

TOWN OF SPRINGFIELD NEWSLETTER

Springfield Town Hall
6157 CTH P, Dane, WI 53529

Volume 20 No. 1 • MARCH 2013

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This Newsletter is a communication service published by the Town Board for the residents of the Town of Springfield

OFFICE HOURS: Town Hall Office Hours: The office is generally open from 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Monday through Thursday, 8-noon on Fridays, on occasion meetings or errands may alter that time frame. Please call ahead to be sure we are available. If these hours do not work for you, please call 849-7887, to set up an appointment.

TOWN BOARD MEMBERS

Don Hoffman, Chairman
Dave Laufenberg, Supervisor 1
Jim Pulvermacher, Supervisor 2
Art Meinholz, Supervisor 3
Dan Dresen, Supervisor 4
Carolyn Hacker, Clerk/Treasurer
Bernie Laird, Assessor
Jan Barman, Deputy Clerk/ Treas.
Mark Grosse, Road Patrolman

PLANNING COMMISSION

Jeff Gabrysiak, Chair
Jeff Endres
Karen Crook
Scott Laufenberg
Elliott Long
Jim Pulvermacher



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). These dates have been subject to change with the election dates falling on the same night. If you are interested in attending one of these dates please call the number below and we can let you know the night it has been rescheduled for. 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. Our official newspapers are the Waunakee Tribune and the Middleton Times-Tribune. To be placed on the agenda contact the Clerk at 849-7887.

PLAN COMMISSION

The Plan 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 Clerk 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 building inspections. The inspector will be in the office on Wednesdays 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, commercial and agricultural 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 zoning and erosion control permits. We suggest that you call 266-4266 with questions regarding their regulations.

Town of Springfield



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6157 CTH P • DANE, WI 53529 • (608) 849-7887 • Fax-(608) 849-6187 • www.town.springfield.wi.us • townhall@town.springfield.wi.us

★ ★ ★ ★ SPRING ELECTION - APRIL 2, 2013 ★ ★ ★ ★



Polls will be open from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Voters will have an opportunity to cast votes for Judicial, County Supervisor, Dane County Executive, local School

Board, Dane County referendum, Town of Springfield Board Chair and Supervisors I and II races. The polls are accessible to all. Just a reminder that before you can vote, you must be registered, please bring appropriate identification. If you are going to be out of town on Election Day consider voting absentee. Just be sure you allow enough time to do so either by mail or in person at the town hall. More information on all of the above is available on our

website – www.town.springfield.wi.us click on Government and then on Elections/Voting or call the town hall at 849-7887.

Following is the portion of the ballot showing Town of Springfield races:

Town of Springfield Chair – Donald Hoffman

Town of Springfield Supervisor I – David Laufenberg

Town of Springfield Supervisor II – James Pulvermacher

As you encourage others to vote remind them that if they are not sure where they vote they can now go to <http://gab.wi.gov> enter their own information in Voter Public Access and find out where to vote, see sample ballots, etc. Check it out!

DOG LICENSES ARE DUE!

State law requires an annual license and a current rabies vaccination for all dogs 5 months of age or older. License fee for neutered male and spayed female is \$15.00. License fee for unneutered male and unsplayed female is \$20.00. All licenses will be for the year 2013. The animal owner must annually provide proof of rabies vaccination for dogs before the license can be issued. Please send the rabies certification or a copy along with the completed application payable to the Town of Springfield. The rabies certificate will be returned to you along with your dog license. Please send a stamped, self-addressed envelope for the return of your license. Reminder, after April 1, a late fee will be applied of \$5.00 per dog.



REMEMBER

ELECTION DAY EXTRAS

Food Donations for the local food pantries will be accepted on all election days.



Dane County 2013 Posters are available in a limited quantity. Used cell phones are being collected for the Dane County Sheriff to redistribute to victims of trauma.

This is an ongoing program and the Town Hall is a collection site. No phone ever needs to end up in a land fill.

Bring your worn out US Flag to us & we'll recycle that also.

