

TOWN OF TRENTON

Unofficial Minutes

A Public Hearing of the Town of Trenton Town Board and Plan Commission was held on

Monday, October 9, 2023, at 6:00 PM at the Town of Trenton

Town Hall, 1071 State Highway 33 East, West Bend, WI 53095.

Chairman Lipscomb called the Public Hearing to order at 6:00 P.M.

Lipscomb read the Notice of Public Hearing called to consider the petition of Rob-n-Cin Farms, 5545 County Highway Y, Town of Trenton to amend the Town of Trenton Zoning Map. In accordance with town Zoning Ordinances, Article XII, Sections 380-120-122. Rob-n-Cin Farms hereby petitions the Town Board to amend the Town of Trenton Zoning Map from EA Exclusive Agricultural to AE Agricultural Enterprise for lands totaling approximately 141.34 acres, including the Tax Key Numbers identified as T11-063900Z, T11-064200D, T11-064200Y, and T11-065200B.

Plan Commission members present: Joan Baumgartner, Ray Werhand, Dennis Kay, Scott Schweizer (via Video Conference), Bob Roden, and Tony Thoma. Town Board Supervisors present: Chairman Mike Lipscomb, and Supervisor Barb Davies. Town Attorney Ian Prust, Town Administrator Cindy Komro, Clerk Heather Krueger. Excused: Supervisor Ed Doerr. Members of the public (approx.): 275

Prior to the Public Hearing, notice was properly published on September 26, 2023, and October 3, 2023, in the Washington County Daily News and posted on the town hall bulletin board and on the town website.

[Roden recuses himself from the Public Hearing]

Town Attorney Prust explained that the town previously went through the process of adopting a new zoning ordinance that covered both a new zoning district and conditional use permit requirement for large-scale livestock sighting. The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) has preempted local municipalities' ability to restrict large-scale livestock operations, and the town is required by State Statutes to have zoning districts to allow large-scale livestock operations. The zoning district that was recently created by the town was based on a model ordinance from the Department of Agriculture Trade and Consumer Protection. The town also chose to adopt as a conditional use the requirements of the DNR permit. Large livestock operations are regulated by the DNR, there is a permit process the applicant needs to go through. The town had some options on how this would be allowed: One option was to say that if it was DNR approved you could operate in any Agriculture District, instead, the town chose to have a separate Agricultural District in the zoning code; AE, Agricultural Enterprise which has more stringent requirements, which requires larger parcels to have large-scale livestock operations to make sure they are not operated on areas that are too small. The town also chose to adopt a Conditional Use Permit requirement. The Conditional Use Permit cannot be more restrictive than what the State requires, but the town is basically mirroring the DNR permit. This allows the town to monitor compliance with the DNR permit and allows the town to make sure the rules are being followed. If the DNR chose not to enforce, the town could enforce and

revoke the Conditional Use Permit, in which the terms of the permit were not being followed. The Town has a statutory requirement to allow farmers to operate large livestock operations. This is the town complying with the Right-to-Farm law, while also being as restrictive as possible in adopting the provisions. The zoning requirements have been adopted into the ordinance; the issue today is the specific application for rezoning.

Lipscomb stated that a lot of misinformation was published recently; there are not 10,000 cows coming to the town. The application requests 2,500 animal units, which is approximately 1,500 cows.

Lipscomb asked for comments from the audience, stating that each person wishing to speak would have two minutes. Comments should not be repeated.

Statement from Petitioner:

Rick Roden, 5579 County Road Y: Roden stated that there has been a lot of miscommunications spread about the farm but does not want to focus on that. The Roden family established the farm in 1995 and Rick joined the operation in 2003. The farm is based on being a family operation, educating, and being transparent in the community. Within the last 10 years, they have made improvements to the farm including manure storage, feed storage areas, and a new cross-ventilated barn to house a majority of the cows which features climate control, free-choice feeding and water, and a rest area. Eighteen months ago, they moved into a new milking center 40-stall rotary parlor. The maximum number of cows that the parlor can milk is 1,500 cows three times per day. Roden heard rumors that they are applying for 10,000 cows which is unrealistic and not their goal. They are applying for 2,500 animal units. An animal unit is 1,000 pounds, a mature cow equals 1.4 animal units, or a baby calf is 0.3 animal units. They could have built a larger parlor, but they only wanted to milk 1,500 cows on that site. The family feels they have enough land to support that number of cows, bringing feed in and taking manure out. A rule of thumb is that 1 to 1.5 acres of land per animal unit is needed. Rob-n-Cin Farms is proposing rezoning four parcels, which currently have buildings and facilities on them. Bob Roden is one of the founders of Ozaukee County Clean Farm Families, and they attend the Cedar Creek Watershed in Washington County. They are following many practices these groups promote such as cover crops and minimum till. The farm has adapted to changing how manure is being spread to maximize how nutrients are spread on the fields. They have had a comprehensive nutrient management plan for several years which requires soil samples in all fields on a regular basis. The Rodens have been good neighbors over the years. The goal of the farm is to continue to be sustainable for generations to come. Faith, Family, and Farming – that’s what they live their life by.

Comments from the public:

Steve Holland, 6062 Wausaukee Rd: Heard a lot about the Factory Farms and wanted to address the scare tactic and propaganda that has been circulating. The Rodens do not want 10,000 cows, they have applied for much less. If you don’t like agriculture, then don’t live near a farm. He respects the work that the farmers do and feels the town should support them.

