

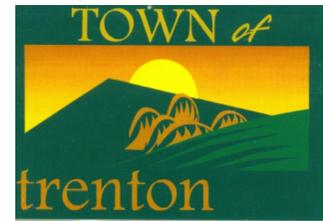
The Town Crier

The Trenton Township Newsletter

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VOLUME 30, ISSUE 1

SPRING 2020



GENERAL TOWN NEWS

From the Desk of Joe Gonnering

Debt Free!

The Town of Trenton is officially debt-free, as of March 2020, when the snowplow loans taken several years ago were paid off!



Police Personnel

Chief Joseph Gabrish and Captain Emmett Grissom both retired after 23 years of faithful service. See Police Department article on page 2.

Steven Swiertz, who has been serving as Sergeant, was appointed in May to the Trenton Chief of Police position. Congratulations, Steve!

Trash & Recycling

The Town Hall Yard is open twice a month, to accept brush, waste oil, batteries and metal goods.

- Second Saturday, 8:00 AM—noon
- Fourth Thursday, 4:00—8:00 PM
- Holidays excluded

Plastic Bags

Please do not place plastic shopping bags in your recycling cart. The bags cannot be recycled with your other recycling items. Return the bags

to a store that accepts them for recycling.

Annual E-Waste Event

Advanced Disposal will host the annual Electronic Waste Disposal Event for Town of Trenton residents on the first Saturday in September. Note that this event is to collect

ELECTRONIC WASTE ONLY.

Computers and related equipment, flat-screen televisions (NO TUBE TVs), DVD/VCR players are acceptable. No hazardous waste or household appliances can be accepted.



Driveways & Culverts

A permit is required when installing or replacing a driveway or culvert. Current ordinances prohibit concrete in the road right-of-way, which means that the last ten feet of your driveway—measured from the edge of the town road towards your home—cannot be concrete. Blacktop or gravel is required in that 10-foot span. Concrete surfaces cause problems during snowplow operations, and when town roads are being resurfaced.

These concrete driveway restrictions do NOT apply to residents living on a private road in the Town, as those residents pay outside contractors for all road repair, maintenance and snow removal. Please contact your condominium association or homeowners association for applicable rules if you live on one of these private roads.

Questions should be directed to Building Inspector Walt Groteuschen or Zoning Administrator Barbara Davies at 262.675.0415.

All driveways, existing and new, must have a driveway culvert (minimum 15"). (See Town Ordinance §174-18A). Culverts assure effective water flow from one side of the driveway to the other, and minimizes puddling. Proper water drainage away from the road extends the life of Town roads. Also, access to the culvert can help when it is necessary for a hose or line to be run through the ditch area.

The Town will replace existing culverts free of charge **IF REPLACEMENT IS NECESSARY WHEN RECONSTRUCTING THE ROAD AND DITCHES IN FRONT OF YOUR RESIDENCE.** However, if you DON'T have an existing culvert, you are responsible for the purchase price of the culvert.

The Town Board is reviewing these rules, so stay tuned for any changes.

Town of Trenton Yard Hours

Second Saturday of Each Month, 8:00 AM—Noon
Fourth Thursday of Each Month, 4:00—8:00 PM

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POLICE DEPARTMENT

By Police Chief Steven Swiertz

Greetings to all. I hope this message finds you, your families, loved ones and friends well and in positive spirits. Along with the rest of the world the Trenton Township Police Department has undergone some changes.

Personnel

Chief Joe Gabrish and Captain Emmett Grissom retired after 23 years of dedicated service to the citizens of the Trenton Township. Many of you may not know that Chief Gabrish was instrumental in starting this Police Department and making it into what it is today. Captain Grissom joined the agency about one year after its introduction. Together, the two trained numerous officers and established valuable, lasting partnerships with township residents, businesses and the county as a whole. On behalf of the Trenton Township Police Department, the Trenton Town Board, the citizens of this

township and Washington County we thank them for their service and wish them both happy retirements. Both are great men, great leaders and great officers.



