

December 8, 2011

TOWN BOARD

Chair

Anthony Varda, 798-9999

Supervisors

Don Witmer-Kean, 798-0883

Chris Upper, 798-2286

Jim Laubmeier, 798-1235

Bill Carlson, 798-3898

TOWN OFFICE

Brenda Kahl, Clerk/Treasurer

9046 State Road 19

Mazomanie, WI 53560

767-4152

Fax: 767-3015

Hours: 7:30 – 4:30, except

Wednesday 7:00 – 11:00

Email: twnberry@chorus.net

Web: www.townofberry.org

TOWN GARAGE

Orlin Danz, Patrolman

767-3308 (Cell) 444-0359

Hours: 7:00 – 3:30

FIRE WARDENS

Brenda Kahl

767-4152, during office hours

Mike Diebold

798-3000

Anthony Varda

798-9999

BUILDING INSPECTOR

Dean Eppler

Independent Inspections, Ltd.

(800) 422-5220

Town Hall Hours: Fridays, 10:30-11:30

DANE COUNTY SHERIFF

255-2345, Non Emergency

LEGAL NOTICE POSTING LOCATIONS

Festge Park, DH Repair, Town Hall



CHILI FEST VIII: SAVE THE DATE!

The Berry Communications Committee is pleased to announce the 8th annual Chili Day in Berry, aka, Chili Fest! Pencil in February 18, 2012 on your calendar. Once again this social gathering will feature delicious home-made chili, side dishes and desserts generously donated by Town residents. The ever-enjoyable white elephant swap and door prizes will return. We are looking for volunteer chili-chefs, side dish and dessert makers to sign up, as well as set-up and clean-up volunteers, and spiffy door prizes. Please contact Michele Grosch (mgrosch006@gmail.com or 767-3998) or the Town Hall to sign up.
Christine Molling

REPORT FROM THE ROSEMARY GARFOOT PUBLIC LIBRARY

Pam Bosben, head librarian, has been working very hard to develop a budget for the Library that will have no increase from our last year's budget and yet will not noticeably damage services. We hope, with the Village and County's support, we will be funded at this level.

The Library Board authorized another fix of the front doors; they have had periodic problems since the library was built. This time there will be a new company working on the repair and the doors and center post will be partially rebuilt. Look to see the doors hanging squarely in the near future! The automatic door openers are having problems which we will address once the front door repair is done; for now, the front door's automatic mechanism is temporarily repaired.

Meanwhile, Pam hears from library patrons that they are enjoying the additional night lighting that provides safe and welcoming access to the outside book return. Showing that our library is an asset to the larger community, as well as locally, Pam received a nice letter from a teacher in Northern California, thanking the library for its Green Links page on the library's website saying her students had found it very helpful for a project they had done on "sustainability". These students sent us a few other websites they hope will be included with those on the Library's site; sharing their efforts to save the planet.

Charity Hirsch, Town of Berry representative to the Rosemary Garfoot Library Board

NOVEMBER 21 TOWN BOARD MINUTES SUMMARY

(A summary of the minutes not yet approved by the Town Board.) Members present: Anthony Varda, Chris Upper, Jim Laubmeier, Don Witmer-Kean and Bill Carlson

Public Comments

Tim Hook informed the Board that he will be reapplying for his rezone with the Town

Discontinuation of a portion of Carya Road

The board approved discontinuing a portion of Carya Road in accordance with the submissions previously approved and published. Vote 5-0

Discontinuation of a portion of Knickmeier Road

The board approved discontinuing a portion of Knickmeier Road in accordance with the map previously approved and published and be contingent upon the grant of reciprocal of quit claim from the new property owner at the end of Knickmeier Road. Vote 5-0

Waiver of permit fees for charitable cycle events

Jim Laubmeier excused himself

The board set waiving permit fees for charitable cycle events over to the December meeting with the idea that they have some language that would allow for a refund for demonstrated charitable events at the discretion of the board after the completion of the event. Vote 4-0

Right-of-Way Policy 300.11 as amended was approved. Vote 5-0

Variance Ordinance 500.3 was postponed until the December Town Board meeting. Vote 5-0

Disciplinary and Discharge Procedures

Ordinance 105.7 was adopted in the form as amended here this evening plus all the amendments agreed upon by motion and approval. Vote 5-0

Personnel and Policy Manual was postponed until the January meeting. Vote 5-0

Resolution 2011-5, Establishment and Implementation of Sign Management Program

was approved subject to amendments. Vote 5-0

Wood cutting was only discussed.