Pete Hesprich, 1135 Greenway Ln: Was employed with the State Dept. of Agriculture. He did inspections on farms, 25-30 years ago there were so many more farms than there are now. The farms today need to produce more as consumers still need milk products. These are not factory

farms; they are family farms. We need these farms to survive. He has inspected this farm, and they are a respectable operation. We need to support this family farm.

James Reinartz 360 Cedar Sauk Rd: This is the wrong place for a large, confined animal feeding operation. Lives 1.5 miles from the farm, and he can live with the manure smell, but the increase to 2,500 cows will be too much for this area. The north branch of Cedar Creek runs through their property. The Milwaukee River and Cedar Creek will be at risk. The increased odors will decrease the property values. The farm spreads manure on the drainage basin of the Cedarburg Bog State natural area, which is detrimental to the water quality.

[Komro commented that the application is for 2,500 animal units which is 1,500 cows]

Casey DeGroot, 5887 CTY HWY Y: We live one mile from the farm and are concerned if the Rodens get more cows will they need a high capacity well, which could dry up other wells in the area. There are limited acres on the farm, will the nutrient plan be complying, and where will they be spreading the additional manure? The manure smell is currently not an offense, but what will be in the future? Does the farm plan on increasing the number of animals to over 2,500 in the future and if so, what will this do to the water quality and soil?

Jeff Wren, 6736 Westwood Trail: Concerns with the liquid manure trucks and how close they can go to residential property? How close can the liquid manure go to private wells?

Susan Stevenson, 420 Roosevelt Dr: Concerned with the Factory Farms and water quality and that waste will be going into the Milwaukee River. These farms are inhumane. Would like to start a precedent in WI that they are not welcome. The cows don't get outside, and the quality of the meat is poor. There are health concerns for people as well.

Rick Sandoval, 850 Deer View Ct: Respects Roden's livelihood but does have some concerns. He has researched the DNR website and found Roden's application. Some of the cows are already on the land which he suspects is why this is moving quickly through this process. The application has three sections that talk about expansion, which is his concern. He takes Roden at his word that he is talking 1,500 cows but it could be a concern down the road.

[Lipscomb comments that there are 750 cows on site currently and they can go up to 999 unregulated]

Roxanne Hanna, 4382 Hickory Rd: Believes in family farms, she and her husband operate a farm in Newburg, and they grow diversified vegetables. Misinformation is a huge problem, appreciates the board holding the public hearing. The water in this area is safe now and is concerned about future contamination with the size of the farm. More cows mean more antibiotics, which are sync bacterium that is introduced to the environment that we share with our children. We need to protect the water for our future.

Chris Kearns, County Road Y: Is concerned with property values when a CAFO is in the area. With a large CAFO, studies show you can see a 26% drop within 3 miles of the operation up to 88% when your ¼ mile from the operation. This may not reflect our community, but this study also shows a 10% reduction in home values within that same distance of the operation. The community could lose 10 to

11 million in home value. Once you let one CAFO in, you can allow others. If we do have lower home values, will the property taxes go down as well?

[Attorney Prust reiterated that pre-empted large-scale livestock operations are allowed by State statute, and the town cannot be more restrictive than the State. The zoning ordinance allows for very limited parcels that would fit into AE zoning requirements]

Ed Eckert, 994 Knollwood Rd: Very concerned about the acres and size. The farm would be increasing two and half times, which means more waste that needs to be disposed of. It's going to go into our well water and streams and lakes. If the well water is damaged, it is damaged forever. He would like the town to take a good look at what you're allowing, it's a one-time thing, and if it gets screwed up, it's there forever.

Kristian DeGroot, 5887 County Road Y: They are great neighbors, they proved themselves through the years that they are not going to ruin the ground they live on, but there are concerns with the water. He doesn't believe they will go larger than what they are applying for. They prove by being in the Water Shed council that they are not doing practices that are harmful and abiding by the DNR permit and properly farming the ground, what more can you ask for people who are making a living caring for the ground that they own, it affects all of us and they are being true stewards of the land for themselves, families, and neighbors.

Joy Schroeder, 6725 Trenton Rd: The State made a law that we must have the zoning, but does the State have a law that we have to give them a permit? Has anyone mapped out the groundwater and where it flows? She would like our township to support farms that are more organic, restorative farms where animals and plants are grown on the same land. Pasteurized animals are healthy to eat, and the land is healthier. CAFOs are not normal, not humane, and not healthy for anyone.

Val Jansen, 5939 Wausaukee Rd: Not against the CAFO, but they are not all equal. Against how this has been handled. Would like the board to wait and consider all options. Need to explain all the aspects of AE zoning to the applicant's request now and with other applicants in the future. Slow down on the process, talk to residents, and don't railroad it through.

Pat Groth, 5440 Maple Rd: Knowing the Roden farm will be under the DNR watch will be reassuring, as opposed to small farms that have no one monitoring them. Rodens are good land stewards and follow good land practices. They are involved in land conservation and other organizations, they set a good example for other farms in the area.

