



Fall 2023

Quarterly Newsletter
www.townofrockland.org

1712 Bob-Bea-Jan Road
 De Pere, WI 54115

A NOTE FROM THE CHAIRMAN

This past summer, we had almost 20 street signs stolen and some with the mounting brackets also. New signs were ordered and the cost is over \$1200 with the labor to install the new ones. If you see anybody removing street signs, please call the Brown County Sheriff's Department immediately. There will be a reward if they are caught and prosecuted. We will also be replacing some of our regulatory and warning signs on our town roads. This fall we will be removing dead trees from the right of way on certain town roads. The cutting of these trees will eliminate emergency cutting at night or weekends when these trees break and tip over. We will also be cutting ditch vegetation to the backside of the ditches where possible. This process keeps the ditches clean for water flow. The Town of Rockland is a great place to live and raise a family. Respect your neighbors the way you want to be respected. A friendly hello or wave makes for good neighbors.

With fall harvesting approaching for farmers there will be tractors and trucks using the roads more frequently. Please be patient and drive safely around farm equipment.

Enjoy the fall season and the colors that come with it.

Thank you,

Dennis J. Cashman

Rockland Town Hall

Clerk Julie Koenig 920-336-2814
jkoenig@townofrockland.org

Chairman

Dennis Cashman 920-336-7814

Supervisors

Alan Lasee 920-366-3859

Matt Meeuwsen 920-660-9718

Treasurer/Dog Licenses

Mary Van Dyck 920-609-1478

Zoning Administrator/Building Inspector

Bob Gerbers 920-655-8602

Fair Market Assessments

1-920-468-9698

Plan Commission Secretary

Julie Koenig 920-336-2814

Board of Appeals

Frank Hutjens 920-336-9359

Town Hall Rentals

Julie Koenig 920-336-2814

Harter Fox Valley Disposal

Garbage and Recycling Service

1-888-804-8556

Fire Dept: non-emergency (920)

GrL: 639-6939; Morr 676-3203

Hello Rockland Residents,

With the state's new budget it appears that a new bridge is coming to our area soon. I know it will help with traffic congestion and access but I am somewhat concerned about the development that comes with it. I believe the majority of the residents in Rockland would like the town to remain as rural as possible and those of us on the Town Board will do our best to manage that.

I would like to take the opportunity this quarter to bring attention to some resources that are available in the greater community: The Aging and Disability Resource Center (ADRC) and the Curative Connection. Both of these places have the ability to give advice and help with a loved one that is in need of extra care. Curative has several areas that can give an exhausted caregiver some relief and provide new experiences for a person in need. They provide services for people living with disabilities and aging concerns. The facility is very impressive, welcoming, state of the art and the services that they provide to those in need and their support systems are outstanding.

Lastly, I know the gun deer season is a few months out yet but just a reminder to please be aware of what is beyond your target. The town experiences a small amount of growth each year and there may be a building there this year that wasn't there last year.

Enjoy the fall weather,

Matt

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 the same (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 920-391-7450.


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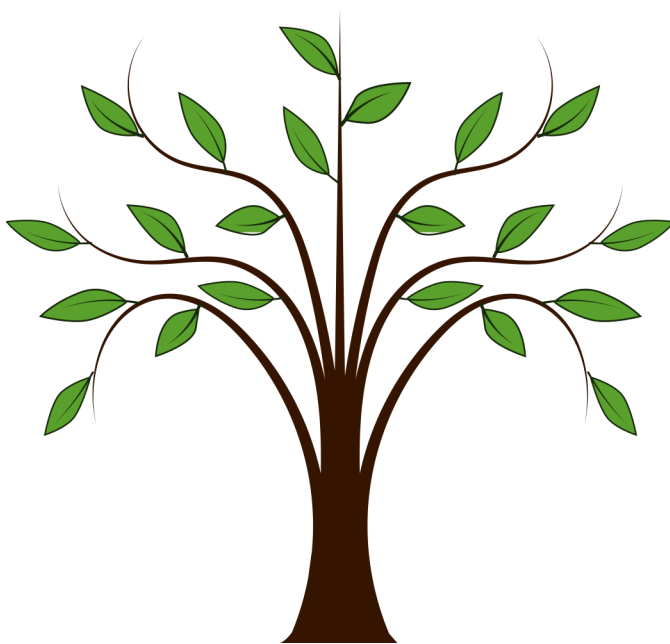
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You may have noticed a high number of dead trees in town lately. You will also note there are many areas in ditches where the backslope is also wooded. While the town is responsible for the maintenance of ditches along TOWN roads, it is not financially viable for the town to remove all the trees from the right of way. Often times, residents would like to remove them on their own property, or contract someone to do it for them.