Cross Plains Area EMS agreement regarding 2027 Park Street

The board approved entering into the agreement proposal. Vote 5-0

Energy efficiency measures for the town garage

The board accepted Dresen Electric's proposal to install four ceiling fans at a sum of \$740; to have Dresen Electric provide a proposal for an interface that shuts off fans when garage doors are open with

an override switch; and proceed with publication of a bid announcement with respect to using the specifications from Cross Plains Construction proposal. Vote 5-0

The 2012 budget was adopted with amendment. Vote 5-0

Rezone fee, rezone application cover letter and form

The board approved the rezone cover letter, revised application form and \$300 fee with no additional fee if applicant needs to reapply for a rezone because of County requirements. Vote 5-0

Should the Town consider developing a trails and trail use policy

The board voted to postpone. Vote 5-0

Status of re-inspection of property at 6127 and 6137 Old Settlers Road

The board approved sending the inspector back to the property; the inspector send a letter stating the board determined it was inadequate at this point and would like further progress made and a re-inspection within 30 days. Vote 5-0

The task order from MSA Professional Services

for the Spring Valley Road culvert replacement project with a total estimated fee of \$16,800 was approved. Vote 5-0

Committee Reports

*Black Earth Fire District: Preparing specs for repairing the fire station walls because of water leaks; picture of the new squad is going to be on a national calendar

*District 1 EMS: Board members were re-elected

*Communications Committee: Chili fest will be held on February 18; listed articles for upcoming meetings

*Computer-Web Committee: Continue dealing with the issue of how to speed up downloading a website for a town that is between 1/3 – 1/4 on phone modem

*Parks Committee: Total donations for the park shelter as of today is \$12,951. The shelter materials list is being fine tuned. Target date to build the shelter is early or late spring.

Adjourn: 10:10 pm

Brenda Kahl

GARBAGE PICK-UP SCHEDULE

Monday, Dec 12 - Garbage and Recyclables

Monday, Dec 19 - Garbage Only

Monday, Dec 26 - Garbage and Recyclables

Monday, Jan 2 - Garbage Only

2011 TAX BILLS ARRIVING SOON

Your 2011 tax bill along with the 2012 garbage/recycling calendar will be mailed soon.

For residents who want to pay their bills before the end of this year (2011), please note that all payments must be received (not postmarked) by December 31, 2011.

Residents who need a receipt should be sure to bring the entire bill, as the top portion will be marked "Paid" and returned as your receipt. If mailing your payment, please mail the entire bill and include a self-addressed stamped envelope so the top receipt can be sent back to you.

If you qualify for a lottery credit, but did not receive a credit on your tax bill, contact the town office prior to submitting your tax bill payment.

Taxes are collected on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday from 7:30 am - 4:30 pm and on Wednesday from 7:00 am - 11:00 am. The office is located at 9046 State Road 19. The office will be closed on December 12, 13 and 26, 2011 and January 2, 2012.

Dog license fees are \$12.50 per neutered male or spayed female, \$17.50 for un-neutered male or unspayed female, and \$42 per multiple licenses (kennels). Dog license are due by April 1, 2012 or an additional \$5 will be charged per license. A list of items needed to apply for a dog license will be enclosed with your tax bill. If you do not receive a tax bill, but need a dog license application, contact the town office at 767-4152 or by email at twnberry@chorus.net.

Brenda Kahl

PHOTO ID ELECTION REMINDER

Starting with the 2012 February Primary and all subsequent elections thereafter, voters must show an acceptable photo ID before receiving and casting a ballot.

The following photo IDs can be unexpired or expired after the date of the most recent general election (currently, the November 2, 2010 election):

- Wisconsin DOT-issued driver license, even if driving privileges are revoked or suspended
- Wisconsin DOT-issued identification card
- U.S. passport
- Military ID card issued by a U.S. uniformed service

The following photo IDs must be unexpired:

- Certificate of naturalization that was issued not earlier than two years before the date of an election at which it is presented
- Driving receipt issued by Wisconsin DOT (valid for 60 days)
- Identification card receipt issued by Wisconsin DOT (valid for 60 days)
- Identification card issued by a federally recognized Indian tribe in Wisconsin.
- Photo identification card issued by a Wisconsin accredited university or college that contains a date of issuance, signature of student, expiration date no later than two years after date of issuance. The university or college ID must be accompanied by a separate document that proves enrollment for the current school term.

