

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

## April 2025 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)

### Arbor Day Foundation Campaign

#### YOU PLEDGE. WE PLANT.

Once you have a pledge, tell the Arbor Day Foundation about it at [arborday.org/planet-pledge](http://arborday.org/planet-pledge) and they will plant a tree in a forest of need to honor your commitment.

Examples of pledges or you can create your own:

Carry a reusable water bottle or coffee cup

Bring reusable bags shopping

Avoid single-use items like plastic cutlery, plastic bags and straws

Learn my local recycling guidelines and sort my recycling

Shop local farmers markets and buy seasonal produce

Bike, use public transportation or carpool

Volunteer at a community garden or plant your own

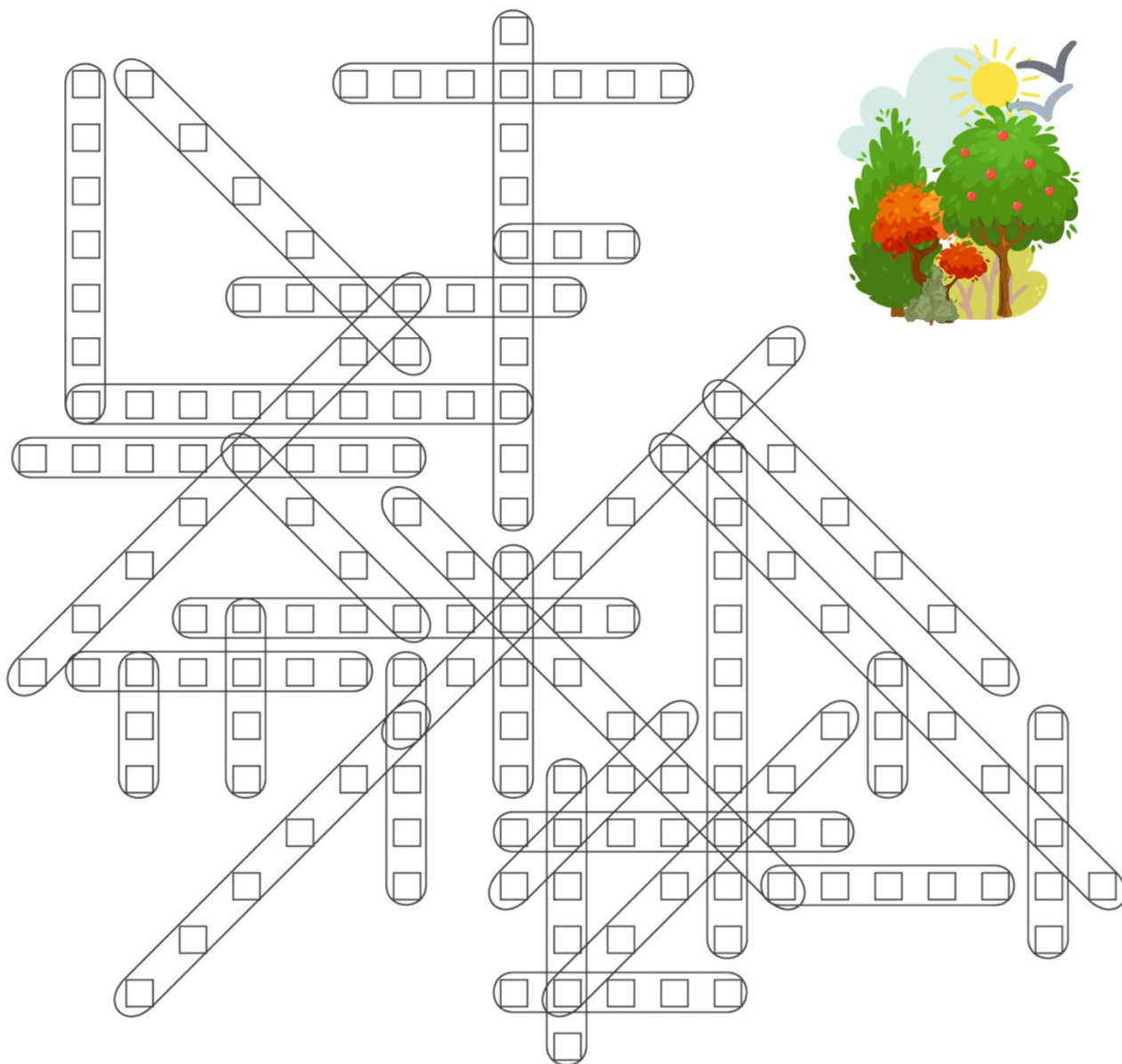
Plant trees in your yard



## Trees And Shrubs Word Fit



Fit the words in the list into the encircled squares. Words will read forward, backward, up, down, and diagonally and will normally cross other words.



