



Village of Black Earth

VILLAGE BOARD MEETING

1210 Mills St., Black Earth, WI 53515

September 5, 2023 | 6:00 p.m.

Draft Minutes

1. Call to Order/Roll Call: Clerk/Treasurer Dani Fields called the meeting to order at 6:07pm. Upon roll call present: James Coyle, Scott Patchin, Pam Louis-Reindl, Sarah Morrow, Mitch Hodson. Absent: Terry Moyer, Tyler Munson. Also Present: Matt, Bruce Beth, Shawn present. Fields requested a nomination to run the meeting in President Moyer's absence. Mitch Hodson was nominated and accepted the role.
2. Pledge of Allegiance *Recited.*
3. Proof of Posting: *Read aloud by Hodson.*
4. Public Comment: None
5. Discussion/Action: Black Earth Electrical Substation Updates
 - a. Bruce Beth of Forster Engineering presenting. Reviewed prepared report. Gave overview of cost comparison if purchased a new generator today vs what Village paid for reconditioned - still a great deal and great cost savings to the Village. Stated it is a responsible practice to have a redundancy; a backup in case of disaster. Discussion on configuring new transformers. Current transformer not able to be taken out of service for preventative maintenance due to only having one – whole service area would be down while transformer would be serviced. It would be about \$108k to energize second transformer; would share load with current transformer. Could take one transformer out of service to do maintenance while other one runs. An option to have one transformer carry the village load and other one carry rural load. Discussion of affordability to utility. Bruce will research cost to have both transformers running. Hodson suggested another electric review by Jeff Stanek to see how the utility is doing. No action taken.
Shawn leaves meeting at 6:52 pm.
6. Discussion/Action: Approval of Meeting Minutes from August 8, 2023
Louis-Reindl/Coyle motion to approve as presented. Motion carried unanimously.
7. Discussion/Action: Trick or Treat Hours
Hodson/Coyle motion to set trick or treat hours to 5pm-8pm on Halloween night. Motion carried unanimously.
8. Discussion/Action: Street Use Application – Arthritis Foundation of Wisconsin – Oktoberfest 100k Ride
Patchin/Louis-Reindl motion to approve. Motion carried unanimously.
9. Discussion/Action: Operator License Applications: Andrew Fardy
Louis-Reindl/Hodson motion to approve license as presented. Morrow abstained from vote. Motion carried unanimously.
10. Discussion/Action: CTW Quote for Well Maintenance / Rehabilitation
 - a. Matt stated both wells need to be pulled and inspected.
Hodson/Patchin motion for both wells to be pulled and inspected by CTW; not to exceed \$65,000. Motion carried unanimously.
11. Discussion/Action: Resolution 2023-06 Requesting Exemption from Dane County Library Tax
Louis-Reindl/Coyle motion to approve resolution as presented. Motion carried unanimously.
12. Discussion/Action: Municipal Building Painting
 - a. Patchin stated the PW committee recommended The Painter Lady to paint the exterior of the building.
 - b. Hodson asked if a RFP had been done, should have one to bid apples to apples. Shared some concern regarding work at the Fire Station, but unsure if same company did the work. Patchin stated no RFP done, but had contacted several companies for quotes.
Louis-Reindl/Morrow motion to approve exterior painting work at \$15,035.00 with The Painter Lady. Motion carried 3-2. Coyle, Hodson opposed.
13. Discussion/Action: Municipal Building Skylight

- a. Fields referred the board to review the skylight pictures in the packet. No action needed at this time. Intent is to make the whole board aware that replacement or covering of the skylight will be needed. Maintenance has not been done on skylight and is in poor condition.
- 14. Discussion/Action: Public Works Vehicle Repairs – International Plow Truck**
 - a. PWD Kahl reviewed the 2005 International truck. Took truck to Monroe for inspection prior to snowfall. Several issues. Approx. \$17k in repairs if everything gets fixed. A new truck is over \$200k. Reviewed the list of repairs to prioritize what needs to be done to get through winter, can get by with about \$5k in repairs as a bandaid; not long term solution. Has been calling and talking with several other municipalities to research other potential options, what works/what doesn't.
Hodson/Patchin motion to approve up to \$6k for truck repairs. Motion carried unanimously.
- 15. Discussion/Action: Invoices to be Paid**

Louis-Reindl/Hodson motion to approve invoices as presented. Motion carried unanimously.
- 16. Discussion/Action: 2021 GO Note Borrowing & Budget 2024**
 - a. Earmark \$105k for substation
 - b. \$65k for well inspections
- 17. Reports:**
 - a. Vanguard Commission (Patchin) next meeting 9/19.
 - b. Electrical Superintendent Report (Dilley) absent
 - c. Black Earth Fire District (Moyer) absent
 - d. Clerk/Treasurer & Financial Reports (Fields) Busy in office; a lot going on. Preparing for budget. Reviewed financials. Working on reports.
 - e. Dane-Iowa Wastewater Commission (Coyle) met Aug. 17. Paid bills, no discharge violations. Met Aug. 31 for interviews for superintendent role, 5 applicants. Meeting 9/7 to select superintendent. Will know soon who new superintendent is. Next regular meeting is 9/21.
 - f. Economic Development Committee TBD
 - g. EMS Committee (Louis-Reindl) meet 9/14.
 - h. Emergency Management TBD
 - i. Gateway to the Driftless (Munson) Absent
 - j. Library Board (Morrow) Absent from 8/15 meeting
 - k. Library Director Report (Anderson) Absent
 - l. Public Works Committee (Patchin) Discussed earlier in meeting, deferred to PWD Kahl.
 - m. Public Works Director Report (Kahl) Reviewed committee meeting. Discussed chip sealing/crack filling for Village streets. Trying to do Red Hawk all as its own project; hasn't been done since installed and nearly 20 years old. Cutting trees down in front of Children's Museum soon. Went to class in Plover with Luke for some training.
 - n. Parks Committee (Hodson) TBD
 - o. Police Committee (Morrow) Next meeting 9/13.
- 18. Any other business that may be brought before the board on future agendas**
- 19. Setting of the Next Village Board Meeting: October 3, 6pm.**
- 20. Adjournment**

Patchin/Louis-Reindl motion to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 7:36pm

Minutes prepared by Dani Fields, Clerk/Treasurer