

September 17, 2020

## TOWN BOARD

### Chair

Anthony Varda, 798-9999

### Supervisors

David Evert, 576-2935

Mike Statz, 798-4679

Christine Molling, 712-3033

Duane Haag, 798-3638

## TOWN OFFICE

Brenda Kahl, Clerk/Treasurer

9046 State Road 19

Mazomanie, WI 53560

(608) 767-4152

Fax: (608) 767-3015

Hours: 7:30 – 4:30, except

Wednesday 7:00 – 11:00

Email: [twnberry@chorus.net](mailto:twnberry@chorus.net)

Web: [www.townofberry.org](http://www.townofberry.org)

## TOWN GARAGE

Orlin Danz, Patrolman

(608) 444-0359

Hours: 7:00 – 3:30

## FIRE WARDENS

Brenda Kahl

(608) 767-4152, during office hours

WI DNR

1-888-947-2876

<http://dnr.wi.gov>

## ZONING OFFICER/BUILDING INSPECTOR

General Engineering Company

Mary Dussling

(608) 697-8003

## GARBAGE/RECYCLING

Town & Country Sanitation

(608) 375-5856

## LEGAL NOTICE POSTING LOCATIONS

Town website, Town Hall, Festge Park,

DH Repair

## ELECTION NEWS

The November 3, 2020 Election will be here soon. The Town had seen a large increase of absentee ballot requests for the April and August Elections and is anticipating to process approximately 50% or more of the registered voters by absentee ballot for November. These requests will be processed as fast as possible and am asking for your patience.

When the ballots are available a sample copy of each ballot will be posted on the Town's website under Election Information then Sample Ballot. The Wisconsin Heights School District has placed a referendum question on the ballot, so voters in this district will receive a different ballot than voters in the other two school districts.

Absentee ballots may be returned by mail, in the clerk's office during business hours, in the drop box at the town hall or on Election Day.

## IS YOUR VOTER REGISTRATION UP TO DATE

All voters must be registered and their name and address be current, prior to voting or requesting an absentee ballot. If a voter needs to check their registration they can visit [myvote.wi.gov](http://myvote.wi.gov) or contact the clerk's office at 608-767-4152 or [twnberry@chorus.net](mailto:twnberry@chorus.net). If a voter needs to register or update their registration, they may do so on [myvote.wi.gov](http://myvote.wi.gov) or by mail, in person or at the polls on Election Day.

By mail. Fill out the Wisconsin Voter Registration Application form EL-131.

<https://elections.wi.gov/sites/elections.wi.gov/files/2020-06/EL-131%20-%20%28REV%202020-06%29.pdf>

Mail to Town of Berry, 9046 State Road 19, Mazomanie, WI 53560 along with a copy of the voter's proof of residence document. The request must be postmarked no later than October 14, 2020.

In person. Register in the clerk's office up to 5:00 p.m. on October 30, 2020.

3. At the polls on Election Day. Berry Town Hall, 9046 State Road 19, Mazomanie. Polls are open from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. A proof of residence document is always required and must include the voter's name and current residential address.  
Brenda Kahl

## THERE ARE 3 WAYS TO VOTE IN THE ELECTION ON NOVEMBER 3, 2020

Vote at the polls. Berry Town Hall, 9046 State Road 19, Mazomanie. Polls are open from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

In-Person Voting by Absentee Ballot. This type of voting starts on Tuesday, October 20 and ends on Friday, October 30, 2020 at 5:00 pm. The Town Hall will be open for voting on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays from 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and on Wednesdays from 7:30 to 11:00 a.m. Note the office will be closed on Friday, October 23, 2020.

Voting Absentee Ballot by Mail. Request an absentee ballot at [myvote.wi.gov](http://myvote.wi.gov) or by mail using the Wisconsin Application for Absentee Ballot form EL-121.

<https://elections.wi.gov/sites/elections.wi.gov/files/2020-06/EL-121%20Application%20for%20Absentee%20Ballot%20%28rev.%202020-06%29.pdf>.

If mailing the completed form and photocopy of your photo ID, mail to Town of Berry, 9046 State Road 19, Mazomanie, WI 53560. The request must be received by 5:00 p.m. on October 29, 2020. Since it takes time to receive an absentee ballot, it is recommended to request one prior to the October 29 deadline.

All absentee ballots must be received by your municipal clerk no later than 8:00 p.m. on Election Day!

Brenda Kahl

## LOCAL TOWN OFFICES – APRIL 2021 ELECTION

Three of the five Town Board seats will be up for election on April 6, 2021. The terms are for two years and will begin on April 20, 2021. Seats up for election are:

Town Chairperson

Incumbent: Anthony Varda

Town Board Supervisor Seat 1

Incumbent: David Evert

Town Board Supervisor Seat 2

Incumbent: Michael Statz

The first day to circulate nominations papers is December 1, 2020 and the final day for filing nomination papers is 5:00 pm on Tuesday,

January 5, 2021 in the Clerk's office. All necessary forms are available from the Town Clerk or the Wisconsin Elections Commission website,

<https://elections.wi.gov/index.php/candidates/local/non-partisan>

Brenda Kahl

## HOW IS YOUR BROADBAND SERVICE?

The Town is compiling a list of residences where there are internet issues. Is the internet slow or is your internet periodically down? If the answer is yes, we want to hear from you.

