Town of Berry News
www.townofberry.org

TOWN BOARD
Chair
Duane Haag, (608) 460-0470
Supervisors
David Evert, (608) 576-2935
Mike Statz, (608) 798-4679
Nichole Schwoerer, (608) 767-2203
Derek Statz, (608) 220-3325

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, T, Th, F
Email: clerk@tn.berry.wi.gov
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
Pellitteri
(608) 257-4285

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

March 12, 2026

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 21, 2026 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 21, 2026 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 15, 2025 annual meeting minutes
4. 2025 annual report
5. Set annual meeting date for 2027
6. Discussion of Comprehensive Plan public survey results
7. Other topics as desired by attendees
8. Adjourn

Persons requiring additional services to participate in a public meeting should contact the Town Clerk at the Town Hall, 9046 State Highway 19, Mazomanie, WI 53560. 767-4152 clerk@tn.berry.wi.gov Board members may be present.

WEIGHT LIMITS ARE NOW POSTED ON TOWN ROADS

Berry's town roads were posted for Weight Limits, effective Thursday, February 19, 2026 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 4-6 weeks depending on the weather and will be updated on the Town's website.

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.

ACCEPTING BIDS FOR MAINTAINING TOWN HALL/GARAGE GROUNDS AND SUNNING HILL CEMETERY

The Town is now accepting bids and the forms with the specifications are available online at www.townofberry.org or at the Town Hall. The contractor is responsible to furnish all equipment, materials, labor and must carry liability insurance (submit a copy along with your bid) and be certified to apply pesticides. Bids must be received by April 10, 2026 along with three references. Submit the bid form to this address, Town of Berry, 9046 State Road 19, Mazomanie, WI 53560 or by email to clerk@tn.berry.wi.gov.

ELECTION NEWS

The April 7, 2026 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, clerk@tn.berry.wi.gov. 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, April 3rd.

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 7, 2026

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 24th and ends on Friday, April 3rd. 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. If mailing the form always include 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 April 2nd. Since it takes time to receive an absentee ballot, it is recommended to request one at least a week prior to the April 2nd 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!

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 $22.50 and $33.50 for an un-neutered male or un-spayed female. Multiple (kennel) licenses are $60.50. 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.

OPEN BOOK AND BOARD OF REVIEW DATES

Open Book is scheduled for Wednesday, July 1st from 2–6 pm and Thursday, July 2nd from 10 am – 2 pm at the Town Hall. 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 Thursday, August 6th from 6–8 pm at the Town Hall.

FEBRUARY 16th 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

Public Hearing by the Town Board on the application of Scott & Dawn Evert, 8916 State Highway 19, to rezone 119.74 acres from A-1EX to AG and for a conditional use permit to allow construction of a nonmetallic mining operation to extract sand and gravel

Public hearing opened at 7:48 p.m.

During the public hearing there were comments and discussions on the following items:

*Noticed as a zoning change to AG and then Plan Commission recommending a zoning change to EA instead of AG. Government bodies may amend zoning districts during a meeting.

*The proposal is not consistent with the comprehensive plan. The comprehensive plan is a guide.

*In what way will the town or the residents financially benefit from this proposal?

*Additional traffic and noise. Dangerous driveway access.

*Reclaiming the land as a pond which will not benefit the residents. Questioned if there is instead an option to reclaim the land as a field.

*The proposal will lower the value of adjacent properties

*Pond and weight house is within the floodplain and will this push wetlands onto adjacent properties.

*Will a portion of the sales tax stay within the town?

Public hearing closed at 8:43 p.m.

Zoning

*Scott & Dawn Evert's zoning change of 119.74 acres from A-1EX to EA with the consolidation of parcels 0807-092-8500-9 and 0807-092-8000-4 with a certified survey map and approval of the conditional use permit with all conditions and findings to allow construction of a nonmetallic mining operation to extract sand and gravel contingent upon approval of all governmental permits and payment of town permit fees and consultant services required to process this application was approved. Vote 3-1. D Statz abstained. In favor: Evert, Haag and Schwoerer. Opposed: M Statz

*Juliann Fick's rezone of 5.01 acres from A-1EX to AG and the final certified survey map was approved. Vote 5-0

*Mark Stegbauer's & Jennifer Boyd's rezone of 5.044 acres from A-2(4) to SFR and a conditional use permit with all conditions and findings for an art studio was approved. Vote 5-0

Driveway Permit

*Kris & Megan Laufenberg's driveway permit application was approved. Vote 5-0

Patrolman Report

Working on numbers for road projects; skid steer was delivered; and weight limits will become effective by the end of the week.

Resolution 2026-3, Discontinuation of a Public Way – Public Hearing was approved. Vote 5-0
Revisions to the Cross Plains Area EMS Agreement. Discussion only. The EMS Board is still finalizing the revisions.
Committee Reports
*District 1 EMS: Held a special meeting to approve payment for a generator that stopped working
*Cross Plains-Berry Fire District: New truck will be arriving this year; received a list of fire calls.
Adjourn: 9:12 pm

PROPERTY TAX INFORMATION

In 2025/2026 the following dollar amounts were levied for the following taxing jurisdictions. In parenthesis is the difference from the 2024/2025 levied amounts. Even though the Town's levy increased by 13,481, the Town's portion of the millrate decreased by 0.34
Town of Berry = $952,699 (+13,481)
Black Earth Fire/EMS = $65,065 (+13,604)
Cross Plains Fire/EMS = $137,772 (+20,446)
Dane County = $1,083,878 (+39,541)
Middleton-Cross Plains School District = $1,533,948 (+183,719)
Wisconsin Heights School District = $1,909,816 (+151,933)
Sauk Prairie School District = $22,855 (+289)
Madison Technical College = $230646 (+7,701)

TOWN OF BERRY BOARD MEETING

March 16, 2026, 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 16, 2026
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: 2025 Audit
6. Patrolman Report
7. Discussion/action re: 2026 Road Projects and Bid Notices
8. Discussion/action re: Rental agreement for storing chipper and mower
9. Discussion/action re: Tree and brush cutting quotes for Old Settlers Road
10. Discussion/action re: Soil boring proposal for South Valley Road
11. Discussion/action re: Revising Ordinance 103.1, Appointing Alternate Members for Board of Review
12. Discussion/action re: Revising Ordinance 103.2, Town Plan Commission
13. Discussion/action re: Revising Ordinance 500.4, Nonmetallic Mining
14. Budgetary Matters
    A. Discussion/action re: Payment of bills
15. Discussion/action re: Committee reports/Correspondence/Communications
    A. Fire Districts
    B. EMS Districts
    C. Other
16. Discussion of future agenda items
17. Adjourn

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