acerola  
arborvitae  
ash  
avocado  
azalea  
beech

blackberry  
boxwood  
butternut  
cedar  
cherry  
chestnut

crabapple  
currant  
fig  
fir  
ginkgo  
hawthorn

hibiscus  
holly  
lemon  
pine  
plum  
poplar

quince  
sage  
smoketree  
sycamore  
vitex  
walnut

© Puzzle Cheer

Answer at the end of the newsletter.



# Tree Species



ALMOND  
APPLE  
ASH  
ASPEN  
AVOCADO  
BANYAN  
BAOBAB  
BASS  
BEECH  
BIRCH  
BITTERNUT  
BREADFRUIT  
BUCKEYE  
BUTTERNUT  
CACAO  
CASHEW  
CEDAR  
CHERRY  
CHESTNUT  
CINNAMON  
COCONUT  
COLA  
COTTONWOOD  
CRABAPPLE  
CYPRESS  
DOGWOOD  
ELM  
FIG  
FIR  
GINKGO  
HAWTHORN  
HEMLOCK  
HICKORY  
HOLLY  
IRONWOOD  
JUNIPER  
LARCH  
LAUREL  
LEMON  
LOCUST  
MAGNOLIA  
MAPLE  
MULBERRY  
OAK  
OLIVE  
ORANGE  
PALM

S	V	J	P	O	P	L	A	R	C	A	F	V	S	N	Q	H	R	A	O	S	M	X
I	W	C	O	T	T	O	N	W	O	O	D	O	G	W	O	O	D	S	M	P	H	U
P	H	Z	M	U	L	B	E	R	R	Y	L	R	I	A	I	L	E	M	O	N	A	M
H	T	T	E	B	W	F	Y	X	X	E	P	A	N	L	P	L	U	M	K	E	R	I
B	I	B	G	B	I	R	C	H	L	W	B	N	K	N	M	Y	L	R	L	D	Y	Q
Q	K	U	R	E	D	W	O	O	D	U	I	G	G	U	Y	F	C	O	B	E	I	K
T	X	T	A	E	H	I	C	K	O	R	Y	E	O	T	Q	E	I	U	W	O	A	S
L	N	T	N	C	A	V	O	C	A	D	O	U	H	G	L	E	G	M	J	B	D	V
C	K	E	A	H	W	D	M	L	K	Q	Z	C	E	D	A	R	R	N	J	A	I	X
H	F	R	T	L	T	V	F	C	I	N	N	A	M	O	N	X	E	X	W	D	F	E
P	I	N	E	C	H	E	R	R	Y	S	Y	C	A	M	O	R	E	D	P	N	B	M
A	R	U	V	A	O	O	V	A	U	B	H	A	G	G	Y	U	F	R	W	E	P	I
F	C	T	N	S	R	L	J	B	Z	I	R	O	N	W	O	O	D	A	J	J	I	M
P	E	A	C	H	N	E	A	A	P	T	T	Y	O	H	X	Y	P	M	Q	R	V	F
A	L	M	B	E	Q	I	Q	P	P	T	A	F	L	A	U	R	E	L	H	T	H	U
L	M	A	Z	W	C	C	Y	P	R	E	S	S	I	Q	D	P	E	A	R	D	B	M
M	R	R	R	M	F	O	H	L	I	R	H	P	A	W	P	A	W	D	G	I	W	Y
Q	U	I	N	C	E	C	E	E	U	N	Y	R	P	O	C	P	L	O	C	U	S	T
R	O	N	H	H	H	O	M	O	S	U	K	U	P	E	C	A	N	M	S	R	J	U
D	B	D	S	X	F	N	L	L	B	T	Q	C	L	V	Q	Y	T	A	O	U	N	A
Z	F	P	S	E	Q	U	O	I	A	W	N	E	E	F	X	A	S	P	E	N	K	Z
T	Q	L	I	E	E	T	C	V	N	D	J	U	N	I	P	E	R	L	L	U	D	I
T	K	K	C	B	U	C	K	E	Y	E	X	I	T	G	D	P	G	E	A	S	A	H
B	D	B	C	R	J	R	L	B	A	O	B	A	B	A	S	S	M	I	R	P	D	S
S	O	S	C	E	B	I	A	J	N	C	X	C	W	L	G	R	K	H	T	I	J	E