Also, are you willing to sign a multi-year internet plan with TDS?

Please mail, not email, a letter to the Town explaining the problems and difficulties you are having from the lack of service. Send your letter to Town of Berry, 9046 State Road 19, Mazomanie, WI 53560

Let's all work together to encourage TDS to improve the broadband service in the Town of Berry!

Brenda Kahl

## TURKEY ROAD CONSTRUCTION PROJECT

Turkey Road reconstruction project started around the middle of August and the projected end date is October 17, 2020. Below is a list of the project tasks along with their planned start and end dates.

<u>Task</u>	<u>Start Date</u>	<u>End Date</u>
Traffic/Erosion Control	8/10/20	10/15/20
Clearing and Grubbing	8/10/20	8/15/20
Strip Topsoil	8/17/20	8/21/20
Culvert Placement	8/24/20	8/28/20
Rock Excavation	8/24/20	9/4/20
Road Excavation	8/24/20	9/4/20
Road Pulverize/Relay	9/7/20	9/11/20
Grading for Curb	9/14/20	9/18/20
Concrete Curb	9/14/20	9/29/20
Road Grading	9/14/20	9/26/20
Topsoil Placement	9/28/20	10/2/20
Landscaping	9/28/20	10/2/20
Binder	10/1/20	10/2/20
Surface	10/12/20	10/13/20
Shouldering	10/12/20	10/17/20

## **SUMMER NEWS FROM ROSEMARY GARFOOT PUBLIC LIBRARY**

At Trustee meetings I am humbled by, and sincerely grateful for, how much is happening every day at our Cross Plains library. Never more so than during the past year of COVID-19 has the leadership of its director Pam Bosben and her staff, supported by the goodwill of the library community, been so selflessly exemplary.

From the onset of C-19 in January, the library was proactive in focusing attention on mitigation by sanitizing, social distancing and public education.

Problem-solving hosting spring elections, census preparation, conducting summer programs, and in particular obtaining PPE for the Library staff were priority issues. In March all Dane County libraries closed down, and RGPL staff, except the director, were working remotely.

As stronger systems were implemented to militate against the transmission of the virus, including online meetings, phase 1 re-opening allowed staff to return to work in-house, masked and socially distanced, and plan for phase 2 of limited public access.

Curbside book pickup was well received, and I can personally attest to the happiness of all when, thanks to Ms. Catherine, my grand-daughters had fresh supplies of new reading material!

Inter-library delivery services are slowly resuming although book sanitization protocols keep turnaround slow.

All summer library programs were held online, financially supported by the generosity of the Friends of RGPL. The DPI paid for a record keeping program called "Beanstack" that children could sign up for.

The good news is that the Library is currently in phase 2 of reopening which means you make an appointment by calling 798-3881, have 45 minutes inside the library, restricted to a maximum of 20 patrons at a time. 3 computers are available for 45 minutes use, also by appointment.

Curbside pickup is still available.

And of course for everyone's safety, as well as your own, be responsible and wear a mask!

Highlights aside from C-19.

A list of the top anti-racist books and books about racism is posted on the library website. It is hoped that this will help to give a starting point for people seeking more information on these critical issues.

The Library will receive a grant from "Beyond the Page," for a program co-sponsored by the Aspiring Anti-Racists of Cross Plains, entitled "13th: from Slave to Criminal in One Amendment." More information is on the website,

Every Tuesday in August, "Bedtime Stories with Staff" featured a video of a different library staff member reading a favorite bedtime story. Through September, Library Trustees are doing likewise. Videos are posted on the website and RGPL's Facebook page.

"Write to the Dog" is an online version of "Read to the Dog: whereby children sign-up to receive a puppy kit with writing supplies. Letters, along with dogs, will be read on the library fb page.

STEAM makerspace takeaway projects for children kicked off in August with an homage to the Perseids Meteor Shower. Participants received a Starstruck Takeaway bag of educational and fun goodies. This month the theme is "Library Nature Squad."

Because the election commission recommended that municipalities not enforce the mask mandate, library service was closed on August Election Day. This involved cordoning off collections and monitoring public access for the duration of voting by the Director. EMT director personally sanitized all high traffic areas the following morning.

