

Newsletter September 2011

OPEN HOUSE DATES ANNOUNCED

25 YEARS FROM NOW....WHAT WILL OUR COMMUNITY LOOK LIKE?

The Towns of Springfield and Westport, Village of Waunakee and the City of Middleton are working together to create a future growth plan that will guide development over the next 25 years as these communities change and grow. How will changes in our community affect our livability and quality of life? You can help shape our community's future by adding your voice as we work to keep ours a great place in coming years. Two rounds of meeting will be held here at the Town Hall. Monday, September 19th at 7 p.m. introduction to FUDA (Future Urban Development Area) planning and the role of community values. We will take a visual survey and discussion, residents will be asked to give their input about the appearance, character and location of future development in the area. On Monday, October 17th again at 7 p.m. we will create development scenarios to guide future growth. For more information check out the website: www.capitalareapc.org/North_Mendota_FUDA.html Please mark your calendar and plan on attending the open house dates, we value your input in this very important planning process.

Welcome to the Town's new Clerk/Treasurer!

Carolyn Hacker has accepted the offer for the Clerk/Treasurer's position. Her first day at the town will be Monday, September 12th, just in time for budget meetings. Carolyn comes to us from the Village of Cross Plains and has over 16 years of municipal clerical experience. Thank you to the town resident's for your patience and understanding as the office was closed at times so the interim clerk could attend meetings. Welcome Carolyn!!!

Email List Serve

Remember to sign up for emergency notices, recycling news, road conditions/closures due to construction, changes in pick up day of garbage and recycling due to weather or breakdowns, special meetings, election news, events in our area, lost animals, etc. Just go to our website and on the left hand side click on "Town Email List" and follow the instructions. It is a fast and easy way for us to communicate with you and the best part it is FREE! So sign up today, thank you.

Budget Planning for 2012

The Town Board and employees will be starting the budget planning for 2012 in the next few weeks. This year's planning will be challenging with all the cuts from the state, high prices for road repairs/maintenance/construction and levy limits. If you have any ideas or concerns to share, please contact the Town Hall or one of the board members listed at the end of the newsletter.

Voter ID required for elections starting in 2012

Voter identification will be required for you to be able to vote in all elections starting in 2012, the following are acceptable forms of Voter ID:

- *Wisconsin driver's license
- *Wisconsin DOT-issued photo ID card
- *U.S.passport
- *An identification card issued by a U.S. uniformed service
- *Certificate of naturalization issued within last two years
- *Unexpired Wisconsin driver's license or state ID receipt
- *ID card issued by a federally recognized Indian tribe in Wisconsin

*Unexpired identification card issued by a Wisconsin accredited university or college – must contain issuance date, student signature and expiration date within two years of issuance.

*** If you are eligible to vote but do not have a Wisconsin identification card, you are eligible to receive a **free** state ID for voting purposes. You will need to check a box on the Division of Motor Vehicles (DMV) application to indicate that you need the ID for voting purposes.

In order to receive an identification card from the DMV, you will need to present the following types of documentation:

Proof of name and date of birth – Certified U.S. birth certificate, or valid passport or certificate of naturalization.

Proof of identity – Social Security card, or military papers

Proof of Wisconsin residency – Utility bill, paystub or mortgage

Proof of U.S. Citizenship

Social Security number

For more information, call 608-266-2353 or visit www.dot.wisconsin.gov

When voting in future elections (starting in 2012) you will be required to sign the poll book, also. Thank you for your cooperation as we all make these necessary changes to comply with the election laws.

Speaking of elections for 2012, the Town Board Supervisor positions III & IV will be on the spring ballot.

Watch for more information in the December tax bill newsletter.

Thank you

Thank you to Supervisor Dan Dresen for painting the front office and hallway. It is a welcome sight each morning as we enter the office. Dan's generous donation of this time and material is greatly appreciated!

As long as we are thanking people we can't forget to thank Terry Middleton for taking such great care of the Kohlman cemetery each year. You do a wonderful job Terry!

Are you (or a group/club/organization) interested in adopting a town road. We have a few roads that need someone to pick up the trash in the spring and fall. The town provides the trash bags, gloves and safety vests. Thank you to all of our volunteers who currently pick up our town roads. Please call the Town Hall if interested in adopting a road and keeping our roadways looking great!

Winter Driving and Snow Plowing

I know you can hardly believe we are mentioning winter already. But as the first 3 loads of salt were delivered last week, I guess it is time to plan ahead. Things to remember for winter driving and snow plowing:

Slow down, speed is the #1 cause of winter crashes.

Prepare your vehicle for winter driving.

Maintain your distance to avoid collisions and damage from flying salt and sand.

Move your vehicle to the left of your lane so the equipment operator can see you in the mirror.

Snow plows cause soft snow to swirl, making it difficult to see the plow & for the plow operator to see you.