John Jansen, 5939 Wausaukee Rd: Hydrogeologist working with townships dealing with CAFOs around the State for about 10 years. CAFO is not a family farm even if a family owns it, it is a factory farm, a concentrated animal feed operation. You have not been getting the complete legal story. Yes, it is true that you cannot forbid CAFOs in your town, but it is not true that you can't be more restrictive than the State. You can put ordinances in place that protect public health and welfare if they're based on sound science, per 4-5 attorneys plus other townships. Concern of litigation is well founded, Rodens can sue the town if the town does not act, but residents can sue if you rush this through. Jansen is encouraging the town to not rush this through, suggesting a moratorium for 3-6 months, or maybe 3-6 weeks. Talk to other legal counsel who has experience in this and look at a list of options. He recommends taking no action on the rezoning tonight, taking a moratorium to use that

time of moratorium to form a working group with legal and outside experts to suggest recommendations to the town board, and recommending additional public information listening sessions, soliciting opinions of the people. These actions have been taken by other townships in the state. It's not impossible, only impossible if you don't try.

Patti Wilhelme, 5585 County Road Y: Live across the street from Roden Farms. Full support of the AE zoning and anyone who would like to expand their farm and apply for AE zoning. Asks the board and town to consider that last year dairy farmers were paid \$28/per hundredweight of milk, this summer the rate was \$14 which is half. Who can afford to take a 50% cut in pay? Most people would look for alternative options, such as expanding to help offset the decrease in price. Fluctuating milk prices is a perfect example of farmers not getting paid for the work, but farming because they care for their animals and are stewards of the land. Farming is difficult, there are so many local, state, and federal rules and regulations to follow, and the government continues to put more regulations in place. Living next to a farm, she knew she would encounter all the sounds and smells of a farm. Supports farms that want to grow. Rob-n-Cin Farms is clean and tidy, her parents, brother, and uncle take pride in owning a state-of-the-art farm that is open for tours and is very transparent about everything that happens on the farm. Changing the zoning or expanding the operation will not change the transparency and community involvement of the farm. With grandchild #20 on the way, the farm will be here for generations and fully support the rezoning. After all, Wisconsin is America's Dairy Land and without farmers, there is no food.

Claire Slagle, 432 St Augustine Rd: Resident for 30 years, the farm has been neighbors for 28 years. They have always been good neighbors; conscientious, sharing knowledge, and very transparent. They are a strong family farm that is good for the community. They already have animals on the parcels they are asking to be rezoned. Supports the farm.

Ron Stadler, 2438 Pleasant Valley Rd: Attorney, lives in the Town of Jackson, and represents several families in the Town of Trenton. Has been practicing municipal law for 34 years, has been on Plan Commissions has been on the Smart Growth committee, and knows municipal law. Wants to talk tonight about the legal aspects of rezoning because you're getting part of the story. First, you are not required to allow CAFOs by law. You are required to have a zoning ordinance that has places where you can have a CAFO. You did that, you created your new zoning, and you have complied with the law as the State doesn't require anything further of you. The rezoning request by the Rodens is a standard rezoning request but has implications. If their farm is not rezoned, they cannot have a CAFO because of the new ordinance you enacted. The new ordinance is what is preventing them from having the CAFO unless the town changes its zoning. If you change their zoning, you must consider the fact that this is spot zoning. No one has mentioned spot zoning, which is what this is. Spot zoning isn't always illegal in WI, but it is illegal unless you consider the correct factors. The town may be afraid of being sued, but nobody can sue you because you took your time on a zoning request, no one has the right to rezone, it is a discretionary decision. If this is spot zoning, which it is, and you are not considering the right factors, there are other people who will sue.

Kayla Uhlig, 5980 Old Farm Lane: Former employee of Echo Valley Farms for the past 6 years, working after school and on weekends. This is a family farm; employees are considered family as well. This is not a factory farm; factory workers are numbers. All owners of the farm work hard night

and day, they care for the animals and are good stewards of the land. Bob feeds all the cows, Cindy is patient in caring for the baby calves, and Rick works with the herd with his whole heart.

Travis Wollner, 165 Knollwood Rd: Lives near the Roden farm. He is out in the fields hunting and has never seen issues with manure or runoff. If you have questions or concerns, ask the Rodens and they will show you the farm and answer any of your questions.

Sarah Follett, 5745 School Rd: Has a problem with the lack of transparency in this process. Legally the public hearing notice was posted, but there should have been more notice given to the community on what's going on with the CAFOs. There was some misinformation put out in the community, but without the misinformation being out there in the last week, we would never have had this many people interested, no matter which side of the fence you're on. This should have been the type of crowd to begin with so that we could have community input and pressure for answers on both sides. There should be more community input and discussion and does not feel it's too late. If this could be held up for a week, a month, something, to get people involved, get their input, get their information, to get the correct specific legal counsel that may be needed on specialty projects like this. This is a bigger deal than the town usually deals with. At one of the public hearings, it was mentioned that changing the Comprehensive Plan was not the place to talk about specifics, that would all be based on the criteria of which farms would be allowed CAFOs and which wouldn't, and this point, where things would be rezoned. Has the town studied and come up with the criteria on what they are going to look at and what is allowed for this specific farm as well as other farms when they would be developed? It was mentioned that they were going to come up with criteria and I would like to know what they are.

