



Town of Brooklyn News

December 2016
Page 1 of 2

Contact Information

Chairman

Garth Langhammer
Langhammer.brooklyn@gmail.com
608-455-1409

1st Supervisor

Jeffrey McNeely
jeffreymcneely@litewire.net
608-882-0075

2nd Supervisor

John Davis
608-455-2022

Clerk

Amy Ross
clerk@brooklynwisconsin.org
608-455-6411
Office Hours:
Tuesdays 1PM - 4PM
unless otherwise posted or
by appointment

Treasurer

Russell Cichy
russcichy@gmail.com
608-220-4508

Highway Committee

Hans Herweijer, Chairman
608-455-2729
brooklyn.highway@gmail.com

Plan Commission

James Kramer, Chairman
608-225-1802

Recycling Committee

Kevin Santulis, Chairman
ksantulis@gmail.com
608-455-1523

Brooklyn Town Hall

400 W Main Street
Brooklyn WI 53521
608-455-6411
<http://townofbrooklyn.org/>

Assessor

Gardiner Appraisal Services LLC
608-8943-8009

Building Inspector SAFEbuilt

Dean Eppler - Cert. Bldg. Inspector
608-576-6370

Tax Collection

The Green County Treasurer's office will be collecting Real Estate and Personal Property taxes for the Town of Brooklyn. You may mail your payment or stop by the Green County Courthouse during regular business hours. Also accepting payments are the following banks: Sugar River Bank - Belleville. Belleville Community Bank. Brooklyn Community Bank. UB&T - Brooklyn. Greenwoods State Bank - Monticello.

Spring Election

Spring election is just around the corner. Local Town Board offices (Chairman, Supervisors 1 and 2, Treasurer and Clerk) are up for election in April. All current officers have indicated they would seek re-election except Supervisor 2, John Davis.

The first day to circulate nomination papers is December 1st and all papers and forms are due to the Town Clerks office by 5PM Tuesday, January 3, 2017.

Qualifications to hold Town office are: You must be a qualified elector of the town at the time of taking office. A qualified elector is defined in Wis. Stat. §

6.02, as a U.S. citizen, 18 years of age or older, who has resided in the election district for at least 10 consecutive days before any election at which he or she offers to vote (and who is not disqualified by virtue of one or more of the impediments described in Wis. Stat. § 6.03).

Forms needed are: Declaration of Candidacy, Campaign Registration Statement and Nomination papers for Nonpartisan Office. You will need to collect a minimum of 20 signatures.

If you have any questions or need assistance please contact the Clerk.

Fire and EMS update

Fire and Emergency Medical Service are two of the most important basic services provided by local governments. The Town of Brooklyn is one of five area municipalities that are served by the Brooklyn Fire and EMS District.

Last year, a shortage of volunteers meant that the EMS side was out of service about ten percent of the time, mostly on weekdays during the day. To assure 24/7 coverage, the district board approved hiring part-time paid emergency medical technicians and the out of service hours has been at a record low.

The Brooklyn Fire District purchased a new Tender truck. Although the District had a substantial amount of money put aside in a CD it didn't cover the purchase in it's entirety. The Town's portion was approximately \$30,000.

A few sections of the town are served by Fire and EMS services based in Evansville, Albany and Belleville. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact your local Fire/EMS department.

Recycling Center

Our Mission: *Provide the Town of Brooklyn residents practical, affordable and environmentally friendly waste management services; promote thoughtful recycling practices for current and future generations and operate with minimal financial impact on the Town's budget.*

The Town of Brooklyn has always raised some revenue from some recycled materials such as aluminum to offset our costs. The market price for these materials has dropped while fees to our waste collector, Pellitteri, have increased. Grants from the state have also been reduced in recent years. The Recycling Committee recommended, and was granted, an increase of per bag fees for garbage from \$2.50 per bag to \$3.00 in July. This small increase will allow the Center to continue operating with minimal impact on the town budget. We continue to do all we can to maximize returns through the sale of materials where possible which also minimizes the volume of materials hauled by Pellitteri.

Our Recycling Center uses specialty recyclers for e-waste, tires, batteries, light bulbs and other materials. We maintain a reciprocal arrangement with the Village of Brooklyn for waste oil recycling which has specialized

equipment required for this. This ensures the most environmentally responsible disposal at the best price for the Town.

