Town of Berry News

www.townofberry.org

TOWN BOARD
Chair
Duane Haag, 798-3638
Supervisors
David Evert, 576-2935
Mike Statz, 798-4679
Nichole Schwoerer, 767-2203
Derek Statz, 798-0179

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. M, Tu, Th, F
Email: twnberry@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) 524-6603

LEGAL NOTICE POSTING LOCATIONS
Town website, Town Hall, Festge Park, DH Repair

March 13, 2025

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 15, 2025 at 7:00 pm at the Town Hall and invites all Town of Berry citizens to attend. The following is the current agenda, additional items may be added:

Town of Berry Annual Meeting Agenda
April 15, 2025 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 16, 2024 annual meeting minutes
4. 2024 annual report
5. Set annual meeting date for 2026
6. Discussion of garbage and recycling contract options
7. Discussion of property taxes
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 twnberry@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.

OPEN BOOK AND BOARD OF REVIEW DATES

Open Book is scheduled for Thursday, April 10th 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 29th from 6-8 pm at the Town Hall.

ELECTION NEWS

The April 1, 2025 Election will be here soon.

Sample ballots are available on the Town's website under Election Information and click on sample ballot.

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 Friday, March 28th.

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 1, 2025

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 18th and ends on Friday, March 28th. The Town Hall will be open for voting on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays from 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

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 a 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 27th. Since it takes time to receive an absentee ballot, it is recommended to request one at least a week prior to the March 27th deadline.

All voted ballots must be returned to the municipal clerk by the voter by mail or in person. The deadline to return a ballot is 8:00 p.m. on Election Day!

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 10, 2025 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 10, 2025 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.

FEBRUARY 17th TOWN BOARD MINUTES SUMMARY

(A summary of the minutes not yet approved by the Town Board.) Members present: Duane Haag, David Evert, Michael Statz, Nichole Schwoerer and Derek Statz

Patrolman Report

Had a busy weekend plowing snow and Ben and Jaeger are doing an excellent job plowing. Continuing to clear and cut wood on Indian Trail along with burning the brush piles.

Zoning

*Mary Skupniewitz Living Trust's rezone of 28.69 acres from A-1Ex to AG and 4.73 acres from A-1Ex to SFR and final certified survey map was approved. Vote 5-0

*Koos Family Farm LLC's rezone of 39.9 acres from A-1Ex to EA and a conditional use permit for a mobile service support structure and facilities including the document titled Findings Concerning Rezoning and Conditional Use Permit was approved. Vote 5-0

*Kendall & Kay Kahl's rezone of 29.14 acres from A-2 to AG and a conditional use permit for plumbing fixtures in an accessory building was approved. Vote 5-0

Driveway Permit

Korey Kahl's driveway permit application at 9336 Spring Valley Road was approved. Vote 5-0

CARPC Comprehensive Plan Revision Assistance Proposal was tabled to the next month's meeting. Vote 5-0

Future of Park Committee

The board approved that the Park Committee present to the Town Board their wishes in regards to the future of the committee including revisions to the current policy. Vote 5-0

Endorsement of Bertram Communication Application for Bead Funding was approved. Vote 5-0

Assessor Contract for 2026-2030 was tabled to the next month's meeting. Vote 5-0

Confirming Open Book and Board of Review Dates

The board approved to hold Open Book on April 10 from 1:00 – 3:00 pm and Board of Review on April 29 from 6:00 – 8:00 pm. Vote 5-0

Puppy Mills Ordinance was tabled to the next month's meeting. Vote 5-0

Committee Reports

*Cross Plains EMS District: The new ambulance will be arriving soon. Plan to keep the current ambulance to use when the new one is unavailable and to rent to other districts as needed.

*Cross Plains Fire District: The tanker truck is being replaced.

*Black Earth Fire District: The Village of Mazomanie is researching combining with the Black Earth Fire District and District 1 EMS.

Adjourn: 9:15 pm

WEIGHT LIMITS ARE NOW POSTED ON TOWN ROADS

Berry's town roads were posted for Weight Limits, effective Friday, February 28, 2025 for the spring season. The limit is posted at fifteen tons. Please contact Road Patrolman Lucas Danz at 608-370-2790 to discuss the best route for any deliveries on our town roads. You will need to lighten your load, put your tags down, use the shortest route to and from a county or state highway and use the center of the road, if possible to drive on. Weight limit postings are typically removed in 2-6 weeks depending on the weather and will be updated on the Town's website.

TOWN OF BERRY BOARD MEETING

March 17, 2025, 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 17, 2025
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: 2024 Audit
6. Jodi Hager, Dane County Community Deputy
7. Patrolman Report
8. Discussion/action re: CARPC Comprehensive Plan revision assistance proposal
9. Discussion/action re: Award bids for chip sealing, excavation/culverts and paving on various roads
10. Discussion/action re: Court order for 8785 Highway 19
11. Discussion/action re: Puppy Mills Ordinance
12. Discussion/action re: Assessor contract for 2026-2030
13. Discussion/action re: MSA Professional Services Agreement for Whippoorwill Road reconstruction
14. Discussion/action re: Revising Ordinance 103.1, Appointing Alternate Members of Board of Review
15. Discussion/action re: Sunning Hill Cemetery stone markers restoration
16. Discussion/action re: Increasing the per hour wage for the election inspectors
17. Discussion/action re: Purchasing a new ditch mower
18. Budgetary Matters
    A. Discussion/action re: Payment of bills
    B. Discussion/action re: Proposal for replacing the two toilets at the town hall
    C. Discussion/action re: Renting Lucas Danz's trailer
19. Discussion/action re: Committee reports/Correspondence/Communications
    A. Fire Districts
    B. EMS Districts
    C. Other
20. Discussion of future agenda items
21. Adjourn

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