

## CHAIRMAN'S CHATTER

At the writing of this quarterly edition of my newsletter we all are about to enjoy (and as of the printing of this edition, have enjoyed) a festive Memorial Day Weekend. So too, the calendar has also brought us to the seasonal "Road Maintenance and Construction" time of the year. Now it is easy to complain, or whine about the process and perhaps the end product (think Chip Sealing) however please understand annual road maintenance is truly a necessity for the life of the road. Aside from the approved 2025 road grant fundings that the town has received for reconstruction of Larsen Road, east from Clayton Ave. to County Hwy "CB" and Oakridge Road from County "CB" east to the City of Neenah's city limits, monies for our yearly "RM & C" season garners the Lion's share of your town's annual budget and I assure you that we and the road contractors will do their best to conveniently maneuver you safely through these construction sites. With that in mind, I would earnestly ask you to also have the safety of the county or private contract workers in mind. Please do not speed, or be on your cell phone, and follow the directions given for safe job site entry and exit.

Memorial Day weekend also signals the start of boating season. All boat owner do not have the ability to store their boat over winter in an enclosed facility. Some have to Shrink Wrap their

boat. For those of you that do, Winnebago County Solid waste partnered with Becher Plastics in Neenah to collect and recycle boat shrink wrap on this past June 1<sup>st</sup>. If you missed that recycling opportunity date you may still be able to take your boat shrink wrap to Becher Plastics. Please check out their website for contact information. Also, with the thought of recycling plastic, the Town of Neenah will be participating in the NexTrex Recycling Challenge in which the Town could possibly win a free Trex Park bench! Stay tuned for more info on our website.

Speaking of parks. All of your Town of Neenah's four parks are manicured and ready for your enjoyment. Mahler, Franzoi, Conservancy, and Keating parks total over 49 acres. If you haven't been to one of "Your" parks recently, take time to do so and have some fun in the sun or just sit pleasantly and enjoy what the park site has to offer. Our Parks & Trails Committee has been doing a wonderful job. We are always looking for more volunteers so if you interested in



Bob Schmeichel

*(Continued on page 2)*

## CHAIRMAN'S CHATTER

*(Continued from page 1)*

joining our Parks & Trails Committee, please contact me or Town Administrator Ellen Skerke.

Now for my Fun Facts I'm going back to referencing Memorial Day.

World War I saw the change from the name Decoration Day to Memorial Day and the introduction of the "Red Poppy" as a symbol of remembrance. The poppy image comes from a piece written by Canadian soldier and physician John McCrae, who penned the poem "In Flanders Fields" while fighting in the European Western Front during World War I, where a million soldiers from 50 different countries were wounded, missing, or killed in action. The red poppy remains an enduring symbol of remembrance worldwide, particularly across Allied countries that observe the day in November.

For decades, May 30 continued to be celebrated as Memorial Day, but that date didn't always land on a Monday. In 1968, Congress passed The Uniform Monday Holiday Act to establish the last Monday of May as Memorial Day, solidifying the holiday's date as a national holiday and creating a three-day weekend for federal employees. The new law went into effect in 1971. Several southern states, however, officially commemorate an additional, separate day for honoring the Confederate war dead, sometimes referred to as a Confederate Memorial Day: January 19th in Texas; the third Monday in January in Arkansas; the fourth Monday in January in Alabama and Mississippi; April 26th in Florida and Georgia; May 10th in North and South Carolina; the last Monday in May in Virginia; and June 3rd in Louisiana and Tennessee. In December of 2000, President Bill Clinton signed into law "The National Moment of Remembrance Act," encouraging all Americans to pause wherever they are at 3 p.m. local time on

Memorial Day for one minute of silence to honor those who have died in service to the nation.

Memorial Day is a cherished American tradition and federal holiday, reminding us of the actual cost of war, one human life at a time. With that thought in mind, leave us all solemnly commemorate every yearly Memorial Day weekend celebration. While you are at your friends'

barbecue, flying the American Flag and celebrating the beginning of summer at a municipal event, I trust

you took pause to remember to honor these traditions by encouraging each other and, in the words of President Lincoln, by doing all we can to ensure "that these dead shall not have died in vain."

