

Urban Living in a Rural Setting

Vol. 25, Issue 4 Winter 2022

CHAIRMAN'S CHATTER

December 2022

Greetings,

It's almost 2023! Here we find ourselves still shell-shocked from the prior three years and already heading into a new calendar year. You can almost hear the click ... click ... click ... as we make our way up to the top of the roller coaster that 2023 will undoubtedly be. For some, this ride will be a boring kiddie coaster; while for others, it will be a high-terror twister of a ride. Where we all are will depend on unique circumstances. Let's take the ride in stride, letting insights and goals illuminate our trajectory.

For a moment, let's take a look back at 2022 ..."Wait", perhaps not specifically. Both I and your Town Administrator have given chronicled articles in this quarterly newsletter about ongoing town business issues this past year... So I am not going to list each positive or challenging scenario over this past year other than to say we had more forward looking results than non-conclusive results.

The start of a new year is always an exciting time. We have all the experiences and knowledge from this past year to take with us into the next one. In order for this to happen though, it takes a mindset of not only your town officials to work thru; it takes all of our town electors to voice their ideas, opinions, and advisory formats to us, your town officials, to take under consideration. Coming to any one of the scheduled board, planning commission or utility district open meetings is a way to openly communicate with us. Also, an excellent yearly venue is to attend the town's annual meeting which is held the third Tuesday in April. (That date is April 18th 2023, which ironically is

also national Tax Day).

During this town advisory meeting any town resident can express his or her ideas or thoughtful recommendations and/or concerns. In this past November 8th election the town of Neenah had just over 80% turn out of our 2500 registered electors.

Wonderful!



Robert Schmeichel Chairman

Just think if we would have 10% of town electorate turnout for our annual meeting. That would be 250 voting residents. We usually get maybe 1%...Hmmm. The issues discussed at your annual meeting are yours to choose, however they do not necessarily need to cover big ticket issues such as budget allocations. In 2023 we do not have any major capital expenditures projects. Our Larsen Road/Oakridge Road transportation corridor project is planned to be during the 2024-25 construction year. However lesser "perennial" issues the town deals with are as important. A few but not all; Speed Limits, Stop Signs, Road and Drainage Ditch Maintenance, Best Management Practices for Stormwater Ponds, Animal Control Measures, Excess Debris/Rubbish/and all types of nonfunctioning Vehicles on residential lots, and how to handle Yard Waste Materials to include Fall Burning of Leaves. Knowing how the majority of town residents feel about these types of issues helps your town board function responsibly on the behalf of you

Continued on Page 3

ANNUAL TAX INFO MATION

NEW in 2022

Option to Pay Online

Pay Taxes

Property Owners have the option to pay their taxes online via credit card, debit card or echeck. The fee for credit card payment is 2.2% of total payment, debit card is \$3.95 per transaction and echeck is \$0.25.

Property Tax Due Dates

1st Installment or in-full payment is due January 31, 2023.

Payable to: Town of Neenah

> 1600 Breezewood Lane Neenah, WI 54956

Payments made after January 31, 2022 Payable to: Winnebago County Treasurer

P.O. Box 2808

Oshkosh, WI 54903-2808

Payable in-person at:

112 Otter Avenue, Oshkosh

Check the Winnebago County Treasurer website for office hours and contact information

www.co.winnebago.wi.us/treasurer.

Tax Collection Hours: December 2022

•December 19th -22nd 8:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. •December 27th -29th 8:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. •December 30th 8:30 a.m.—3:00 p.m.

•Office is closed December 23rd & 26th and January 2nd.

Payment Information:

Escrow Checks: If you are paying with an escrow check please make sure the check is endorsed properly. Checks with missing signatures will not be accepted.

Receipts: If you would like a receipt, please enclose a self -addressed, stamped envelope with your payment. Credit Card/Debit Card: The Town of Neenah accepts credit, debit cards or e-check as form of payment for real estate taxes through the online portal.

NSF checks: \$35 fee charged for returned payments. **Refund Policy:** If the amount on your mortgage escrow check is larger then the amount of your tax bill and a refund check will be issued in 30 days.

