

210 Commercial Street - PO Box 189 – Brooklyn, WI 53521

## November 2024 Village News

Clerk's Office - 455-4201

Fax - 455-1385

PO Box 189, 210 Commercial St

Email: [clerk@brooklynwi.gov](mailto:clerk@brooklynwi.gov)

Police Department – 608-255-2345

102 N. Rutland Avenue

Email: [grumke.merrick@danesherriff.com](mailto:grumke.merrick@danesherriff.com)

Public Works Dept. - 455-1842

Fax 608-455-1501

102 Windy Lane

Email: [publicworks@brooklynwi.gov](mailto:publicworks@brooklynwi.gov)

## VILLAGE PRESIDENT & 3 TRUSTEE POSITIONS OPEN



Village President & 3 Trustee Positions are up for election in the spring.

Starting December 1<sup>st</sup> nomination paperwork can be circulated. If interested, please contact the clerk's office or download/print the paperwork from [www.brooklynwi.gov/elections](http://www.brooklynwi.gov/elections)

Nomination papers need to be returned to the clerk's office by 5 pm on Tuesday, January 7, 2025. Election is April 1, 2025. If a primary is necessary, it will be held February 18.

## Dog Licensing



All dogs five months and older, kept within the Village, must be licensed each year by January 31<sup>st</sup>. License fees for 2025 are as follows:

**DANE:** \$ 22.75 for spayed/neutered  
\$ 31.75 for unaltered  
\$ 21.25 Puppies -5 mo. (as of July 1) spayed/neutered  
\$ 27.75 Puppies - 5 mo. (as of July 1) unaltered

**GREEN:** \$ 8.00 for spayed/neutered  
\$ 13.00 for unaltered

You will need proof of current rabies vaccinations. Village

Ordinance 6-5 states it is unlawful for any person to keep or harbor more than 3 dogs or 3 cats over ten weeks of age within the Village. "Person" is defined to include collectively all person residing within a residence.

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November 18, 2024

will be the last leaf pickup  
of the season.

The picture generated by Chatgpt.

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November 19, 2024

Street Sweeping - please remove all vehicles  
from streets by 4 am.

The picture generated by Chatgpt.



The picture generated by Gemini

# COMMUNITY POTLUCK

Thursday, December 5, 2024

At Noon

**Brooklyn Methodist Church**

Everyone - all ages are welcome.

Bring a dish to pass.

Table service and beverages are provided.



The picture generated by ChatGPT

## *Brooklyn Area Chamber Santa Day*

Sat., Dec. 7, 2024

10 am to 1pm

**Brooklyn Methodist Church**

**Corner of Rutland & Hwy 92**

**\*\*Sign up for Wreath Giveaway\*\***

**\*Bring your camera to  
Take a photo with Santa\***

### **\*Free Regifting Center\***

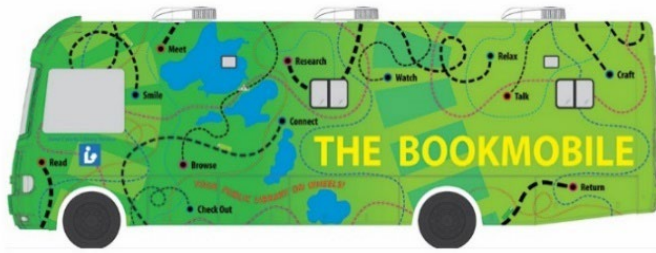
**Methodist Church's children's free store – shop for family members -  
gift wrapping included (Children 12 and under)**

**\*Requesting new/like new items to be donated to the regifting center.  
Please contact Cleo 608-455-8595.**

**Baked goods and treats will be for sale as well as \$1.00 hot dogs.**



The Dane County Library Service Bookmobile - Thursday evening stops (6-7:30p) at the gazebo at Hotel and Commercial Streets. Library users are encouraged to place holds for items they would like or to use the library's Browse Bundle service: <https://www.dcls.info/browsebundles> to have library staff select titles for you.



Contact Dane County Library Service with questions at 608-266-9297 or [bookmobile.dcl@gmail.com](mailto:bookmobile.dcl@gmail.com).

**Pellitteri**  
WASTE SYSTEMS

A TRADITION OF SERVICE SINCE 1939

## Please Help Us Fill Local Food Pantry Shelves For The Holidays

The holiday season is upon us, and we are fundraising for our annual ThanksGIVING Back program to collect donations for local food pantries. We need your help!

Last year, we raised just over **\$14,000** between our virtual drive, employee events and corporate donation. For every \$10 raised, Second Harvest can provide up to \$25 in groceries to those in need.

**Please consider donating to our virtual fundraiser for Second Harvest Foodbank.**

Thank you for partnering with us and for your consideration in joining us in our fundraising efforts.

Special thanks to last year's contributors, including Baer Insurance, City of Monroe City Hall, City of Monroe Senior Center, First American Title, Town of Dunn, Town of Montrose, Village of Brooklyn, Village of McFarland, Village of Shorewood Hills, Village of Waunakee, and many individuals!

Watch our [Facebook page](#) for all our holiday happenings.

Have a safe and blessed Holiday Season!



7035 Raywood Rd, Monona, WI 53713  
Phone: 608.257.HAUL (4285)  
FAX: 608.257.1179

**Pellitteri**  
WASTE SYSTEMS

Use this link to donate:  
[www.pellitteri.com/thanksgiving](http://www.pellitteri.com/thanksgiving)

# BROOKLYN FIRE & EMS

## ANNUAL THANKSGIVING GIVEAWAY

### ENTRY DEADLINE

Thursday, November 21<sup>ST</sup> 2024

It's that time of year again.  
We want to give you a free  
Thanksgiving Meal. We will  
do the shopping and deliver  
it to you. All you have to do is  
enter to win, cook and enjoy a  
festive feast with your family!