COVID-19

During this public health crisis, Trenton Police Officers were equipped and prepared to respond. The agency maintained patrol coverage and assisted township residents as needed. I would like to recognize Trenton Police Officer Andrew Mammen and Trenton Police Officer Luke Wilhelm. During these past trying months both sacrificed a great deal of time from their families and loved ones to ensure our safety and security—all of this after working very demanding hours with their full time Law Enforcement agencies. Thank you gentlemen, your hard work and dedication are much appreciated!

COVID 19 has had a pro-

found effect on people, not only medically but emotionally as well. If you feel that you need assistance or want somebody to talk to please reach out.

IMPACT 2-1-1

IMPACT is a private non-profit organization that has served Southeastern Wisconsin for over 60 years. IMPACT offers free, confidential, 24-hour information on community, health and social services. A one-stop source of information for people looking for community services and resources, especially for those who need essential services, such as food, shelter, counseling, employment assistance and more.

- Dial 2-1-1 or 866.211.3380
- Text ZIP Code to 898.211
- Website & chat message: <http://www.impactinc.org/impact-2-1-1/>

Dial 9-1-1 in Emergency

If you are experiencing a medical or mental health emergency dial 9-1-1. We are here to help!



Summer

As we prepare for the warmth of summer please continue to take necessary precautions to keep yourself and your loved ones safe. For the past three months we've been constantly reminded to distance ourselves, wash our hands and stay indoors. The Trenton Police Department wants people to enjoy the nice weather; after all, we wait long enough for it. So please get out and enjoy it, just do so safely.

As always please feel free to reach out to us with any questions, comments or concerns. The department phone number is 262.689.0661 and the department email is townoftrentonpd@aol.com. We will continue to provide vacation watches/house checks. Just give us a call and let us know. We are happy to help out.

On behalf of the Trenton Township Police Department we truly appreciate your support! Stay healthy and positive. Summer is almost here. With respect,

Steven Swiertz
Chief of Police

PUBLIC WORKS

The Department of Public Works continues to trim trees throughout the Town. The wood that is cut from those trees is available for collection by anyone. Generally, the homeowner directly affected by the tree removal has "right of first refusal." However, it must be removed from the right-of-way as soon as possible, or others may collect it.

PLEASE SLOW DOWN WHEN YOU ENCOUNTER

PEOPLE ON THE ROADS, WALKING, RUNNING, WORKING. It is important to keep everyone safe. We want to ensure that everyone goes home at the end of the day, without injury.

Road work planned in 2020 includes replacement of culvert on Newark Drive, along with ditching and gravel work. Paradise Drive paving will be completed. Ditching in various areas of the Town has already begun, and will continue as the budget allows.

FIRE DEPARTMENT

Smoke and carbon monoxide alarm batteries should be replaced twice a year. An easy way to remember



this is to do that when you turn your clocks ahead or back at Daylight Savings. Also, just a reminder that smoke and carbon monoxide alarms should be replaced every 10 years. Most of the false alarms we get are because the units are over 10 years old and triggering a false alarm.

The Newburg Fire Department is still looking for

EMTs. If you think you would like to join a great organization and help out your community please stop at the fire station any Monday night between 6:15 and 9 PM or call and leave me a message.

We are always looking for buildings that we can train in and burn down at a later date. If you have a building and this is something you'd be interested in please give me a call.

As always stay safe,
Mark Chesak, Chief
Newburg Fire Department
262.675.6262 x105

Need something notarized? Call the Town Hall. The Town of Trenton has three Notaries on staff.

ELECTION NEWS



What can you do at myvote.wi.gov?

Update Name/Address

If your name or address has changed, you must update your voter record by completing a Voter Registration Application. You can perform this activity quickly and easily online. Mailing a paper Voter Registration Application is another option, although it is more cumbersome and requires sending a proof of residence document.

When you move, we recommend updating your voter record as soon as possible. If your Wisconsin Department of Transportation record is updated, online voter registration is quick and easy. You can update your WIDOT record online and immediately update your voter record.