Lottery and Gaming Credit: If you DO NOT have a Lottery/Gaming credit on your tax bill, you may still be eligible. To qualify for the credit, your primary residence must be in Wisconsin and be owner occupied on January 1

DOG LICENSE APPLICATION

Dogs five (5) months of age or older must be licensed annually by April 1st.	Owner's name:	
License Requirements: •This application	Owner's address:	
Open of rabies vaccination certificate Payment, cash or check made payable	Owner's phone number:	
to: Town of Neenah If paying via check, application can be	Name of dog:	
submitted via mail with a self- addressed stamped envelope to:	Breed:	
Town of Neenah	Color and/or markings:	
1600 Breezewood Lane Neenah, WI 54956	Male □ Female □ Sp	payed or Neutered? ☐ Yes ☐ No
License Fee:	All information is required on application	
\$5.00 for neutered males or spayed females \$10.00 for not neutered males or not	A copy of a current rabies vaccination certific	cate is required to be licensed.
spayed females Late Fee after April 1st: \$5.00	Include a Self addressed stamped envelope if	submitting by mail.

Continued from Page 1

the residents of the town. So please join us for an important "Communication Annual Meeting".

But let's depart from "town business" to some end of year "Fun Facts":

Did you know that the original name of that popular Yuletide song "Jingle Bells was actually copyrighted in 1857 under the title of "One Horse Open Sleigh". And that this ode to outdoor wintertime fun may have been composed in the warm-weather locale of Georgia (Really?) — Despite the claims of Medford Massachusetts that it was written there at a local tavern.

Did you know that December is National Pear Month? (Me neither.)

The U.S. dictionary publisher Merriam-Webster announced that their 2022 word of the year is "gaslighting." Merriam-Webster defines it as "the act or practice of grossly misleading someone, especially for one's own advantage."

Today's home economics is challenging...Do you know where and when the term "More Bang for Your Buck" came to be? This American expression refers to getting a good deal, but the origins are a little more sinister. President Dwight D. Eisenhower coined the phrase in the 1950s, with the aim of expanding America's armed forces while decreasing military spending. (Interesting)

We all may have a perchance of over indulgence during the Yuletide season. While it looks like it should be a rude word, "crapulence" is actually a perfectly apt term for holiday parties. This archaic adjective describes a lack of restraint while eating or drinking that ultimately causes headache or illness (holiday dinners, anyone?). It's been part of English since the mid-17th century and came from the Latin word crapula, meaning "excessive drinking."

Enjoy your time with family and friends but please don't overdo it.

With that, I and the entire Town Board and Administrative staff wish one and all a very Merry Christmas and a Great New Year.

Bob Schmeichel

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ELECTION INFORMATION

NOTICE OF SPRING ELECTION April 4, 2023

STATE OF WISCONSIN } WINNEBAGO COUNTY } TOWN OF NEENAH }

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that at an election to be held in the Town of Neenah, Winnebago County, Wisconsin, on Tuesday, April 4, 2023, the following offices are to be elected.

Chairman, for the term of two years, incumbent Bob Schmeichel, whose term will expire April 2023.

Town Supervisor, two positions, for the term of two years, incumbents Brooke Cardoza and Tom Wilde whose terms will expire April 2023.

Town of Neenah Sanitary District #2 Commissioner, for a term of six years, incumbent Duane Sargent whose term will expire in April 2023.

The term of office for all positions will commence on April 18, 2023.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN, that the first day to circulate nomination papers for Alderperson is December 1, 2022 and the final day for filing nomination papers in the Clerk's office is 5:00 p.m., on Tuesday, January 3, 2023.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN, that if a primary election is necessary, the primary election will be held on Tuesday, February 21, 2023. NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN, that Acceptable Photo ID will be required to vote in the election. If you do not have a photo ID you may obtain a free ID for voting from the Division of Motor Vehicles.