We will be giving away 2  
Thanksgiving baskets each worth

**\$100.00.**

1 Basket – For a family in need this  
holiday season and just needing a  
little extra boost of help.

1 Basket – For a family who is  
deserving that goes above and  
beyond for others

### DELIVERY DATE

Saturday, November 23<sup>rd</sup> 2024



To sign-up for the chance to  
win the only requirement we  
have is that you live within the  
Brooklyn Fire & EMS district.

### TO SIGN-UP

#### EMAIL

[departmentevents@brooklynfireems.org](mailto:departmentevents@brooklynfireems.org)

#### WHAT TO INCLUDE IN YOUR EMAIL

1. Name
2. Address
3. Phone Number
4. The reason why you or the person  
you are nominating would like to  
win this holiday season

# BROOKLYN FIRE & EMS HOLIDAY LIGHT IT UP PARADE SUNDAY, DECEMBER 8<sup>TH</sup> 2024 @5:00





# BROOKLYN FIRE & EMS

401 W. Main St.

## **SAVE THE DATE** **Annual Blood Drive**

**Saturday**  
**December 28<sup>th</sup> 2024**



The Aging & Disability Resource Center in Green County provides information, assistance, and services to help older people and people with disabilities remain healthy and independent.

### BROOKLYN – GREEN COUNTY RESIDENTS Ways to contact us!

Website - [adrcgreencounty.org](http://adrcgreencounty.org)  
Facebook - ADRC of Southwest Wisconsin  
Email - [resourcecenter@gchsd.org](mailto:resourcecenter@gchsd.org)  
Phone - 608-328-9499

Look for ADRC Green County newsletter “The Bridge” monthly in the Great Dane Shopping News

### November 2024 News from Your Senior Center

By Rachel Brickner

November and December are generally some of the busiest months of the year in terms of social events, and in Wisconsin the vast majority of those gatherings happen indoors. Many people will choose to attend holiday events even if they are feeling less than 100% well, as they do not want to miss these once-a-year gatherings with family or friends.

All of that means people are more likely to be exposed to viruses during the holiday season than they might otherwise be.

How can you protect yourself? Staying isolated and away from everyone else is a sad option that has negative effects on your overall health, so that is not a good choice.

Better choices include checking with your doctor about immunizations against some of the more serious viruses that tend to circulate in the cold months. Vaccines against influenza and Covid should be updated annually and can provide a degree of protection against those illnesses. You may not avoid catching them altogether, but you can reduce the severity of symptoms and the likelihood of spreading the illness if you do contract it.

The RSV vaccine is another important one for older adults to consider. This vaccine does not need to be repeated annually and does provide very good coverage against an increasingly common illness that can be very debilitating for older adults.

The pneumococcal vaccine is also one that should be addressed with a health care provider. Pneumococcal bacteria can cause pneumonia, ear infections, sinus infections, strep throat, bloodstream infections and meningitis.

Because of how Medicare reimbursement policies are set up, most immunizations for older adults now take place at pharmacies rather than in physician's offices. That means an extra step for the consumer—checking with the doctor's office about which immunizations are appropriate and then turning that information into vaccine appointments at the pharmacy.

In additions to vaccines, there are other common-sense ways to reduce your risk and boost your immune system. Be conscious of hand hygiene—be diligent about hand washing and using hand sanitizer, particularly right before touching your face or your food. Cover your cough. Get adequate sleep. Eat a healthy diet. Exercise regularly. Stay well hydrated. Limit alcohol consumption. Minimize stress. Wear a mask.

The previous paragraph contains a list that can be tough to achieve. Therefore, take advantage of one of the easiest ways to lower your risk—get the appropriate vaccines. Enjoy this busy, social time of year with a little less risk of becoming ill!

**Link to Oregon Senior Center Newsletter or go to**

<https://www.vil.oregon.wi.us/seniorcenter>

## **Support Services**

- **MEALS**—Nutritious lunches are offered at the Senior Center Monday through Friday. Home-delivered meals are also available Monday through Friday. Suggested minimum donation for those 60 and older is \$5.00 per meal, but please pay only what you can afford. Anyone under 60 must pay the full amount of the cost to provide the meal, which is \$13.56. Lunch at the Senior Center is served at 11:45 AM. Home-delivered meals generally arrive between 11:00 AM and noon. Reservations and cancellations should be made by calling 608-835-5801 two business days before. See page 10 for more information.
- **FOOD PANTRY**—The Oregon/Brooklyn Food Pantry, at 107 North Alpine Parkway in Oregon, is open every Tuesday from 9:00 to 11:00 AM, every second and last Thursday of each month from 4:00 to 6:00 PM, and every first Saturday of the month from 9:00 to 11:00 AM. Please call 608-835-5801 to arrange transportation.
- **LOAN CLOSET**—You must have an appointment to pick up or return equipment. If you live in our service area and need durable medical equipment, such as crutches, wheelchairs, walkers, commodes, canes, etc., you may borrow equipment for short-term use. This service is available to all ages. Call 608-835-5801 and ask for Carol or Noriko to schedule an appointment. **Walking sticks are available for 3-week loans.**
- **LEGAL COUNSELING**—Several local attorneys offer free consultations to local seniors. Please call Carol or Noriko at 608-835-5801 for this information.
- **LGBT SENIOR ASSISTANCE**—Call the Senior Advocate from the OutReach LGBT Community Center at 608-255-8582.