PAPAYA  
PAWPAW  
PEACH  
PEAR  
PECAN  
PINE  
PLUM  
POMEGRANATE  
POPLAR

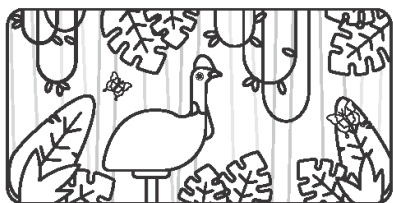
QUINCE  
REDWOOD  
SEQUOIA  
SPRUCE  
SYCAMORE  
TAMARIND  
WALNUT  
WILLOW  
YEWE



# Why Plant A TREE?

Trees are a gift to our planet and ourselves. They support life on earth and provide humans with the air we breathe. The livelihood of our world and its inhabitants depends on the health of our trees and forests, and there are a number of reasons we should plant trees.

## BIODIVERSITY



Biodiversity refers to the variety of living things. A single tree can provide a home to many mammals, reptiles, birds, and smaller organisms such as insects, fungi, and other plants. By planting native seedlings, we can improve the quality of existing habitats and connect patches of habitat with wildlife corridors.

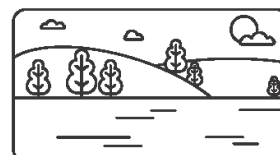
## TACKLE CLIMATE CHANGE

Trees, shrubs, and grasses help cool the planet by absorbing and storing harmful greenhouse gases, like carbon dioxide, into their trunks and branches. This is important as it keeps carbon out of the atmosphere, which reduces the "greenhouse effect" and the impacts of climate change.

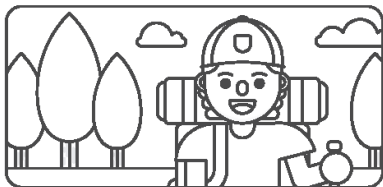


## IMPROVE WATER QUALITY

Trees clean our water by slowing down its absorption process into the ground. Through their root systems, trees act as natural cleansers, filtering out pollutants and preventing waterside erosion and negative impacts on aquatic ecosystems and wildlife.

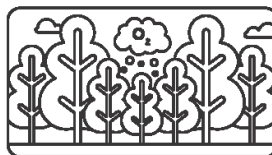


## HEALTH



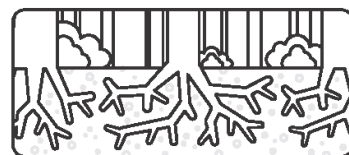
Humans are biophilic creatures, meaning we love to be in nature and connect with other lifeforms, such as plants and animals. Connection with nature provides many health benefits, particularly for our mental health. Trees make us calm, reduce stress levels, and their shade protects us from harmful rays of the sun.

## CLEAN THE AIR



Trees release oxygen and clean the air we breathe through their leaves and bark. They absorb carbon dioxide, nitrogen oxide, and other chemicals that pollute the air we breathe.

## PREVENT SOIL EROSION



The intricate root systems in trees hold the soil around them in place, acting as a filter and encouraging water to soak into soil rather than running off into nearby water sources.



