



Summer 2024
 Quarterly Newsletter
www.townofrockland.org
 1712 Bob-Bea-Jan Road
 De Pere, WI 54115

A NOTE FROM THE CHAIRMAN

Earlier this summer, every landowner received new valuations of their properties from our Assessor, Mike Denor. The average home went up \$100,000 in value in the Town of Rockland. There were two Open Book meetings held in July for residents who had any concerns or questions about their valuations. Nine residents were at two of the meetings and our Assessor received about 35 phone calls. The Board of Review was held on August 1st and we had no residents attending the meeting. Thank you Mike Denor for working with the residents and doing a great job on the revaluation of the Town.

The Town mil rate per thousand will go down from last year. The Town Board only has control of the Town tax rate; not the school, county or NWTC or state tax rate (though the state rate has been at 0 in recent years). Remember De Pere Schools passed a large referendum last spring and there's another large referendum question on this November's ballot.

Like always, this fall we will be cutting grass on Town roads to the backside of the ditch. This process trims all vegetation and keeps the ditches clean for water flow.

With fall harvesting approaching, please be patient and drive safely around farm equipment.

Hope to see you at the next Town Board meeting

Thank you,

Dennis J. Cashman

Rockland Town Hall

Clerk Julie Koenig 920-336-2814

Deputy Clerk Rachel Graner

jkoenig@rocklandbrownwi.gov

Chairman

Dennis Cashman 920-336-7814

Supervisors

Alan Lasee 920-366-3859

Matt Meeuwse 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

Late summer/fall weather is perfect for walking and biking outdoors. Please remember to put safety first and walk on the left side of the road, facing traffic when there is no sidewalk. This allows pedestrians and drivers to see each other, thereby decreasing likelihood of an accident. Pedestrians should always yield to vehicles, especially on our busier roads. Bikers need to stay on the right side of the road and as with pedestrians, yield to passing vehicles. When biking on the trail, always stop before the roads and wait for vehicles to pass. It is not the drivers' responsibility to yield to bikers using the bike path. As a last reminder, wearing reflective gear can save lives. With everyone's cooperation, we can work together to keep our residents safe!



Construction Projects: Please be reminded to get your permits before your building, solar panel 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 \$\$\$ 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.

Hello Rockland,

Can't believe our summer is nearly gone. Time really does fly as we get older.

The revaluation of Rockland property is concluded. Inflation nation wide caused us to be out of compliance with Wisconsin state law, which requires us to be valued at 100 percent of state equalized value.

As I wrote in the last newsletter, your Town Board will reduce the rate of property tax owed to reflect little or no increase in our share of property taxes owed. However, you must keep an eye on the school's share and rates, Brown County's and NWTC share and rates.

So far this year we've seen a increase in building permits for new homes, 8 so far. Last year there were only 2 new homes built.

For me, slow growth is a good thing, unlike some communities who go out and push for more and more development, which always brings more problems and more government controls. Judging from citizens who come to our twice monthly board meetings, neighbors are getting along with each other pretty well with very few exceptions.

Scott Construction finished with chip sealing the designated roads for the year and as always, they've done a good job for us.

In closing, remember, God created man, but then, you always make a rough draft before the final masterpiece.

Also, never trust an electrician with no eyebrows.

Keep smiling, warmest regards,

Alan Lasee

Hello Rockland residents,

Thank you to all the poll workers who made things go so smoothly for our town! There is a lot that takes place for the election process to happen and the election this November will, no doubt, be even more hectic. I know I am already tired of the ads and the name calling. It doesn't matter what party is doing it, we just seem to hit a new low every year. It's too bad it has become acceptable behavior. I wasn't raised this way and we didn't raise our kids this way either. It would be nice to get back to the facts, legitimate ideas and policies moving forward. I feel fortunate to be part of a local government that gets along, treats everyone with respect and accomplishes things for all of us in Rockland. We function as a team and it takes everyone to make it work.

As summer wraps up, just a reminder to look out for the kids getting on and off school buses and be patient with agricultural equipment doing their job. I believe the farmers in Town really care and do the best they can to clean the roads up when they are done.

A fun thing to do this fall is to head to Kewaunee and see the salmon run up the river. The fish are held in ponds and processed by the Buzz Besadny Wildlife area. It is pretty impressive to see thousands of fish ready to spawn. Bruemmer park is also right there and fun for the kids.