### What is the cost?

Persons aged 60 and over are eligible for congregate and home-delivered meals on a donation basis. The suggested donation is \$5.00, but **your donation should be based on what you can reasonably afford to help defray the cost of the meal.** Currently, food costs, which include catering and administration, are approximately \$13.56 per meal. Donations can be deposited in the wooden box at the reception desk or mailed to the Senior Center.

### Volunteer Opportunities

If you would like to be a volunteer with the Nutrition Program as an aide in the kitchen or to transport the home-delivered meals, please call 608-835-5801.

### Inclement Weather

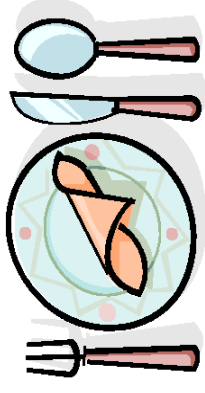
When weather is threatening, listen to your radio or television for school closings. If the Oregon schools are closed due to bad weather, meals will not be served that day. However, if schools are closing early, we will probably have meals at the site and will make every effort to deliver a meal to your home. We suggest that you be prepared and have non-perishable food items on hand in case of an emergency.



Updated 1/8/2024

# LUNCH PROGRAM

*Meals at the Senior Center  
and  
Home-Delivered Meals*



Oregon Area  
Senior Center

est. 1980

219 Park St.  
Oregon, WI  
53575





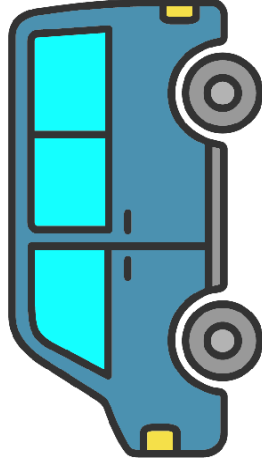
# OREGON AREA SENIOR CENTER'S NUTRITION PROGRAM

## Join us for Lunch at the Senior Center

Lunch is offered Monday through Friday in the Senior Center dining room. There is always a meatless option.

The meals are provided by AtlantisValley Foods and the menus are approved by Dane County's Area Agency on Aging's dietician. They are designed to meet one third of the daily dietary requirements for older adults as established by the U.S. government. These meals are offered on a donation basis.

The meals are served at **11:45 AM** and **reservations must be made by 1:00 PM two business days before by calling 608-835-5801**. **Cancellations are appreciated 48 hours in advance.**



## Transportation to Lunch

Accessible van service is contracted through Dane County to provide older adults transportation to the Senior Center. Requests can be made when the meal reservation is made.

Please call Carol or Noriko at 608-835-5801 at least 2 business days in advance to schedule a ride.

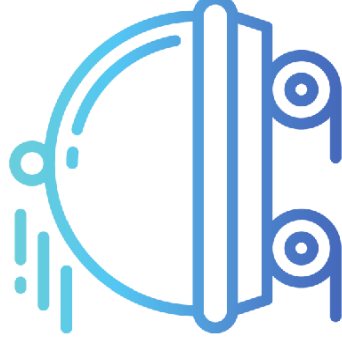
Participants living within our service area will be picked up at their homes.

The cost is a suggested donation of \$1 round trip.

## Home-Delivered Meals

A qualifying person must be either 60+ years of age or be the spouse of a person who qualifies. The qualifying person must be homebound or unable to participate in the group lunch at the Senior Center. The person must be able to feed himself or herself.

The meals are delivered by volunteer drivers. Home-delivered meals are offered through the Senior Center, Monday through Friday, on a donation basis.