# My Favorite Tree Crossword



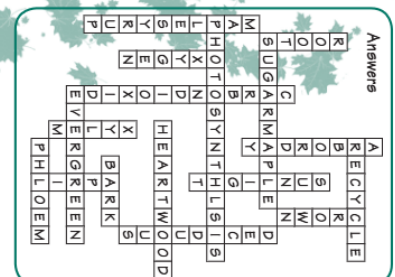
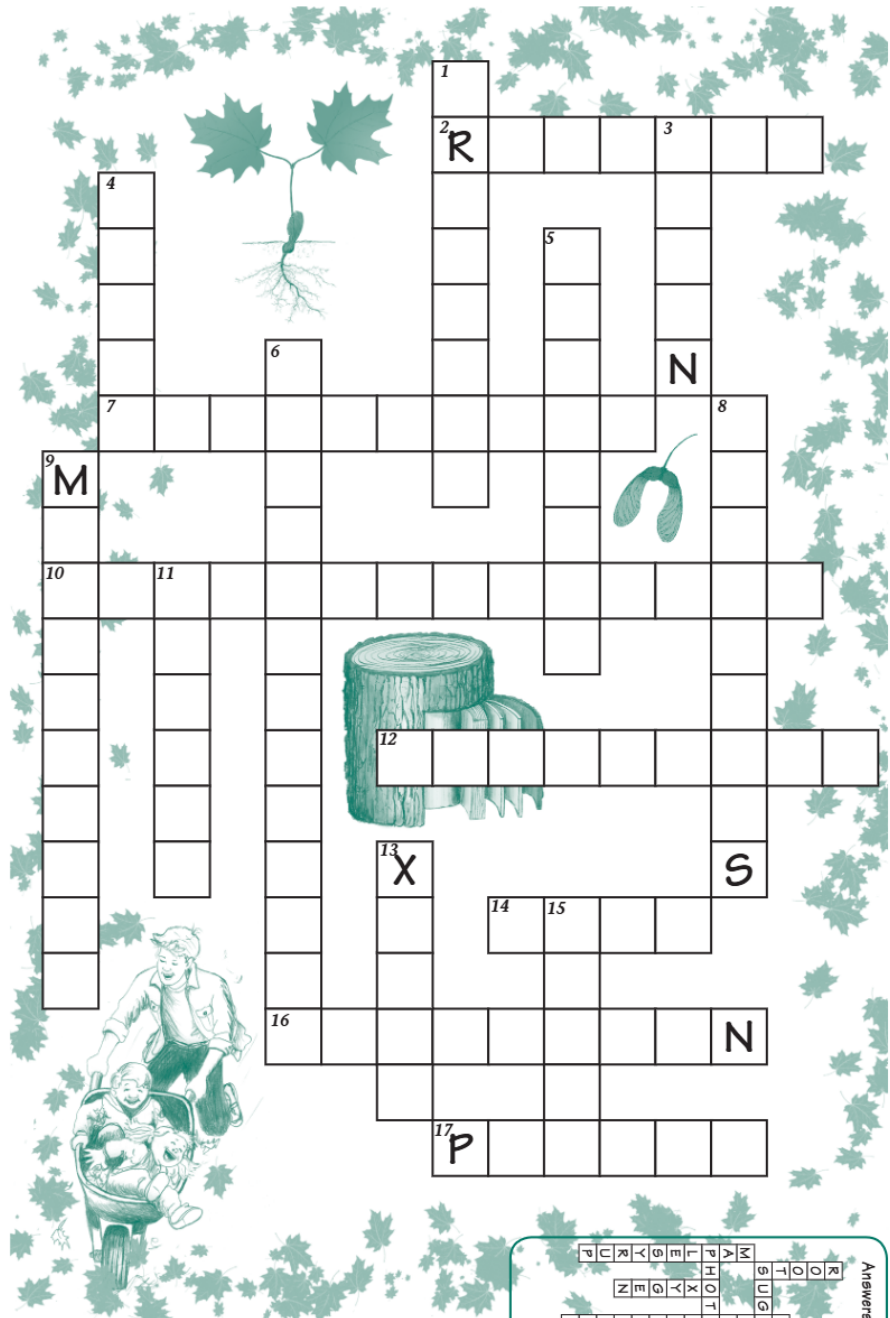
See if you can find the words in this crossword puzzle.

## Across

2. We do this to newspaper and plastic to help conserve trees.
7. Wisconsin's state tree (also the state tree of New York, Vermont and West Virginia).
10. The process that leaves use to make food from the sun.
12. The inner-most woody core of a tree.
14. This covers and protects the tree.
16. Trees that keep their leaves year round.
17. Tiny tubes that carry food made by the leaves down to the branches, trunk and roots.