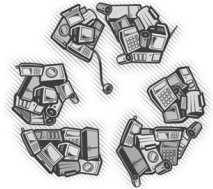
ADOPT-A-ROAD PROGRAM

Thank you to all of our volunteers who pick up our town roads every spring and fall. We receive many compliments on how clean our town looks. We have a few roads that need volunteers, so contact the Town Hall if you are interested in helping to keep the Town of Springfield looking its best.

2ND YEAR -DISPOSAL OF LARGE ITEMS AND ELECTRONICS

For town residents only, on Saturday, May 4, 2013 from 8 a.m. to noon, you will be able to drop off your large items for recycling. Dumpsters will be available in the Town Hall parking lot and you will need to unload your items into the dumpster. Large items include furniture, mattresses, carpet, water softeners, humidifiers but **NOT** dehumidifiers, small amount of wood products (cabinet or scrap wood), sinks, toilets, etc. We **can't** accept appliances, construction materials, stone, concrete, sod, large auto parts, tree limbs, branches, leaves, grass or stumps. A reminder that hazardous materials (paint, pesticides, petroleum products such as oil and solvents and explosives) are not accepted either but you can drop these off at the Clean Sweep program off

of Fish Hatchery Road in Madison. If you are not sure about an item, please call us ahead of time and we will check with Waste Management if it is acceptable. There will be another opportunity in the fall for dropping off large items as this event will take place twice a year.



Also, on Saturday, May 4th from 8 a.m. to noon you may drop off your electronic products for recycling. A truck will be available in the Town Hall parking lot. This is for town residents only and will be held only once a year. Electronics include computers, keyboards, monitors, printers, TV's, etc. again, **no appliances**.

MISSOURI TAVERN'S SPONSORSHIP OF "MAE MEFFORD SCHOLARSHIP FUND"

The Missouri Tavern would like to offer a scholarship to a local high school student in honor of the late Mae Mefford. The scholarship amount is \$500. Candidates should be: graduating in the spring of 2013, from Waunakee, Middleton, or Sauk Prairie School District, reside in the Town of Springfield, and plan on furthering their education at a 2-year, 4-year, or technical college. To apply for this scholarship, please send your name, address, telephone number, high school, and future education plans, as well as a one page response to the following statement: "The person I look up to most is.....", by June 30th to:



Mae Mefford Scholarship Fund
7839 Twinflower Drive • Madison, WI 53719

ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

The Annual Town Meeting for the Town of Springfield will be held at the Town Hall, 6157 County Hwy P, on Tuesday, April 16, 2013 at 7:30 p.m. All are encouraged to attend. There is no set agenda. Refreshments will be served. Volunteers in the Town will be recognized.



Town Hall Available for use:

Any resident of the town may use the town hall for private functions. You need to contact the town staff to reserve a date, fill out a form and discuss the details. You will have to put down a \$25.00 deposit which is returned if everything is left in good condition. Let us know if we can help you.

A HUGE THANK YOU TO OUR SNOW PLOW DRIVERS WHO SERVED US WELL THIS WINTER!

Phew.....What a winter! We have used over 600 tons of material (salt/sand) on our roads this winter season; not to mention many, many hours of labor by some very dedicated plow drivers to keep the roads in good winter condition. These guys put in some very long days & nights in the worst of weather.

Next time you see one of these drivers, please give them a BIG thank you. Our thanks to Dave Barman, Ken Barman, Chuck Schaeffer and our one and only full time Road Patrolman Mark Grosse.

Nice job guys! Enjoy the spring, summer and fall – you deserve it!

A Message from your Road Patrolman

Thank you very much for your patience during the winter months as I and the other drivers strived to

keep the roads clean and safe during the past few months. We sure appreciate those of you who do not push snow from your driveways out into the road and keep your cars in your driveway and not parked on the road. It all makes our job so much easier!

There seems to be more plantings and dead trees in the road right-a-way that need be cleared out. For safety and visibility it's important to keep these areas clear, and against Town policy to be planting in the road right-a-way.

