

Winter 2021

Quarterly Newsletter

www.townofrockland.org

1712 Bob-Bea-Jan Road

De Pere, WI 54115

A NOTE FROM THE CHAIRMAN

On November 15th, 2021 we held a Public Hearing on the proposed 2022 Town Budget and then we held a Special Town Meeting of the Electors. At the Public Hearing, we reviewed the budget and answered all questions and concerns from the electors regarding the budget. The electors approved the 2021, payable in 2022, tax levy of \$595,433. The Town tax levy rate will be \$2.75 per \$1,000 of assessed value. That is an increase of about 5 cents over last years tax rate. The increase is due to the cost of services rising in price.

With winter almost here, so is plowing of town roads. Please do not leave piles of snow on the road or on the shoulders of the roadway. Also do not pile snow up in the roadway ditch. This is hazardous for the drivers of plow trucks and also may impede drainage in the spring. If you think the road you live on got missed by the plow truck, call myself or one of the two supervisors; we will take care of it. Remember SNOW means SLOW!

Enjoy the upcoming winter season and I wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy and Healthy New Year!

Thank you, Dennis J. Cashman

Rockland Town Hall
Clerk Julie Koenig 336-2814
jkoenig@townofrockland.org
Chairman
Dennis Cashman 336-7814
Supervisors
Alan Lasee 366-3859
Matt Meeuwsen 660-9718

Mary Van Dyck 609-1478

Zoning Administrator/Building Inspector

Bob Gerbers 655-8602

Assessor

Robert Taicher 863-6454

Plan Commission Secretary

Julie Koenig 336-2814

<u>Treasurer/Dog Licenses</u>

Board of Appeals
Frank Hutjens 336-9359
Town Hall Rentals
Julie Koenig 336-2814
Harter Fox Valley Disposal
Garbage and Recycling Service
1-888-804-8556
Fire Dept: non-emergency
GrL: 639-6939; Morr 676-3203

IMPORTANT DATES: UPDATE

Town Board Meetings: 1st and 3rd Mondays ea. month

Planning Commission: (usually 1st Thursday of ea. month) please check the calendar on the website Spring Primary—Feb 15th



Construction Projects: Please be reminded to get your permits before your building or landscaping project. Permit fees double when taken out after the fact. It's always better to call first and ask questions before you start your project. You could save big money by getting in contact with our Building Inspector, Bob Gerbers.

You can reach him by email at bgerbers@townofrockland.org, or by cell phone at 655-8602.

Burning yard waste?

Chief Mark DeCleene of Greenleaf can be reached at (920) 639-6939 or (920) 864-2200.

In Morrison, the Chief is Jeff Pischke. Jeff can be reached at (920) 676-3203.

If you are doing any kind of rubbish or ditch burning, please give them a call to verify conditions are safe and to give them a heads up in case they get calls regarding the smoke, etc. If it will be a sizeable fire, please also call Brown County Sheriffs Non emergency number 391-7450.

Hey Rockland,

Did you know you can rent the Town Hall for \$75/day, with a \$100 security deposit (refundable*). The Rockland Town Hall is a great venue for get togethers, grad parties and showers and even small weddings. We can support your gathering with lots of tables and chairs and a full kitchen.

We can accommodate parties too large for your home. Our new rental terms and ample parking make the town hall a very appealing venue for any resident hosting a party. Reserve your date today. *conditions apply



Hello again Rockland Neighbors,

I can't believe how fast this year has gone. We have concluded the work on next year's town budget and found ourselves falling behind in revenue. It's been a couple of years since the rate of taxation has been increased by Rockland; we had depended on revenue from net new construction to keep up with cost of the services we provide. Please remember the lion's share of property taxes we pay go to schools, the county and NWTC. Even though we have always been very careful with your tax dollars we are caught in a dilemma caused largely by the fire departments continued increase of spending. That's a bill we have no control over as it is tied to the Rockland valuation. We are obligated to provide fire protection for our township. In their defense, much of their increased spending is caused by state and federal government mandates on new equipment and continuing education. Bottom line here is you will see a slight increase in the Rockland tax rate if we are to maintain the roads, plow the snow and keep good fire protection etc.

You may have noticed, the ditches on Old Martin Road and on Sportsman's Road have been repaired after major erosion this past summer.

On a sad note, a very good friend and great neighbor Ned Cain passed away after a long battle with cancer. You may not have known him, but I'm sure you saw his metal artwork around the downtown Green Bay area and on Broadway — the red metal benches were his work along with the huge metal sculptures at NWTC. He also helped with the design of the cross on the west side of St Francis Church. Ned, along with the help from fellow resident Dan Herber, were instrumental in installing the sign at the Rockland Town Hall. My sincere condolence to Ned's wife Carol.

