

TOWN OF ROCKLAND

Quarterly Newsletter

www.townofrockland.org

Spring 2015

Rockland Town Hall

1712 Bob-Bea-Jan Road

Phone: 336-2814

Website: www.TownofRockland.org

Chairman

Dennis Cashman, 336-7814

Supervisors

Glen Schwalbach, 532-6330

Vicky Van Vonderen, 609-7724

Clerk

Jann Charette, 336-2814

jcharette@townofrockland.org

Treasurer/Recycling Bins/Dog Licenses

Mary Van Dyck, 336-5968

Zoning Administrator/Building Inspector

Bob Gerbers, 655-8602

Assessor

Robert Taicher, 863-6454

Planning Commission Secretary

Jann Charette, 336-2814

Board of Appeals

Frank Hutjens, 336-9359

Town Hall Rentals

Kim Winkler, 309-0765

kwinkler@townofrockland.org

Harter Fox Valley Disposal

Garbage and Recycling Service

1-888-804-8556

A Note from the Chairman:

A Note from the Chairman

Starting on March 18th our spring seasonal weight limitations will go into effect on all town roads. The reduced weight limits will help protect the road surface when frost is coming out of the roadbeds. Seasonal weight limits will be enforced until the first week of May. Remember farms are not exempt from these seasonal weight limits.

Our Annual Town Meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 21st at 7:30 p.m. We will review the annual report and discuss topics brought forward by town residents.

The 14th Annual Town of Rockland Clean Up Day will be Saturday, April 18th. Please take some time and clean up any litter in the ditches along your property. Thank you for your assistance in keeping Rockland a beautiful place to live.

The Town of Rockland is now in compliance with the Implements of Husbandry Act (Wisconsin Act 377). Any Implements of Husbandry (IoH) or Agricultural Commercial Motor Vehicles (AG CMV) exceeding the length, width or weight limits as set forth by ACT 377, must apply for a no-fee permit from the Town of Rockland. The permit application and other necessary information is on the Town of Rockland website. If you have any questions, please contact the Town Clerk or myself.

The next Town Board meeting is April 6th, hope to see you there.

Thank you,

Dennis J. Cashman



Hello everyone,

Since I reluctantly decided not to run for re-election for town supervisor, I want to thank all of you for allowing me to serve you these last four years. It was a fantastic learning experience in a very positive way. I have witnessed your town officials work hard because of their concern for their town residents as regards to public safety, good roads, property rights, emergency services, trash services and preservation of the environment--all done in a cost-conscious way. I learned residents are better served when their local government is focused at a town level rather than, say, at a county level.

I have been impressed how your town board, town clerk and town treasurer act on these concerns in their unique ways. When I joined the board, Dennis Cashman, Vicky Van Vonderen, Toni Carter and Mary Van Dyck were already veterans and what a combination.

Dennis, with his farming and large project construction skills, handles resident issues, road maintenance, snow/debris clearing, contract negotiations, and a slew of statutory and regulatory decisions and runs the board process.

Vicky, with her financial and human resources experiences, has been very valuable in working with our clerk and treasurer to manage the budget process and use the most effective financial tools, in initiating more efficient organizational changes, and in serving as the contact person and organizer for the planning commission.

I've mentioned the good work of Toni Carter at the time that she resigned as clerk to take on still another one of her family enterprises. Thanks again, Toni, for all your work and help.

Mary comes with the most important traits for a treasurer--honesty and meticulousness. Her records are dependable. She works with our clerk to manage bills and debt payments. Her biggest job is managing tax collections, not dog licensing which she also does.

Our current clerk is Jann Charette. She picked up from Toni's efforts to move town procedures and records into a more accountable, predictable and auditable process. Jann's focus on providing convenient access for town residents to services and accurate information is reflected in her establishment of office hours, follow-up with timely responses and enhancements to the town's website. A town clerk is really a town manager position. Jann has served us in all of the broad aspects of managing including meeting the endless state government requirements for filing various reports and following state statutory mandates.