## Down

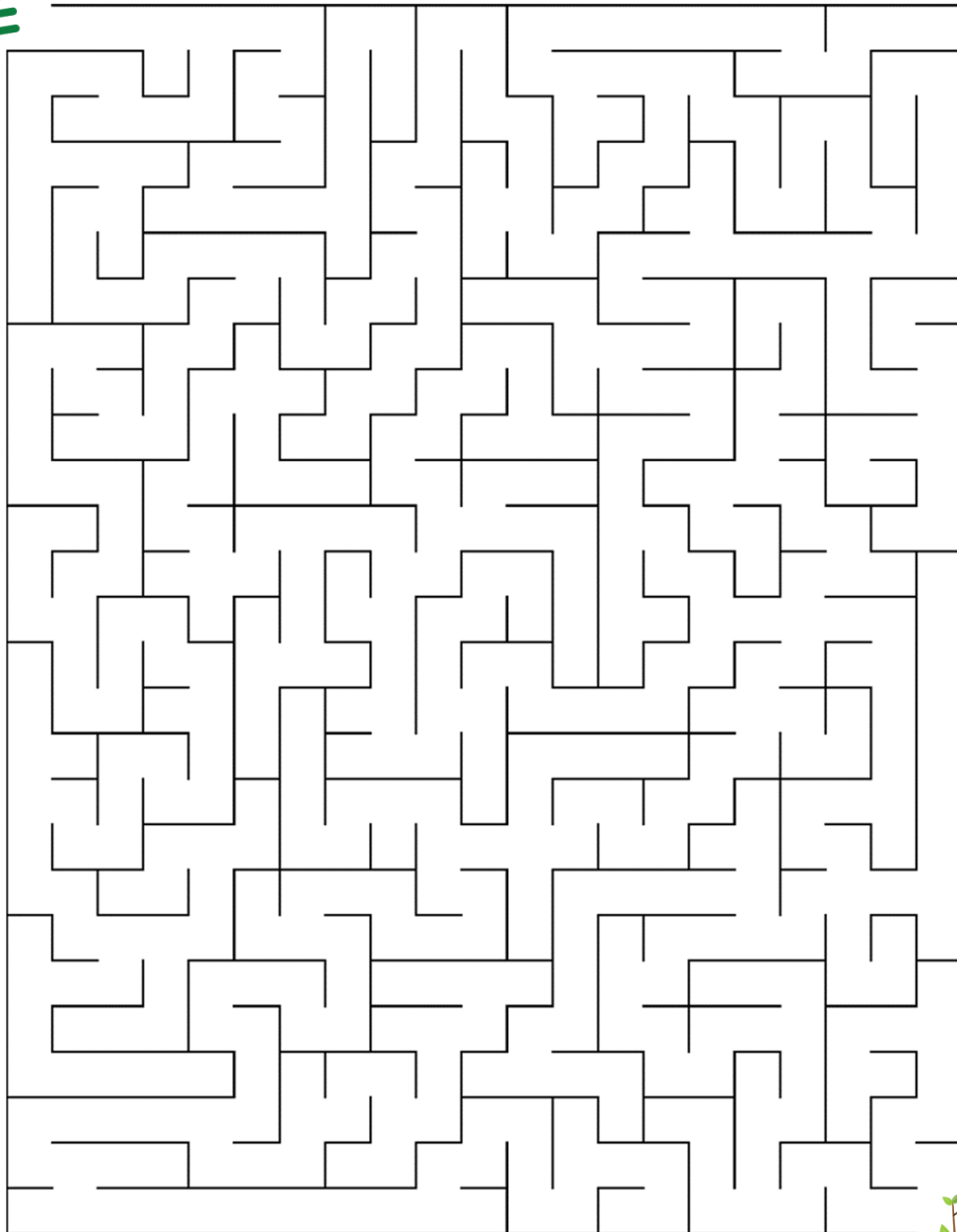
1. A national holiday where we celebrate trees.
3. The name given to the branches and leaves at the top of a tree.
4. Holds a tree in place and absorbs water, minerals and nutrients.
5. Helps the tree produce food with the help of soil nutrients, carbon dioxide and water. Hint: it's very bright and found in the sky.
6. Trees use this gas in the air to help them make food.
8. Trees that drop their leaves in winter.
9. Delicious product of a maple tree made by boiling its sap.
11. Trees release this gas which helps us breathe.
13. Another name for sapwood.
15. The month of the year when we celebrate Earth Day and Arbor Day.





# Arbor Day

Directions: Take the tools to plant the new saplings.



# OREGON EARTH DAY FESTIVAL

**SATURDAY, APRIL 26TH 12:00-4:00PM**

ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH  
625 E NETHERWOOD ST, OREGON

A photograph of a dense forest of tall evergreen trees, likely Douglas firs, shrouded in a light mist or fog. The trees are dark green and stand against a lighter, hazy background. The image is partially obscured by a dark green, torn-edge graphic at the bottom.

**OUR COMMUNITY  
OUR QUALITY OF LIFE  
OUR FUTURE**

Family & Youth Oriented!

Environmental Speakers!

Free Refreshments!

Exhibitors!

EV & Hybrid Show!

# WE NEED YOUR HELP!!!



The Village Board is putting together a committee of volunteers to coordinate the 2025 fireworks show. We need at least 10-12 volunteers to make the display happen this year.

