

Township of Bloomington
Tuesday, September 5th, 2023
Regular Monthly Board Meeting Minutes

The regular Monthly Board Meeting of the Town of Bloomington was called to order on Tuesday, September 5th, 2023 at 7:00 pm by Chairman Bill Erdenberger. Roll call was taken and other members present were Supervisor I Mike Patterson, Supervisor II Joe Kirschbaum, Clerk Jane Patterson, Treasurer Brenda Kluesner, Patrolman Andrew “Buck” Crubel, Michelle Newhouse and Beetown Chairman Darwin Anderson. Also present, a group of concerned citizens wanting to discuss the development of Wind Turbine/solar sites in this area. Motion (Bill Erdenberger) seconded (Joe Kirschbaum) was made to approve the posting of the September 5th meeting, motion carried. Motion (Bill Erdenberger) seconded (Mike Patterson) was made to approve the August 7th meeting minutes, motion carried. Motion (Mike Patterson) seconded (Bill Erdenberger) was made to approve the August 9th meeting minutes, motion carried. There were no appearances or public comments.

Wind Energy/Turbines: A group of concerned citizens (Dave and Teresa Moris, Kurt and Jen Wehrle, Randy and Deb Martin and Doug Scott) presented informational material and discussion regarding the Wind/solar farms being built in our area. Due to the lack of Local government control per State Statutes and codes, it’s extremely hard for the County and Municipalities to regulate Wind/Solar Energy Sitings. Randy Martin, Kurt & Jen Wehrle and Dave Moris spoke on behalf of the group. Beetown Chairman Darwin Anderson also spoke on this issue with information he had learned since Beetown’s previous Town meeting. Area residents have been receiving numerous mailings from Wind/Solar Companies wanting to lease their land for Wind/Solar development. The group’s concerns are: 1) the State Codes pertaining to Public Health and Safety related to Wind Turbines have not been updated since 2014 and out of compliance and 2) the decommissioning of a system when it is no longer being used. According to Wis State Statute, the Wind Siting Council “shall” submit a health impact report every five years to each house of the legislature. Clerk Jane Patterson received an email from the Wis Public Service Commission stating, “the current Wind Siting Council is working on that report for spring of 2024”. The delay of this report does not affect the applicability of PSC-128. Beetown Chairman Darwin Anderson noted that PSC-128 requires the owner of a wind energy system to remove the system when it’s at the end of its useful life. Several members have talked to other Townships to see how they are handling this topic. Two issues were brought up that might not be addressed in the PSC-128 or County Ordinance, the strobe lights being shut off at night and wind turbine heights, but these issues would require further investigation. All agreed that informational meetings, educating friends/neighbors and contacting our legislators are the first steps in addressing these concerns.

Roads and Machinery Reports: Patrolman Crubel reported that he sanded roads during the heat wave. A new culvert is needed on Maple Road near Steve Mergen’s farm. Machinery is in good condition; new filters were purchased for the grader.

Financial Report: Treasurer Brenda Kluesner presented the August 2023 financial report. Clerk Jane Patterson reported that there were three outstanding bills. The board unanimously agreed on payment. Motion (Bill Erdenberger), second (Joe Kirschbaum) was made to adopt and sign the Grant County Hazard Mitigation Plan Resolution, on a voice roll call, Yes-3, No-0, motion carried. Clerk Jane Patterson gave a copy of the finalized equalized values by class and items report received from the WI DOR-no changes were made from the preliminary report.

New Business: Next month’s meeting we will be discussing the 2024 budget.

Next Meetings: The next **regular Monthly Board Meeting** will be held on Monday, October 2nd, 2023 at 7:00 pm at the Bloomington Township Town hall.

Motion (Joe Kirschbaum) seconded (Bill Erdenberger) was made to adjourn the meeting.

Respectfully submitted
Jane Patterson-Clerk