Have a Safe Summer.

Bob Schmeichel - Town Chairman



### Dog Licensing

**The State of Wisconsin requires that all dogs receive rabies vaccinations and are licensed by their local municipality. The licensing year is January 1—**

**December 31 each year.**

**All dogs over 5 months of age are required to be licensed and new residents must license their dogs within 30 days.**

**You may obtain your license through the mail by sending a self addressed stamped envelope, completed application, rabies certificate and payment to the Town Office or visit the Town Office during regular office hours.**

# RIDE TO SCHOOL IN A FIRETRUCK!

Town of Neenah Fire Department (TNFD) is excited to announce a special opportunity for a few lucky kids in our area! As part of our commitment to fire safety education and community engagement, we are offering a chance for your child to be chauffeured to school one morning in a genuine firetruck during Fire Prevention Month in October!



To be eligible, your child should be attending 4th grade or below within the Neenah area. The winning children will be randomly selected and announced prior to October. Parents of winners will be contacted before the month of October to make the proper arrangements. Interested parents/guardians, grandparents or family members should submit the child's name before September 14<sup>th</sup>!



To make a submission, please fill out the online form at <https://bit.ly/FiretruckToSchool> or by scanning the QR Code below. Submissions can also be made at the Town of Neenah office located at 1600 Breezewood Lane, calling the Office at 920-725-0916 or email [eskerke@tn.neenah.wi.gov](mailto:eskerke@tn.neenah.wi.gov). A submission box will be placed in the main vestibule with paper forms.

TNFD hopes to make this October a Fire Prevention Month your child won't forget! Any questions about this activity can be directed to [FireChief@tn.neenah.wi.gov](mailto:FireChief@tn.neenah.wi.gov).

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# ELECTION INFORMATION

## Partisan Primary – August 13, 2024

In-person absentee voting begins on Tuesday July 30, 2024 and ends on Friday August 9, 2024. Hours for in-person absentee voting is during regular office hours or by appointment. There will be no in-person absentee voting on Saturdays and Sundays or the Monday before the election. If you wish to vote by absentee through the US mail, visit [MyVote.wi.gov](https://myvote.wi.gov) to make your request. The Clerk's Office will begin mailing ballots to voters who have a valid request on file at the end of June.



Friendly reminder for the Partisan Primary: Voters cannot cross parties on the Partisan Primary Ballot. Voters must choose one party and vote only for candidates within that party. Voting for candidates from more than one party may cause your vote to not be counted. As with any election, voters should review the voter instructions on the ballot prior to making their selections.

Other upcoming elections: [GENERAL ELECTION \(Presidential\) – November 5, 2024](#)

**VOTER REGISTRATION:** You must be registered to vote in the Town of Neenah in order to vote. If you have moved, changed your name or are a first time voter, there are several ways to register to vote:

Online: visit [myvote.wi.gov](https://myvote.wi.gov). Online registration closes 20 days before each election.

Mail: Complete form EL-131 Voter Registration Application available on Wisconsin Elections Commission website at <https://elections.wi.gov/>. By mail registration closes 20 days before each election.

In-Person at the Town Clerk's Office up until the Friday prior to each Election

On Election Day at the polling place, 1600 Breezewood Lane.

Proof of residence is required to register. Acceptable forms of proof of residence are listed on the back of the Wisconsin voter registration form or can be found on the Wisconsin Elections Commission website at <https://elections.wi.gov/>.



[MYVOTE.WI.GOV](https://myvote.wi.gov)

To find your polling location, register online, view a sample ballot, or request an absentee ballot visit [MyVote.WI.gov](https://myvote.wi.gov) <https://myvote.wi.gov/en-us/>.

**ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS?** If you have questions regarding elections, please contact the Town Clerk's Office at 920-725-0916 or [eskerke@tn.neenah.wi.gov](mailto:eskerke@tn.neenah.wi.gov)

# PARKS AND TRAILS COMMITTEE



*Keating Park—128 Klompen Court*

Are you looking for a nice quiet park to spend time with your children? Keating Park is a 6.3 acre park in a quiet neighborhood. It is truly a hidden gem in the Town of Neenah.