On a lighter note something to think about, "Good judgement comes from experience and a lot of that comes from bad judgement" and "letting the cat out of the bag is a lot easier than putting it back in"

Stay well , Alan Lasee



Hello Rockland Residents,

I hope this newsletter finds you well. A concern was brought to our attention recently about pedestrians on our roadways. In an effort to keep everyone safe, I'd like to use this as a reminder to utilize reflective, high-vis, or even LED gear on yourselves and your pets when out walking. As vehicles approach, move to the side of the road to ensure that you are out of their way.

This also serves as a reminder to drivers to watch for pedestrians who may be out walking at dawn, dusk or later in the evenings. As there is a decreased number of daylight hours in the winter, this becomes even more relevant.

In addition, there are 2 more gun deer hunting seasons left before the end of the year so you may hear or see hunting activities throughout the remainder of the year. Hunters - be aware of what you are shooting at as we want to avoid any tragedies.

Wishing you all a wonderful and healthy holiday season,

Matt Meeuwsen

Election Staffing

2022 will have at least 3 if not 4 elections and we are in the process of training and appointing our election inspectors for the next 2 year cycle. My thanks to Randy Hansen and Jodi Kaftan who serve as our Chief Election Inspectors. They do an amazing job to keep things humming along exceptionally well. Thank you to Randy who will be leading our training sessions in the coming week which will be jointly done with the Towns of Morrison, Glenmore, New Denmark, Holland, Eaton and Wrightstown. Patrick Moynihan, Clerk of Brown County, will also be in attendance to lend his support.

We appreciate the following inspectors who help each and every year and are the essence of professionalism: Kathy Anderson, Karen Cashman, Bob Coenen, Charles Kaftan, Michelle Kahl, Donna Koehler, Alan LeClair, Judy Schwalbach, Sue Vande Voort, David Verhagen, Jaelene Wentland. Deborah Hansen retired this year and Judy Hodel retired the year before. We have a few new trainees who will join us for this next election cycle. Thank you!

Merry Christmas from Treasurer Mary Van Dyck

The County Treasurer has projected that tax bills will be mailed on December 7th. When you receive your tax bill, look it over. Please make sure you have a lottery credit on your bill if the home you have in Rockland is your primary residence. In order to receive the lottery credit, you must have lived in your home as of January 1, 2021. It is up to you to claim the lottery credit. You only need to claim the credit once. Then every year it should be on your tax bill. If you have any questions, please give me a call at 920-609-1478.

If you do not receive your tax bill by December 20th, give the County Treasurer a call at 920-448-4074. Each year there are bills that get lost or have the wrong address on them. It is your responsibility to pay the taxes on your property. Just because you do not receive a bill, doesn't mean you do not have to pay the property tax for the year.

The County Treasurer has decided that <u>no banks</u> can collect taxes anymore. You can pay by mail or there is a drop box at the County Treasurer office on Adams Street. If paying by mail, you will receive a receipt if you include a self-addressed stamped envelope. Otherwise you can go to the Brown County website to see if your payment has been recorded. Even if you do not want a receipt, please check if your taxes are paid by going to the County website or check your bank account to see if your check cleared the bank. Every year some envelopes get lost in the mail and it is your responsibility to make sure your taxes are paid.

Just a reminder that if it is snowing, please try to put your garbage and recycling bins out on Monday morning. This helps our snowplow drivers. Keep up the good work of recycling in the town. Remember most wrapping paper is not recyclable. Enjoy the Holidays.







ROCKLAND 4H NEWS – DECEMBER

The 4-H Club wishes all of you a Happy Holiday celebration with family and new and old friends. We also look forward to a successful and happy new year. The club is very active finalizing 2021 and getting ready for 2022. We have welcomed new families which included 18 new members. We start January with new officers: officers:

President: Lake VanPay Vice President: Leah

Reporters: Keira Hefferman and Caroline Schlies. Lamers

Kocken Secretary: Aila Rice Treasurer: Page

As part of our community service project, we have chosen to donate items/gifts to the Christian Out Reach program in De Pere. We all met at Wal-Mart and shopped for an hour. 4-H families were each given a listing of category items to purchase and a budget to buy gifts for less fortunate families. Gifts included board games, dolls, cars, trucks, school supplies, PJs, personal care items and even household cleaning items. Monies came from our food stands at the Creekview Horse Shows. Next on our list – is our tradition of baking and decorating Christmas cookies for our friends of 4-H. On Saturday and Sunday, December 3 & 4, cookies will be decorated, packaged/labeled and be made ready to be distributed by the families. Then we will have our Christmas party with Christmas bingo, bingo prizes along with pizza, milk and cookies. It's a great way to finish up a year and start a new year.

Keira Hefferman and Caroline Schlies / Club Reporters

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