Enjoy the fall colors and cooler temps,

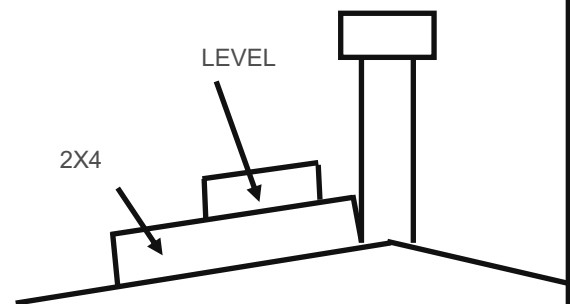
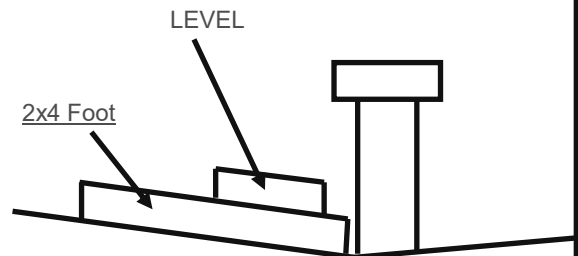
Matt

Groundwater Well Maintenance

Recently, a lot of news articles have discussed drinking water quality and contaminated wells. A common problem can cause your well to be compromised over time. Settling of the ground around the well casing can allow potential contaminants such as fertilizer or animal waste to enter the ground water via the well casing.

Using a simple test, you can check your well casing using a level and a four foot 2 x 4 board. Lay the 2 x 4 board on the ground with one end against the well casing. Set the level on the board (see sketch on right above).

Look to see if the ground slopes to or away from the well casing. If it slopes away (see sketch to the right), you're okay. However, if it does not, you need to place fill around the casing. A good rule is 1" pitch per foot. Usually a few wheel barrows of dirt will do it.



NEWS FROM YOUR TREASURER

Everyone is doing a great job with recycling. Keep up the good work. Here are just a couple of reminders. Make sure your recycling bin is at least 2 feet away from your garbage bin. The bin needs to have the open end facing the road. Do not put your recyclable material in a plastic bag.

Make sure your food containers that are recyclable are clean. An example is a plastic peanut butter jar. Please wash the jar before putting it in the recycling bin. Rinse milk bottles before putting them in the bin.

Do **NOT** put any plastic bags in the recycling bin. They can be recycled at the local grocery stores. Please flatten all cardboard boxes. Cardboard pizza boxes that have pizza in them are not recyclable.

The Town will have another Electronic Recycling Event on April 12, 2025. If you need to dispose of something before then, you can take it to Norseco on Prosper Road.

Fall is here. Please watch for our children as they wait for the bus. Remember you must stop for the bus when the red lights are flashing.

Town of Rockland Residents (Beware)

A number of Rockland residents are having solar panels installed for solar powered energy. Before signing a contract with any solar company, please take into consideration the following issues:

All systems shall be installed by a state licensed contractor.

Wiring has to be done by a State of Wisconsin licensed electrician.

All equipment shall be UL approved (Underwriters Laboratory).

What does the 25 year warranty cover? It is your responsibility to know if it covers panels, workmanship, wiring, mounting frame and brackets, roof, roof leaks, electrical equipment, etc.

Will the installation affect your roof warranty?

Are the installers insured for the work being done or do they have insurance on their employees?

As a suggestion, please contact local solar contractors for pricing because they are more familiar with state, federal and local codes and are more accessible if an issue would arise; compared to out of state installers who are often inaccessible. Keep in mind, the Town Building Inspection Department receives very little if any contact information. If problems arise with your system, there is little that the Town can help you with.

Feel free to contact me if you have questions at 920-655-8602.

Building Inspector,

Bob Gerbers

ROCKLAND 4H NEWS:

The highlight of the 4H year was the Brown County Fair!

Ribbons, ribbons and more ribbons – from the youngest new members to the more experienced high school age members, we saw only happy faces with the results of their project work for this past year. The club members did an excellent face-to-face showing in the sewing project, resulting in ribbons in fabric bookmarks to complete jump suits, jackets and skirts. We had a great showings in ceramics with more than 80 items entered and judged this year. The Exploring and Cloverbuds did an excellent job in presenting their items, discussing with the judge how they did it, and shaking his hand when they got their blue or red or white ribbon (great learning experience). Let's not forget the chickens, ducks and rabbits – it was a long day of judging – but ended with a number of championships and ribbons in multiple breeds and categories.



We had “Judges Choice” and merit awards in clothing, sewing, photography, ceramics and foods. We received a Judges Choice/Merit Award for our Club activity Scrapbook. For the first time ever, we did a digital scrapbook. Members selected photos submitted by 4H families and created a “page” online. Once it was completed (over 40 pages), it was submitted to the online company and it came back as a hard cover scrapbook. Great learning experience for our club. Friday night at the fair, we were responsible for the 4H Food Stand – last shift of the day – and I must say, members did an excellent job of greeting and serving the customers with grilled cheese, pizza slices, ice cream floats and shakes. Good jobs kids (moms and dads too).