Snow plows usually leave a ridge of snow, making passing hazardous.

Turn on your headlights and windshield wipers for additional visibility.

Snow removal equipment may have to slow down, stop or back up. Beware!!!

Keep your parked vehicles off the roads during snow storms.

To assist the snow plow operators, please have the face of your mailbox off the edge of the asphalt a minimum of 2 feet and if replacing your mailbox, please consider a black or dark color, so they are more visible for the operators to locate.

Reminders/Updates

Do you have any cell phones just lying around? The town collects used cell phones for domestic abuse victims and their families through the Dane County Deputy Sheriff's program. They would appreciate your donation.

You can bring a donation for the food pantry at election or tax collection time, if coming into the office – we will make sure your donations reach the food pantries in our area.

Fall is a good time to trim the trees that are in the road right-of-way and is appreciated by the Town. We will be cutting back on salt again this year as prices continue to increase and budgets decrease. But on a brighter note, the Town received \$10,970.47 in FEMA aid towards the February snowstorm costs of \$14,331.13.

The Town Board continues to work on the single purpose roads, their goal is to have an ordinance in place by the end of the year.

Also, work continues on the weight limit policy to be completed before the spring thaw occurs.

Senior Center News

Both the Middleton and Waunakee Senior Centers have many opportunities available to town residents. Whether a day trip or overnight, exercise programs, health care, meals, movies, card playing, computer classes the opportunities are endless. Call Middleton at 608-831-2373 or Waunakee at 608-843-8385 for more information.

Lottery Credit

A resident of the Town qualifies for a lottery credit on their real estate tax bill if the resident lived in their home on January 1st, and that home is considered their primary residence. The amount of the credit differs for each school district of which there are three in the Town. If you do not see the credit listed on your tax bill, call the Town Hall for the necessary paper work.

Clean Sweep

The Clean Sweep program will be ending on October 29th, your last chance for the year to dispose of hazardous materials. Their website: www.danecountycleansweep.com lists the types of materials and the disposal methods that are accepted. So clean out your basements, sheds and garages, October is just around the corner.

Recycling/Trash Pick Up

It is time for the Town Board to contract for garbage and recycling pickup for the next 3 or 5 year term. Any suggestions for the program would be welcome, just call the Town Hall at 849-7887 and we can report your ideas to the board. Remember to keep recycling, you are doing a great job so far this year as we are above average for 2011.

Office Hours: The office is generally open at the Town Hall from 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. Occasionally meetings or errands may alter that time frame, so you may want to call ahead at 849-7887.

TOWN BOARD MEETING TIMES

The Town Board holds their regular monthly meetings on the first and third Tuesdays of the month. Meetings begin at 7:30 p.m. at the Town Hall (6157 County Highway P). Agendas are posted at the Town Hall, Bong Excavating and the parking lot at the corner of Church Rd. & Co. Hwy. K and at www.town.springfield.wi.us. If a meeting time should be changed, it will also be posted. Our official newspapers are the Waunakee Tribune and the Middleton Times-Tribune. To be placed on the agenda contact the office at 849-7887.

PLANNING COMMISSION

The Planning Commission meets the first Monday of the month at 7:30 p.m. at the Town Hall upon demand. The Commission hears zoning and re-zoning requests, land division requests and amendments to Dane County zoning ordinances. They act in an advisory capacity to the Town Board. Please contact the office to be placed on the agenda and to file the necessary papers for your request.

BUILDING PERMITS & INSPECTIONS

The Town contracts with the firm "Independent Inspections, LTD." for a building inspector. Office hours are Wednesday from 11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. at the Town Hall or call # 1-800-422-5220 anytime. A reminder that permits are required for all residential, agricultural and commercial buildings. Remodeling also requires a building permit. Re-siding, re-roofing and finishing of interior surfaces (e.g. carpeting) shall be exempt from permit requirements. A reminder that Dane County also requires building permits and zoning requirements. We suggest that you call 266-4266 with questions regarding their regulations.

TOWN BOARD MEMBERS

Don Hoffman, Chairman
Mary Hellenbrand Supervisor 1
Jim Pulvermacher, Supervisor 2
Art Meinholz, Supervisor 3
Dan Dresen, Supervisor 4
Jan Barman, Interim Clerk/Treasurer
Bernie Laird, Assessor
Mark Grosse, Road Patrolman

PLANNING COMMISSION

Jeff Gabrysiak
Jeff Endres
Karen Crook
Scott Laufenberg
George Pasdirtz
Elliott Long
Jim Pulvermacher

A drop box is available at the Town Hall. It is located just outside the front door.

Springfield Town Hall: 849-7887 (Voice mail is available 24 hours a day.)

Fax: 849-6187 Email: townhall@town.springfield.wi.us Web site: www.town.springfield.wi.us