Check out the website for more happenings, in-depth details and more useful information at: <https://www.rgpl.org/>

A public library is the only source of free and continuing education from cradle to grave. RGPL is observing Dane County recommendations regarding the COVID-19 response and will lift restrictions as advised by

local health authorities within parameters set by the RGPL.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jane Varda (Town of Berry Library Trustee)

### **BERRY BACKYARD CLUB**

Looking back to March we thought there might still be a plant swap in June. Our usual season is now coming to an end and it is a write-off. Nothing BBC 2020 was salvaged, including our popular, always a good-time, wrap-up fall potluck.

On the brighter side, nature is benefitting from our self-isolating, and with some extra watering, and more attention, our gardens have flourished!

Looking ahead to next year, we hope to resume, but until we can gather safely, no future activities will be planned.

Stay well, wear your mask and follow the science!

Best Jane and Tracy

If you enjoy gardening, nature, anything outdoorsy, learning more about the Township and our neighboring communities, we need your input, wisdom and ideas! Everyone is welcome, make new friends-the fun is in the doing.

Jane Varda  
jane.varda@tds.net  
608 798 9999

### **AUGUST 17 TOWN BOARD MINUTES SUMMARY**

(A summary of the minutes not yet approved by the Town Board.) Members present: Anthony Varda, David Evert, Michael Statz, Christine Molling and Duane Haag.

**Designating All-Terrain Vehicle Routes and Regulating the Operation of All-Terrain Vehicles Ordinance** was tabled. Vote 5-0

#### **Patrolman Report**

Drivers are not obeying the road closed signs on Turkey Road

#### **Zoning**

Allayne Turk's, Kahl Road, zoning change of 4.679 acres from A-2(4) to SFR with a transfer of development right was approved. Vote 5-0

#### **Driveways**

\*William Weber & Katherine Engen, 9081 Spring Valley Road, final driveway was approved. Vote 5-0

\*Stanley Theis, Theis Road, final driveway was approved. Vote 5-0

\*Bill & Kathy Bladl, 6214 Matz Road, final driveway was approved. Vote 5-0

\*Leonard & Brenda Ziegler, 5163 Enchanted Valley Road, final driveway was approved. Vote 5-0

#### **Amendments to the Town of Berry Zoning Ordinance**

\*Amending the text of the Town Zoning Ordinance Related to Variances was approved. Vote 5-0

\*Amending the text of the Town Zoning Ordinance Related to Kennel Setbacks was approved. Vote 5-0

#### **Ford Drive Situation**

The board approved requesting the assistance of the sheriff department in further investigating the source and nature of the aroma. Vote 5-0

#### **Outside Consultants or a Check and Balance System for Equipment Repairs**

Discussion of process and procedures.

#### **Reimbursement of Invoices for Repairing the Damage to Hering and Scherbel Road**

The board motioned to put in a claim so can be submitted to the insurance companies for both Bowar and Austin. Vote 2-2. In favor: Varda & Molling. Opposed: Statz & Evert. Haag abstained.

**Revising Regulate Stopping, Standing or Parking of Vehicles Ordinance 300.15** was approved and Scheele Road and Cowling Road were added. Vote 5-0

#### **Set date for Working Budget Meeting**

The meeting will be held on October 6, 2020 at 6:00 pm. Vote 5-0

#### **Committee Reports**

\* Cross Plains Fire District: Voted to remove the purchase of rapid response vehicle from the 2021 budget, but will replace a vehicle in 2022; modernizing the audio visual system at a cost of \$19,000

\*Cross Plains EMS: The district is running well and are continuously getting volunteer EMT's

\*District 1 EMS: 2021 budget proposal is within \$100 from previous year; director received a 2% raise

**Adjourn:** 8:28 p.m.

Brenda Kahl

## TOWN OF BERRY BOARD MEETING

September 21, 2020, 7:00 p.m. at the Town Hall, 9046 State Road 19, Mazomanie, WI 53560

### AGENDA

1. Call to order
2. Approve minutes of August 17, 2020
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. Comments are generally limited to three minutes.
4. Patrolman Report, if necessary
5. Discussion/action re:
  - A. (R-2020-4) Allayne Turk, intersection of Blackberry and Kahl Road, zoning change of 11.455 acres from A-2(8) to SFR, with a transfer of development right
  - B. (D-2018-11) Alex Wille, 5487 County Road KP, final driveway approval
6. Discussion/action re: Request for Proposals for Residential Garbage/Recycling Collection
7. Discussion/action re: Funding of Cross Plains-Berry Fire District purchase of rapid response vehicle
8. Discussion/action re: Resolution 2020-2, Dane County Order #9
9. Discussion/action re: Set date, time and location for the Public Budget Hearing and Special Town Meeting of the Electors
10. Budgetary Matters
  - A. Discussion/action re: Lakeside International statement
  - B. Discussion/action re: Payment of bills
11. Committee reports/Correspondence/Communications
  - A. Fire Districts
  - B. EMS Districts
  - C. Other
12. Discussion of future agenda items
13. Adjourn

As of September 17, 2020 the final agenda will be posted. The board attempts to finalize the agenda prior to the distribution of the newsletter.

