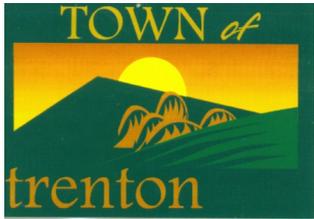


The Town Crier

The Trenton Township Newsletter

We're on the web! Visit www.townoftrenton.info



REFERENDUM

From the Desk of Joe Gonnering

The following continues the discussion from the Spring Town Crier cover article.

Town Roads

The roads in the Town of Trenton are in dire need of significant annual maintenance work. Maintaining roads is essential in order to preserve the road in its originally constructed condition, protect adjacent resources, and provide efficient, convenient travel along the route. In addition, the condition of the road surface is an important factor in preventing automobile accidents.

Unfortunately, the budgetary funds available for annual road repair and maintenance in the Town continue to decline. Regular costs of doing business continue to increase each year by about three percent, and the levy increase allowed by the State each year is limited to the increase in new construction within the Town (about 1.0% in 2017). The only way to balance the budget for regular business is to reduce the amount of money spent on road repair and maintenance.

Fifteen to 20 years ago, maintaining one mile of road cost about \$500,000. Today, the cost for the same maintenance work is over \$1,000,000. The increase in road repair costs is due in part to the increase in fuel prices, which affects the cost of asphalt and other materials required for road work. These costs are prohibitive within the Town's available budget, which forces the Board to use alternative means to maintain the roads. This work is less costly in the short-term, but is unfortunately less effective over the long-term.

The Town is allowed to increase

the levy when debt is incurred, as with the loans that were used for new snowplow equipment. In addition, the Town Board approved a short-term loan of \$100,000 in 2017 to help pay for the Trading Post Trail reconstruction. The effect of this loan on the 2017 levy was negligible, and in fact, the overall mill rate (the rate of tax per \$1,000 of assessed property value) decreased. Levy increases for debt are temporary, lasting the life of the loan, whereas increasing the levy by referendum can be permanent.



Referendum Question

In the Spring Town Crier, it was mentioned that the Town Board may be asking residents to approve an increase in the levy in the near future. Because of the increased road repair needs, as well as the comments and questions received regarding road repair and maintenance, the Town Board has resolved to place a referendum question on the November 6 ballot. The question will state:

“Under state law, the increase in the levy of the Town of Trenton for the tax to be imposed for the next fiscal year, 2018, is limited to 1%, which results in a levy of \$942,366. Shall the Town of Trenton be allowed to exceed this limit and increase the levy for the next fiscal year, 2019, and going forward permanently, for the purpose of improving and maintaining Town of Trenton roadways, by a total of \$500,000, equating to 53.5885%, which results in a levy of \$1,433,036.?”

Voting “yes” means you approve the Town increasing the annual levy by \$500,000 to be used for Town road repair and maintenance. Voting “no” means you do not approve the Town increasing the annual levy by \$500,000 and therefore the Town will be limited to the state-imposed levy limit increase.

The levy increase referendum must be presented at a General (November) election, or at a Special Election. The Town Board decided it would be better

to present it this year, rather than wait until the 2020 General Election, or spending money on a Special Election in 2019.

Effect on Property Taxes

It is important to keep the numbers in perspective. The Town levy is divided between all Town residents based on each property's assessed value. An increase of \$500,000 to the Town levy is divided among the entire equalized value in the Town (\$494,447,900). This amounts to an increased “mill rate” of 0.707526 (the rate of tax on \$1,000 of assessed property value). Another item to note is that of each resident's 2017 property tax bill, **only about** 18% remained with the Town, as shown in

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POLICE DEPARTMENT

By Chief Joseph Gabrish

Personnel Change

In July the department replaced an officer who resigned. Please welcome Police Officer Andrew Mammen to the department. Andy has a Masters degree and has worked for a few local departments. He was the Chief water Patrol Officer in the Town of Dover before becoming a Slinger Police Officer. Most recently he was hired by the Village of Grafton Police Department. Andy lives in Cedarburg and enjoys working on home improve-



ment projects in his spare time.