There is currently a new restroom and open air ramada being constructed that will be completed by mid to late June. Keating Park has a small baseball diamond, hiking trails, playground, and large open field area.

Looking to the future, the park has an additional 10 acres that has been donated and designated for woodland preservation. This may open the possibility for year round sports like snowshoeing, cross country skiing, biking, and other activities.

Please get out and explore your Town of Neenah Parks and Trails. There are several new things headed to a park near you, including several permanent bean bag toss games, tree reforestation, new benches, and new trail signage. Feel free to leave your positive comments with the town office, myself, or leave an encouraging Google review!

Tom Jankowski - Town of Neenah Park and Trails Chair

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# ALTERNATIVES TO PESTICIDES

## Alternatives to Pesticides

Although the easiest solution to your weed control problem may seem to be the use of a commercial pesticide, there are many potential problems with this method of control.







Although pesticides should be registered with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, this in no way should imply they are safe. All pesticides are dangerous by design.






Pesticides are toxic. Exposure for even short periods of time can result in health effects. Further, certain members of the community may have allergies that make them especially susceptible to short-term (acute) toxic effects.

Some of these pesticides have suspected long-term (chronic) health effects. Even scarier is that most of these pesticides have not been available long enough to determine what long term effects they might have.

The use of commercial pesticides is also expensive and non-chemical approaches often are a fraction of the cost.

**Click here to see the article on the Town website for the full list of pests and natural controls.**

Pest		Natural Control
Ants, cockroaches (in the house)		Mix equal parts of powdered sugar and powdered borax. Sprinkle in corners and a long baseboards.
Ants (in the garden)		Plant onions around your beans. They repel the ants.
Beetles, bugs, caterpillars and other large insects		Pick pests off plants, drop in can of soapy water
Caterpillars		Use "stickum" made from 1 1/2 cups rosin (from athletic supply store), 1 cup linseed oil, 1 tbsp. melted paraffin, mixed together and painted around trunks of trees.
Codling moths (apple worms)		Hang bright red plastic apples coated with "stickum"
Colorado potato beetles		Plant a few beans near your potatoes. They will attract the beetles

Moles, mice		Plant an herb called "mole plant" here and there to repel them
Mosquitos		Drain stagnant water to kill larvae (wigglers), or pour a film of salad oil on surface.
Onion flies		Plant onion "sets", not onion seeds
Sowbugs, earwigs		Remove their hiding places — piles of plant material, boards, bricks, large rocks
Whiteflies (on house-plants)		Hang yellow strips of cardboard coated with "stickup" or buy a "tack trap" at a garden store.

National Pesticide Information Clearinghouse  
1-800-858-7378 | [npic.orst.edu/](http://npic.orst.edu/)

Wisconsin Poison Center | Milwaukee, WI  
1-800-222-1222 | [www.wisconsinpoison.org](http://www.wisconsinpoison.org)

Wisconsin Department of Agriculture  
[datcp.wi.gov/Plants/Pesticides/index.aspx](http://datcp.wi.gov/Plants/Pesticides/index.aspx)

Natural Resources Defense Council  
(212) 727-2700 | [www.nrdc.org/](http://www.nrdc.org/)

Beyond Pesticides  
202-543-5450 | [www.beyondpesticides.org](http://www.beyondpesticides.org)

Wisconsin Institute for Sustainable Agriculture  
608-890-0980 | [wisa.cals.wisc.edu/](http://wisa.cals.wisc.edu/)

Midwest Center for Environmental Science and Public Policy  
Milwaukee, WI 53202  
414-271-7280 | [www.mcespp.org/](http://www.mcespp.org/)

Created by Brown County Hazardous Material Recovery

# SUPERVISOR'S INSIGHT

## “Nuisance Properties” in the Town of Neenah

All of us (Residence in the Town of Neenah) appreciate the open spaces, fresh air, and beauty of country living. Many of us gravitate towards and choose “Town Living” because of the relaxed rules that are dictated and enforced in “Cities”.