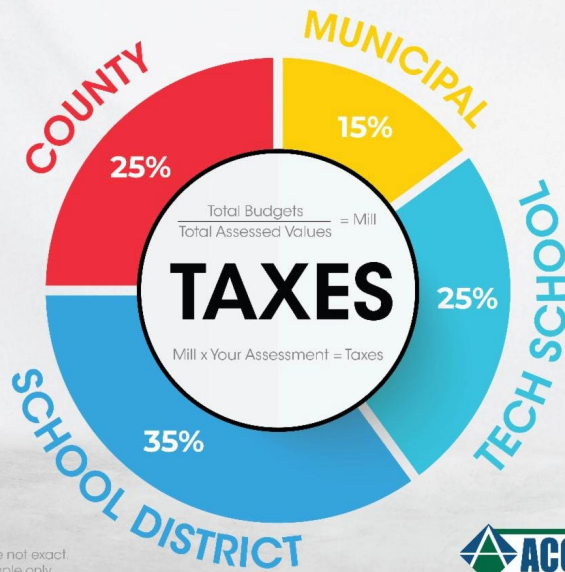


## TOP 10

### MISCONCEPTIONS ABOUT ASSESSMENTS AND TAXES

- 10. I HEAR THAT ASSESSMENTS ARE INCREASED TO COLLECT MORE TAXES**  
Assessments are based on sale data and market conditions, not to get more taxes.
- 9. MY VALUE WENT DOWN, SO WILL MY TAXES**  
If budgets stay the same, a drop in value only increases the mill and in most cases your taxes will stay about the same even with a decrease in your assessment.
- 8. ASSESSORS ARE IN "CAHOOTS" WITH THE CITY TO INCREASE MY VALUE JUST TO INCREASE OUR TAXES**  
Assessors must follow guidelines in state statutes, there is no "CAHOOTS"
- 7. THE STATE ALLOWS THE ASSESSORS TO SET OVER INFLATED VALUES TO INCREASE TAXES**  
The market sales dictate what properties are selling for, that data is used to set values
- 6. THE FAIR MARKET VALUE ON MY TAX BILL IS WHAT I CAN SELL MY HOUSE FOR**  
This is based on an arbitrary value, to know your true value get an appraisal
- 5. I JUST BOUGHT MY HOUSE SO IT SHOULD NOT AFFECT MY TAXES AS A NEW OWNER**  
A purchase of a property is the best comparable of sale, during a market update your home will be set to your recent sale price based on state statutes.
- 4. ADDING AN ADDITION, SHED, OR A POOL SHOULD NOT AFFECT MY TAXES**  
By enhancing your property you are adding market value to the potential next buyer, therefore your assessment should be as close to market value as possible.
- 3. I WAS RECENTLY RE-ASSESSED, NOW IM GOING TO PAY MORE TAXES THAN OTHER COMMUNITIES AROUND ME**  
State Equalized Value ensures that everyone pays taxes at 100% value each year.
- 2. SALES OF OTHER PROPERTIES SHOULDN'T MAKE MY VALUE GO UP**  
Market value is the best indicator of what your property would sell for on the open market. Comparing properties similar to yours ensures your value is fair.
- 1. ASSESSORS SET AND COLLECT TAXES**  
Assessors set values of property based on market data showing valid arm's length sales. Statistics of these sales are used to set assessed values.

# UNDERSTANDING ANNUAL BUDGETS



Our post of the week highlights when annual budgets are set and how they affect taxes.

Every year the 4 entities of tax set their annual budgets based on the services they need to operate. Some may require more and some less. Each year they are continually changing.

When you add all these budgets up and divide them by the total community assessed value you get the mill rate.

## Trash & recycling can be this easy

The Pellitteri Waste Systems app makes taking out your carts almost effortless.

- 🔔 WEEKLY REMINDERS
- ❄️ REAL-TIME UPDATES
- ♻️ RECYCLE RIGHT SEARCH TOOL

Download the app now at  
[PELLITTERI.COM/RECYCLERIGHT](http://PELLITTERI.COM/RECYCLERIGHT)



**Pellitteri**  
WASTE SYSTEMS



Available for both  
Android and Apple

Taking out the trash becomes easier with the mobile app from Pellitteri Waste Systems, our community's **waste disposal and recycling company**.

✅ The app makes a weekly chore almost effortless. You can:

- 🕒 Set a weekly reminder for a specific day and time
- ❄️ Receive updates for holidays and inclement weather
- 📅 See your collection schedule at a glance anytime

🔗 Download the app now at [pellitteri.com/recycleright](http://pellitteri.com/recycleright)

#trashday #recycleright #reminder #garbage #recycling #convenient #easy #helpful #android #iphone #pellitteri





# Lottery and Gaming Credit

## Wisconsin Department of Revenue

Attention Property Owners – are you receiving this credit? Check your property tax bill.



### What is it?

- It's a credit that provides direct property tax relief to qualifying property owners on their property tax bills
- Funded by lottery proceeds
- Displayed on tax bills as a reduction of property taxes due



### Who qualifies?

- **You qualify if** – you're a Wisconsin resident who owns a dwelling and uses it as your primary residence as of January 1 of the tax year
- **You don't qualify if** –
  - » You are not a Wisconsin resident
  - » You already receive the credit for another property or the property is not your primary residence on January 1 of the tax year
  - » The property is unoccupied, or a business property, rental unit, vacant land, garage or non-residence property



### Do I have to apply?

- Yes – if you are not receiving the credit
- To receive the credit – if you are eligible, you must file an application. You can even apply for a late lottery credit for the previous year.
- Once you receive the lottery and gaming credit, you do not have to reapply – it continues automatically in future years



### Apply online!

- Use the "Lottery Credit Online Application Portal"
- Visit – [www.revenue.wi.gov](http://www.revenue.wi.gov) and search "Lottery Forms"
- If eligible – apply for:
  - » 2023 credit – by October 1, 2024
  - » 2024 credit – by January 31, 2025

# Collection Calendar

## Wednesdays

Your area will be picked up on Wednesdays, except where noted below for holiday delays. Refuse will be collected weekly. Recycling will be collected every other week.



Refuse Pick-up Only.

Recycling and Refuse Pick-up.

Download our mobile app at [pellitteri.com/recycleright](https://pellitteri.com/recycleright) to set up weekly reminders, receive service alerts and verify items can be recycled.

### JANUARY '25

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
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### FEBRUARY '25

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### MARCH '25

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### APRIL '25

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### MAY '25

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### JUNE '25

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### JULY '25

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### AUGUST '25

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### SEPTEMBER '25

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### OCTOBER '25

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### NOVEMBER '25

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### DECEMBER '25

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THE MATERIALS USED IN THIS PAPER NEVER ENDED UP IN A LANDFILL. YOU CAN HELP CONTINUE THE CYCLE. FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT PELLITTERI.COM

For scheduling the pick-up of items too large to fit into your cart, please call Pellitteri Waste Systems at (608) 257-4285. Pricing can be found on our website at [pellitteri.com](https://pellitteri.com).

