

TOWN BOARD

Chair

Duane Haag, 798-3638

Supervisors

David Evert, 576-2935

Mike Statz, 798-4679

Christine Molling, 712-3033

Jeff Davis, 798-0080

TOWN OFFICE

Brenda Kahl, Clerk/Treasurer

9046 State Road 19

Mazomanie, WI 53560

(608) 767-4152

Fax: (608) 767-3015

Hours: 7:30 – 4:00, except

Wednesday 7:30 – 10:30

Email: twberry@chorus.net

Web: www.townofberry.org

TOWN GARAGE

Lucas Danz, Patrolman

(608) 370-2790

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

Chris Michaels

(608) 617-9632

GARBAGE/RECYCLING

Peterson Sanitation

(608) 375-5856

LEGAL NOTICE POSTING LOCATIONS

Town website, Town Hall, Festge Park,

DH Repair

March 14, 2024

TOWN OF BERRY ANNUAL MEETING

The Town of Berry Annual Meeting is a public meeting which allows town residents the opportunity to discuss issues specific to the Town in accordance with Wisconsin State Statute 60.10. This is a forum where residents/electors can ask questions. The Town is conducting the annual meeting on April 16, 2024 at 7:00 pm at the Town Hall and invites all Town of Berry citizens to attend. The following is the current agenda:

Town of Berry Annual Meeting Agenda

April 16, 2024 at 7:00 pm at the Town Hall, 9046 State Road 19, Mazomanie, WI 53560

1. Call to Order
2. Confirmation of Compliance with Open Meetings Law
3. Approve April 18, 2023 annual meeting minutes
4. 2023 annual report
5. Set annual meeting date for 2025
6. Authorize the town board to construct a new garage per Wisconsin State Statute 60.10(2)(f)
7. Discussion of the Town selling their transfer of development rights
8. Other topics as desired by attendees
9. 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 twberry@chorus.net. Board members may be present.

BURNING PERMITS ARE NOW REQUIRED



State law requires burning permits in the Extensive Fire Protection Area (EFPA) from January 1st through May 31st unless the ground is completely snow-covered where the burning will take place. Only fires used exclusively for the purposes of cooking food or warming the body do not require a burning permit.

Permits are free and may be obtained by calling the toll free hot-line (1-888-947-2876) or go online

<https://dnr.wisconsin.gov/topic/forestfire/permits>

to have a permit mailed or instantly emailed to you.

HELP US BURN!

The Town of Berry’s park contains a prairie planting that benefits from occasional burning. Fire is used to control invasive species, remove older dead material, and expose the soil for new native seeds to sprout and grow. But burning is only done safely with a big enough crew. We have a few experts to guide the process, but we would benefit by having more bodies to help the fire along and guard against it spreading to non-target areas. If you are interested in helping burn the prairie this spring (anytime from late Feb through mid-May), please send your contact information to Christine Molling cmolling@outlook.com or text at 608-712-3033. We can fill you in on the process and will put you on the list to keep you updated for potential burn times. Burning is very weather-dependent, so it can’t be planned too far ahead.

INTERESTED IN BEING A PARK COMMITTEE MEMBER?

The Park Committee for the Town of Berry arranges for the care of the Town’s Kahl Halfway Prairie Community Park. We have been meeting twice a year for planning meetings, and occasionally participate in the (completely optional!) fun stuff, like burning, seed collection, seed application, and other related activities. We could use another member or two. If you are interested, please contact Christine Molling (see above).

Christine Molling

ACCEPTING BIDS FOR MAINTAINING TOWN HALL/GARAGE GROUNDS

The following items shall be maintained on the grounds surrounding the town hall, garage and salt shed.

1. The following services are to be provided for the price of \$_____ per mowing
Mow weekly as needed; Trim grass; Clear sidewalk, shelter and parking areas of grass clippings
2. Pruning shrubs as needed (approximately twice a year) for a rate of \$_____ per pruning.
3. Pulling and/or spraying round-up to control weeds in washed stone beds around town hall at the rate of \$_____ per application. Prior approval needed before spraying
4. Mowing 5 foot path around park & pond approximately every other mowing for the price of \$_____ per mowing

5. Mowing athletic field for the price of \$_____ per mowing

The contractor is responsible to furnish all equipment, materials and labor. The contractor must carry liability insurance (submit a copy along with your bid) and be certified to apply pesticides. Town personnel are to be consulted if there are any questions. Bids must be received by April 5, 2024 along with three references, submitted to Town of Berry, 9046 State Road 19, Mazomanie, WI 53560 or by email to twnberry@chorus.net. Bid forms are available online at www.townofberry.org or at the Town Hall.

