

Minutes of Public Hearing  
Town of Perry  
Tuesday, May 12, 2009  
Perry Town Hall

Dark Sky Lighting Ordinance

1. Call to order. Chairman Pat Downing called the hearing to order at 7:35 PM. Supervisors Roger Kittleson and Mick Klein Kennedy, Treasurer Judy Keller and Clerk Mary Price were present. Also in attendance: Alice Yaeger, David Mays, Doug King, Mordecai Fayas, Doug Dolan, Dan Frick, Brent Radke, Ann Windsor, George Sundstrom, Jeanette Sundstrom, Mark Haebig, Jeff Anderson, Walter Hamady, Mike Samuels, Dean Vogel, Kay Watson, Chris St. Clair.
  
2. Public Hearing – proposed Dark Sky Ordinance.

David Mays requested clarifications.

Doug King thanked the Town Board for considering this Ordinance and added that other communities have these ordinances. He added that 2009 is the International Year of Astronomy and stars are visible in the Town of Perry and the Space Shuttle is observable from the Town. He clarified that current lights and fixtures are grandfathered and the ordinance will apply only to new fixtures. He said that Perry's Comprehensive Plan survey reported that 74% of the respondents strongly agree that dark sky should be preserved. He indicated that the International Dark Sky Association provides information on a website at [darksky.org](http://darksky.org) and handout material is available at the Town Hall. He suggested that the ordinance could be amended to include Daleyville.

David Mays suggested that Daleyville should be included in the ordinance.

Alice Yaeger requested information about the Daleyville street lights.

Ann Windsor supported the ordinance and advised that Daleyville should be included.

Mike Samuels supported the ordinance.

Dan Frick, Dane Co. Surveyor, opposed the ordinance and opined that a dark sky ordinance should apply to urban areas only. He suggested that IDA published standards should be included; section 4.3 should include standards; section 4.6 should allow motion sensor lights; section 6.1 should include IDA standards; and commented that orange/yellow dusk to dawn lights do not provide enough light; and asked for clarification of right of entry, policing and penalties; and

suggested that section 12 should include the Town watchman and/or the building inspector.

Mike Samuels reported that his former neighbors in the Town of Oregon installed too much light in their yards.

Dan Frick added that there should be more language in the ordinance for standards; lighting standards are included in zoning regulations.

Brent Radke commented that this ordinance is similar to the burning ordinance, and suggested that instead of an ordinance the Town should include educational materials with building permits, such as the allowable lumen per square foot.

Judy Keller said that the stars can be seen with the current lighting and there are more important issues for the Town to consider.

Ann Windsor suggested that section 2.2 should include temporary lighting, work lights and motion sensors.

Roger Kittleson suggested residents should use common sense when installing lighting; information should be included with new building permits; enforcement might be difficult.

David Mays indicated that he has no faith in common sense; the Town should have an ordinance; and supports the ordinance.

Gary Wagner requested information about enforcement.

3. Adjourn. Mick Klein Kennedy moved and Roger Kittleson seconded a motion to adjourn. Motion carried. The public hearing adjourned at 8:10 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary L. Price, Clerk.