**RECYCLING** *Information – All recyclables should be placed in your recycling cart*

### EXPANDED *Paper* RECYCLING

- Cardboard (empty)
- Catalogs, magazines & phone books
- Cereal & cracker boxes (empty)
- Computer & office paper
- Envelopes & junk mail
- Holiday gift wrapping paper (no foils)
- Newspapers
- Paper cups (no plastic lids or straws)
- Paper egg cartons
- Paper grocery bags
- Paper milk and juice cartons or boxes
- Pizza boxes (empty)
- Shredded paper (place in clear or transparent plastic bag and tie shut; a full bag should be the size of a basketball)

### RECYCLABLE *Plastic & Glass*

- All plastic bottles (no motor oils or gasoline)
- Plastic containers/cups #1–7
- Glass bottles & jars (clear, blue, brown or green translucent glass)

### RECYCLABLE *Metal*

- Aerosol cans (empty)
- Aluminum cans & aluminum pie plates
- Metal pots & pans
- Small metal appliances (toasters, blenders, etc.) – nothing larger than a basketball
- Small metal plumbing fixtures, faucets, valves
- Tin & steel cans

### NON-RECYCLABLE *Items:*

- **Batteries** and any battery-containing items (fire hazard – check [call2recycle.org](http://call2recycle.org))
- Brake rotors / drums
- Construction waste
- Electronics
- Frozen food or microwave dinner plates
- Glassware & ceramics
- Metal items heavier than 10 pounds
- Mirrors & windows
- Motor oil & gasoline containers
- Plastic film, wrap & Styrofoam
- **Propane tanks** (fire hazard – check [earth911.com](http://earth911.com))
- Recyclable containers containing liquids or food
- Misc.: Carpet, clothing, diapers, fishing line, food, hoses, ropes & shoes

### RECYCLING *Tips*

- Do not place any batteries, battery-containing items, or rechargeable items in your trash or recycling carts. They can start fires.
- Containers containing food or liquids, construction waste or electronics CANNOT be placed in the recycling cart.
- Should you choose to bag recyclables you place into the cart, please use clear or transparent bags and leave open – do not tie or seal. Clear bags can be purchased at most grocery and hardware stores.
- Flatten all cardboard and boxes to help ensure that your cart empties completely. The lid on your cart should shut.
- Do not flatten or crush plastic or metal items. Do not place smaller items inside larger containers. All items should be loose and empty. Remove all food waste, plastic, Styrofoam and packing peanuts.
- Your recycling cart will not be picked up if it contains trash, yard waste, prohibited items, or if overloaded.
- Check out [www.pellitteri.com](http://www.pellitteri.com) for dozens of 1-minute **recycling tip videos**, a **7-minute video** showing what happens to your recyclables, and our **Recycle Right Search Tool** to easily verify if items are recyclable.
- Download the “Pellitteri Waste Systems” **mobile app** for pickup day reminders and the Recycle Right Search Tool.



## Brooklyn Village Board Meeting Minutes October 14, 2024

On October 14, 2024, Clerk Linda Kuhlman called the Village Board meeting of the Village of Brooklyn to order at 6:30 p.m. Trustees present were Chris Groenier, Dan Olson, Michael Gehrmann, Mike Brusberg, Christian Allen, and David Berland. President Mark Bruner was absent. Also present were Nick Ladopoulos, Kyo Ladopoulos, Brian Elliott and Ron Klaas, Peter Meicher, Eric Teeter, Katherine Brusky, David Brusky, Mark Mortensen, and Clerk-Treasurer Linda Kuhlman.

**Berland made a motion to nominate Mike Brusberg to chair meeting.** Olson seconded. Motion carried.

**Public comments** – Teeter talked about some items with the **permitting process** and asked if there are fines for people not doing it properly or not doing it in time. That should be something for the committee to take care of; otherwise there is no incentive for people to do their permits on time. Brusberg said the board will take it back to committee level. Kuhlman said building permits are for a year. Katherine Brusky is wondering about the **6 p.m. siren** that went off. She asked if anyone knew the history of why it goes off at 6 p.m. Olson said he's lived here 52 years and it has gone off that long. It used to go off with fires, so rural farmers could hear the siren. Gehrmann said it used to be that it's time for dinner and used to go off for fires. He's been here 20 years. Brusberg said we can talk to the individual that leads the historical society and see if there is information on it. Kuhlman read a written comment asking for a **light on the new shelter at the water tower** that points to playground equipment. Kuhlman passed it on to the public works committee.

**President's report** – Bruner is not here tonight. The board hopes he feels better.

**All Star properties** – Brian Elliott did a presentation regarding building of homes east of the Village. He went through his background and the history of the company. He started business in the 90s and came here, got into development here. He joined in 2001 and they've done many developments in Dane County suburban areas, Reedsburg, etc. He talked about other developments they've done. Engineer Ron Klaas gave background on their firm. They can annex in the highway right of way and then annex the parcel. It comes down to what the board feels is best for the village. The developer would pay for things like the urban service amendment and annexation, etc. Brusberg asked beyond us giving it a thought, is there any other action to be taken. Klaas said they would like feedback. Brusberg said that's not an area serviced by water and sewer and it would all have to be connected up. It would fall on the developer's nickel. Would that be possible. Klaas said the developer understands he has to make this happen and he's not relying on village money to do so. Brusberg said we've seen development in Brooklyn Commons where the lots went quick and the developer did a great job. Nick Ladopoulos stated they don't know exactly what they will do, but it's a fair amount of lots and it can carry the expense of water/sewer upgrades to be done. They haven't studied yet what they would need to do, and they try to balance the development costs with housing. So many units can carry so much of the cost. He works in small communities, and they develop with care and put the village's work and needs first and make money in the process. Here we have an opportunity. Highway 14 is expanding and it's faster going to Oregon. They think this village is ready to expand in Dane County, and this is a good and proper way for the village to be able to attract new folks who want to live in small communities. They're easier to live in, to send kids to school, safety, and make a great community. That's why they bought the land, eventually thinking that's what they want to do. They hope the village will consider them, and they will give us a great development. Christian Allen said the village looked at this previously as well and if the lift station would handle it being that far out. Olson said sewer can handle but the water can't. Brusberg asked how quickly they're looking to do something. Nick Ladopoulos asked how quickly do we want them to do something. Berland said we would be interested in a proposal. We want to be strategic to expand and look at the liabilities based on the village. He would like to see a proposal of how to do sewer, water, electrical. Gehrmann said it's a good sizable parcel. He mentioned going forward we would have to work together with developer and timing and finance. The last thing we want to do is get water and sewer and no houses. He asked what is target mix