Jay Koenitzer, 6262 Congress Dr: Encouraged by the number of people that showed up tonight, we have a community that cares. Message to the board, this is a decision like no other that we face in this town. It has far-reaching, long-term consequences; including environmental, surface and groundwater, roads, and traffic as it will increase as they must move more feed and manure around the town. There are costs associated with that, how will that be allocated? Property values are known to decrease when these types of operations are put into place. There is potential tax revenue lost for the town if there is enough pushback. My message is to not be swayed by any individual or special interest. Let's take a step back and make sure we're making a good decision for all of us, let's seek additional legal opinion and explore all the options before making a final decision. This a not a standard decision about where to place an outbuilding, this is a big deal for our community that we love, and I would like to see it continue that way.

Heather Carrier, 920 Decorah Rd: Has a history in both the DNR and farming and agriculture, and her husband was also employed by the farm and was part of the State Agriculture. Farms now have more regulations and restrictions regarding what they are doing to their land than any homeowner here. They have more information on what needs to be done to the watershed than a homeowner who has a single acre or 5 acres of land. They're more aware of what's going on with their well and septic than a homeowner dumping pesticide on their yard. Remember, just because it's a large farm, it's a family farm, they are invested in this community, and they teach people about farming. It's an important part of this community. If you have houses coming into a neighborhood, you will have an increase in traffic, so that shouldn't be an issue necessarily with the increase in the farm. It's a very important farm, it provides income to the community, it's very important for us to consider this as it provides food for all of us to eat.

Megan Wirkus, 6854 South View Circle: Moved to Trenton on a 10.04-acre lot to make their lives more sustainable. They planted over 40 grapevines on their land. They come against zoning restrictions as well, being zoned Country Estates, they are limited to what they can do with their land. They have restrictions on how many animals they can have, and they must fight for that. How is acceptable for others to be allowed to have massive operations when we can't have enough to be sustainable?

Per Komro, there are eight written comments that were submitted expressing concerns about CAFOs, rezoning, and large industrial farms, and will be included with the minutes.

Lipscomb would like to thank everyone for attending and for speaking up. This will be brought before the Plan Commission and eventually before the Town Board. The minutes will be on the website. Lipscomb is welcome and open to speak to anyone who would like to discuss this in further detail.

There are DNR contact forms on the table if you have any specific questions for the DNR they are happy to provide any information.

Lipscomb asked three times for additional public comments.

Lipscomb closed the Public Hearing at 7:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Heather Krueger

Clerk of the Plan Commission

Affidavit of Posting: These Minutes were posted on the official Town of Trenton website townoftrenton.wi.gov on October 17, 2023. Heather Krueger, Clerk of the Plan Commission.

Subject to Approval: These Minutes will be considered for preliminary approval at the Plan Commission Meeting of November 13, 2023, and final approval at the Town Board meeting of November 20, 2023.

From: Linda Baumgartner <lbaumgar@yahoo.com>

Sent: Sunday, October 8, 2023 10:49 AM

To: Chairman <chairman@townoftrenton.wi.gov>; Supervisor Davies

<supervisor.davies@townoftrenton.wi.gov>; Supervisor Doerr <supervisor.doerr@townoftrenton.wi.gov>

Cc: Clerk <clerk@townoftrenton.wi.gov>; TownAdmin <townadmin@townoftrenton.wi.gov>

Subject: Expressing My Opposition to Re-zoning to allow CAFO's in Town of Trenton

Town of Trenton Town Board Members

Re: Proposed CAFO in Trenton

Dear Chairman Lipscomb, Supervisor Barb Davies and Supervisor Ed Doerr;

I am writing to express my concerns with allowing CAFO's in the Town of Trenton. Have any studies been done on how much this will cost the township in terms of enforcement (keeping the number of animal units to under the amount applied for on the DNR permit), ground water monitoring, potential cost for contaminated nearby wells, road repairs or even possible litigation from residents or others?

I've seen and read various comments on how the DNR will 'protect' us with the Nutrient Management program but not if the Wisconsin Dairy Lobby has their way. There are several lawsuits happening now trying to restrict what the DNR can do including environmental enforcement. See Link #1. If successful, WDA's challenge to Wis. Admin. Code § NR 243.11(3)(a) and (b) would eliminate the requirement that all large CAFOs in Wisconsin apply for and receive a WPDES permit, and thus they would no longer be required to comply with WPDES permit standards designed to reduce water pollution from CAFOs. Large CAFOs would no longer be subject to the monitoring, recordkeeping, and inspections requirements in Wis. Admin. Code § NR Ch. 243. Taken together with this first challenge, WDA's challenge to Wis. Admin. Code § NR 243.03(2) would eliminate the requirement that large CAFOs land apply manure in compliance with nutrient management standards and WPDES permit terms to qualify for the agricultural storm water exemption. See Attachment Motion-to-Intervene-WDA-VDC-Lawsuit.pdf

What about our property values and impact of lost revenue to the Town? A 2015 publication found that the properties located within three miles of a CAFO lose up to 26% of their values and neighboring homes, those with .25 miles, lose up to 88%. See Link #2. Another study done by the Wisconsin Department of Revenue concluded that assessment value of homes within a mile of a CAFO could be reduced by 8 to 13 percent. See Attachment Property values drop near large CAFOs state says.pdf

As for road repairs, it appears the Town does not have enough funds to cover the 11 roads which were rated 2 and 3 on the Road Tour which was inspected by town supervisors on June 19th (S. Church, Hickory, Lincoln, [Section of] Newark, St. Augustine, Washington Dr, Barber Cir, Gravel, Indian Lore Rd, Jay St., Knollwood [West of M]). How will the town pay for the cost of road repairs on town roads utilized by the CAFO. It is understood that the cost of repairs for County Hwy Y, County Hwy M and State Hwy33 would fall upon the County and the State. Has this been researched?