Duties will include:

- Planning the show
- Fundraising
- Advertising
- Directing cars into and out of the park on the day of show
- Cleanup the day after the show

There is a very short window to determine whether the show will be able to happen or not. Please let us know before 5/1/2025 if you are able to help.

Contacts:

Mike Gehrman  
[mgehrmann@brooklynwi.gov](mailto:mgehrmann@brooklynwi.gov)

Mark Bruner  
[woodtick314@yahoo.com](mailto:woodtick314@yahoo.com)

The show takes quite a bit of effort, but with enough volunteers we can do this. Please help us out!



OREGON STRAW HAT PLAYERS PRESENTS...

# SHE KILLS MONSTERS

BY QUI NGUYEN



PERFORMANCES:

APRIL 25, 2025 7PM

APRIL 26, 2025 2PM

APRIL 26, 2025 7PM

APRIL 27, 2025 2PM

LOCATION:

THE BROOKLYN

COMMUNITY CENTER

102 N. RUTLAND RD.

BROOKLYN WI

TICKETS \$17

[OSHPONLINE.ORG](http://OSHPONLINE.ORG)

"SHE KILLS MONSTERS" IS PRESENTED BY ARRANGEMENT WITH CONCORD THEATRICALS ON BEHALF OF SAMUEL FRENCH, INC. [WWW.CONCORDTHEATRICAL.COM](http://WWW.CONCORDTHEATRICAL.COM)

*A comedic exploration of fantasy role-playing games by Qui Nguyen, the play follows Agnes Evans as she copes with her sister Tilly's sudden death. Immersing herself in Tilly's gaming world, Agnes embarks on a journey of self-discovery, healing, and connection.*



## Brush Pickup

### 2nd Tuesday of each month

Please place the brush on the terrace, parallel to the curb, and in separate piles. Be sure to stay away from any electrical/telephone equipment. All cut ends need to be placed in the same direction.



## Village of Brooklyn 2025 Spring Dumpsters Available Only on The Following Days & Times

Saturday, May 3 – Noon to 5 pm

Sunday, May 4 – 10 am to 2 pm

Friday, May 9 – 2 pm to 7 pm

Saturday, May 10 – Noon to 5 pm

Sunday, May 11 - 10 am to 2 pm

@Public Works Building, 102 Windy Lane

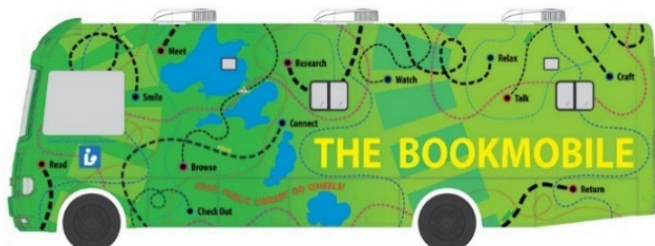
**\*\*Be prepared to show proof of residency. \*\*** Unloading items will be your responsibility.

### ITEMS NOT ALLOWED:

- ROOFING SHINGLES
- CONCRETE OR STONE
- GRASS/WEEDS/BRUSH/LEAVES
- FLUORESCENT BULBS & FIXTURES
- RECYCLABLES (CARDBOARD OR BOXES) PLASTICS/GLASS/TIN CANS/BOTTLES
- 55 GALLON BARRELS/DRUMS
- PAINT
- ELECTRONICS/COMPUTERS/TV'S
- HAZARDOUS/INFECTIOUS MATERIALS OR THEIR CONTAINERS
- \*\* OIL, BATTERIES, TIRES, APPLIANCES

**\*\* NOTE:** Oil & batteries can be brought in and placed in a separate area. No Freon or hazardous containing appliances (refrigerators, AC units, etc.), microwaves or dehumidifiers. Other appliances can be placed in the recycling dumpster. If you have questions, contact Public Works at 608-455-1842.

**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).





**Memorial Day Ceremony**  
**May 26, 2025 – 9:30 a.m.**  
**Brooklyn Area Veterans Memorial**  
(400 W. Main Street – Brooklyn)

**Additional Services:**

11:00 a.m. – Oregon @ Oregon WWII  
Monument, Janesville Street

12:30 p.m. – Fitchburg @ Schley  
Memorial, Gorman Wayside (2377 S Fish  
Hatchery Road) or in case of inclement  
weather @Fitchburg Fire Station Lacy Rd



# BUSINESS FAIR 2025

May 6, 2025 \* 4:30 pm – 6:30 pm

“CONNECT & GROW”

ACTIVITIES  
FOR KIDS

FOOD TRUCKS  
Sista's Chicken & Fish  
Big Eats

MEET YOUR LOCAL BUSINESSES,  
NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATIONS,  
SMALL FARMS/FLOWERS,  
FIRE/EMS, SHERIFF'S DEPT.