of housing; are you envisioning a Bergamont type area? Brusberg asked the average price of home that they're targeting. Elliott said they would have to be lower priced than Oregon to make it work. Lot sizes would be about a quarter acre, 1500 feet finished minimum, so affordable housing. It could be a mix. Groenier asked if they thought of lot prices. Elliott said not yet. Minimum Oregon lot prices are \$130,000, but they have to include the costs. Nick Ladopoulos said they need to urbanize the corridor. It would require turning lanes and a bike path. Brusberg said we would have to work with the developer. Brooklyn is in a prime spot, but we want to make sure we keep what makes Brooklyn great and not try to change Brooklyn into something it's not. Klaas said they could meet with public works committee for more information. Nick Ladopoulos thanked the board for listening to them. Brusberg would like to see a proposal from them. Gehrmann said it's a good mix of housing and duplexes and other options. Groenier asked how long to get a full proposal together. Klaas said he would like to meet with public works first. Olson said to contact the public works director Leif Spilde. Allen asked how Peter Meicher feels about the development. Meicher said they're not sure but want to see the plan and see what will come of it. They have the explosive magazines there for fireworks shows. They have to have a perimeter around that that they can't change. A lot will depend on that, and they want to do whatever is best for Brooklyn. At this point they don't know. Board thanked them all for coming.

**Berland made a motion at 7:18 p.m. to go into closed session.** Groenier seconded. Ayes – Groenier, Berland, Olson, Brusberg, Gehrmann, Allen. Noes – none.

**Olson made a motion at 8:11 p.m. to reconvene into open session.** Gehrmann seconded. Ayes – Allen, Gehrmann, Brusberg, Olson, Berland, Groenier. Noes – none.

**Brusberg made a motion to approve what was discussed in closed session regarding the business park.** Groenier seconded. Motion carried.

Groenier left the meeting. **Olson made a motion to approve the minutes of September 9.** Berland seconded. Motion carried. **Berland made a motion to approve the minutes of September 23.** Olson seconded. Motion carried. **Berland made a motion to approve the minutes of September 30.** Olson seconded. Motion carried.

Kulman explained that Deputy Grumke needed to replace the docking station and computer from the squad because they stopped working. Dane County replaced them at no charge, because they will put them in the new squad when it arrives. **Berland made a motion to recycle the old PD docking station and computer.** Olson seconded. Motion carried.

**Berland made a motion to approve Resolution 2024-16 Budget Amendment, moving funds in tree removal account from 2023 to 2024.** Gehrmann seconded. Motion carried.

Olson saw one adjustment for voucher 14799, adjust from \$1,600 to \$1,300; it was a typo. There are also two additional bills to include - one was for Plant Optics for software for the sewer plant for \$900, and the second is to CARPC for \$400 for sewer extension for business complex phase 2. **Olson made a motion to approve bills as presented, except for voucher 14792, and adjusting voucher 14799 from \$1,600 to \$1,300 and amending the bill to add CARPC for \$400 and bill for software from GS Plant Optics for \$900.** Allen seconded. Motion carried. **Brusberg made a motion to approve voucher 14792 for spring/fall cleanup.** Berland seconded. Motion carried. Olson abstained.

Kuhlman wanted to confirm with the board that we will still have **Fischer continue the water and sewer lines** down Prosperity Place into the recently purchased property. The board confirmed that is still the plan.

**Berland made a motion to postpone hiring a commercial realtor.** Put on the October 28 agenda. Gehrmann seconded. Motion carried.

Kuhlman gave the board the quotes for just the front door automatic unlock and the back door keypad. Because we’re discussing cameras for elsewhere in the village, we could get a Ring doorbell temporarily. **Berland made a motion to accept the bid from J&K Security, not to exceed \$6,818, taken from village hall funds.** Gehrmann seconded. Motion carried.

**PW/Utilities/EM Update** – Olson reported Bytec helped to finish our sludge hauling permit, and it was hauled last week. We received the treatment plant permit, along with a packet that explains testing and other requirements we have to do with the permit. It includes water temperature testing above where we dump in, at the point the effluent goes into the creek and below to average out. Gehrmann confirmed at the creek and downstream. There are more tests required, including additional WET tests by 2029, we need to be doing PFAS testing, and potentially eColi testing. They will also have to start testing the sludge that gets hauled as well for PFAS. It’s undetectable in the sludge now. Possibly in the future, we might have to change how we haul sludge. It might be a different procedure needed. The new testing will result in upgrades needed to the plant by 2029. **Dumpster days** went well. The numbers were down with tonnage. The committee made the recommendation to go with Mid-State of Janesville at not to exceed \$8,900 for a new toolcat. **Olson made a motion to approve purchasing the toolcat from Mid-State of Janesville, not to exceed \$8,900.** Berland seconded. Motion carried.