DON'T WAIT! The statutes allow voter registration online or by mail up to 20 days before an election. After that, you must visit the Clerk, or register on election day. Both of these alternative options take much longer.

Review Election Participation

Click on the link to view the elections you participated in. Note that after an election, it can take up to 30 days for participation to appear in your voter record.

Vote Absentee

Requesting a mailed Absentee Ballot through MyVoteWI is easy! Photo ID must be on file with the Clerk, or uploaded during the requesting



process. Note that Photo ID must satisfy certain requirements regarding photo, name, and expiration. After requesting a ballot, the following can be tracked through Election Day:

- Ballot requested
- Request received by Clerk
- Ballot mailed by Clerk
- Ballot returned to Clerk

Other MyVoteWI Activities

You can also find your polling place, view upcoming elections, be informed of deadlines for registration and Absentee requests and see other voter news. Links to the Wisconsin Elections Commission, as well as your Town Clerk, are also available through this comprehensive website.



Absentee Voting

Absentee Voting by Mail

The Spring Election saw an unprecedented number of Absentee Ballots. Unfortunately, mistakes were made by voters that caused their ballots to be rejected on Election Day. Instructions are mailed along with the ballot, but most voters confess to NOT reading them. The following procedures are CRITICAL when voting Absentee by mail:

- ✓ The Certificate Envelope that is used for returning the ballot MUST have the **voter signature**, a qualified **witness signature**, and the **address** of the witness—these fields are highlighted in yellow on the envelope, and yet, many voters neglect to accurately complete this part
- ✓ Absentee Ballots MUST be returned to the Clerk no later than 8:00 PM on Election Day—by mail or by dropping the ballot in the Town Hall drop box
- ✓ Absentee Ballot Certificate Envelopes MUST NOT be tampered with (for example, opened and resealed)—if your envelope was damaged, please contact the Clerk for a new one
- ✓ Absentee Ballots should be marked with blue or black ink, but please avoid the using a permanent marker (LIKE A SHARPIE)—these

markers bleed through and can cause inaccurate readings by the tabulator

- ✓ The ovals MUST be filled in properly for the machine to record your intended vote—DO NOT just place an “X” in the oval

Request an Absentee Ballot online, or by mailing a completed Form EL-121, Absentee Ballot Request. A copy of a valid Photo ID is required the first time you request a mailed Absentee Ballot.

It is important to request a mailed Absentee Ballot with sufficient time to have it mailed, and for you to mail it back. You can request an Absentee Ballot on January 1st for any or all elections in that calendar year. The last day to request a mailed Absentee Ballot is 5:00 PM on the Thursday before an election. It must be received in the Clerk's office no later than 8:00 PM on Election Day.

Absentee Voting In Person

The Clerk schedules several In-Person Absentee Voting hours in the weeks leading up to an election. These dates are posted on the Town of Trenton website, www.townoftrenton.info and also published in the Daily News. Call 262.675.6009 for more information.

Upcoming Elections
Partisan Primary—August 11
General and Presidential Election—November 3

CONTACT INFO

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

262.305.1246

Supervisor.Esselmann@townoftrenton.info

CLERK

Cindy Komro

262.675.6009 x101

262.290.0154

clerk@townoftrenton.info

DEPUTY CLERK

Lori Wanninger

262.675.6009 x102

deputyclerk@townoftrenton.info

TREASURER

Nicole Cozzuli-Meer

262.675.6009 x103

treasurer@townoftrenton.info

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

Charles Schmidt, Director

Jim Averill

Adam Jahn

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

Steven Swiertz, Police 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 Wednesday 9:00AM—12:00PM

Tuesday 9:00AM—12:00PM Thursday 9:00AM—12:00PM

BUILDING INSPECTOR Thursday 3:00PM—5:00PM

ZONING ADMINISTRATOR Friday 9:00AM—3:00PM

Town Hall Yard Hours:

Second Saturday, 8:00AM—Noon

& Fourth Thursday, 4:00—8:00PM

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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The Town Crier
Trenton Township
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West Bend, WI 53095