ACCEPTING BIDS FOR MAINTAINING SUNNING HILL CEMETERY

The following services are to be provided for the price of \$_____ per mowing

Mow the cemetery; Mow the roadway from Old Settlers Road to the cemetery; Trim tree branches as needed; Treat weeds around stumps; Trim around tombstones. The cemetery must be maintained prior to Memorial Day for memorial services.

The cemetery is mowed approximately 10 times per year.

The contractor is responsible to furnish all equipment, materials and labor. The contractor must carry liability insurance (submit a copy along with your bid) and be certified to apply pesticides. Town personnel are to be consulted if there are any questions. Bids must be received by April 5, 2024 along with three references, submitted to Town of Berry, 9046 State Road 19, Mazomanie, WI 53560 or by email to twnberry@chorus.net. Bid forms are available online at www.townofberry.org or at the Town Hall.

OPEN BOOK AND BOARD OF REVIEW DATES

Open Book is currently scheduled for Thursday, April 11th from 1-3 pm. When the assessment roll is completed the assessor must be present for at least 2 hours while the roll is open for viewing by property owners.

After Open Book, the assessment roll will be submitted to the Clerk for Board of Review that is presently scheduled for Tuesday, April 30th from 6-8 pm at the Town Hall.

Dates will be finalized upon Town Board approval.

FEBRUARY 19th TOWN BOARD MINUTES SUMMARY

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

Public Comments

*Bill Brosius introduced himself. He is running for Dane County Supervisor District 28 against Michele Doolan on the April 2nd ballot.

*Michael Theis informed the board that he is continuing to monitor broadband options and has no updates at this time. Jaron McCallum, Dane County Broadband Coordinator, is willing to work with the town.

Patrolman Report

Have been meeting with road contractors. The Ford 550 is being built and should be finished around the end of March. Purchasing seat covers for the truck. Working with Mueller graphics for a town design. Also checking with them on the cost to fix the sign on the town hall. Will be cutting trees on Brewery Road and looking for approval from town board to have Jaeger Schoeneman assist.

Zoning

*Will & Michael Doherty, Spring Valley Road, rezone 2.14 acres from A-1Ex to SFR and 39.31 acres from A-1Ex to AG and approval of final certified survey map was tabled until the Town hears from the Town Engineer, Kory Anderson, and applicants submit an easement. Vote 5-0

*Duane & Joyce Haag, DH Repair Inc, 8677 State Road 19, rezone 2.774 acres from C-2 to COM was approved. Vote 4-0. Haag abstained

*Duane & Joyce Haag, DH Repair Inc, 8677 State Road 19, variance for required screening was referred back to the Plan Commission. Vote 4-0. Haag abstained

Posting Planned Roadwork and List of Capital Equipment on Town Website

The board approved placing a list of planned roadwork for the current year, a summary of the past five year's road projects and a list of capital equipment and rentals on the town's website. Vote 5-0

Portable Two-Way Radios and Accessories

The board rescinded the motion from the January 16th meeting to purchase one radio and 3 lapel speaker microphones from Brandt Communications. Vote 5-0

Purchasing a Security System

Discussion only. Cameras should be NDAA compliant.

Cross Plains-Berry Fire District Member Allocation Option Documents

Discussion only.

Small Bridge/Culvert Program

The board approved hiring Delmore Consulting to do the inventory phase of small bridges and culverts that have a span between 6 and 20 feet. Vote 5-0

2024 Road Construction Projects

The board approved to bid replacing culverts, ditching and cut and fill shoulders, according to Jim Pulvermacher's description, for Old Settlers, Martinsville and Scherbel Road and to investigate using any leftover funds toward small scale chip sealing on portions of roads that are worth saving. Vote 5-0

Legal Opinion on Code of Ethics and Code of Ethical Conduct Ordinance 110.1 and Town Ethics Board Ordinance 103.6

The board approved not adopting the Code of Ethics and Code of Ethical Conduct Ordinance 110.1 and Town Ethics Board Ordinance 103.6. Vote 4-1. In favor: Davis, Statz, Haag and Evert. Opposed: Molling

Committee Reports

*Cross Plains EMS: Hired Holly Ellickson as the new chief; looking into replacing some of the LTE's with volunteers

*Property owner at 8512 Highway 19 is looking for board approval to let MG&E park vehicles on his property during the road project, the board is fine with this.

*Parks Committee: The town received a little over 17 pounds of pure native seeds for the prairie through a Dane County seed collection program; \$800 in the budget will be used to purchase seeds for the weed control area

Future Agenda Items

Building a new town garage

Adjourn: 9:14 pm

ELECTION NEWS

The April 2, 2024 Election will be here soon.

