



Town of Fredonia News

P.O. Box 12 • Fredonia, Wisconsin 53021 • 262 / 692-9673

The Home of Flag Day **TOWN OF FREDONIA**

office@town.fredonia.wi.us
262-692-9673

Open Daily 9:30 to 11:30 AM

2014 Town Officials

TOWN CHAIRMAN

Richard Mueller 920-994-4095

TOWN BOARD SUPERVISORS

Chris Janik 262-692-9123

Lance Leider 262-483-2205

Mark Schubert 262-707-4806

James Stemper 262-692-2287

TOWN CLERK

Dave Gorton 262-692-9673

TOWN TREASURER

Jean Wills 262-692-6365

PLAN COMMISSION MEMBERS

Brian Huiras 920-994-2058

Chris Janik 262-692-9123

Steve Jentges 262-208-0226

Bill Koeppen 262-692-6130

Robert Lederer 262-692-2856

Doug Winquist 262-692-2186

ASSESSOR

Grota Appraisals 262-253-1142

BUILDING INSPECTOR

John Derler 262-692-2039

MANAGER of RECYCLING CENTER

Harry Michaels, Jr. 262-692-9202

Recycling Center Location
W3480 Hickory Grove Road
(at Cedar Valley Rd)

OPEN Saturdays (year round)
8:00 A.M. TO 1:30 P.M.

Thursdays (April through Sept)
5:00 P.M. TO 7:00 P.M.

IT'S BEEN A LONG TIME COMING!



Spring! I think there were quite a number of residents who wondered if it would even come this year! It's glorious to see the ground emerge from the snowbanks, and isn't it funny how 50 degrees feels like a heat wave?

I urge you to take a look - up. Are you flying a flag? My guess is after the winter winds it might be looking a little tattered. If so, please consider replacing it. There is a special box at the Recycling Center where your old flag will be retired with respect.

After all, we are the Home of Flag Day!

Town Newsletter

If you signed up to receive the newsletter, and don't get the April issue, it could be that we had a little difficulty reading your email address. Feel free to sign up again, and put a #2 by your name... we'll do our best to correct it and get the newsletter to you! Or, you can email us at the Town Office and let us know you signed up, but haven't gotten it. Next issue will be August 1.

Town Website

Our Town Website is taking shape! Along with agendas and minutes of meetings, you'll find copies of the newsletter, a listing of who the Town Officials are, a listing of Town Fees, and Town Ordinances. The Ordinances are in the process of being updated, and we'll let you know when the updated version is there.

Did you know you can also find and print a copy of your tax bill? On the Home page of the Town Website (office@town.fredonia.wi.us), there's a button that says "TAX & PARCEL INFO." If you click on that, you'll get to the Ascent Land Records System. Go to the MUNICIPALITY box and find TOWN OF FREDONIA. Type in your address, or your tax key number. Click on "FIND NOW." Click on the red "tax key number" to the left of your name. (The tax key number is a 12 digit number beginning with '04'.) When the next screen comes up, click "SELECT DETAIL" and find TAXES. You should then see your tax history. There's a button there allowing you to print a "printer friendly page."

We also have a button on the website for News Updates. We'll keep you informed between newsletters with that link.



The Village of Fredonia and Ozaukee County are planning extensive reconstruction on CTH A/Fredonia Avenue in the Village, from Edmaro Street to Highland Drive this summer. Work will include widening the road, sidewalk replacement, curb and gutter replacement, water main replacement, sanitary sewer lateral replacement, culvert replacement and storm sewer installation. Construction will begin June 15, and the Village is hopeful that it will be completed by November.

We will keep you posted once we know more. Check the News Updates on our Website for the latest information.



Are fireworks a part of your summer celebrations?
A permit from the Town is required - cost \$10.



Need to get around the County?

Options are available on www.ozaukeetransit.com
or call 284-TAXI (8294)



Flag Day **Saturday, June 14, 2014** **The Americanism Center, Waubesa, WI**

This year's Flag Day observance is a double birthday celebration:

U.S. Flag, June 14, 1777 AND U.S. Army, June 14, 1775

Program starts at 11:30 with the raising of the flag, the National Anthem and a Fly Over, sponsored by the VFW Post 7037.

Eagle Scouts will present the historical data surrounding the events of September 14, 1814 which led to the writing of our National Anthem.

Parade begins at 1:30 - 100 units with a Fly Over, again sponsored by the VFW Post 7037.