Trees with a six inch diameter or less can be removed from the Town Right of Way (R.O.W.) without a permit. Trees greater than six inches in diameter require a \$5 permit, a waiver signed by the property owner/tree cutter absolving the town of damages to property & injury to persons involved. The permit application must include a clear plan of which trees will be removed, the trees must be marked both physically and on the plan, and a timeline for said removal must be provided. Any lumber, trimmings and debris must be cleaned up and removed within two weeks. In no event can anything be left on the roadbed. Please note the R.O.W. varies by the



type of roadway. In no event can you remove a tree from a county or state R.O.W. This only pertains to Town of Rockland roads. Setback is usually 35' from the centerline of the roadbed on a town road. If the tree in question sits more than that, it is likely on private property and the property owner can do as they see fit. If a tree must be felled onto a roadbed, flagmen shall be provided at cutters expense until the tree is removed from the roadbed. Contact any member of the Town Board or Bob Gerbers with your tree cutting plan.

ROCKLAND 4H NEWS

With the Brown County Fair being in August – it was a big month for the club. The fair was an overall success and a big learning experience for all the Brown County 4H club members. Rockland 4H youth made a great presentation in showing off their projects. James Anderson received a number of Grand Champions and Champions in the chicken exhibits along with Maria Teske who also received Grand Champion on her rabbit. In the Herdsmanship awards, exhibitors received a 2nd place in rabbits, 1st in poultry. Groups within the club received a 2nd on our advertising sign set up on the lawn of the town hall, 1st on our scrapbook, 1st on the 4H Booth and a 2nd on our outdoor planted flower pot. We had 11 youth in the Clothing project in the style review on Sunday at the fair.

We received a number of individual awards in various projects that include: JUDGE AWARDS (Will be exhibiting their items at the Wisconsin State Fair in 2024.) Leah Kocken-Woodworking/Cribbage board, Keira Heffernan- Clothing-Brown Jacket, Emelia Heffernan– Zebra Puppet, Emily Metzentine-Ceramic Vase. Aila Rice-Master Gardener/Flowers.

MERIT AWARDS: Blake DeBruin-Zucchini, Aila Rice-Outdoor Plant, Lillian Sexton-Fairy Garden, Grace Hodgdon-Ceramic Dog, Caroline Schlies-Ceramic Mug, Joshua Metzentine-Ceramic Indian Plaque, Mila Bartolazzi-Tennis Shoe Decorated, Grace Hodgdon-Photography, Adelyn Briesmeister-Photography, Leah Kocken-Photography and Night Stand/Woodworking, Oscar Avery-Clothing Gray Zipped Sweatshirt.

Irv Peeters 4H leader of 65 plus years – presented the graduation award to his grandson Lake VanPay on Thursday night at the fair.



Hey Rockland,

Did you know you can rent the Town Hall for \$100/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

Wind Turbines?

Hi, Folks. I have been getting questions from landowners in various towns in northeastern and southwestern Wisconsin about issues with wind turbines. I have been following such issues since 2010, the same year that the Shirley Wind Farm commenced operation and the same year that the Public Service Commission of Wisconsin drafted rules to limit how safe local governments could be to protect their residents from negative impacts.

Landowners have questions as to how to weigh the issues of possible negative health impacts versus the income they could receive to host a turbine. There are concerns of committing to easement or lease agreements that could encumber their property for fifty years. There are concerns that the developer reps are telling the landowners that their neighbors have signed up when they learn later that was not true. There are many other issues that should be considered. Always involve an attorney who understands wind and solar siting.

Usually, the developers don't contact the Town before they get landowners to sign agreements; we may be unaware of the level of activity. If you have questions regarding wind turbines or solar projects, please contact me as a member of Rockland's Planning Commission at glenschwalbach@netzero.com or 920-680-2436. Thank you! Glen

Town Clerk Hours:

Monday, Tuesday and Thursday
9:30-2:30, though hours may vary

or by appointment. Or please
leave a message at 920-336-2814

or email Julie at
jkoenig@rocklandbrownwi.gov

Clerk position:

Are you the type that likes a challenge? Do you thrive working alone? Maybe you want a part time job with a flexible schedule or something close to home?