**Clerk’s Report** – End of September deposits totaled \$461,924.85. \$363,220.99 was from the NAN loan proceeds for Business Park to cover costs the previous month. We had total withdrawals of \$345,859.57. There was a total at the end of September of \$2,318,610.26 in all accounts. The rest of financials were handed out, including the consolidated investment information. They were down from last month, but still not tracking too bad overall. Senior Center agenda update was handed out. We received updated population quotes from the state. We are at 1553 residents. 491 in Green County and 1062 in Dane County. Next Friday the clerk’s office will be closed.

**Finance/Public Works Committees** -- Brusberg reported the committees met on October 7. They talked about seasonal worker wages, Town Web website contract. **Brusberg made a motion to raise the seasonal employee wage for 2025 to \$14. We have someone that’s been with the village for awhile and not given an increase.** Berland seconded. Motion carried. Town Web contract – the cost we’re paying presently is \$515. That will shift to \$1520. That increase will include the ability to make the site ADA compliant and will lock us in for the next 3 years. It does not include a website redesign, just maintaining what we presently have. **Brusberg made a motion to move forward with renewing Town Web at a price of \$1,520.** Olson seconded. Motion carried.

**Budgets** -- Brusberg reported that if we stay below a 4.65% increase in total general fund budget, it allows us to have access to \$15,000 in revenue share from the state. Kuhlman reported she initially didn’t include the tax portion we put into the cemetery fund, so we will need to cut an additional approximately \$6,000 to meet that percentage. We have already made some cuts at the joint meeting, so she asked the board to consider not cutting now and taking the decrease in 2026. With the new construction continuing, we might get to a situation in a few years where we’re over the allowed percentage. Discussion on budget. Kuhlman will make a few more cuts to get below the expenditure restraint percentage. **Berland made a motion to postpone action on budget until the next meeting on October 22.** Olson seconded.

**Berland made a motion at 8:45 p.m. to adjourn.** Gehrmann seconded. Motion carried.

Linda Kuhlman, WCMC, C  
Clerk-Treasurer



## Brooklyn Village Board Meeting Minutes October 28, 2024

On October 28, 2024, President Mark Bruner called the Village Board meeting of the Village of Brooklyn to order at 6:30 p.m. Trustees present were Chris Groenier, Dan Olson, Michael Gehrmann, Mike Brusberg, Christian Allen, and David Berland. Also present were Ali and Nick Templeton, and Clerk-Treasurer Linda Kuhlman. No public comments.

**President's report** – Bruner thanked everyone who stepped up in his absence the last couple of meetings with him being sick. And here's to the election being over on November 6.

**Groenier made a motion to approve the minutes of October 14.** Olson seconded. Motion carried. Bruner abstained.

**Extra-territorial CSM** - Ali Templeton said their family bought land around the house that they will be purchasing, and they want to add a couple acres to their lot. They have about 2-3 and want to have 5 total. Kuhlman said it was part of a larger CSM that was approved prior. **Olson made a motion to accept the extra-territorial CSM in the Town of Union.** Brusberg seconded. Motion carried.

**Berland made a motion to approve the CSM for the 15.72 acres in the Business Park.** Groenier seconded. Motion carried.

Brusberg noticed that the check register for the EMS and Fire were each off by 2 cents. Kuhlman will fix those. Bruner asked about the Kaiser Construction invoice. He thought they were supposed to take out the concrete drive-thru area. Kuhlman explained that Public Works was concerned that the vibrations from breaking it up would damage the sewer and water lines underneath, so it was decided to leave it and complete that with the rest of the parking lot project. **Brusberg made a motion to approve the bills.** Olson seconded. Motion carried.

Brusberg stated at the last meeting we postponed hiring a commercial broker. He asked if we've heard from Jeff Groenier and Mark Mortensen. Kuhlman said she spoke with Groenier last week after the email from DOT confirming we didn't need to do the east-west road but hasn't heard since. Groenier did speak with Strand and Spilde about designs, and he was told that Strand is ready to help, but we need an offer in writing before the village will spend more money. Brusberg asked if it's possible to check in with them and get timing on producing a written offer and what their anticipated closing date would be. He's fine postponing the hiring of a commercial realtor until the November 11<sup>th</sup> meeting. **Brusberg made a motion to postpone any further discussion about a commercial realtor until the first meeting in November.** Gehrmann seconded. Motion carried.

**Budgets** – Kuhlman stated after the last meeting's discussion about keeping under the expenditure restraint percentage increase, she was able to find the \$6,100 needed to reduce the budget. Discussion on whether to reduce for expenditure restraint, which would be a \$15,000 payment from the state in 2026. Olson asked to get a total on budget cuts and increases made this year. Kuhlman also asked if we could add back in joining the Green County Development Corporation. They could be a good resource in the future. We can take it off the squad budget, since we won't get the new squad until further into the year. The board okayed that. Brusberg asked if Kuhlman can monitor how much we use them next year to determine if we should continue in 2026. Kuhlman stated the public hearing for the budget will be held on November 11, and the board should be able to approve the budgets at that time. We won't know the total mill rates at that time, because we probably won't have the county information by then.