Family Day activities include pony rides, face painting, music, circus rides, games.

UW Marching Band will be on hand to perform their famous #5th Quarter"

A special unit this year will quiz participants on Americanism history... awards for the winners!

Fireworks by Bartolotta at dusk. All Free!!

Our mission is to observe our Flag's birthday and to carry the message of our flag to the future leaders of our great country, our youth.

Chair of Flag Day Event - Brian Stout
In Cooperation with VFW, Scouts, American Legion, Lions and 4H

Call with questions: 715-864-3854

Recycling Center

Starting this April, the Town of Fredonia Recycling Center will accept lawn and yard waste!



There will be a charge:

Minimum fee - \$3

A small trailer load - \$10

A pickup truck load - \$20

Anything in a plastic bag or container will have to be emptied.... only the waste itself will be accepted.

Lawn/Yard refuse will be accepted the 1st and 3rd Saturdays in April/May/June and again in the fall: August/September/October. **THIS YEAR IT WILL BEGIN ON THE 3RD SATURDAY IN APRIL.**

Acceptance will be contingent on weather! If there's snow on the ground, refuse will not be accepted.

ASHES

Now is the time to get rid of ashes..... during the months of April and May. They must be in a Town Bag. There is a \$2 charge for dropping them off at the Recycling Center.

TRASH - PER CUBIC YARD - HAS INCREASED FROM \$30 TO \$40.

BEFORE YOU DIG...

It's spring, and that means outdoor projects! Before you start digging, call the Diggers Hotline!

Contacting Diggers Hotline before you begin your project to have buried lines beneath your job site located is FREE. But if you damage a buried facility without a call to Diggers Hotline, you will be financially responsible for the damages, as well as a fine of up to \$2000.

Simply dial 811 or you can submit a request through the email-a-lo-locate program online. The Call Center Representatives are available 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.

It's also the law. Wisconsin Statute 182.0175 requires all excavators, including homeowners and construction contractors, to contact Diggers Hotline at least three working days before any work is done that disturbs the soil in any way.



American Legion Auxiliary *Luminaria Lighting for the Veterans* May 26, 2014 9-10 PM

Choose to recognize your loved one and help support the "Honor a Veteran" program by purchasing a Luminaria. Your \$5 donation (per name) will help serve as a symbol along the Pathway of Honor at the veteran ceremony to memorialize or honor someone you love. The names of these individuals will be read aloud in a special ceremony at 9:30 pm at the Fredonia Government Center, 242 Fredonia Avenue in Fredonia. All are invited to attend. All proceeds will support the American Legion Auxiliary Unit #410's mission to support local, statewide and national veterans and veteran programs.

To purchase a luminaria, pick up a form at the Government Center (on the table in the entry hall) or call Judy Ruppel at 262-692-9563 for more information.



Town Meetings

All of our meetings are open to the public, and we welcome you to attend!

This Spring there are some additional meetings on the calendar:

The **ANNUAL MEETING OF THE ELECTORS** will take place on April 15th, 7:30 pm. This is your chance to speak your mind, and bring up any issues to the Town Board members and other Electors present.

The **OPEN BOOK MEETING** will be held April 28th, Noon to 2:00 pm. This is your chance to talk with the Town Assessor in person! Please call the office and let us know you plan to attend so we have a better idea of the number of people expected.

BOARD OF REVIEW – May 19, 2014, 6:00-8:00 pm.

MONTHLY TOWN MEETINGS

The Plan Commission Meeting is the first Wednesday of the month, and the Town Board meeting is the second Wednesday of the month. Meetings start at 7:30 pm. If you would like to have an item placed on the agenda of either the Plan Commission or Town Board, you must notify either the Town Chairman or the Town Clerk by noon of the Thursday prior. Items placed on the agenda are at the discretion of the Town Chairman.

AND HOW DO YOU FIND OUT WHAT'S GOING ON??

Notices are placed in the Posting Boxes: Town Hall, Schwai's Market (free-standing display in the parking lot), the Waubeka Fire Department (office entrance) and the Recycling Center. The official newspaper is the Ozaukee Press, and legal postings are published for public hearings.

What is Open Book and Board of Review?

These two meetings pertain to your property taxes. Property taxes are based on the "assessed" value of your property, and this is your opportunity to find out why your property is assessed as it is. If you do have specific concerns or problems about your assessment, there are two steps to resolve them.