Register to Vote • Change of address • Absentee ballot • Polling location • Ballot information To register to vote, change your address, request an absentee ballot, find your polling place, or to see what's on your ballot, visit myvote.wi.gov.

*** REMINDER***

- Proof of residency is required to register to vote.
- Photo ID is required to vote.
- Photo ID must be on file to receive an absentee ballot by mail. For more information on acceptable proof of residency, acceptable photo ID, or how to obtain a free photo ID, visit elections.wi.gov. If you have any questions

SEEKING VOLUNTEERS -**Newsletter Editor and Website Coordinator**

The Clerk's Office is seeking volunteers to assist with the newsletter publication and/or maintaining website content.

The newsletter is published quarterly through LPi using Microsoft Publisher. The Newsletter Editor will assist in the layout and design of the publication and make suggestions for content.

The website is hosted through Town Web Design and uses WordPress. The website coordinator will assist to keep website content current, enter new information and make suggestions for content.

Training and tools are provided. This is a very flexible opportunity, you may work from home, or in the Town office. You may work when you want and at your own pace.

This is a great opportunity to become involved with your local government, help to keep our residents informed of what is happening in the Town, and work with the your Elected Officials and Town Staff.

Contact Ellen at 920-725-0916 or eskerke@tn.neenah.wi.gov if you would like more information.

FIRE DEPARTMENT

Mutual Aid, Automatic Aid, and Mutual Aid Box Alarm System (MABAS)

When the alarm sounds, the Town of Neenah Fire Department works closely with all of our surrounding neighbors to ensure that the necessary resources and manpower are quickly dispatched to handle any fire or emergency situation that may arise. Strong Mutual Aid and Automatic Aid agreements are in place for all the agencies to work together seamlessly.

Our auto-aid partners are Fox Crossing Fire Department and Town of Clayton Fire Department. For any reported structure fire in the Town of Neenah, Fox Crossing Fire and Town of Clayton Fire are automatically dispatched along with us.



Mutual aid agreements are in place with all of the other fire departments in Winnebago and surrounding counties, and when additional assistance is required, we can quickly request these resources be dispatched to the scene or a nearby staging area. A perfect example of these strong working relationships was the response to the 119 vehicle crash on Highway 41 in February of 2019. The Town of Neenah Fire Department was the first fire/emergency services agency on the scene and worked closely with over 140 other firefighters, EMS professionals, law enforcement, highway crews, and tow truck operators. Each group played a key role in safely treating and transporting the injured, quickly moving those not injured off the highway to warm safe shelter, stabilizing the incident, and then clearing the massive number of tangled vehicles to reopen the highway by early the next morning.

Specialized mutual aid resources (such as Hazmat, dive teams, trench rescue, rope rescue, ladder trucks etc) are available through our partnerships with some of the area's full time fire

Continued on Page 7



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ICE AND SNOW CONTROL

We can have safe walkways in the winter and cleaner water all year round.

Winter in Northeast Wisconsin is a great time for outdoor fun, like ice fishing, ice skating, sledding and skiing. Here, winter also means mountains of snow to shovel and layers of ice to remove from driveways and sidewalks.

We often try to make ice removal easier by using products like salt and sand to melt the snow and ice. Many people do not realize that these products are harming local waters and the animals that rely on them. When the ice and snow melt, the salt and chemicals flow into street drains that lead directly to rivers and lakes.

SHOVEL OFTEN AND EARLY

Shoveling often during and immediately following the storm removes the snow from walkways and driveways before it gets packed down by tires and feet. The most im-

Use only the recommended amount. Throwing down more salt will not speed up the melting process.

portant part of deicing is removing as much snow as possible before applying salt or sand - it's also great exercise!

MAKE THE MOST OF THE SALT YOU USE

It is not always necessary to see bare pavement to have a safe winter surface. Ask yourself if it is necessary that the snow or ice be removed. For salt to be effective, air temperature needs to be warmer than the surface temperature of the area you want to treat. A little goes a long way. Use only the recommended amount. Throw-

ing down more salt will not speed up the melting process. Use only enough deicer to break the bond between the ice and the pavement, then remove the remaining slush by shoveling.