Trenton's Comprehensive Plan has never included an area for CAFOs. Mixing industrial farming sites amongst small farms and residential areas constitutes spot zoning. I am completely opposed to this direction which will change the rural character of our township.

While this is not a complete list of my concerns, I hope you will seriously consider the ones listed here before you take any actions which cannot be reversed.

Sincerely,

Linda Baumgartner

Long Time Resident, Town of Trenton

Link #1 Lawsuits against DNR

[Wisconsin dairy groups sue DNR over wastewater discharge permit requirement for CAFOs](#)

Link #2 Loss in Property Values

<https://midwestadvocates.org/the-effect-of-cafos-on-neighboring-house-and-land-values>

Oct. 6, 2023

TO: Cindy Komrow, the Trenton Planning Commission, and the Trenton Town Board;
I am writing to express my concerns in regard to the petition presented by the Rob-n-Cin Farms to amend the zoning map from EA to AE. I fully understand that CAFO-type operations are regulated by the State of Wisconsin. However, as has been pointed out by many already, there are legitimate citizen concerns about air and water pollution, roadway wear and tear, excessive noise, etc. I share those concerns. These are potential problems that can affect residents throughout the township – not just the neighbors that live near the properties in question. An issue that impacts this many people needs to be studied carefully and dutifully by the entire commission and the Trenton Board. Once it is passed and such a farm(s) becomes a reality, it will be probably be too late to take significant action.

The Plan Commission claims they have done their due diligence on this topic. If that is the case, I would strongly encourage the Plan Commission to fully share what they have learned and also what other townships (and other experts) that they have been in touch with while studying this issue. It would instill a great deal more confidence in all constituents if we knew that every possible avenue has been fully exhausted in your search to discover and establish as much local control as legally possible. Not enough information to support your stand has been presented so far.

Lastly, I realize that you have met your legal obligations for publicizing your meetings--one of which is publishing it in the Washington County News newspaper. But, as I am sure you must be aware, very few people subscribe to that newspaper. With a topic of this magnitude, it is only fair to use every possible method to inform your entire constituency. Whether that be a mass mailing or an email blast, etc., there needs to be a maximum effort made to provide everyone with the information necessary to make informed decisions. It is an additional expense, but one that is very justified. That will also help reduce what some perceive as the spread of false information on this controversial topic.

Sincerely,
Duane Apel
Jamestown Dr.
Trenton Township

10/3/23, 11:29 AM

Roden zoning - TownAdmin - Outlook

Roden zoning

Kenneth Kohls <kkamosq@sbcglobal.net>

Mon 10/2/2023 5:08 PM

To:TownAdmin <townadmin@townoftrenton.wi.gov>

Hello Cindy Komro,

I have gotten word that there is a zoning change in the works for expanded farming. Or industrial size farming in the town of Trenton.

As a resident of Trenton for 40 plus years I am opposed to this expansion of farming on such a large scale.

I also am wondering why we were not notified of these possible changes?

I live on Hwy Y and if there is more farming expansion on the Roden property I feel we should have been notified.

Reasons for notification I believe would fall under Truck traffic, manure haulers, ground water ramifications, and odor problems, to name a few.

Please be advised as a tax payer and a 40 year resident I AM AGAINST SUCH LARGE INDUSTRIAL FARMS IN THE TOWN OF TRENTON. I request you vote against this expansion.

Thank you for your time,

Ken Kohls
kkamosq@sbcglobal.net

From: Jennifer P <jap128k@yahoo.com>

Sent: Monday, October 9, 2023 3:21 PM

To: TownAdmin <townadmin@townoftrenton.wi.gov>

Subject: Fwd: Please Distribute.....APPEAL to VOTE NO-Roy N Cin Farm Rezone

CC: Joan Baumgartner, Dennis Kay, Bob Roden, Scott Schweizer, Tony Thoma, Ray Werhand and Jay Koenitzer

Good Afternoon,

It has been brought to my attention that you as a board are reviewing a proposal that puts me, my family, and my property value in significant jeopardy. We take great pride in our property, are respectful of conservation and enjoy our time outside despite the amount of traffic we already deal with on River Rd.

I feel if you truly value the community, you were voted to protect and ensure we remain a safe, conservative, and environmentally conscious community you must not move forward with the proposal to rezone The Roy n Cin Farm. I am all too familiar with large herd BUSINESSES (they are not farms). The farm in Eden is constantly expanding and that community isn't near the size or density we are here in Trenton, and they are still building more. The smell, trucking and quality of air is all impacted and can only imagine the ground, water run off and wells.

As you already know there are more reasons to vote not do this than there are to do it. But in case you need to read the list again here it is:

- CAFOs affect property value by 28 percent (so will you reduce property taxes to make up for the loss of value on our homes)
- CAFOs affect ground water with pollutants and if the CAFO has a high capacity well it could cause our wells to dry up. 1 cow drinks 30-40 gallons of water a day. With 2500 cows that's 100000 gallons of water a day. A common household uses 300 gallons a day! There has been instances in areas of CAFOs for the neighborhood wells to dry up!