Currently the Town of Neenah is addressing (5) nuisance properties that are in violation of town statutes. See [https://townofneenah.com/ordinances/Chapter 7 \(Public Protection, Orderly Conduct, and Nuisance\)](https://townofneenah.com/ordinances/Chapter 7 (Public Protection, Orderly Conduct, and Nuisance).).

Nuisance properties, often overlooked, pose significant economic and social burdens. These properties, characterized by neglect, decay, or illegal activities, not only diminish the quality of life for residents but also impose substantial financial costs on towns. From decreased property values to increased public safety expenses, the ramifications of nuisance properties

reverberate far beyond their physical boundaries.

Town of Neenah spends over \$12,000 annually in legal fees to deal with nuisance properties. In 2023 \$14,865.87 (of your taxes) was spent on nuisance properties. Over the years 2020 – 2023 the town average expenses have been \$11,861.90 and yes, town taxpayers absorb these expenses. This does not include administrative costs for staff time and the cost of time for the Town Board to monitor, view, and discuss solutions. The Town of Neenah has spent YTD for 2024 – January – April, \$3,935.75



Jim Weiss

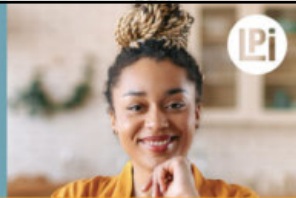
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# PLASTIC BAG AND FILM RECYCLING CHALLENGE

The Town of Neenah is participating in the NexTrex Recycling Challenge. You may be asking yourself, what is this, and how does it work? In the next 12-month period, when the Town collects at least 1,000 pounds of plastic recycling, we will win a free Trex Park Bench.



Trex Bench

We all save plastic bags, your “bag of bags”. Eventually they have to go, right? Well, now we have an excellent idea of how to recycle those plastic bags and plastic wrap. A collection bin is located near the front entrance at the Town Hall where you may drop off your plastic bags, wraps and film, the collection bin is available 24/7. Help us to keep these plastic bags out of the landfill and win a free park bench.

What can be recycled – Grocery bags, bread bags, bubble wrap, dry cleaning bags, newspaper sleeves, ice bags, plastic shipping envelopes, Ziploc and other re-closable food storage bags, cereal bags, case overwrap, salt bags, pallet wrap & stretch film, wood pellet bags, product bags. *All plastic must be clean, dry, and free of food residue.*

## What can be recycled?

*All plastic must be clean, dry and free of food residue.*



Visit [winnebago-county-solid-waste.com](http://winnebago-county-solid-waste.com) for more information of how to recycle various household items

## Keep it out of the Landfill...

Your One-Stop Shop for finding Winnebago County drop-off locations for a wide array of categories. Keep these items out of the landfill and choose donation, reuse, or recycling instead!

American Flags - Disposal Outlets



Textiles - Donation & Recycling Outlets



Cooking Oil - Recycling Outlets



Electronics - Recycling Outlet



Eye Glasses - Donation Outlets



Holiday Lights - Recycling Outlets



Latex Paint - Drop-Off Program



Plastic Bags, Film & Wrap - Grocery Store Drop-Offs



Plastic Plant Pots - Recycling Outlets



Rigid & Bulky Plastics - Recycling Outlet



Shredded Paper - Recycling Outlet



Styrofoam - Recycling Outlet





Continued from Page 7

One of the most immediate and tangible effects of nuisance properties is the decline in neighboring property values. Studies have consistently shown that the presence of abandoned buildings, unkempt yards, or criminal activities can significantly reduce property values in the surrounding area. Homeowners, often the most significant stakeholders in a community, bear the brunt of this decline, facing diminished equity and difficulty in selling their properties at fair prices.

The costs associated with nuisance properties are evident, affecting townships large and small across the county. Addressing these challenges requires a multifaceted approach, combining proactive code enforcement and community engagement. By recognizing the hidden costs of nuisance properties and prioritizing strategies to mitigate their impact, townships can safeguard their long-term prosperity and enhance the well-being of all residents. It's time to confront the issue of nuisance properties head-on and build vibrant "Town of Neenah" for generations to come.

Jim Weiss— Town Supervisor

### Stay in Touch with What is Happening in your Town

Subscribe to updates on the website to receive a text or email notification when items are posted to the website.

