



# Village of Black Earth

## VILLAGE BOARD MEETING

1210 Mills St. \* Black Earth, WI 53515  
Tuesday, May 3, 2022 6:00 p.m.

### Minutes

**1. Call Meeting to Order/Roll Call** President Hodson called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM. Upon roll call present: Hodson, Brammerson, Patchin, Louis-Reindl, Coyle, Moyer, Munson - via zoom. Also present: ACT Benish, Library Director Anderson, Public Works Director Kahl, Deputy Clerk Franco.

**2. Pledge of Allegiance** *Recited.*

**3. Proof of Posting:** *Noted.*

**4. Public Input.** *None.*

**5. ACTION ITEMS:**

- a. Organizational: Committee Assignments
  - i. Committees were assigned by President Hodson.  
*Moyer/Brammerson motion to approve committee assignments. Motion carried 7-0.*
- b. Proclamation acknowledging Annual Professional Municipal Clerk's Week, May 1-7, 2022.  
*Patchin/Hodson motion to approve proclamation as presented. Motion carried 7-0.*
- c. Discussion/Action on Operators Licenses for: Grace Louis-Reindl – The Shack  
*Moyer/Patchin motion to approve issuance of license. Motion carried 6-0. Louis-Reindl abstained from voting.*
- d. Discussion/Action on request of Tyler Munson to waive fees for Concession stand use on behalf of WH Youth Tennis & Baseball teams.  
*Hodson/Louis-Reindl motion to waive concession stand fees for WH Youth Tennis and Baseball. Motion carried 5-1. Patchin Nay. Munson abstained from voting.*
- e. Ratification of Resolution #2022-01 Requesting Assistance State of Wisconsin Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Grant for Black Earth Creek Fishery Area-Cooper Park & Trail Head.
  - i. Benish submitted application for \$100k grant.  
*Brammerson/Coyle motion to approve Ratification of Resolution #2022-01 for Knowles Nelson grant submission. Motion carried 7-0.*
- f. Discussion/Action on Resolution #2022-02 Carry over Funds from 2021 –General Fund and Library.  
*Hodson/Moyer motion to approve resolutions for carryover funds as presented for Village General Fund and Library. Motion carried 7-0.*
- g. Discussion/action regarding Village Board minutes of 4/12/2022  
*Patchin/Brammerson motion to approve minutes as presented. Motion carried 7-0.*
- h. Discussion/Action on financials: Treasurer's Report – March 2022; Revenue & Expense-April, 2022
  - i. Benish gave financial reports. \$4.3m in all accounts. Utility revenues slightly below expectations for this time of year. Utility budgets still unapproved; 2021 operated on unapproved utility budgets. Water loss for annual report to the PSC is down considerably – last year was 17%, currently at 9%. Electric Utility is still running in the red. Hoping to make up when PSC rate case is approved. FEMA rewrote Community Park for approximately \$100k; previously wrote for \$50k. Best we're going to get. We should see about \$67,000 come back to the Village to reimburse for Community Park expenses.  
*Hodson/Moyer motion to approve financials as presented. Motion carried 7-0.*
- i. Discussion/action on Invoices to be paid.
  - i. Coyle commented on TDS invoice. Due to TDS email issues will they issue a credit? Or maybe look at switching?  
*Hodson/Brammerson motion to approve invoices to be paid. Motion carried 7-0.*

**6. REPORTS:**

- a. Vanguard Commission (Hodson)

- i. Electrical Superintendent Report (Dilley) work on Hwy KP – continuation of 2021 project. Bad transformer on Center St changed out. Planning on hooking up new service to addition to school. Next meeting 5/17.
  - b. Black Earth Fire District: Next meeting 5/5.
  - c. Dane-Iowa Wastewater Commission (Coyle): No discharge violations. True up done, will see credit on April/May bills. \$59,053.00 back. Next meeting 5/19.
  - d. Economic Development Committee: (Hodson) Did not meet.
  - e. Emergency Management Committee: Did not meet.
  - f. EMS Committee (Brammerson): Next meeting 5/12.
  - g. Library Board (Moyer) Met 4/19. Bailey's 1 year anniversary! WH Superintendent Sinz appointed new Library Board member.
    - i. Library Director (Anderson) New website will go live soon. Rearranging the children's department. Looking at new library flooring options. Anne Moore new School District Rep. Starting a walking book club! Opportunity for adults to walk and talk about books, podcasts, etc. Friends are looking for a new President. Summer Library Program starts in June.
  - h. Public Works Committee (Patchin) Waiting on land acquisition for substation. Crack filling on Turkey Road. Discussion on street sweeper/jetter purchase.
    - i. Public Works Director (Kahl) Exercising valves, borrowing power wrench from WI Rural Water to open the stubborn ones. Park bathroom lock vandalism – stick was jammed into the locks, needed to rekey. Working on talking to landscape/tree companies to spruce up Vets Park. Next meeting 5/9.
  - i. Parks Committee (Brammerson) Discussion on Knowles-Nelson grant. Cooper property: Planning benches, gazebo, landscaping. Placement of privacy hedges, parking lot. Had a light for the flag pole that broke, ordering a new one. Discussed year in review of ice rink. Next meeting TBD.
  - j. Police Committee (Patchin) did not meet.
    - i. Hodson – Mazomanie decided to not join police contracts at this time, Benish contacted Captain to get interviews lined up.
- 7. Consideration/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 (Employee Reviews) (Roll call vote) Upon roll call: Hodson, Moyer, Munson, Coyle, Louis-Reindl, Patchin, Brammerson – all yes.  
*Hodson/Louis-Reindl motion to enter into closed session. Entered closed session at 6:43 pm. Deputy Clerk Franco exits meeting prior to closed session discussion. Minutes for item numbers 8-12 recorded by ACT Benish.*
- 8. Consideration/motion to arise from closed session.**  
*Hodson/Louis-Reindl motion to arise from closed session. Motion carried.*
- 9. Consideration/motion on any closed session items**  
*Hodson/Louis-Reindl motion to approve wage increase of 4% across the board. Motion carried 5-2, Coyle and Brammerson with dissenting votes.*  
*Louis-Reindl/Moyer motion to approve Utility Clerk position to go full-time effective 7/1/22. Motion carried 7-0.*
- 10. Any Other Business That May Be Brought before the Board on future agendas: None.**
- 11. Meeting Announcements:** Board of Review 5/10/22 6-8pm; Village Board meeting 6/7/22.
- 12. Adjournment of Village Board Meeting**  
*Hodson/Patchin motion to adjourn. Motion carried 7-0. Meeting adjourned at 8:15pm.*

Respectfully Submitted,

Dani Franco  
 Deputy Clerk