- CAFOs release toxins into the air
- CAFOs impact roads with movement of feed and manure (no property tax increase to cover this -right?)
- Changes in air quality (EPA evaluation???)
- Changes in groundwater and surface water quality (Town of Trenton would you provide the solution and subsidize any associated cost-right?)
- Changes in land use (Should go to a public vote)
- Changes in the quantity and quality of nearby drinking water wells (Again Town of Trenton elected officials would you be held accountable for this- as choices have consequences)
- Damage to local roads from heavy truck traffic
- Increased odors and noise (Ask yourself why people move to this area-sense of security, peaceful nights, and the ability to enjoy the outdoors!!!)

Please explore why they are not listed at their address of 5545 Cty Rd Y West Bend as Roy N Cin Farm- they are however listed as Royden Barnyard Adventures LLC?

Has the Town of Trenton done its due diligence to show proof (substantiated) that there are no risks, no impact to the list of concerns above and no environmental issues for the residence to worry about?

I implore you on behalf of your community, our homes, and families-

VOTE NO TO THE REZONE OF THE ROY N CIN FARM!!!!

The Pankau's

Jennifer Pankau, Jeffery Pankau, Emily Pankau & Kaitlyn Pankau

High Ridge Trl Community

Rezoning Petition for Rob-Cin Farms

Lisa Pickard <lisa.pickard2031@gmail.com>

Fri 10/6/2023 4:23 PM

To:Chairman <chairman@townoftrenton.wi.gov>;Supervisor Doerr
<supervisor.doerr@townoftrenton.wi.gov>;Supervisor Davies
<supervisor.davies@townoftrenton.wi.gov>;TownAdmin <townadmin@townoftrenton.wi.gov>

Please forward to:

Plan Commission Members: Joan Baumgartner, Dennis Kay, Bob Roden, Scott Schweizer, Tony Thoma, Ray Werhand; Alternate Jay Koenitzer

I am a concerned citizen of Trenton township for close to 40 years. I was shocked to learn of the proposed rezoning petition and the plans for a farm of this size and scope to be built in Trenton.

I strongly oppose this rezoning to allow this to happen here. I have raised my children here and now enjoy this rural life with my grandchildren. I am very worried about what this will do to our quality of life here. There are already times when the smell from manure slurry sprayed in nearby fields, is unbearable and I can't imagine what a factory of cows like they propose would produce. There is great concern about what this will do to our water supply and what the extra traffic from an enterprise this size will do to our town roads. Last, but not least, this type of huge production farm is cruel to the animals.

To quote Star Trek, " the good of the many out weighs the good of the few or the one!"

Please do not let this proposed zoning change go through!

Thank you,

Lisa Pickard
Trenton Road
Thank you

From: Terry Pickard <twowings1251@gmail.com>

Sent: Friday, October 6, 2023 5:50 PM

To: Chairman <chairman@townoftrenton.wi.gov>; Supervisor Doerr

<supervisor.doerr@townoftrenton.wi.gov>; Supervisor Davies <supervisor.davies@townoftrenton.wi.gov>;

TownAdmin <townadmin@townoftrenton.wi.gov>

Subject: Rezoning Petition for Rob-Cin Farms

Please forward to:

Plan Commission Members: Joan Baumgartner, Dennis Kay, Bob Roden, Scott Schweizer, Tony Thoma, Ray Werhand; Alternate Jay Koenitzer.

I have been a resident of Trenton township for 17 years and have enjoyed the rural life here.

My wife and I have traveled extensively, and one of our travels took us to California where this sort of large Dairy operation existed. The destruction of the local environment was on clear display as for hours we endured the stench of manure sprayed on fields all around us. Every public business, restaurant, gas station, hotel and campground had permanently posted signs warning people: "DO NOT DRINK THE TAP WATER". When we inquired, we were always told it was due to the nitrates, bacteria, and other pollutants from massive amounts of manure that had found it's way to the groundwater, making it unsafe to drink. There is no fix for this once it has happened, and disease is a likely result.

Such a condition is very likely to become a reality here in Trenton if a CAFO, or large Dairy operation with thousands of cows is allowed.

As the members of our community entrusted by the citizens to protect the best interests of all the residents, I sincerely hope you will not allow this CAFO. It is your water and air that will be polluted, and your property that will drop in value, and your quality of life that will be affected too.