LIMIT THE AMOUNT OF SAND YOU USE

Sand provides traction. It does not melt ice. Sand, although not chemical, contributes to polluting our local waters. It adds to the excess sediment that is entering waterways, eliminating important habitat for aquatic plants and animals. Sand does play a role in winter road management. It is often used by municipalities on roads to help maintain traction. Since ice removal is typically the concern of homeowners, sand may not be necessary.

Stormwater is rain or snowmelt and water from things people do, like overwatering the lawn or washing the car on the driveway. This water runs off our properties, into the street and down the storm drain - picking up pollutants on its way. Once it reaches the storm drain the water and the pollutants it carries is discharged into local waterways.

Untreated runoff is the biggest threat to our nation's water quality, according to the U.S. **Environmental** Protection Agency. Let's make the small, important changes that will reduce that threat and improve water quality and our lives!

Realize

What touches the ground enters the water

RenewOurWaters.org

Northeast Wisconsin Stormwater Consortium P.O. Box 1861 Appleton, WI 54912 | 920.915.5767

Mutual Aid, Automatic Aid, and Mutual Aid Box Alarm System (MABAS)

departments (Neenah-Menasha Fire Rescue, City of Oshkosh Fire, etc). These resources are required on a very infrequent basis, and by working closely with our mutual aid partners, we are able to save our tax payers a great deal of money.

The Mutual Aid Box Alarm System (MABAS) is a mutual aid measure that may be used for deploying fire, rescue and emergency medical services personnel in a multi-jurisdictional and/or multi-agency response. The town of Neenah Fire department is a member of MABAS Division 123 (Winnebago county) and frequently responds to requests outside of our immediate jurisdiction for assistance. The MABAS system allows resources to be categorized, cataloged, and pre-planned such that a large incident can request types of resources knowing they will show up capable and ready. These large incidents are not common, but when they do occur, many more resources are required than local jurisdictions have available, or if the incident will go on for many days requiring rotating crews.

Auto-aid, mutual aid, and MABAS are a critical part of the Town of Neenah Fire department operations. As a volunteer department, we have limited staffing during the day and rely on our partners to assist with any

major incidents. This is also the same for our partners and you will often see the Town of Neenah Fire department sending resources to incidents outside of our jurisdiction. Very few departments in the area have adequate resources to operate at a major incident by themselves and helping other departments is an inherent piece of firefighting.





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BUILDING PERMITS

	SEPTEMBER 2022		
Scott Thompson	111 Poplar Ct	Plumbing	\$ 9,850
Corey Wesner	1538 Hidden Acres Ln	Remodel	\$ 20,000
Dan Brown	1504 South Park Ave.	HVAC	\$ 5,545
Kara Waters	155 Woodhaven Ln.	Egress Window	\$ 4,700
Brian Burg	105 Woodside Ln.	Remodel	\$ 70,000
Tom and Kim Strehlow	232 Mandella Ct.	Deck and Door Alterations	\$ 6,420
Dish Wireless	1423 Green Valley Rd	Electrical	\$ 4,500
Evolve	104 Cty. Hwy. CB	Remodel	\$150,000
	OCTOBER 2022		
Charlotte Elliot	131 Kappel Dr	HVAC	\$ 4,799
Josh Blomberg	1638 S. Park Ave.	Remodel for Bathroom	\$ 40,000
A-Square Builders	111 Poplar Ct.	Addition	\$ 86,000
Tom Zielinski	208 Mandella Ct.	Addition	\$ 68,000
Douglas Gunderson	152 Old Orchard Ln.	Detached Garage	\$ 30,000
Don and Marcia Lorenz	107 Woodside Ln.	Detached Garage	\$ 15,000
Derek Murphy	130 Sherri-Lea Ln.	Addition to Detached Garage	\$ 20,000
Jeff Birschbach	152 Rickers Bay Rd.	Addition to Deck	\$ 12,000
Jeff Birschbach	152 Rickers Bay Rd.	Remodel	\$ 25,000
N&M Transfer	634 Muttart Rd.	HVAC	\$ 3,199
Jesse Tweed	1753 Cty. Rd. A	Electrical service change	\$ 1,422
Roger Stanek	228 Adella Beach Rd.	Electric	\$ 8,500
Rick Baurain	198 Villa Dr.	Electric service change	\$ 1,750
Town of Neenah Sanitary District #2	1650 S. Park Ave.	Electric	\$ 41,000
	NOVEMBER 2022		
David Koslowski	1580 Deerwood	Bath Remodel	\$ 15,192
Van Sistine Homes	6788 Woodenshoe Rd	New Single Family Dwelling	\$572,791
Brad Poye	190 Villa Dr	Remodel	\$ 10,000

