower – Has been ordered, no other updates.
7. Discussion/Action: Associated Appraisals Contract Addendum – Assessor office is short staffed and the assessor that was doing our evaluation left on very short notice. Associated Appraisals would like to continue without a reinspection which would ultimately save us \$10,000. Motion to accept addended contract made by Mitch Hodson, seconded by Pam Louis – Reindl. The only way to get this assessment completed in time for the already scheduled Open Book and Board of Review would be to approve this addended contract – Commented by Mitch Hodson. Munson questioned if there is a field inspector? Most board members questioned if we could hold them to the original contract. The appraisal company will use the 2016 appraisal and add to this information based upon the building permits that have been issued since then. Scott Patchin would like it noted that we try to avoid using Associated Appraisals in the future. Motion to approve the contract – Opposed by Scott Patchin, approved by all else. Motion passed.
8. Discussion/Action: Octagon Towers Resolution – Resolution needed for Direct Connect. Motion to approve the resolution – Motioned by Pam Louis-Reindl and seconded by Dylan Helmenstine. All ayes, none opposed. Motion to approve the updated facilities easement agreement by Mitch Hodson and seconded by Pam Louis-Reindl. Approved by all, opposed by none.
9. Discussion/Action: Invoices to be Paid – Motion to approve by Pam Louis-Reindl and seconded by Dylan Helmenstine. All approved, none opposed.
10. Committee Reports
 - a. Vanguard Commission – Has not met yet, will meet 9/17.
 - b. Electrical Superintendent Report (Meier) – No update as Kurt Meier is absent today.

- c. Black Earth Fire District - Meeting was 7/11, discussed truck purchase and financials. Next meeting scheduled for 9/12.
 - d. Clerk/Treasurer & Financial Reports – Covered in discussion of invoices.
 - e. Dane-Iowa Wastewater Commission – Met 8/15, no violations to date, review was done in July about upgrades that will need to be happening in the future, and there should be a discussion of a sewer rate case as this has not been completed in a while. Next meeting will be 9/19.
 - f. Economic Development Committee – Not met, next meeting TBD.
 - g. Emergency Management – Met on August 8th. Discussed EM plan, draft version of 2019. Trustees that were part of that committee in the past will check their emails to see if they have copies of a finalized EM plan. No next meeting planned – TBD.
 - h. EMS Committee – Met in August, discussed the direction in the next few years. Budgeting should be higher, but they are trying to avoid a levy increase. Decided to reach out to Arena to discuss a merger, also decided to reach out to Sauk Prairie to discuss a merger as well. Both cases would be an administrative savings. Concern would be dispatching over county lines. Next meeting is scheduled for September 12th.
 - i. Gateway to the Driftless – Has not met yet, will be meeting Friday 9/6 at 8:30 AM.
 - j. Library Board – Made a change to one of the services they provide – Hoopla, which provides streaming services. Decided to put restrictions on this service and are seriously considering if they would like to continue this a service for the future. Last met August 27th, next meeting is 9/17.
 - k. Library Director Report (Anderson) - Absent
 - l. President's Report (Moyer) – Octagon making progress. Johnson Block is making progress with financials and Bev is teaching Beth quite a bit. Budget overview plans to be done by 9/13. Met with Peter from Mazomanie to help answer some questions for budget planning.
 - m. Public Works Director Report (Kahl) – Field Days went okay. Have been doing some work down at Black Earth Creek Park, seeding in grass and trimming trees, removing stumps. Leaf Vac getting ready for this fall. Well #1 work is ongoing. Doing locates, chipping brush, street sweeping, etc. DNR representative is coming out for our 3-year inspection.
 - n. Public Works Committee – See minutes – Next meeting 9/16.
 - o. Parks Committee – See minutes – Next meeting 9/23.
 - p. Police Committee - Budget numbers are ready.
- 11.** 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) – Closed session not needed today, leave in place for future agendas.
- 12.** Any other business that may be brought before the board on future agendas.
- a. Budget information
- 13.** Setting of the Next Village Board Meeting: October 1st, 2024.
- 14.** Adjournment – Motion to approve by Scott Patchin, seconded by Tom Marks. Adjourned at 7:04PM.

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

Minutes taken by Pam Louis-Reindl Village Board Trustee, formatted by Dani Eastman Village Administrative Assistant.