Thank you,

Terry Pickard

From: jknutson1667@charter.net <jknutson1667@charter.net>
Sent: Tuesday, October 3, 2023 12:47 PM
To: Chairman <chairman@townoftrenton.wi.gov>; Supervisor Doerr <supervisor.doerr@townoftrenton.wi.gov>; Supervisor Davies <supervisor.davies@townoftrenton.wi.gov>
Subject: Rezoning for a CAFO

My wife and I have been residents of the Town of Trenton since 1988 living at 6871 forest View Drive. In that time, we have seen many significant changes in the town, where it has grown from mostly a farming community with some residences to widely scattered farms and with increased residences. The proposed zoning change to allow the size of the individual farming operations to grow into CAFO's would make life in the Town of Trenton far less pleasant with all of the side affects that those type of operations bring: not the least of which is the manure spreading with related odors, the heavy truck traffic needed to supply the operation, the potential for significant damage to the aquifer that supplies our drinking water because of the sand formations with quick recharge, and an overall move to industrial operations. The Town of Trenton does not need this type of development. **We strongly oppose the formation of this type of zoning from being completed.**

We have traveled significantly in the Midwest, and where ever we encounter CAFO's we are appalled by the conditions we observe. My Fathers family are farmers in south west Minesota and the large hog farms are making the area a smelly mess with problems with the drinking water being contaminated, the odors from the manure pits, and total lack of a pleasant environment. **We don't want or need to have those conditions in the Town of Trenton.** CAFO's are not operations needed for a community such as ours where we are becoming mostly residential. This type of farming will degrade our lives, and lead to problems that can't be changed later. It is the time for the Town of Trenton board to represent the majority of the residents by stopping this move to industrial scale of farming with all of the related problems that come with that.

I await a reply from you on this issue,

James Knutson

From: Philip Christenson <christensonphilip7@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, October 6, 2023 5:36 PM
To: Chairman <chairman@townoftrenton.wi.gov>
Subject: REZONING OF FARM LAND FOR COFA.

Mr. Chairman.

My wife and I have lived in West Bend (Trenton) for the past 5+ years having moved from Indiana. We are aware of the effects of these large cow/cattle farms, as they were installed along I-65 in Indiana. They are not good to live nearby. The smells travel for many miles around them. They usually need tons of water and can drain the water tables down to where it can affect their neighbors' wells.

There will also be major concerns with more truck traffic surrounding the farm and damage to the roads.

For these reasons and others we are opposed to the rezoning of any farmland within Trenton Township for the allowance of C.O.F.A.'s.

And property values and resale will be affected. Please vote wisely on this matter.

Sincerely,

Phil and Amy Christenson

Dear Town of Trenton Planning and Board,

Enclosed is a petition signed by residents of the community and some in near by communities asking you to not approve the Roy n Cin Farm rezoning. We did not know of the change in zoning allowing CAFO in our community and our petition started late but we are continuing to get support. In the neighborhood just north of Knollwood we stopped by 9 out of 10 neighbors we spoke with were in opposition of this CAFO in our neighborhood.

Please see the enclosed petition.

We are asking Town of Trenton Board to not approve CAFO in our community!

By signing this petition we are in opposition to the proposed establishment of a Concentrated Animal Feeding Operation (CAFO) in our beloved neighborhood. We firmly believe that permitting such an operation in our area would have adverse consequences on our environment, public health, and the overall quality of life in our community and are asking the planning commission and board to vote **No** to the re zoning of the four parcels of land from EA to AE on the Rob-n- Cin Farms LLC and allowing to increase the number of units to 2500.

Neighbors are deeply concerned about the potential negative impacts associated with CAFOs, including but not limited:

Effect on the Environment: CAFOs are known for their potential to cause air and water pollution due to the massive quantities of animal waste they generate. This pollution can harm local ecosystems, contaminate water sources, and negatively affect the quality of our environment. The current application for the CAFO will be adding a 6000000 gallon holding tank and that manure will be sprayed on land throughout the community. This causes a horrible odor, can pollute our ground water and creates more traffic on our roads.

Public Health Risks: CAFOs have been linked to the spread of diseases among animals and the potential transmission of diseases to humans. The excessive use

of antibiotics in these operations also contributes to the development of antibiotic-resistant bacteria, posing a serious public health threat.

Quality of Life: The establishment of a CAFO in our neighborhood could lead to increased noise, traffic, and unpleasant odors. Such disruptions can adversely affect our daily lives, well-being, and property values. The road traffic on Hwy Y has increased with trucks speeding down road. The noise from the farm can be heard miles away all hours of the day. Throughout the year the smell in the air from spraying fields is unbearable and will only get worse with twice as many cows.

Property Values: Numerous studies have shown that property values tend to decline in areas near CAFOs. This could have lasting financial implications for homeowners in our community. Our property values could decrease by 10, 20 or even 30 percent with a large CAFO in our neighborhood.

We, the undersigned residents of Town of Trenton, respectfully request that our concerns be heard and taken into account when making decisions regarding the proposed CAFO. We believe it is vital for our community's long-term well-being that we explore sustainable and environmentally responsible agricultural practices that support local farmers while preserving the character and health of our neighborhood.

We kindly urge you to consider the views of the community and engage in a transparent and inclusive decision-making process that allows for input from all residents affected by this issue.

To express our collective opposition to the proposed CAFO, we have attached a list of signatures from community members who share our concerns. We hope you will carefully review our petition and take our voices into consideration during this critical decision-making process.

Thank you for your attention to this matter, and we look forward to a thoughtful and responsible resolution that prioritizes the best interests of our neighborhood and its residents.

WEST BEND SIGNATURES ARE ONLY INCLUDED WE HAD OVER 150 but got rid of those not in neighborhood.