Have questions about a building permit? Visit Town of Neenah website under Departments, Building Inspector and Winnebago County Zoning: https://www.co.winnebago.wi.us/planning-and-zoning.

Town of Neenah Plan Commission Seeks Commission Member

The Town Board is seeking a volunteer to fill a vacancy on the Plan Commission. The Plan Commission meets on the third Monday of each month to review land use planning aspects for the Town of Neenah. Some of the items discussed include Certified Survey Maps (CSM's), Zoning Map Amendments, Conditional Use Permits and Comprehensive Plan Amendments. Plan Commissioners are appointed to serve a three-year term. To discuss further, contact Town Chairman Bob Schmeichel at 920-729-5995 or at the Town Office, 920-725-0916.

CLERK'S CORNER



Board action taken during Town Board Meetings over the past few months .

- Ellen Skerke
- Approve Maintenance Agreement for 2023 with Winnebago County Highway Department.

The following is a summary of Town

- Approve Automatic Aid Assistance Agreement with Village of Fox Crossing .
- Approve Lease Agreement with Amos Ihde for the rental of Town Owned Properties located on Oakridge Road Parcel Numbers: 010-021808 and 010-02180603.
- Approve Lease Agreement for rental of Town owned barn and portion of property on parcel 010-0218063.
- Approve Agreement with McMahon Engineering for single visit site inspection, estimated cost \$2,400 -\$4,000 based on time and material.
- Approve Ordinance 2022-03 To Amend Section 4.03 of Town of Neenah Municipal Code, making the temporary stop signs at Tullar Road and Oakridge Road permanent.

- Approve Resolution 2022-14 Variance Request, 64
 Rickers Bay Rd, Tax Parcel No: 010-0716. Applicant is
 requesting a variance for a sub-standard floodplain
 fill requirement.
- Adopt 2023 Town of Neenah and Storm Water Utility District Budgets.
- Approve Resolution 2022-16 Authorizing 2023 Storm Water Utility Fee of \$100 per ERA.
- Accept Fire Fighter Application for Zach Minten effective November 14, 2022.
- Approve Agreement for Automatic Fire Protection between the Town of Neenah and Town of Clayton.
- Approve Memorandum of Understanding between the Wisconsin Elections Commission and Town of Neenah for a 2022 Election Security Subgrant of \$1,200.
- Approve application for Operator's License for Preston Cannedy.
- Recommendation to Town Board for response to Winnebago County Zoning Department Letter received 10-30-2022 regarding Town owned Parcel 010-0348.
- Approve Resolution 2022-17 Zoning Map Amendment, Town-wide parcels that are currently zoned A-1, Current Zoning: A-1 Agribusiness Proposed Zoning: A-2 General Agriculture.