Brenda Kahl

TOWN WEBSITE BUSINESS PAGE

Attention business people, farmers, professionals and anyone else who operates a business or provides services in Berry. Beginning some time in January, there will be a new page on the Berry web site that lists business and services available within the town. The purpose of the page is to help residents find goods and services that are available locally, and do not require a trip to town. To list your business on this page contact Brenda Kahl at the Town hall (767 4152 or twnberry@chorus.net). To be listed on the town web site, either the business must be located within the town, or the person listing the service must live in the town, provide the service or goods within the town and list a contact within the town even though the business is located elsewhere.

Chris Upper

NOMINATION PAPERS DUE JANUARY 3

The first day to circulate nomination papers is December 1st and the final day for filing papers is 5 pm on January 3, 2012. Two of the five seats (#3 and #4 currently held by Jim Laubmeier and Bill Carlson) are up for election on April 3, 2012.

Brenda Kahl

INTERNET ACCESS IN THE TOWN

For those who have dial-up or other slow internet connections, the speed of retrieving and viewing web sites using your computer's browser can be dramatically increased by setting your browser options to NOT download images. Images are often very large, take a lot of time to download, and in many cases are merely decorative rather than informational. Whenever the information you seek is text, consider turning off images. The Town of Berry website (<http://www.townofberry.org>) works very well with images turned off. How to set your browser to not download images:

Firefox

1. In Windows, from the Firefox menu bar, select Tools menu, select Options
On a Mac, from the Firefox menu, select Preferences...
If the menu bar is hidden, press Alt to make it visible.
2. At the top of the window, click Content.
3. Uncheck Load Images or Load images automatically.
4. In Windows, click OK.

Internet Explorer ver. 5.x and later for Windows

1. From the Tools menu, select Internet Options... If the menu bar is hidden, press Alt to make it visible.
2. In the window that appears, select the Advanced tab.
3. Scroll down the list to "Multimedia", and uncheck Show Pictures.
4. Click OK.

Safari

1. From the Safari menu, select Preferences
2. At the top of the window that appears, click Appearance.
3. Uncheck Display images when the page opens.

Chrome

1. In the upper right, from the Tools menu (Chrome Tools menu), select Options.
2. Click the Under the Hood tab, and then click Content settings
3. Click the Images tab, and then select Do not show any images.
4. Click Close, and then click Close again.

Donna Daniels

SNOWMOBILING BASICS

In winter, the sound of the snowplow coming down the road always puts a cozy feeling in my heart. When we are blessed with a good snowpack, another familiar sound arrives: snowmobiles! In Wisconsin, there are rules and regulations to make snowmobiling safe and fun for those both on and off the sleds. Here is a summary of the main points. Firstly, you must register your machine. If you only operate it on your own property, you can obtain a free private registration. If you operate the vehicle on lands you do not own or lease, WI residents must obtain a 2-year public registration for \$30. Rules are slightly different for out of state residents.



Secondly, any person operating a snowmobile on public land or frozen waters, who is at least 12 years old and born after Jan 1, 1985 must also obtain a Snowmobile Safety Certificate. If you are over 16, this can be done with an on-line course. For those younger than 16, the course must be a classroom course.

Snowmobiles are generally barred from operation on roadways. You may cross any non-interstate roadway narrower than 5 lanes, or use the road to cross bridges or culverts. Snowmobiles may also travel on roads designated as snowmobile routes. In all cases, snowmobiles must yield to traffic. Snowmobile speed limits are those posted on the road, if traveling on or alongside a roadway. At night, snowmobiles may travel no faster than 55mph. And remember: the operation of snowmobiles has the same blood alcohol limit as exists for cars!

Many riders travel on designated trails. Wisconsin has over 25,000 miles of trails, most of which are organized and maintained by clubs and volunteers – 70% of them are on private lands. Trails are opened and closed at a county level (Dane County's trail hotline: 608-242-4576), and there may be additional regulations such as permits. Information is often posted at major trail entrances. Find out more at <http://www.awsc.org/>.

You can get a pamphlet containing state regulations wherever you get your snowmobile registration (such as snowmobile and ATV dealers) and on-line at <http://dnr.wi.gov/org/es/enforcement/DOCS/snowmobileregs.pdf>.