**Clerk's report – Election** is next Tuesday, November 5. Polls open at 7 a.m. and close at 5 p.m. We have been averaging about 25 absentee voters per day, and we have a little over 200 total absentee ballots. We have about 960 registered voters in the village. Kuhlman checked with Sue McCallum about the **6 p.m. siren**, and Sue checked with long-time locals and was told there are several reasons -- to check for proper working order, to test for tornado preparedness, and in the past was to call firefighters to fire calls, to signal the end of work shifts including lunch, and so kids would know when to go home for dinner. Deputy Grumke pulled some basic **traffic information** from the speed boards in the village. Also one of the overtime deputies recorded some data while on duty for an hour period in the evenings on Hwy 92/Church Street and Hwy 104/S Rutland, and recorded 24 and 27 cars, and the highest speed was 31 and averaged about 26. Grumke also had some data from DOT from a study they did, and they didn't see regular excessive speeds. Grumke will get data from the speed boards for a month period of time and report back to the board. Kuhlman reminded the board about the **Green County Leaders First Impressions** meeting on November 13 in the afternoon at the community building. She requested a board members attend the meeting, if possible. She will pass on more information when available. We received a call from **Culpepper & Merriweather Circus**. They are a national circus that travels across the United States and puts on a circus. It's a one-day, two-show event. They partner with chambers or other groups and the group can receive a portion of the ticket sales. They do have some animals. They were wondering if Brooklyn was interested in hosting them. The board would like to get more information before making a decision.

**Brusberg made a motion to approve the clerk and deputy clerk attending the Wisconsin Government Finance Officers Association conference in Middleton on December 5-6 for \$150 each plus mileage.** Berland seconded. Motion carried. Olson abstained.

**Private and public fire protection charges** - Kuhlman explained that per our PSC tariff we charge an amount for public fire protection based on the number of fire hydrants in the village. Right now it's part of the levy that is taxed to residents. However, a few of the bigger users like the school, the churches, the fire department, for example, don't contribute because they don't pay taxes. There is an option to put all or a percentage of that amount onto the monthly utility bills and free up funds in the general fund budget for other items, like an additional sheriff deputy. If we were to take 60% of that amount and put it on the utility bills, it would free up \$75,000 in the general fund budget and would add about \$10 to each utility bill per month, roughly. The board was concerned with adding charges to the utility bill but the levy would stay the same for taxes. Kuhlman stated we would have to do a conventional rate case through the PSC, and there's a chance the water rates would change. She can find out more information and will bring up the matter again after the first of the year. She also explored a private fire protection charge but decided against pursuing it. It would be for businesses with sprinkler systems and private fire hydrants. After exploring further, the PSC recommends not charging, and presumably sprinkler systems would use less water for a fire.

Kuhlman explained that our website company is changing all of their websites to a new platform. So we have the option of updating our website to the new platform and updating the look of the site for \$1,500 or only updating to the new platform for \$800. **Brusberg made a motion to do the updated website at a cost of \$800.** Groenier seconded. Motion carried. Berland abstained.

**Fire/EMS District Commission** – Brusberg reported the last meeting was October 16. They had a presentation on the **2022-2023 audit**. There is information in the board packet. They received an unmodified opinion from the auditors. The biggest material weakness is the lack of segregation of duties, similar to the village. There is an opportunity for improvement around spending and putting spending limits in place, and the auditor will provide information to the district secretary to draft policies. They know the fire district needs to work on their policies. The **fire division** usually has 25-30 calls per month, but in September there were 46, and a lot of

fire calls were big fires with mutual aid that they got called to. They have a good flow of **new members**. Two new members were added recently, and one is in the EMR class. Two other applicants they were meeting with soon. They have been **participating in the community** with fire prevention week in the school and onsite at the fire house and their pancake breakfast. They need to get new **defibrillators**. Their's work fine now, but a

new one provides better capabilities for pediatric patients. The issue was tabled and no vote in the near term, because the cost is \$50,000 and they wanted to check into leasing opportunities also. Nothing material in the **financials**. There are adjustments to the **budget** that he provided to the district secretary based on Kuhlman's five-year trajectory spreadsheet. Everything tracks to history for the EMS. Fire has an opportunity to sharpen the pencil. The commission will do that in November and make some adjustments, sliding dollars around, and if they find some are not needed in 2025, they will bring the budget down for 2026. The joint meeting for next year is September 17 of 2025. They found roughly \$15,000 to \$20,000 that could be adjusted. The **new ambulance** might get here in December. Radio costs are tracking high. There was a slight uptick in September **out-of-service hours** but nothing dramatic.

Bruner said a closed session is not needed. **Groenier made a motion at 7:34 p.m. to adjourn.** Gehrmann seconded. Motion carried.

Linda Kuhlman, WCMC, CMTW  
Clerk-Treasurer

# December

2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3 Tires**, Oil & Battery Pick-up	4 <b>Garbage &amp; Recycling</b> Yoga 6 pm	5 <b>Clerk's Office Dept Closed</b> Bookmobile- Gazebo 6-730p	6 <b>Clerk's Office Dept Closed</b>	7 Chamber Santa Days @Methodist Church 10a-1p
8 Fire & EMS Holiday Parade @ 5pm	9 <b>Board Meeting 630 pm</b>	10	11 <b>Garbage</b> Yoga 6 pm	12 Bookmobile- Gazebo 6-730p	13	14
15	16	17 <b>Planning &amp; Zoning Commission Meeting 6 pm</b>	18 <b>Garbage &amp; Recycling</b> Yoga 6 pm	19 Bookmobile- Gazebo 6-730p	20	21
22	23	24 <b>Clerk's Office &amp; Public Works Dept Closed</b>	25 <b>Clerk's Office &amp; Public Works Dept Closed</b>	26 <b>Garbage</b> Bookmobile- Gazebo 6-730p	27	28 Fire & EMS Annual Blood Drive
29	30	31 <b>Clerk's Office &amp; Public Works Dept Closed</b>				
					Exercise Classes held at Brooklyn Community Bldg	**\$ 10/Tire Contact Clerk's Office 608-455- 4201