## NIGHT OF FAMILY FUN & FOOD

At Brooklyn Community Building - 102 N. Rutland Avenue

\*\*\*\*\*

**DOOR PRIZE**  
**(\$100 value)**

\*\*\*\*\*

### DOOR PRIZE, GAMES AND ACTIVITIES FOR KIDS

Each child receives a “passport” - fill with stamps from different businesses & enter for a chance to win a prize.

\*\*\*\*\*

If you're a local business and would like to participate, please  
contact the Brooklyn Area Chamber  
[brooklynareachamber@gmail.com](mailto:brooklynareachamber@gmail.com)





## *Food Truck Night*

*3rd Tuesday of the Month*

*May through September*

*Starts at 5pm - Legion Park*

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***All Classes are held at the Brooklyn Community Building***



***Current Class Schedule:  
Wednesday - 6:00pm  
Yoga: Slow Flow***



JOIN US for our ANNUAL  
FALL ARTS & CRAFTS FAIR

Saturday, August 30th

**9am-3pm**

Location: Brooklyn Community Building

Support Your Local Businesses

## April 2025 News from Your Senior Center

By Rachel Brickner

We are definitely on the rollercoaster ride that is spring in Wisconsin, but we know that the weather will even out and become increasingly pleasant as the days pass. This year the staff at the Senior Center is hoping that one of those beautiful days finds us on Friday, May 9.

What is so special about May 9 that the staff is already focused on the weather for that day? It is the day of the annual Brat Bash! Everybody enjoys it more if it is a lovely day!

Regardless of the weather, May 9 will offer you the chance to support the Senior Center during the drive-through Brat Bash event from 11:00 to 1:00. For \$5.00 you can get a freshly grilled brat or full-size hotdog, water and chips. A sandwich without water and chips costs \$4.00.

The Oregon Area Council on Aging is a 501(c)3 non-profit corporation that provides fund-raising support for the Senior Center. The Council sponsors the Brat Bash, which is generally its biggest fund-raiser of the year. Proceeds are used to support the Center in a variety of ways.

The Council pays the entertainment budget for the Center. It pays for the movie license that lets the Senior Center show movies twice each month. Council funds keep our pianos tuned and pay for a free meal for veterans on Veteran's Day. Council monies were used last year to purchase new chairs for the dining room (chairs with arms—which were very much appreciated).

Everything that the Center needs that is not covered by its municipal budget, comes from the Council. If we need new resistance bands for an exercise class, the Council purchases them. Paper and printing for the monthly Newsletter are covered by the Council. Treats at the Anniversary party are purchased with Council funds.

You can support the Council by driving through our parking lot on Friday, May 9, between 11:00 and 1:00 and enjoying one of the classic Wisconsin meals of the season. Make your tastebuds happy while helping to provide the Council the means to continue to support the Senior Center. Win-win!

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## COMMUNITY POTLUCK

**Thursday, April 24, 2025**

**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 Gemini

# PROPERTY ASSESSMENT REVIEWS

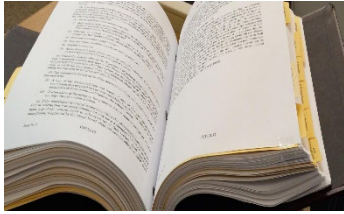
## 2025 OPEN BOOK

Wednesday, May 14<sup>th</sup> from 4-6 pm

## 2025 BOARD OF REVIEW

Monday, June 2nd from 6-8 pm

More information will be posted on the website and in future newsletters.



### Accurate Appraisal LLC – Educational Corner

What **Open Book** is?

Open Book is held one time a year. **It is an opportunity for property owners to discuss their values with the assessor and share any evidence to either update their property data** or share a recent appraisal to contest their values and learn more about the assessment process.

During a maintenance year very little changes to value occur. In this case, Open Book is a short 2 hour period (which is state required) and tends to be less attended.

In other cases, Open Book is held during an Interim Market Update where sweeping value changes are made to bring the entire community back into compliance by reviewing and assessing all properties to market value (based on recent market sales). This Open Book is usually a few days or a week to ensure more time for property owners to meet with or share evidence with an assessor.