Name	City	State	Postal Code	Country	Signed On	
Emily Kearns	WI.	Town of Trenton		2023-10-05		
Chad Michels	""	WI	90210	US	2023-10-05	
Lauren Kearns	West Bend	WI	53095	US	2023-10-05	
Dustin Reinheimer		Grafton WI	53024	US	2023-10-05	
Linda Baumgartner		West Bend	WI	53095	US	2023-10-05
Juliesa Lopez	Hartford	""	06106	US	2023-10-05	
Khloe Watson	Woodbury	""	37190	US	2023-10-05	
Joshua Hornyack		Walterboro	""	29488	US	2023-10-05
Emily Kearns	West Bend	WI	53095	US	2023-10-05	
Megan McCormick		West Bend	WI	53095	US	2023-10-05
Matt Fischer	Trenton WI		53090	US	2023-10-05	
Brent Kershaw	West Bend	WI	53095	US	2023-10-05	
SARAH FOLLETT	West Bend	WI	53095	US	2023-10-05	
Val Jansen	West Bend	WI	53095	US	2023-10-05	
Maria Stewart	West Bend	WI	53017	US	2023-10-06	
Samantha Danielson	947 springt ct	West Bend	WI	53095	US	2023-10-06
Abigail Braun	West Bend	WI	53095	US	2023-10-06	
Julie keller	West Bend	WI	53090	US	2023-10-06	
Tammy Albrecht		West Bend	WI	53090	US	2023-10-06
Robert Stauff	West Bend	WI	53095	US	2023-10-06	
Jeffrey Paape	West Bend	WI	53090	US	2023-10-06	
Eva Wall	Richfield	WI	53076	US	2023-10-06	
Jeff Hansen	West Bend	WI	53095	US	2023-10-06	
Jacob Schmidt	West Bend	WI	53095	US	2023-10-06	

Joanna Hazelwood	Port Washington	WI	53074 US	2023-10-06
Ellen Brooks-Derzay	West Bend	WI	53095 US	2023-10-06
Ornah Eschenburg	West Bend	WI	53095 US	2023-10-06
Samantha Repinski	West Bend	WI	53090 US	2023-10-06
Gina Trainor	West Bend	WI	53095 US	2023-10-06
Joseph Gabrish	West Bend	WI	53095 US	2023-10-06
Randy Danielson	West Bend	WI	53095 US	2023-10-06
Lisa Pickard	West Bend	WI	53095 US	2023-10-06
Terry Pickard	West Bend (Town of Trenton)	WI	53095 US	2023-10-06
Danielle Schmidt	West Bend	WI	53095 US	2023-10-06
Cherie Kunz	Menomonee Falls	WI	53051 US	2023-10-06
Susan Boos	Grafton WI	53024 US	2023-10-06	
Robert Ford	West Bend	WI	53090 US	2023-10-06
Philip Christenson	WEST BEND	WI	53090-1200 US	2023-10-06
Andrea Schmidt	Trenton WI	53090 US	2023-10-06	
Mike Webster	West Bend	WI	53090 US	2023-10-06
Laura Lauderback	West Bend	WI	53090 US	2023-10-06
Ann Berndt	Grafton WI	53090 US	2023-10-06	
Danielle Haugh	West Bend	WI	53095 US	2023-10-06
Tina Malecha	Sparta WI	54656 US	2023-10-07	
Brenda Birno	West Bend	WI	53095 US	2023-10-07
Susan Chapman	West Bend	WI	53095 US	2023-10-07
Mary King	West Bend	WI	53095 US	2023-10-07
Beverly Verhage	Kewaskum	WI	53040 US	2023-10-07
Matt Rehm	West Bend	WI	53095 US	2023-10-07
David Schmidt	West Bend	WI	53095 US	2023-10-07
Jacquelyn Wilde	West Bend (Town of Trenton)	WI	53095-9526 US	2023-10-07
Gary Wilde	West Bend	WI	53095 US	2023-10-07
Tim Wesolowski	Town of Saukville	WI	53095 US	2023-10-07

Gia Haagensen Cedarburg	WI	53012	US	2023-10-07
Stig Haagensen Cedarburg	WI	53012	US	2023-10-07
Jennifer Helmbrecht	West Bend	WI	53095	US 2023-10-07
mike matenaer	West Bend	WI	53095	US 2023-10-07
John Farney	Colgate WI	53017	US	2023-10-07
michael sarg	west bend	WI	53095	US 2023-10-08
Ruth Weber	West Bend	WI	53090	US 2023-10-08
Melissa Marini	Farmington	WI	53090	US 2023-10-08
Sharon Steinke	Mequon	WI	53092	US 2023-10-08
Vicki Sell	West Bend	WI	53090	US 2023-10-08
James Reinartz	West Bend	WI	53095	US 2023-10-08
Jennifer Callaway	West Bend	WI	53033	US 2023-10-09
Tina Bechler	West Bend	WI	53095	US 2023-10-09
Casey DeGroot	West Bend	WI	53095	US 2023-10-09
Kevin Tesch	West Bend	WI	53095	US 2023-10-09
Lisa Kahnke	West Bend	WI	53090	US 2023-10-09
Sandra Smith	Milwaukee	WI	53201	US 2023-10-09
Lauren Colclough	West Bend	WI	53095	US 2023-10-09
Gregg Kahnke	West Bend	WI	53095	US 2023-10-09
Galina Sorvacheva	Fond Du Lac	WI	54937	US 2023-10-09
John Jansen	West Bend	WI	53095	US 2023-10-09
Pamela Iwen	West Bend	WI	53090	US 2023-10-09