We recently discovered Green County Landfill has restricted access to only municipalities that "participate" in their program. Participation involves sharing risk for all Green County landfills, open or closed, for which Town of Brooklyn residents have had very limited use of in the past. For many years, our town has used private haulers such as Pellitteri and has not sent material to the Green County Landfill. The Town determined it is not in the fiscal interest of our community to take on this fiscal risk at a cost to our taxpayers. This means Town residents who haul their own material to the Green County landfill will be turned away. If you have construction or other bulk material you need hauled, we recommend you use a licensed hauler.

The committee congratulates our attendants, John Franklin and Thor Mikkelson, for doing such a great job in the last year in serving our community and keeping our Recycling Center functioning in the best way possible and minimizing our tipping fees. We also appreciate the occasional help, when needed, from Bob Staley.

The Road Report

BACKGROUND

Local roads and associated equipment continue to be the largest asset and require the greatest annual expenditures for towns in Wisconsin. With 42+ miles of roads the Town of Brooklyn is no exception.

The current value of local roads, bridges and support equipment is estimated at \$3,000,000. The annual expenditures for general road operations and projects consume almost 2/3 (\$500,000) of the Town's \$800,000 annual budget. In 2017 \$200,000 is for general road operations (plowing, salting, mowing, brush cutting, shoulder maintenance, patching and other repairs) while \$300,000 is for preservation projects (seal coating & crack sealing), strengthening projects (paver patching & overlays), reconstruction projects (culvert/bridge replacement, base, shoulder and ditch improvements, pulverizing the existing pavement and laying new asphalt).

Several years ago the Board adopted a comprehensive 40 year road management plan that sets as an average annual goal reconstruction of about 1 mile of road, strengthening projects as needed based on traffic counts and vehicle type, condition, pavement age, and lastly

preservation projects on about 7 miles of roads based on a projected schedule and prevailing conditions.

2016 PROJECTS

The 2.52 mile reconstruction of Yarwood Road was completed. It included a number of firsts - a 20 foot wide, one pass (no center seam) 2-1/2" finished thickness asphalt pavement with 2' wide pavement "kickouts" at each unpaved driveway and field access and soil borings that were taken & culverts that were replaced a year ahead of time. Five miles of sealcoating were done on King, Krause and Sandy Hook Roads. Six culverts were replaced on Benson Road.

2017 PROJECTS

A 1.51 mile project involving reconstruction, ditch & shoulder improvement and bridge replacement on Benson Road from Hwy 92 to Amidon Road is planned. Sealcoating is planned for 6 miles of roads with money allocated for paver patching and crack sealing as the annual spring inspection indicates.

Brooklyn Area Veterans Memorial

The unveiling ceremony of the Brooklyn Area Veterans Memorial was held in May.

A large crowd attended and paid respects to all our area veterans.

If you have not stopped by the Memorial, I strongly encourage you to do so. Although there is nothing sacred about the ground upon which the memorial was constructed, you will be truly humbled. Whether you're related to someone whose name is placed on the granite or not; you can share in the kinship of being an American citizen.

The memorial serves as a reminder, so that we will never forget those who have sacrificed so much for the freedom we enjoy every day.

Town Hall and Liberty Pole Hill Park available to rent

Need some extra space to host a birthday party, anniversary party or graduation? Consider having your event at the town hall or Liberty Pole Hill Park.

The town hall has a full kitchen and two bathrooms. The maximum capacity is 100.

Liberty Pole Hill Park has electricity hook up, a shelter house and vast space. Picnic tables are already in place.

Download a park rental form from the Town website. Town residents receive a discounted rate.

*Town board meetings are held the
2nd Monday of each month at 8PM*

Dog Licenses

Wisconsin State Law requires all dogs over 5 months of age to be licensed by April 1st of each year or when they turn 5 months old, if later in the year. Non-compliance can result in assessment of late fees, collection through fees and penalties being placed on your property tax bill and/or other charges.

You must provide a completed application (download form from the Town website <http://townofbrooklyn.org/> or contact the clerk for a printed copy) together with a current rabies vaccination certificate (or copy), a stamped self-addressed envelope (for your license and rabies certificate to be mailed back to you) along with payment sent to: Town of Brooklyn, Russ Cichy – Treasurer, 400 W. Main Street, Brooklyn, WI 53521. If you prefer, you can drop off the completed application package together with your check at the Brooklyn Recycle Center or at the Town Hall during normal posted hours vs. sending in the mail if that is easier. Dog license fees are as follows: Spayed/neutered \$6 each, Unspayed Unneutered \$11, Multiple dog license \$35 (up to 12 dogs, \$3 extra for each dog over 12).