Attend Town Board Meetings The Town Board meets on the second and fourth Monday of every month starting at 7:00 pm. Meetings are held in person at the Town Hall and offered via Zoom . The zoom link is posted to the website with the agenda and on the Events calendar

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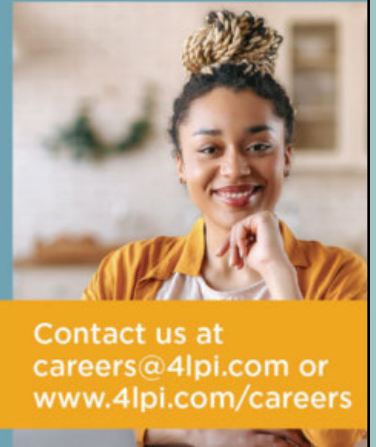
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## CLERK'S CORNER

*The following is a summary of Town Board action taken during Town Board Meetings March—May 2024.*

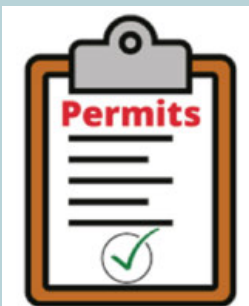


Ellen Skerke

- Approve Ordinance 2024-01 Amending Chapter 13, Public Works, Section 13.09 Work in Right of Way.
- Resolution 2024-06: A Resolution requesting coordination and collaboration by and between the Winnebago County Zoning Department and the Town of Neenah.
- Accept proposal from Moss & Associates LLC for right of way services for Larsen Road reconstruction project.
- Approve Friends of Town of Neenah Fire Department Articles of Incorporation and By-Laws.
- Action to authorize submittal of Friends of Town of Neenah Fire Department State of Wisconsin Charitable Organization Application.
- Approve Friends of Town of Neenah Fire Department Policy Governing Conflict of Interest.
- Appoint five members to the Board of Directors for Friends of Town of Neenah Fire Department: President: Assistant Chief Chris Plier; Vice President: Lieutenant Jim McArthur; Secretary: Fire Fighter Mackenzie Kimball; Treasurer: Fire Fighter Matt Schmeichel; Board member: Fire Chief Dan Osero.
- Approve Operator's License Applications for Nathan Hanion, Michael Allen LaGoo and Kendra Leon.
- Approve Resolution 2024-06: A Resolution requesting coordination and collaboration by and between the Winnebago County Zoning Department and the Town of Neenah.
- Approve estimate from Lee's Welding for repairs to the Apparatus Bay compressed air line, estimate of \$19,866.
- Approve Resolution 2024-07: Accept Partners for Fish and Wildlife Program Landowner Agreement for removal of buckthorn at Conservancy Park
- Appoint of Jody Andres to Plan Commission for three-year term effective May 1 2024 - April 30, 2027.
- Appoint Jeff Buchta and Brooke Cardoza to Parks and Trails Committee for three-year terms effective May 1, 2024 - April 30, 2027.
- Appoint David Bluma as Weed Commissioner for a one-year term effective May 1, 2024 - April 30, 2025
- Approve Resolution 2024-08: Resolution to approve Distribution Easement for Wisconsin Electric Power Company at Keating Park, 128 Klompen Court.
- Approve Larsen Road Plat for Right-of-Way Acquisitions
- Approve Spirit Fund Sub-Recipient Allocation Agreement with Winnebago County, \$124,862.30 for the purchase of Fire Department Radios

### Planning to add on, remodel, build a new deck, add a fence or storage shed ?

Your first stop is Winnebago County Zoning for a zoning permit. Visit their website for additional information: at [www.co.winnebago.wi.us/planning-and-zoning](http://www.co.winnebago.wi.us/planning-and-zoning)



After securing your County Zoning Permit, visit Building Inspector Gary Klinka for a building permit. Information can be found on the Town website under Departments / Building Inspector.

Do you want to keep backyard chickens ? Visit Winnebago County zoning for the regulations and requirements for backyard chickens.