Junk Removal

Abandoned autos, appliances etc are the responsibility of the property owner to get rid of. If we receive a complaint we typically give you up to 30 days to get rid of the nuisance. Please remove all doors from appliances between the time they are removed from the home and sent to the recycling center

Fires

Reminder that small bon fires and small leaf burning is allowed in the town. It is your responsibility to watch the fire as so that it stays

under control. It is a good idea to let the dispatcher know (non emergency number) if you plan to burn so that no one calls the fire department unnecessarily. You MAY NOT burn anything toxic like plastic or rubber for example.

Snow Plows

Thanks to everyone who keeps their cars off of the road during snow events!!!! There is no overnight parking on any road overnight in the township. This is especially true when it snows. The plows with wings are very wide and need to get through.

Home Businesses

If you are planning to have a home business it is a

good idea to call the town hall and check on the specific requirements and restrictions prior to starting said business.

Vacation Checks

We do home vacation checks. if you are going to be gone for a week or more let us know if you would like us to drive by and check on things. If you have people coming and going to your property while you are gone then we would not do a check because it gets too complicated.

Please like us on Facebook for periodic informational postings!

Joseph T Gabrish
Chief of Police

REFERENDUM

From page 1

the pie chart below. **Only the portion** of your property tax bill related to the Town levy would increase because of the proposed levy adjustment.

Increasing the Town levy by \$500,000 would cost each taxpayer about \$70 per \$100,000 of assessed value. With a total assessed value of \$275,000, your property tax bill would increase by less than \$200. Sharing the cost of addi-

tional roadwork in the Town through property taxes is the only way to provide our residents with properly maintained and repaired roads in a timely manner. The levy increase would cost most Town residents less than \$20 per month for improved roads in the Town!

As mentioned, the Town Board can approve borrowing funds for road repair. Loan payments are added to the levy during the term of the

loan. So, borrowing \$500,000 to repair a road is paid for through property taxes, just as a permanent increase in the levy is paid for through taxes. However, borrowing \$500,000 to repair a road costs more in the end because of the interest. The Town Board has historically chosen not to borrow money for road repair, but as the costs increase and income remains stagnant, there may be little choice if the Town is to continue maintaining its 67 miles of roadways.

Predicting the future is impossible. Inflation, state requirements, fuel costs, and new construction are all variables that affect road work costs. One thing that is guaranteed, however, is the continued need to maintain the Town roads, and the costs associated with these repairs will likely continue to increase.

Comments and questions are always appreciated. Please contact me at 262.689.5345.

—Chairman Joseph Gonnering

TOWN HALL INFO

The Town's office hours have changed, as detailed below. Town Officials will also do their best to accommodate other available hours by appointment, when possible.

In addition, outside of normal business hours, residents can visit the Town's website, www.townoftrenton.info, for valuable information and helpful links. Suggestions to improve the website are always welcome.

HOURS

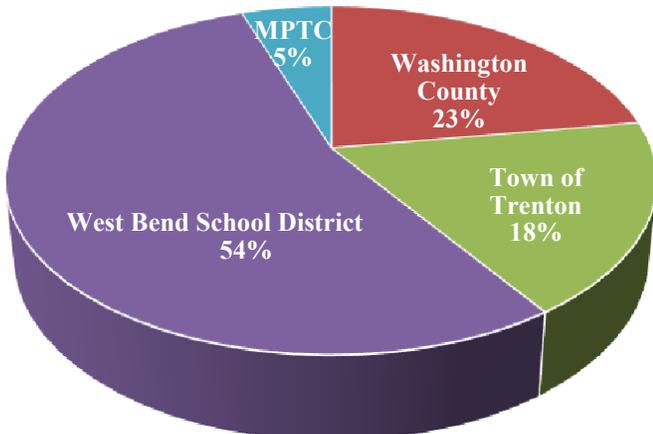
GENERAL OFFICE HOURS

Monday	8:00 AM—2:00 PM
Tuesday	9:00 AM—Noon
Wednesday	9:00 AM—Noon
Thursday	9:00 AM—Noon