Sample ballots are available on the Town's website under Election Information or click on this link, <https://townofberry.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/03/20240304095334.pdf>

VOTER REGISTRATION

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 or email the clerk’s office, twnberry@chorus.net. If a voter needs to register or update their registration, they may do so on myvote.wi.gov or in person or at the polls on Election Day.

In person. Register in the clerk's office up to 5:00 p.m. on March 29th.

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.

THERE ARE 3 WAYS TO VOTE IN THE ELECTION ON APRIL 2, 2024

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, March 19th and ends on Friday, March 29th. The Town Hall will be open for voting on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays from 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. It is recommended to call for an appointment time.

Voting Absentee Ballot by Mail. Request an absentee ballot at myvote.wi.gov or by mail using the Wisconsin Application for Absentee Ballot form EL-121,

<https://townofberry.org/government/elections/absentee-ballots/>

If mailing the completed EL-121 form and photocopy of your photo ID, mail to Town of Berry, 9046 State Road 19, Mazomanie, WI 53560.

The request for an absentee ballot by mail must be received by 5:00 p.m. on March 28th. Since it takes time to receive an absentee ballot, it is recommended to request one at least a week prior to the March 28th deadline.

All voted ballots must be returned to the municipal clerk by the voter by mail or in person. Ballots are not allowed to be left in a drop box. The deadline to return a ballot is 8:00 p.m. on Election Day!

ANNUAL SPRING ROADSIDE CLEANUP

This spring please volunteer to pick up roadside trash and recyclables on one of the following lengths of town and county roads listed below. Separate garbage from recyclables and place both with your regular Monday morning garbage and recyclables.

Email Brenda at twnberry@chorus.net to inform her of which road segment you will do, so efforts are not duplicated. Thank you!

<u>Town/Co Rd</u>	<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>
Co Rd K	Co Rd P	Otto Kerl
Co Rd K	Otto Kerl	Enchanted Valley
Co Rd K	Enchanted Valley	Schuman
Co Rd K	Schuman	Hwy 19
Co Rd KP	9244 Co Rd KP	9450 Co Rd KP
Co Rd KP	Cowling-Scheele	4934 Co Rd KP
Co Rd KP	4934 Co Rd KP	Otto Kerl
Co Rd KP	Otto Kerl	Table Bluff
Co Rd KP	Table Bluff	Pine
Co Rd KP	Pine	Far View
Co Rd KP	Far View	Hwy 19
Co Rd KP	Hwy 19	Breunig
Blackberry	Turkey	Kahl
Carya	All	
Enchanted Valley	Co Rd P	Town Line
Enchanted Valley	Co Rd P	Hillpoint
Enchanted Valley	Hillpoint	Otto Kerl
Enchanted Valley	Otto Kerl	Co Rd K
Enchanted Valley	Co Rd K	End
Far View	Co Rd KP	Knickmeier
Far View	Knickmeier	Spring Valley
Gorst	All	
Hillpoint	Co Rd P	5191 Hillpoint
Hillpoint	5191 Hillpoint	Enchanted Valley
Hillpoint	Enchanted Valley	Co Rd P
Indian Trail	Martinsville	s curve
Indian Trail	s curve	Co Rd K
Jacoby	All	
Kahl	Blackberry	South Valley
Kahl	South Valley	Scherbel
Kalsow	All	
Knickmeier	All	
Martinsville	Co Rd K	High Rise
Martinsville	High Rise	Whippoorwill
Matz	Hwy 19	Helt
Old Settlers	Hwy 19	Gorst
Old Settlers	Gorst	town line
Otto Kerl	Co Rd K	Schuman
Otto Kerl	Schuman	Co Rd KP
Pine	Spring Valley	Co Rd KP
Scherbel	Spring Valley	Kahl
Scherbel	Kahl	Hwy 14
Schuman	Otto Kerl	5671 Schuman

Schuman	5671 Schuman	Co Rd K
South Valley	Kahl	Barman
South Valley	Barman	Co Rd KP
Spring Valley	Schuman	Pine
Spring Valley	Pine	Co Rd KP
Spring Valley	Co Rd KP	Scherbel
Spring Valley	Scherbel	Turkey
Spring Valley	Turkey	9504 South Valley
Table Bluff	Co Rd KP	Scherbel
Turkey	Spring Valley	Swamp
Turkey	Swamp	Blackberry
Whippoorwill	Martinsville	Hwy 19

ANNUAL DOG LICENSES ARE SOON DUE

State law requires an annual license and a current rabies vaccination for all dogs 5 months of age or older.