If you go to our website, you will see the names of all the rest of the people who I want to thank including Bob Gerbers who serves as Rockland Zoning Administrator and Building Inspector. In many towns, taxpayers are paying for two people or more to fill these positions but Bob handles it all. Sue Zeamer is not listed on the website because she "retired" from the planning commission after many years. She was our grammar expert and reviewed drafts conscientiously. Thanks Sue for your dedication.

Randy Hansen is one person I do want to single out because he has taken on extra projects to improve protections and services for town residents. He has spent hours helping me on the draft of the wind siting ordinance, has provided good input for revising ordinances and the comprehensive plan, and has initiated and drafted applications for grants to improve residents' safety.

Take care everyone,

Glen Schwalbach



Hello Rockland Residents,

PLANNING COMMISSION CHANGES:

Sue Zeamer's last meeting with us will be March 31, 2015. Thank you Sue for all your work with us on the Planning Commission. Your contributions were valuable to all the projects we worked on during your years on the commission. Also, we are going to miss our number one proofreader. Enjoy your retirement!

Bob Coenen's term has been renewed for another three years starting April 1st. Thank you Bob (and Ellen!) for continuing to be a member of our Planning Commission. Bob is a valuable member of our commission.

Our Planning Commission has completed many projects this past year and our schedule for this year looks busy as well. I want to thank all our current members for the work they have done for us and will continue to do for us during their terms: Bob Coenen, Terry Vertz, Sue Zeamer, Glen Schwalbach, Bob Gerbers, Randy Hansen, and Lee Anderson. The quality of work this commission produces is because of the quality of the individuals who serve on this commission; they continue to work for the benefit of the entire town. Thank you!

AGRICULTURAL BUSINESS (AB) DISTRICT:

The Planning Commission created an Agricultural Business (AB) District and recommended its adoption to the Town Board.

The intent of this district is to maintain, encourage, and promote agricultural related business endeavors on appropriate lands within the community. This ordinance supports and enhances the viability of agriculture as an economic activity for our town by combining agriculture with retail services and single family dwellings.

A public hearing on this proposed ordinance will be Monday, April 6, 2015, at 6:30 pm at the Rockland Town Hall. A copy of the ordinance is available at the town hall.

TOWN BOARD CHANGES:

Glen Schwalbach, our current Town Board Supervisor, will not be on the ballot this April 7. Dennis and I want to express our thanks to Glen for all his work. Glen provided insights to the various issues the town was facing and was our link to the state and to the Wisconsin Towns Association. Glen always had the best interest of the town in his decision making. He will be missed. It was and is a pleasure to work with Glen.

ELECTION APRIL 7:

The Town Board (except for Glen Schwalbach) is up for election on Tuesday, April 7. Rockland has a great reputation for voter turnout. Please continue this tradition and vote on April 7.

CONCLUSION:

Spring is finally here! I have already passed our residents and their families walking our roads enjoying the weather. As you drive our roads, please be watchful of our walkers, bicyclists, and motorcyclists; we all need to share the roads.

Thank you Sue Zeamer, Bob Coenen, and Glen Schwalbach for your many contributions to our town; a pleasure working with you.

As always, take care and thank you for your support.

Vicky Van Vonderen, Supervisor



Happy Spring to you all! I hope this finds you well and able to enjoy the beautiful spring weather we have been having. With Spring comes our April 7, 2015, Spring Election. As you may remember, the traveling trophy has been exhibited in the town hall since the November 4, 2014, election. As you may remember, we earned the trophy by having the highest voter turn out (77.1%) in Brown County. Our Spring Election is the only election scheduled for 2015. So if we want to keep it here in Rockland until next April, you know what to do– VOTE on April 7th! I hope to see you then- Clerk Charette

SPRING ELECTION:

Our April 7th ballot includes races for Brown County Executive, Circuit Court Judge, State Supreme Court, State Court of Appeals, De Pere and Wrightstown School Boards, and our own races for Town Board Chairperson, Town Board Supervisors, and Town Treasurer. The Town Board Chairperson and Town Treasurer races are uncontested. However, there are three candidates running for the two town board supervisor positions. Additionally, there are two referendum questions being posed by the De Pere School District and one referendum question being posed by the Northeast Wisconsin Technical College. You can view a sample ballot at our website– townofrockland.org (click on Voting and Elections, then Election News) or at one of three posting places throughout the town– Rockland Town Hall, Just Stop In, or Scray’s Cheese. Links to the Notice of Referendum questions and information on them can be found on the Election News page as well.