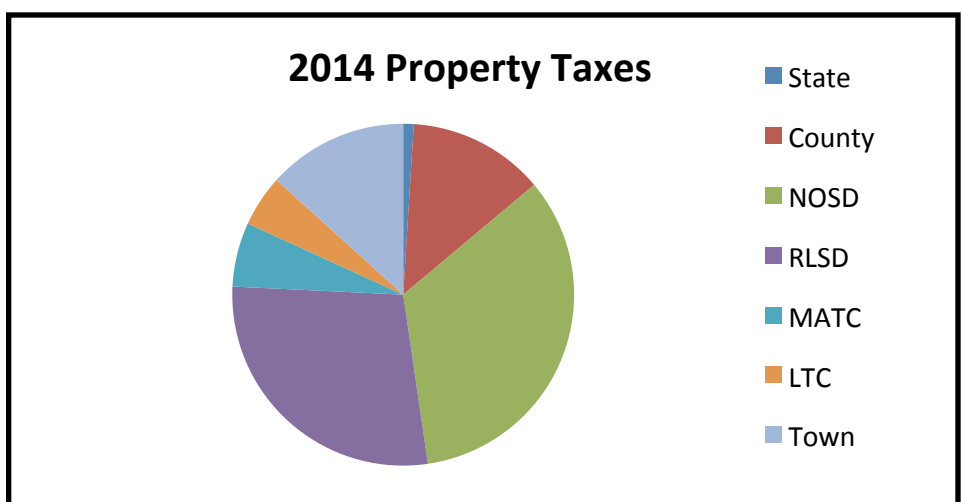
The first step is going to the "Open Book" meeting. The "Book" is the property tax assessment role and it is 'open' for you to come in to raise any questions or concerns you have about your assessment. Our Town Assessor, Grota Appraisals represented by Les Ahrens, will be there to listen to your concerns and answer your questions. He can also answer your questions on Board of Review procedures and how to file an objection. Be sure to bring in any paperwork or pictures you have that would help the process.

If your concerns are not satisfied, the second step is the "Board of Review" (BOR). This is a "legal" process, much like real trial with a 'judge' (Town Chairman) and 'jurors' (Town Supervisors).

To go before the "BOR," you must first file a legal document with the town, called an "Objection Form." In this document you describe exactly with is wrong with your property assessment and what you think it should be.

At the "BOR" you come before the 'judge' and 'jury' to state your case. The Town Assessor will explain why your tax assessment was set at what it is. The 'jury' will then deliberate on the case and your assessment will either be kept the same or changed based on the facts you presented.

Ever wonder where your property taxes go?



As you can see from the pie above, the State takes the least amount. The Town and the County each take a portion which is about equal. The rest goes to schools: NOSD is Northern Ozaukee; RLSD is Random Lake; MATC is Milwaukee Area Technical Campus (Mequon); and LTC is Lake-shore Technical Campus.

Jay Road and Property Taxes

As you may know, a mile section of Jay Road was “rebuilt” last year at a cost of \$530,000.

Why was this done, and how does it affect property taxes?

The “why” is easy – the road was deteriorating badly and needed repair AND the Town was eligible for and received a State grant of \$140,000 to help pay for it. This was an opportunity to have the State pay over a forth of the costs.

What is the affect on our Property Taxes?

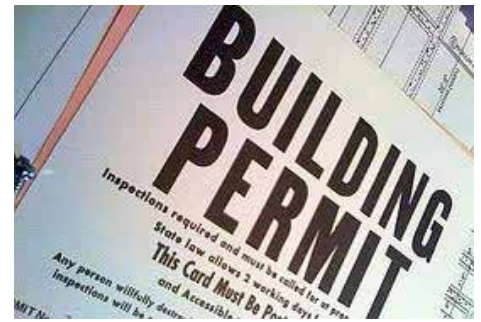
The work was completed and the bills were paid last September. Since the grant money was not available at that time, the Town initially paid the full bill. We took out a short term bank loan for most of the money and used a “reserve” which had been budgeted for Jay Road and was included in our taxes over the last few years. This Jay Road budget amount has been in addition to our annual road maintenance budget.

The State Grant (\$140,000) has now been received. We have re-negotiated a bank loan that will be paid back evenly over the next 5 years. The grant money will be used to pay down the loan.

And why not pay the whole \$140,000 down on the loan?

That gets to be complicated, because it involves our tax levy limit. As taxpayers, we want the tax levy to remain level from year to year. Paying that lump sum out would cause a spike in the levy limit and could possibly mean higher taxes for 2015. When the limit would drop in 2016, we could be in danger of no longer having the resources to repay the loan.