Christine Molling, WIDNR

TOWN OF BERRY BOARD MEETING

December 19, 2011, 7:30 p.m. at the Town Hall, 9046 Hwy. 19, Mazomanie, WI 53560

AGENDA

1. Call to order
2. Approve minutes of November 21, 2011
3. Public Comments: You may address the Board on any item not on the agenda. A discussion item may be placed on a future agenda. Public comment may be heard on any agenda item either now, or at the time the agenda item is to be discussed, or at the discretion of the Town Chair at any other time the agenda item is discussed.
4. Dane County Sheriff's Office, Deputy Alwin
5. Friends of Indian Lake, Introduction and description of group
6. Discussion/approve/disapprove
 - A. (2011-6) Travis Richards, Pine Rd, final field road approval. PC vote 5-0
 - B. (2011-8) John & Rebecca Printen, 4912 Carya Rd, rezone 5.162 from A-1Ex to RH-2 to combine two parcels and bring zoning into compliance. PC vote 5-0
 - C. (2011-9) Timothy & Linda Hook, 5507 Niesen Rd, rezone 5.001 acres from A-1Ex to RH-1 (3.55 acres) and A-2(1) (1.451 acres) to create two parcels. PC vote 5-0
7. Discussion/action re waiver of permit fees for charitable cycle events, revise Cycle Policy 201.1 and Cycle Road Event Permit
8. Discussion/action re Variance Ordinance 500.3
9. Discussion/action re revising Administrative Fees Policy 113.4, rezone fees
10. Discussion/action re should the town consider developing a trails and trail use policy
11. Discussion/action re selection and appointment of Election Inspectors
12. Budgetary Matters
 - A. Payment of bills
13. Committee reports/Correspondence/Communications
 - A. Fire Districts
 - B. EMS Districts
 - C. Other
14. Discussion of future agenda items
15. Adjourn

Persons requiring additional services to participate in a public meeting should contact the Town Clerk at the Town Hall, 9046 Hwy 19, Mazomanie, WI 53560. 767-4152 twnberry@chorus.net

As of December 15, 2011 the final agenda will be posted on the website and the town's three posting locations. The board attempts to finalize the agenda prior to the distribution of the newsletter.

UPCOMING DEER HUNTS

Although the main gun deer hunt is over, there are additional gun deer hunts coming up. The muzzle-loader season lasts from **November 28-December 7**, statewide. In the Chronic Wasting Disease Management Zone, which contains the entire Town of Berry, there is an antlerless-only hunt **December 8-11**, and an earn-a-buck hunt **December 24-January 8**. The deer archery hunt also extends through January 8. Please be aware that hunters will be out in the woods and fields during these times.

Christine Molling, WIDNR



BERRY BREAKFAST BUNCH

On December 10th the Berry Breakfast Bunch will gather at 9:00 a.m. at the Luckenbooth Cafe in Black Earth. All Berry residents are invited to get together with friends and neighbors over coffee and breakfast to enjoy this Dutch treat social event on the second Saturday of each month. Friends and guests are always welcome to join in sharing spontaneous conversation and having a good time. No agenda. No expectations. No work. Just a fun way to get to know each other better. Please join us!

Karen Upper

CALENDAR

All meetings are at the Town Hall, 9046 Hwy 19, Mazomanie, unless otherwise noted.

December 2011	
Monday, Dec 12, 7:00 pm	Middleton - Cross Plains Area Board of Education Meeting, District Admin. Center
Monday, Dec 12, 7:30 pm	Wisconsin Heights School District Board of Education, Middle School Auditorium
Monday, Dec 19, 7:30 pm	Town Board Meeting
Saturday, Dec 24, 7:30 am	Plan Commission Site Visits, on location
Monday, Dec 26, 7:30 pm	Wisconsin Heights School District Board of Education, Middle School Auditorium
January 2012	
Monday, Jan 2, 7:00 pm	Plan Commission Meeting
Thursday, Jan 5, 7:00 pm	Black Earth Fire District, Black Earth Fire Station
Monday, Jan 9, 7:00 pm	Middleton - Cross Plains Area Board of Education Meeting, District Admin. Center
Monday, Jan 9, 7:30 pm	Wisconsin Heights School District Board of Education, Middle School Auditorium
Thursday, Jan 12, 7:00 pm	Communications Committee Meeting
Thursday, Jan 12, 6:30 pm	District 1 EMS Membership Meetings, District 1 EMS Building
Monday, Jan 16, 7:30 pm	Town Board Meeting
Saturday, Jan 21, 7:30 am	Plan Commission Site Visits, on location
Monday, Jan 23, 7:00 pm	Middleton - Cross Plains Area Board of Education Meeting, District Admin. Center
Monday, Jan 23, 7:30 pm	Wisconsin Heights School District Board of Education, Middle School Auditorium

This calendar is advisory only. Consult the 3 legal posting locations for legal notices.



www.townofberry.org

9046 State Road 19
Mazomanie, WI 53560

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