BUILDING & ZONING HOURS

BUILDING INSPECTOR	
Thursday	3:00—5:00 PM
ZONING ADMINISTRATOR	
Friday	9:00 AM—3:00 PM

WHERE DOES YOUR PROPERTY TAX GO?



PUBLIC WORKS

Waste Disposal

On the second Saturday of each month, between 8:00 and noon, residents can bring metal goods, batteries, waste oil and brush to the Town Hall for recycling or disposal. No electronics, refrigerators, air conditioners, leaves or grass clippings are accepted.

Other methods of disposal for items not accepted at the Town include Veolia Environmental in Port Washington and Advanced Disposal on North River Road. Note that fees apply at both of these locations. Additional information regarding hours and fees is available at www.townoftrenton.info.

Please be conscious of

debris left in the roadway. Lawn clippings blown into the roads can be slippery and hazardous to pedestrians and bikers.

Advanced Disposal works hard to collect trash and recycling consistently. However, if you experience a problem, please leave your carts out and contact the Town Hall. Every effort will be made to collect your trash and/or recycling if it was missed.

TOWN OF TRENTON
ELECTRONIC WASTE
EVENT
 SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 8
 8:00 AM-NOON

Electronic Waste

The Town of Trenton annual e-waste event is on Saturday, September 8 from 8:00—noon at the Advanced Disposal Transfer Station, 803 River Road. Be prepared to prove Trenton residence.

Washington County's Full Service Clean Sweep is on Saturday, October 6 from 8:00—noon at 900 N. Lang Street, West Bend. During this event, Washington County residents can properly dispose or recycle unwanted Hazardous Waste, Electronics, TVs and Large Household Appliances, Pharmaceutical Medication, and Used Tires. Fees apply for everything but pharmaceutical medications. See our website for more details.

FIRE DEPARTMENT

I hope everyone is having a great summer. Anyone who is taking any medications should have a "File of Life" paper on their refrigerator or somewhere readily accessible. This is simply a paper that lists all the medications you are on, as well as medical conditions and insurance information. Your physician can provide your list of medications free of charge. It's best to make two or three copies of it. This form makes our job a lot easier in an emergency, rather than having to take a bag of all the medications or writing down all the medications you're on to give to the attending physician. So if you do not have one, ask your doctor at your next appointment. Thanks.



The Newburg Fire Department is still looking for EMTs. If this is something you would be interested in, please contact me or come down to the firehouse any Monday night between 6:15 and 7 PM to talk to me.

We are also looking for burn houses. Anyone who has an old house or structure they are looking to have demolished, as long as it is structurally sound (meaning no big holes in the floors), we would love to use it for training.

Stay safe,
Respectfully,

—Mark Chesak Chief,
Newburg Fire Department

TOWN TREASURER

The Town of Trenton is delighted to introduce **Jenny Princl**, the newly appointed Treasurer. Be sure to give Jenny a warm welcome when you are paying your property taxes.

NEW THIS YEAR! The updated system for recording property tax payments will be "real-time," which means that as soon as your payment posts, it will be visible online, where you can view and print a receipt. The link is available on the Property Tax page of our website. We encourage residents to check online for posting status before calling the Town Hall. Tax payments are posted when received,

usually within a day or two.

Property tax receipts will no longer be mailed unless you supply a self-addressed, stamped envelope.