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2023

Town of Neenah



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A Week Recycling -EAST side of Hwy 41 B Week Recycling- WEST side of Hwy 41 Large Item Pick-Up

(Please call Harter's office at 888-804-8556 for pricing and to schedule by 2pm on Monday before pickup day.) Holiday Observance

Jan 1st - New Year's Day May 29th- Memorial Day

July 4th - Independence Day

Sept 4th - Labor Day

Nov 23rd - Thanksgiving Day Dec 25th - Christmas Day

HOW DO I RECYCLE THAT

Recycling reduces waste in the landfills, recovers useful materials, supports local jobs and saves money. The cost to "tip" a load of recycled materials costs less per ton than tipping a ton of landfill materials. The Town of Neenah also receives grant money from the State of Wisconsin to support the recycling program, \$9.448 in 2022, and has the potential to receive a portion of surplus revenues earned by the Tri-County Recycling program from selling the recycled materials in the commodity market. In 2022, the Town received \$11,366 in surplus revenues. The surplus revenues are allocated based on the volume of recycled materials each municipality tipped in a calendar year. The more the Town of Neenah residents recycle, the more surplus revenues the Town has the potential to receive, allowing the Town to keep recycling costs down for our tax payers.

For all your questions about what is recyclable and where does it go. Visit www.winnebagocountysolidwaste.com/what-do-i-do-with to access the Waste Wizard where you can search any general item name or category to find local disposal instructions.

Winnebago County Solid Waste, along with its Tri-County Recycling partners, Outagamie and Brown Counties, teamed up with BetterBin, a Wisconsin-made mobile application that makes recycling and waste disposal easy. The BetterBin app allows users to scan UPC barcodes which will then tell you how to dispose



of the item in your area. The BetterBin app is free to download at the App Store or Google Play Store, and is easy to use. Select "Winnebago County" in the app for easy, local and accurate recycling information. For each item a user scans, they earn points which can be redeemed for gift cards at popular stores such as Amazon, Dunkin Donuts or REI. Download the BetterBin app today.



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Town Hall Office Hours:

Monday: 8:30am-4:30pm Tues-Thurs: 8:30am-12:30pm

Friday: Closed

Chairman

Bob Schmeichel (920)729-5995 RSchmeichel@tn.neenah.wi.gov Office Hours: By appointment.

Supervisors

David Bluma (920) 636-8340 DBluma@tn.neenah.wi.gov Brooke Cardoza (920) 727-1750 BCardoza@tn.neenah.wi.gov Jim Weiss (920) 727-1952 JWeiss@tn.neenah.wi.gov Tom Wilde (920) 725-0014 TWilde@tn.neenah.wi.gov

Administrator-Clerk-Treasurer

Ellen Skerke (920) 725-0916 ESkerke@tn.neenah.wi.gov

Deputy Clerk-Treasurer

Vicki Boushele (920) 886-7545 VBoushele@tn.neenah.wi.gov

Building Inspector

Gary Klinka (920) 727-9200 Fire Chief

Chad Dolphin (920) 725-0916

Animal Control

Vacant

Plan Commission Chairman Pete Weyenberg (920) 716-8309 Parks & Trails Committee Chair Tom Jankowski (920) 851-5539

Weed Commissioner

Dave Bluma (920) 428-4595

Town of Neenah Sanitary District Commission #2 President

Dan Osero (920) 740-5757

Regular Meetings

Regular meetings are held at the Town Hall beginning at 7PM. Special meetings may be held on other days and times.

Town Board of Supervisors 2nd & 4th Mondays

Town Plan Commission 3rd Monday

Sanitary District #2 Second Tuesday

WINTER REMINDERS

- Parking is NOT permitted on any Town of Neenah roads from December 1st to April 1st from 2:00 am — 7:00 am
- Please move all parked vehicles from the road during snow events as vehicles parked on roads impede snow removal activities.
- No person shall plow, shovel, blow, or place snow across any town road into any ditch.
- Visit the Town of Neenah's website regarding the mailbox policy and mailbox installation guide. If a mailbox is damaged during snow removal activities, the mailbox will be repaired or replaced if it is hit by Winnebago County equipment. If you believe the snow removal equipment damaged your mailbox, contact the Town of Neenah Office at (920)725-0916 to report the damage.
- Christmas Tree recycling is available for free at the Sunnyview Landfill and Transfer station located on CTY Rd Y. December 27th-January 31st. The Town of Neenah does not pick up Christmas Trees.
- 2023 Trash and Recycling Calendar magnets are available in the Town Office.

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