ABSENTEE VOTING:

If you currently are a registered voter in the Town, you are welcome to vote absentee in any election. To request to receive an absentee ballot by mail, please go to our website, click on Voting & Elections and then Voter Registration. You can print and complete the GAB-121 application and then e-mail, fax, or mail the completed application back to me. As long as I receive your application by 5:00 p.m. of the 5th day preceding the election (Thursday, April 2, 2015), I can then mail you an absentee ballot. Otherwise, you can always vote in-person absentee in the Clerk’s Office as follows:

Monday, March 23rd-Thursday, March 26th: 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Monday, March 30th-Wednesday, April 1st: 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Tuesday, March 31st: 5:00 p.m. to 6:45 p.m.

Friday, April 3rd: 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

If you are not registered, you can also register in the Clerk’s office during these times or on Election Day. Please remember to bring a valid proof of residency. To view the list of acceptable forms for proof of residency, please go to http://gab.wi.gov/sites/default/files/publication/154/003_proof_of_residence_pdf_15987.pdf

ANNUAL TOWN MEETING:

As Chairman Cashman mentioned, our Annual Town meeting is Tuesday, April 21, 2015, at 7:30 p.m. at the Rockland Town Hall. One of the items discussed is the Annual Report. You can obtain a copy of this report at the town hall on Election Day or by going to our website– Click on Agendas, Minutes, & Notices, then on Town Board; and then scroll to the bottom of the page.

OPEN BOOK/BOARD OF REVIEW:

The Open Book review will take place from 2 p.m. to 4 pm. on Monday, April 27, 2015, at the Rockland Town Hall. You can meet with Bob Taicher, our Assessor, (Phone #863-6454) during this time to discuss your property’s assessed value. The Board of Review (BOR) will meet on Tuesday, May 12, 2015, from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. at the Town Hall to review the Town’s assessment records and to hear any objections/appeals made by property owners. Pertinent forms and guidance documents for the BOR can be found on our website. Click on Committees, then on Board of Review.

HAPPY SPRING TO ALL From Treasurer Mary Van Dyck

I hope spring finds everyone ready to get outside and clean up their yards and the ditches in front of their property. Here in the Town of Rockland, we are proud of the beauty of our town. Let's keep it a clean and beautiful town.

I have great news for our residents. The Town of Rockland has met the collection standard for recycling again this year. The total weight collected in our Town was 168.75 tons which comes to 192.53 lbs. per person living in the Town. So our Town collected 85 lbs. per person over what is required. Let's keep recycling so our landfills last longer.

This does not include the electronics that were recycled last year on our Cyber Green e-recycling day. On Cyber Green day, the Town collected 14,330 lbs. of electronics which equals 14.33 lbs. per person. This is really good for the first year of doing an E-recycling day.

We will be doing an E-recycling day again this year on Saturday, May 2nd from 8 a.m. to noon at the town hall. Please tell everyone you know about this event. It is open to anyone. You do not need to live in the Town of Rockland to bring your electronics. There is a small charge for some items. See page nine in this newsletter or call me or email me for more information.

On Saturday, April 25th, with the help of A.R.M.S. secured shredding services, the Town is hosting a shredding paper event from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. at the town hall. Any paper items you may have that you would like securely shredded, bring to the Town hall. The truck will be on site and will shred the paper right there. There is a suggested donation of \$5.00 per box but any donation will be accepted.

We will have the 4-H youth and their parents at both of these events to help unload your items. They will also have a bake sale and carry out booyah on May 2. The proceeds from both events will help defray costs of the 4-H youth going on educational trips this summer.