A few reminders (be sure to read all instructions included with your tax bill):

- ✓ Mailing your payment is preferred
- ✓ Payments may be placed in the drop box at the Town Hall
- ✓ The State Bank of Newburg accepts property tax payments (no dog license fees accepted)
- ✓ Online payment is available for a fee
- ✓ In-Person collection times will be available
- ✓ First or full payments

should be mailed to the Town of Trenton

- ✓ Payments mailed after January 31 must be sent to the County Treasurer
- ✓ Do NOT staple your check to your tax bill payment stub
- ✓ Dog License fees may be paid in the same check as your property taxes, unless paying at the State Bank of Newburg
- ✓ Escrow checks made payable to the homeowner and the Town must be endorsed by the homeowner
- ✓ The Town of Trenton now requires a copy of your dog's rabies certificate to accompany your dog license application

ELECTION NEWS

The Town of Trenton has permanently transitioned to an electronic poll book for checking in voters on election day. Comments and questions can be addressed to Clerk

Cindy Komro or Deputy Clerk Lori Wanninger.

The easiest and most efficient way to register to vote, request an absentee ballot, and view your voter record, is through MyVoteWI.gov. The first time you request a

mailed absentee ballot, you will need to provide Photo ID. A word of caution about registering online: If your address is new, it may not be in

the system yet. Please contact the Town Clerk if you have any trouble with registration so that your address can be verified.

UPCOMING ELECTION
 FALL GENERAL ELECTION: NOVEMBER 6, 2018

PHONE DIRECTORY

675-6009 (p)
675-6052 (f)

CHAIRMAN

Joseph C. Gonnering

262.689.5345

Chairman@townoftrenton.info

SUPERVISOR

WEED CONTROL CONTACT

EMERGENCY GOVERNMENT CONTACT

Ed Doerr

262.675.6925

Supervisor.Doerr@townoftrenton.info

SUPERVISOR

RECYCLING COORDINATOR

Jeff Esselmann

262.334.4146

Supervisor.Esselmann@townoftrenton.info

CLERK

Cindy Komro

262.675.6009 x101

clerk@townoftrenton.info

DEPUTY CLERK

Lori Wanninger

262.675.6009 x102

deputyclerk@townoftrenton.info

TREASURER

Jenny Princl

262.675.6009 x103

treasurer@townoftrenton.info

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

Charles Schmidt, Director

Jim Averill

262.675.6009 x109

dpw@townoftrenton.info

ZONING ADMINISTRATOR

Barb Davies

262.675.0415 x104

zoning@townoftrenton.info

BUILDING INSPECTOR

Walter Groteleuschen

262.675.0909 (home)

262.675.0415 x105 (office)

building@townoftrenton.info

APPRAISER

Michael Grota

262.253.1142

Grota Appraisals

N88 W16573 Main St.

Menomonee Falls, WI 53051

ADVANCED DISPOSAL

800.387.0949

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Joseph Gabrish, Chief

262.689.0661

1071 Hwy 33 E

West Bend, WI 53095

NEWBURG FIRE DEPARTMENT

Mark Chesak, Chief

262.675.6262

WALLACE LAKE SANITARY DISTRICT

Judy Mastenbrook

262.338.6934

P.O. Box 31

West Bend, WI 53095

SCENIC DRIVE SANITARY DISTRICT

Mary Kilian

414.331.0883

PO Box 1092

West Bend, WI 53095

GENERAL OFFICE HOURS

Monday 8:00AM—2:00PM

Tuesday 9:00AM—Noon

Wednesday 9:00AM—Noon

Thursday 9:00AM—Noon

BUILDING & ZONING HOURS

BUILDING INSPECTOR

Thursday 3:00PM—5:00PM

ZONING ADMINISTRATOR

Friday 9:00AM—3:00PM

Town Hall Yard Hours—Second Saturday, 8:00AM—Noon

Accepting **only** brush, waste oil, batteries, metal goods
Other large items, including building materials can be taken to the
Advanced Disposal West Bend Transfer Station, 803 N. River
Road. The disposal charge is based on the weight of the items; the
minimum fee changes monthly so call 262.334.5618 for current
pricing.

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