# BUILDING PERMITS

## FEBRUARY 2024

Gary Rathsack	164 Rickers Bay Rd	Detached garage	\$25,000
Gary Rathsack	164 Rickers Bay Rd	Deck	\$3,000
Stephanie and Joshua Groom	103 Highland Ct	Remodel	
Nicole Meyer - Black Haak Heating, Inc	1427 Silverwood Ln	HVAC	\$5,000
Michael Marta - Black Haak Heating, Inc	132 Rickers Bay Rd	HVAC	\$5,000
Gloria Rogers - Black Haak Heating, Inc	115 Villa Dr	HVAC	\$4,000

## MARCH 2024

Larry Shreve	146 Cty. Rd. CB	Plumbing	\$17,085
Brandon Johnson	135 Ferdinand Ave	Service change	\$4,500

## APRIL 2024

Brandon Johnson	135 Ferdinand Ave	Plumbing	\$8,100
Johanna Klemme	406 Maple Ln.	HVAC	\$5,000
Christopher Goodman	120 Kappell Dr	Detached Garage	\$35,000
Tom Fisher - Black Haak Heating, Inc	226 Mandella Ct	HVAC	\$8,000

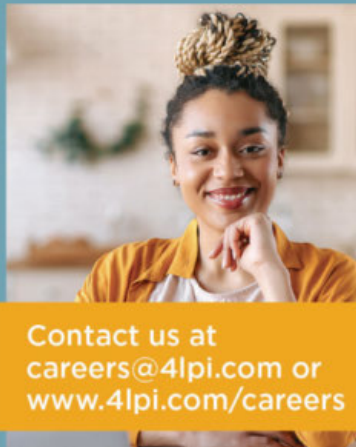
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### Town Hall Office Hours:

Monday: 8:30am-4:30pm

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

Friday: Closed

### Chairman

Bob Schmeichel (920)729-5995

[rschmeichel@tn.neenah.wi.gov](mailto:rschmeichel@tn.neenah.wi.gov)

Office Hours: By appointment.

### Supervisors

David Bluma (920) 636-8340

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Tom Wilde (920) 427-9912

[twilde@tn.neenah.wi.gov](mailto:twilde@tn.neenah.wi.gov)

### Administrator-Clerk-Treasurer

Ellen Skerke (920) 725-0916

[eskerke@tn.neenah.wi.gov](mailto:eskerke@tn.neenah.wi.gov)

### Deputy Clerk-Treasurer

Vicki Boushele (920) 886-7545

[vboushele@tn.neenah.wi.gov](mailto:vboushele@tn.neenah.wi.gov)

### Building Inspector

Gary Klinka (920) 727-9200

### Fire Chief

Dan Osero (920) 725-0916

### Plan Commission Chairman

Pete Weyenberg (920) 716-8309

### Parks & Trails Committee Chair

Tom Jankowski (920) 851-5539

### Weed Commissioner

Dave Bluma (920) 636-8340

### 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

## SUMMER REMINDERS

### •BUILDING PERMITS

- ⇒ Building a Fence? Contact Winnebago County Zoning for a permit
- ⇒ Installing a Swimming Pool? Contact Winnebago County Zoning for a permit
- ⇒ Building a Deck, Garage Shed or other Accessory Building? Contact Winnebago County Zoning for Zoning Permit and Town of Neenah Building Inspector for a Building Permit
- ⇒ Remodeling? Contact Town of Neenah Building Inspector for a permit.
- ⇒ Electrical and plumbing work may require a permit contact Town of Neenah Building Inspector

- 2024 RECYCLING CALENDAR MAGNETS are available in the Town Office.
- YARD SIGNS: Yard signs are NOT permitted in any Town Road right-of-way, including advertisements and political signs.
- PETS IN TOWN PARKS: No animals or pets other than leashed dogs are allowed in Town parks. Dogs owners are required to immediately pick up and dispose of excrement on Town park property or adjacent to Town park property.
- ROAD RIGHT-OF-WAY WORK: Work in the Town road right-of-way (other than mowing) must be permitted through the Clerk's office prior to any work being performed.
- BURNING: Remember burning is permitted in the Town as set forth in Ordinance 5.05. Be respectful of your neighbors when burning. Contact Winnebago County Sheriff before and after burning (920)236-7300 #0 to avoid false alarms.