ROCKLAND 4-H UPCOMING EVENTS

The Rockland 4-H Club is very busy getting ready for summer events. We completed interviews for summer camp which is going to be from June 17 – 20. On April 18th, we will be playing in the 4-H basketball tournament at Wrightstown High School. There is a bake sale, silent auction, food stand, and of course some good basketball games. Come and support the youth going on educational trips this summer.

On March 15th, we made a meal for NEW Shelter in Green Bay. We made sloppy joes, cheesy potatoes, baked beans, and desserts. We prepared for 200 people. We all like helping out with this Community Service Project.

On March 16th, we were invited to go to Van Deurzens' to see what it takes to make Maple Syrup. The highlight of the evening was ice cream with maple syrup.

On April 25th, we will be holding our shredding paper event at the Rockland Town Hall and on May 2nd, we will be helping at the e-recycling event.

On May 2nd, Rockland 4-H is holding a carry-out booyah and a bake sale from 9 a.m. to noon. Come and get some great desserts and booyah and bring all your old and non-working electronics to the Town Hall. We will unload for you.

Over the past few months, the Board has received calls regarding loose dogs running throughout the community. When the owner was not found nearby, Chairman Cashman took the dogs into custody and kept them until the owner could be found. Section 174.042, Wis. Stats., requires all of us who are dog owners to keep our dogs confined on our property. Section 174.05, Wis. Stats., also requires us to license each of our dogs with the local municipality by the first of each year. License applications received after April 1st of each year are statutorily required to pay a late fee of \$5.00. You may think, “what is the big deal, why does my dog need to have one?” But the facts are:

- 1) With the license, proof of rabies vaccination is required. If for some reason, a person were to be bit by a dog running loose throughout the Town, we could check the license tag and determine if the dog is currently vaccinated. This helps the person who was bitten not to have to go through a long and painful process of being vaccinated and monitored.
- 2) When a loose dog is licensed and is wearing its tag, we are able to check the tag number and get your dog back to you in a timely manner. It saves tax dollars and gives you relief that FIDO may be returned.
- 3) Your dog could accidentally leave your yard or accidentally bite someone. Purchasing a dog license is not only statutorily required but also the neighborly thing to do.



If you have not gotten your license, please complete the form below and send it along with payment to the Town of Rockland to the address listed below. Thank you!

DOG LICENSES FOR 2015

All dogs in the Town of Rockland must be licensed. This is a state law and there are no exceptions. Please fill out the form below and return it along with the appropriate fee to: Mary Van Dyck, 2185 Deer Point Lane, De Pere, WI 54115. Enclose a self-addressed stamped envelope. The fee for 2015 is \$5.00 for a neutered or spayed dog, OR \$10.00 for a male or female dog that is not neutered or spayed. A kennel license is \$40.00. Enclose a copy of the rabies shot history for each dog. This will not be sent back to you. Please make check payable to: Town Of Rockland.

Name of Dog _____ Phone Number _____

Name of dog owner _____

Address _____

Breed _____ Color _____ Chip no. if available _____

Male _____ Female _____ Neutered _____ Spayed _____

Date of Rabies Shot _____ Expiration Date _____

Rockland Fire Address Sign project update

As you recall, last year the Town applied for a FEMA Fire Protection and Safety Grant to fund the purchase and installation of highly reflective fire address signs that would be placed near each of our individual residential and business driveways with the goal of reducing response times of our mutual aid fire, police and EMS agencies. FEMA received over 1,100 grant applications from communities across the country and only approved 95 of them (a poor 8.6% approval/grant rate). Our application was not one of the 95 that they approved.

We hate to hear the word “no”, so we’re going to try again this year for a new FEMA grant to fund the same thing. The grant submission period is open until April 17, 2015, and the Town Board will have reviewed and approved the grant application prepared by the Planning Commission by then. FEMA will be reviewing and approving the submitted grant applications between June 15th and September 30th. Which means we should hear from FEMA prior to the end of September with their good “approval” news? One can always hope, anyway. This year we are requesting a grant for \$35,740 which will cover the cost of purchasing and installing 645 address signs.