The license fee for a neutered male or spayed female is \$17.50 and \$22.50 for an un-neutered male or un-spayed female. Multiple (kennel) licenses are \$47.00. Dog license applications are available on the Town's website <https://townofberry.org/licenses/>

An animal owner must annually provide proof of rabies vaccination for dogs before the license can be issued. Send a copy of the rabies certification along with the completed application, self-addressed stamped envelope, and payment to the Town of Berry, 9046 State Road 19, Mazomanie, WI 53560. Reminder, after April 1st, a late fee will be applied of \$5.00 per license.

BICYCLE EVENT SCHEDULED FOR JUNE

The Horribly Hilly Hundreds bicycle event is scheduled for June 15th between 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. A representative from the event holder, Friends of Blue Mound State Park, will be attending the Town Board Meeting on March 18th. The meeting starts at 7:00 pm and is at the Town Hall. Please attend the meeting if you have any questions or comments about the event.

STATE ROAD 19 PROJECT

This project is anticipated to be completed around November 15th. The project begins at the WIS 78 intersection and extends easterly for 9.6 miles to the US 12 intersection. The purpose of the project is to improve corridor safety, address drainage concerns, widen shoulders, and improve pavement condition. The proposed improvement includes:

Upgrading select horizontal and vertical curves, replacing two bridge structures; replacing existing guardrail, protecting existing roadside hazards, rehabilitating select roadway culvert pipes, replacing existing signing and pavement markings, widening shoulders from 0-2' to 6' (3' paved) west of County K. widening shoulders from 0-2' to 6' (5' paved) east of County K and Installation of pedestrian crossing at Indian Lake Park

LETTER TO THE TOWN OF BERRY RESIDENTS

At this year's Annual Meeting transfer of development rights are going to be discussed.

I was on the Town Board when the Board decided that any time land was sold to the County, State or Ice Age Trail developments rights would not transfer with the property. For instance, the Dega property on Indian Trail, which was purchased by Dane County Parks, had nine development rights. One development right was retained by the Dega family and the remaining rights went with the property sold to Dane County Parks. Rather than letting these development rights transfer to Dane County who would not use them, the Board recreated them. Therefore the Town has eight development rights that the Town could sell.

The procedure for purchasing a development right is when a property owner wants to purchase a development right they would have to contact property owners in the town that have them and see if they were interested in selling one. If they could not find one, then and only then, they could request to purchase one from the Town. The understanding was that the Town was not to be in competition with property owners for these rights.

In 2023, the Town was approached by a property owner who wanted to purchase four development rights from the Town, even though said person already had four of their own development rights. I am interested in knowing how Town residents feel about the Town selling their development rights.

Please attend the Annual Meeting on April 16th so that you can give direction on this matter.

Duane Haag, Town Chairperson

TOWN OF BERRY BOARD MEETING

March 18, 2024, 7:00 p.m., at the Town Hall, 9046 State Road 19, Mazomanie, WI 53560

AGENDA

1. Call to order
2. Confirmation of Compliance with Open Meetings Law
3. Approve minutes of February 19, 2024
4. 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.
5. Discussion/action re: 2023 Audit
6. Discussion/action re:
 - A. (R-2023-4) Will & Michael Doherty, Spring Valley Road, rezone 2.14 acres from A-1Ex to SFR and 39.31 acres from A-1Ex to AG and approval of final certified survey map
 - B. (R-2024-2) James and Diana Murphy, 8877 Table Bluff Road, rezone 16.99 acres from A-2 to AG (lot 1) and 7.69 acres from A-2 to AG (lot 2) and approval of final certified survey map
 - C. (V-2024-1) Duane & Joyce Haag, DH Repair Inc, 8677 State Road 19, variance for required screening
7. Discussion/action re: Cycle Road Event Permit for Friends of Blue Mounds State Park on June 15, 2024
8. Patrolman Report
9. Discussion/action re: Confirming Open Book and Board of Review Dates
10. Discussion/action re: Revising Ordinance 103.1, Appointing Alternate Members for Board of Review
11. Discussion/action re: Memo from Village of Cross Plains on the structure and administration of the Cross Plains EMS
12. Discussion/action re: Sunning Hill Cemetery Stone Markers Restoration
13. Discussion/action re: 6389 Rimmel Court, Common Gardens
14. Discussion/action re: Building a new town garage
15. Budgetary Matters
 - A. Discussion/action re: Payment of bills
16. Discussion/action re: Committee reports/Correspondence/Communications
 - A. Fire Districts
 - B. EMS Districts
 - C. Other
17. Discussion of future agenda items
18. Adjourn

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