The amount we have been budgeting for Jay Road over these past years will continue until the loan is paid. With the financing plan we have in place, we do not expect an increase in the Town budget for the Jay Road loan repayment.



Building Permits

John Derler, Building Inspector

(262) 692-2039 Phone & Fax

It is important that you check with the Town Building Inspector, John Derler, before beginning any building projects. John is available to answer any questions you may have and help you resolve minor conflicts before they become major problems. Please leave an after-noon and evening phone number where you can be reached.

Attention Business Owners!

Email us the name, address, phone number, website and type of business you have. We'd like to place it on the Town Website under a category called “Local Businesses.”

We'll link your web address to your website.

office@town.fredonia.wi.us



Free Shredding Event!

Sponsored by Port Washington State Bank



Saturday, May 17
9:00-Noon
201 Regal Drive

Please bring 2 non-perishable food items for the food pantry.
Shredding limit - 5 boxes per person

*Shredding provided by
Piranha Paper Shredder*



From Fire Chief Caswell...

Spring is coming and I would like to take the time to remind residents that as the snow melts and the ground begins drying out, conditions for the possibility of grass fires increases greatly. Avoid any burning when there is a significant amount of wind. Wind direction can change instantly and without warning, taking a small controlled fire and turning it into a large, uncontrolled and highly unsafe situation. Contact the Waubeka Fire Department and the Ozaukee County Sheriff's Department prior to any burning.

Spring also means getting out the grill and enjoying the outdoors. A few tips for you to follow can make for a safe grilling season. Start out with a clean grill, free of grease or food buildup. Always use the grill outside and away from your home, garage, eaves or overhanging branches. Never leave it unattended and keep children and pets away while it is in use. For charcoal grills, use only charcoal starter fluid to light the coals. Keep the fluid out of the reach of children and away from heat sources. Wait until coals are completely cooled then dispose of them in a metal container. For propane grills, check the fuel line prior to the first use. Spray the hose with a soap/water solution to check for leaks. If you see bubbles in the hose after turning the gas on, there is a leak that needs to be addressed prior to use.

Please contact us if you would like to find out more information on how you can become a member of the Waubeka Fire Department. 262-692-2656

FYI

Thursday, March 27, 2014 - Press Release

Madison – Today, Governor Scott Walker signed legislation to assist people struggling to pay high heating bills as a result of the propane shortage and bitter cold winter. Under Assembly Bill 770, the Wisconsin Housing and Economic Development Authority (WHEDA) will administer the emergency heating assistance loan guarantee program. To be approved for emergency heating assistance, applicants must have a household income no higher than 200 percent of the median income of their county, they cannot be eligible for conventional financing, and they must demonstrate reasonable ability to repay the loan.

"The propane shortage affected residents and business owners all around the state, and left many with unexpectedly high heating bills that they cannot pay in full," said Governor Walker. "This emergency heating assistance loan guarantee program will help families make ends meet and offers some relief from the burden created by the propane crisis."

Assembly Bill 770 – creates an emergency heating assistance loan guarantee program. It will allow families to obtain financing of up to \$2,500 through a participating lender with a guarantee of 50 to 80 percent on original amount borrowed. Assembly Bill 770 makes financing more affordable by providing a one-time payment of 3.5 percent to reduce the interest rate on the loan. The bill passed the Assembly 94-1 and unanimously passed the Senate; it is Act 175.



Bookmobile

Eastern Shores Library System has updated it's website. It has a new "look" and a new website address: <http://www.easternshoreslibsys.org>. The Bookmobile Schedule is the top listing on the Quick Link section.

Dog Licenses are Mandatory!

The fine for an unlicensed dog is \$148.20 - and the cost of having a properly licensed dog is minimal. Spade and neutered dogs are \$5.00 each; otherwise dogs are \$10.00 each. Just send a copy of your dog's Rabies vaccine paperwork from the veterinary clinic, a stamped self-addressed envelope (with one stamp for each license request) and a check written to the Town of Fredonia for your dog's tag. Send it to P.O. Box 12, Fredonia, WI 53021. Or, you can come to the Government Center, 242 Fredonia Avenue, Fredonia between 9:30 and 11:30 am weekdays and you can get the tags right away. If you have any questions please call the office at (262) 692-9673. Multiple dogs??? Kennel tags are also available.