Randy Hansen, Member, Rockland Planning Commission
(& the grant writer)

THANK YOU: A warm thank you goes out to the following individuals who have served the Town in the following capacities and are now moving on to other endeavors:

- ◆ Glen Schwalbach—Town Board Supervisor
- ◆ Sue Zeamer - Planning Commission Member
- ◆ Mary Ann Janssen - Chief Inspector and Election Inspector
- ◆ Joan Zillges - Custodian and Town Hall Opener/Closer

Thank you for your wonderful service and a job well done!

WELCOME: We welcome Kim Winkler to the Town! Kim will be serving as our new Custodian and Opener/Closer for town hall rentals. If you are interested in renting the town hall and meeting Kim personally, please call Clerk Charette at 336-2814 or go to the Town’s website and Click on Resident Information/ then-Town Hall Rental.

BRUSH & YARD WASTE REMOVAL: As you may have seen on the news recently, a few of our neighboring municipalities have had landowners that have caused significant damage to surrounding buildings and property due to a brush fire that got out of control. The Town of Rockland does not provide a facility for yard waste and brush removal. Grass clippings, twigs, and sticks may be burned on the owner’s property without a permit provided the fire is attended to at all times and firefighting equipment is standing by, such as a garden hose, rake, or shovel if the fire should get out of hand. Landowners assume all liability for any damage, injury or death that may occur as a result of a fire that gets out of control. So PLEASE take all necessary precautions so that this does not happen to you!

PET CLINIC: A pet vaccination clinic is being held for all dogs and cats residing in the Town of Rockland on Saturday, April 11th from 10 a.m. to noon at the Rockland Town Hall. Rockland pet owners are encouraged to bring their cats and dogs to the town hall to get their vaccinations up to date. Dr. Janssen will be administering rabies, distemper, lyme, and bordatella vaccinations. No appointment is needed. There is a fee for his services. Please have your pet on a leash or in a cage. Thank you Dr. Janssen for offering this pet clinic to the Town of Rockland residents!

17th Annual Rockland Rummage Sale

The last Saturday in April is the date of the 17th Annual Rockland Rummage Sale. The sale will be held on Saturday, April 25, 2015 from 8:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. in the Town of Rockland. I am asking \$5.00 per household that would like to participate. The fee will cover ads in the various papers and maps, listing the garage sale locations and the items that people have for sale.

You will be responsible for putting up your own signs off of Hwy 57, PP, ZZ, W and wherever else you'd like to direct people to your sale. Each person in the Rockland Rummage Sale will get 20 maps to hand out to customers or to post at their sale. Rockland Rummage Sale maps will be dropped off at your home prior to Saturday's sale.

If you would like to participate, please fill out and return this form by Tues., April 14th so I have time to assemble maps. Send the form and the \$5.00 fee to Dorothy Cashman, 3114 County Road ZZ, De Pere, WI 54115. If you have any questions please call 336-7814. Thank you.

"-----"

17th Annual Rockland Rummage Sale – April 25, 2015

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

List items for sale that you would like listed on the maps:

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| Wire & Cabling | Printers |
| Keyboards/Mice | Fax Machines |
| Servers | Appliances |
| Copiers | Exercise Equipment |
| Video Equipment | |



Fee to Recycle

- | | |
|-------------|------|
| Monitors | \$10 |
| TVs | \$10 |
| Over 30" | \$30 |
| Console TVs | \$30 |





Community-Wide Shredding Event

Do you have piles of papers you want to dispose of but don't feel comfortable throwing them in the trash? We have the answer!

The Town of Rockland has enlisted the services of A.R.M.S a professional, private company that specializes in destroying your personal records. A shredding truck will be available to destroy your confidential documents at the Rockland Town Hall on Saturday, April 25, 2015, from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m.

This service is provided for personal documents only, not for businesses or organizations with large volumes of materials. Suggested donation of \$5.00 per box. All proceeds will benefit the Rockland 4H organization who will have members available to help you unload your boxes. Cash or checks (written to the Rockland 4H) will be accepted. We ask that you shred a maximum of 10 boxes of paper only please.



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