And so another year ends at the fair – but we still need to do our October Achievement program, November Shopping for families for Christmas, Club Christmas Party, making Cookies for 4H Friends, and plan out next year. Any ideas for new projects, just let us know – we are open to new ideas.

To the Town of Rockland – thank you for your support.

Important Dates:

In person absentee voting during Clerks hours starting October 22, or by appointment

WI Fall General Election Tues., November 5, 2024 7:00 am to 8:00 pm.

Budget Approval, Special Meeting of Electorate 7:00 pm, Monday, Nov. 18, 2024

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

Planning Commission: (usually 2nd Thursday of ea. month) please check the calendar on the website



Town Clerk Hours:

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

Or please leave a message at 920-336-2814 or email jkoenig@rocklandbrownwi.gov

Election Information

Per Wisconsin Law, Absentee Applications for elections must expire at the end of every year and as a result if you wish to have absentee ballots sent to you, you will need to reapply for the 2024 election year. If you wish to receive a ballot by mail for any election, please be sure to check the selection for the current calendar year. You can also go to myvote.wi.gov to request this. If you haven't used this process in the past, please know that you **MUST attach a photo of your photo ID (Drivers License for most of us). Your request will not be processed if you don't have an ID on file. Please contact me if you need help.**

Also, please know that each voter must return their own and only their own ballot if they deliver it in person. It can also be deposited into the Town Hall's mailbox along Bob Bea Jan Road if you return it outside Clerk's hours.

Thank you, Julie Koenig

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. A portion of your security deposit will be withheld if the hall is not cleaned properly or returned to meeting set up.

Reserve your date today.

***conditions apply**



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August 13, 2024 Primary Election review

We'd like to thank all Town of Rockland residents for coming out to vote at the August 13th Partisan Preference election. Out of 1,250 registered voters in our town we had 593 vote, for a voter rate of 47.7%. By comparison, the entire Brown County area had a voter rate of 40.6%.

Referendum #1 = you voted Yes (361 votes) to No (218 votes) – statewide the No votes won.
Referendum #2 = you voted Yes (351 votes) to No (228 votes) – statewide the No votes won
U.S. House of Representatives 8th District = you voted Roger Roth (79 votes); Andre Jacque (168 votes); and Tony Wied (184 votes) – 8th District wide Tony Wied won.

November 5, 2024 Presidential General Election

We expect this election will have an extremely high voter turnout rate of close to 90%, so plan accordingly. If you can vote early, please consider doing that. Two options for early voting:

1st – Go to <https://myvote.wi.gov/en-us/Vote-Absentee-by-Mail> , register to vote absentee for Julie (Town Clerk) to mail you your ballot (which must be returned no later then 8 pm on November 5th).

OR

2nd – Come to the Town Hall and take advantage of our early in-person absentee voting – these dates are:

**SAVE THESE IN-PERSON VOTING OPPORTUNITY DATES TO
YOUR CALENDAR**

Tuesday, October 22nd from 9:30 am to 2:30 pm

Tuesday, October 22nd from 3:30 pm to 7:00 pm

Thursday, October 24th from 9:30 am to 2:30 pm

Saturday, October 26th from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm

Tuesday, October 29th from 9:30 am to 2:30 pm

Tuesday, October 29th from 3:30 pm to 7:00 pm

Thursday, October 31 from 9:30 am to 2:30 pm



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Lincoln School Blast from the Past

The photograph below is the Lincoln School class of 1966, which was the last class held at the old Lincoln School building on the corner of Ryan Rd and Old Martin Rd. After the school district consolidated and moved locations, the building was used as the Rockland Town Hall until 1999 when the new Town Hall was completed on Bob-Bea-Jan Rd. Although the Lincoln School building is no longer there, many Town of Rockland residents still have fond memories of its years-gone-by.



Listed from left to right—top row: Dennis Calaway, Lee Van De Walle, Irv Salamonski, Sue Cashman, Bill Cashman, Mary Goffard, Donna Martin, Debbie Lubenski, Joe Janssen, Mr. Martin; second row: Ronnie Van Deurzen, Nolan Neinhaus, Mike Cashman, Peter Gossen, Sue Van Deurzen, Karen Cashman, Terry French, Ron Martin, Lori Janssen, Clayton Goffard; third row: Jackie French, Mary Jo Ley, Diana Hutjens, Patricia Cashman, Mary Van De Walle, Nancy Nusbaum, Lori Neinhaus, Judy Ley; fourth row: Lloyd Johnson, Joey Slimmen, Dennis Martin, Frank Martin, Lee Janssen, Keith Johnson, Bob Ley

PLEASE PATRONIZE THESE LOCAL BUSINESSES! THANK YOU!

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