Consider applying for the position of Deputy Clerk. This position can/ will transition to a Clerk position. You will receive on the job training and pay depending upon your skill set. Applicants do not need to be limited to Town of Rockland residents. Reach out to Julie for more information.

Important Dates:

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

Planning Commission: (usually
2nd Thursday

of ea. month)
please check
the calendar on
the website



NEWS FROM YOUR TREASURER

The Brown County Fair is over. The Town of Rockland was well represented at the fair. I saw many projects with Rockland 4-H listed as their club along with many blue ribbons on these projects.

Now that the fair is over, that means school will be starting soon. Watch out for our children as they get on and off the bus. Remember you must stop for the flashing lights on the school buses.

I have a few recycling and garbage reminders for everyone. First, everyone seems to be doing a great job of getting their containers by the roadside each week. If you ever need to look if it is recycling day, you can get that information on the Town of Rockland website. There is a yearly calendar that lists all dates of garbage and which Monday is recycling. It also has holiday collection dates.

One thing that has been brought to my attention is some of you are putting recycling items in the bin in a garbage or plastic bag. This is a no-no. All items in the recycling bin need to be loose in the bin. So if you have a garbage bag where you put aluminum cans and then put them in the recycling bin, they must be put in the bin without the bag. In other words, take the bag to the bin and empty the bag and then put the empty bag in the garbage.

A reminder that no remodeling or household furniture may be put in your garbage. So if you are getting new carpet, the old carpet cannot be put in your garbage bin. You cannot put TV's, computers, flooring, toilets, chairs in the bin. Harter's does offer pick up of these items once a month; but you must call them in advance.

Keep up the good work of keeping your ditches clean of garbage. The Town looks better when we keep our ditches clean. So if your garbage happens to blow out of the container, please pick it up.

I hope everyone has a good fall and stays safe on our roads.

Mary Van Dyck, Treasurer

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.**

Good morning everyone.

If you're like me, it seems like summer has gone by fast. Life here in Rockland is pretty quiet; not much to report.

In August, our Planning Commission met on 2 items. The placement of storage units and chickens. We have several semi trailers that people use for storage and after much discussion, the Planning Commission took no position, the thought being that it is better to have items stored inside it than spread around the property. However, the issue is not over because the Town Board feels that placement and keeping them looking decent is of concern and some action is required. (Post script: an Ordinance to restrict storage containers has been passed)

The other item, chickens.

When you enter Rockland, there are signs saying "WELCOME TO ROCKLAND " and on the sign is a picture of a red barn. Now that should be your 1st clue that we are not a city and folks choose to live here because they can enjoy the rural life which can include having a few animals. Usually neighbors enjoy seeing them. They, of course need to keep them on their own property. So I would respectfully ask that you be a little tolerant in that regard.

The Brown County Fair is concluded and I would like to give the Rockland 4-H Club leaders a huge thank you for all the time they spend with our youngsters. They teach the kids abouts many things: art, sewing, woodworking, pottery, animal care and showing and displaying the work they do at the fair. Thank you again.

Well, I'll close with this: Lou Ann Zeamer says "a bad attitude is like a flat tire, you

won't go anywhere until you fix it."

Lastly, If a turkey runs away does that make it a chicken? Just wondering

Keep smiling.

Warmest regards, Alan Lasee

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• Congratulations to VFW Post 2113 •
• who recently received the 2022-2023 •
• Wisconsin VFW Post Honor Guard •
• of the Year and the 2022-23 VFW •
• Outstanding Community Service •
• Award from the VFW national •
• organization for the year-round •
• accomplishments honoring •
• veterans and serving local •
• community events. Of note are •
• Honor Guard Veterans and Rockland •
• residents Deborah Hansen (US •
• Army—Cold War) and Randy •
• Hansen (US Army—Korean service •
• Veteran). •
.....

If you're planning any landscaping projects please know the following information:

- Be sure you know your surveyed lot lines and appropriate setbacks
- Do not plant anything other than grass in the town right of way. This is typically 35' from the centerline of the road.
- Berms must be more than 5' from the neighboring property lines and cannot cut off drainage
- Pools and ponds require permits.
- Chicken coops and solar panels also require permits

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