Lastly, as summer construction crews are out working on all the roads remember to slow down in the marked areas. Please be considerate so we can get our work done as quickly and safely as possible. Thank you, Mark

WIND TURBINES UPDATES

The Town Board for the Town of Springfield received a letter from The Morse Group, the contractor for the Epic, Inc. located in Verona. Epic, Inc. is the company that is constructing the wind turbines. The Morse Group states that the utility grid that travels along US Hwy 12, can only transmit a small amount of the power that the wind turbines are capable of generating. The MGE power line can't be upgraded for at least a year from now, Epic, Inc. is planning to bury a private transmission line from the wind farm in Springfield to the Epic facility in Verona. This line will be able to handle more power than the six turbines

can generate, so they are now contacting residents from Springfield to construct 4-6 more turbines to add to this private power grid.

The Town Board has adopted a 6 month moratorium to gather information adopting rules for the expansion of this project. The Town Board will be having more discussions and possibly public hearings to look at all aspects of this project. If you have questions or comments, or would like notification of upcoming meeting and approved minutes, please call 849-7887 or e-mail at townhall@town.springfield.wi.us.



OPEN BOOK & BOARD OF REVIEW

The assessing firm of Associated Appraisal Consultants, Inc. has scheduled the Open Book for Tuesday, May 1st from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. and the Board of Review for Tuesday, May 29, 2013 from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. During **Open Book** the property owners may review their assessments, check for errors and compare assessments. If you feel you need to discuss the assessment with the assessor please schedule an appointment by calling Associated Appraisals at 1-800-721-4157. You can also check out their website at www.apraz.com under property search, click on Dane County, click on Town of Springfield, enter the required information to view your property. The purpose of the **Board of Review** is to ensure that the assessment roll is fair and equitable for all property owners (real estate and personal property). The Board of Review is also responsible for identifying and correcting technical errors in local property assessments. The main function of the Board of Review is to hear objections to valuations which have not been resolved with the assessor. This formal process provides the first step in an appeal procedure if a property owner objects to the assessment on their property whether real estate or personal property. Objection forms need to be filed. Contact the Town Clerk at the Town Hall, 849-7887 if you would like to make an appointment or to obtain forms for Board of Review or if you have any questions. More information is available at www.dor.wi.gov.

Will I be notified if there is a change in my assessment?

Whenever an assessor raises the assessment of any real estate property, the owner, if known must be notified, or else the occupant of the property is notified. The notice will be in writing and mailed at least 15 days prior to the Open Book Meeting. Failure to receive a notice does not affect the validity of the increased assessment. The notice requirement does not apply to personal property. If you feel the assessor is in error, please call at 1-800-721-4157 to meet with him during Open Book to understand how your valuation was determined. If you feel the assessor has made an error in the assessment and can't resolve the issue with the assessor at Open Book, you may file an objection form with the Board of Review. Objection forms are available from the Town Clerk at 849-7887.

SOMETHING TO TALK ABOUT By Waunakee Area EMS

Most people can carry on a discussion with anyone on almost any subject – except their final wishes. Have you ever really taken the time to sit down with your family and discuss what medical directions you would want in the event of a critical situation? We have all overheard a family member state, 'if it's me, just pull the plug!' or 'don't ever let that happen to me!' Well, what exactly does that mean? Is that how they really feel or are they saying that to lighten an awkward moment because they are uncomfortable talking about it? Take advantage of those times to encourage a meaningful discussion on what you or your family would want if a critical situation ever arose. AND get it down in writing so you have it at a later date. It also helps to minimize conflict amongst family members when such a time should occur. Some options can be very easy and inexpensive. The paperwork can usually be obtained at your local doctor's office or hospital. Others can do paperwork through a lawyer's office, and the simplicity or complexity will dictate the cost. Either way, a completed, signed copy should be taken to the hospital you normally use and they will scan it into your medical record to honor your wishes. Someone in the family or a designated person should also have a copy.