**Our assessors take time to help educate property owners**, share our sales analysis with them, and address their concerns.

**The process is the same each year for Open Book and follows these simple steps:**

**Sending Notices:** Assessors send notices to property owners that have a change in value. This could be due to a recent data change, a remodel, new construction, an interim market update, etc. Each notice shows the value change and explains in detail the owners rights when it comes to assessments.

**Request for Assessment Review:** Each notice explains that in order to contest their value an owner must fill out a Request for Assessment Review form. This information helps the assessor understand the owner's reasoning and evidence before the Open Book meeting.

**Open Book Meeting:** An Open Book meeting is about 15 to 20 minutes. Our assessors are trained to ask a series of questions and take notes on every interaction (PR-130 forms) and save any evidence the owner brings in. After the meeting an assessor will review the information and respond to the owner with a change or no change notice.

**Value Review:** In most cases, if there is sufficient evidence provided to an assessor they can make a change to value. If there is not sufficient evidence a no change notice will be sent and the property owner. At this point the owner still has the right to contest their value at Board of Review.

Each property is unique, leading to a grey area in mass assessment. The Open Book period enables assessors to consider new information and evidence, resulting in a more precise valuation. Assessments are opinions of value based on facts, and the more information assessors have, the better their determination of assessed value will be.





# Elevate Entrepreneurs

Green County Development Corporation

## Pitch Series

2025

**Elevate Entrepreneurs** is a small business support program offering training, coaching, other business assistance, and connection to lenders and leaders that can help you in your journey.

The Pitch Series is an opportunity for entrepreneurs to pitch their business ideas for cash prizes with valuable feedback and connections included.

### The Pitch Series Process

- **Apply to be a contestant & prepare your pitch**  
Application at [bit.ly/41LfAV3](https://bit.ly/41LfAV3)
- **Attend the first session**  
Get assistance with your business plan details
- **Practice your pitch and get feedback**  
Get an appointment for your private coaching slot
- **PITCH DAY!**  
Pitch your business to area partners for the chance to win a cash prize

*Meet the right people to  
make your dream a reality!*



#### Need-to-Know

Must pre-register  
Must attend all sessions

#### Important Info

**May 1**  
**6:00-7:30 PM**

Get focused on your  
business plan

**May 8**  
**6:00-7:30 PM**

Book your time slot  
for pitch coaching

**May 15**  
**6:00-7:30 PM**

**PITCH NIGHT!!**  
**5 minutes to**  
**wow the judges**

#### Location:

**Baileys Run Vineyard**  
**N8523 Klitzke Rd, New Glarus**



**The Bank  
of New Glarus**  
[thebankofnewglarus.bank](https://thebankofnewglarus.bank)

Member  
FDIC

Questions? 608-328-9452 or email  
[gcdc@greencountydevelopment.com](mailto:gcdc@greencountydevelopment.com)





# HAZARD SIMPLIFICATION



## How are NWS Heat Products Changing?



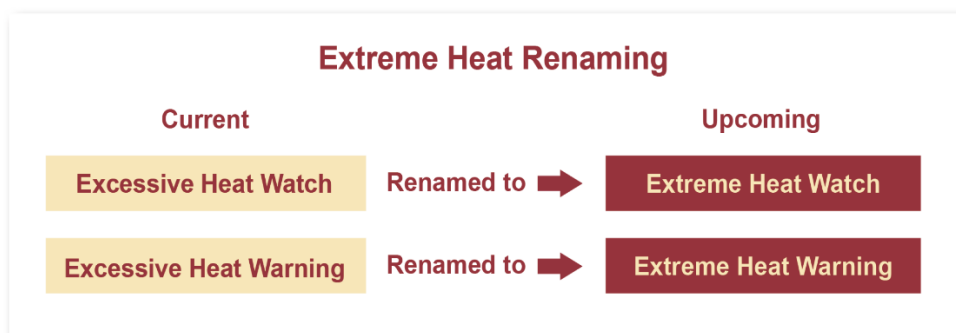
The National Weather Service (NWS) is renaming its heat watch and warning products to improve messaging of these hazards and provide better decision-making services.



### What is new?

The Excessive Heat Watch and Warning will be renamed to the Extreme Heat Watch and Warning. No changes will be made to Heat Advisory.

### Nationwide Implementation in March 2025



## What Do You Need To Know?

- As part of the ongoing NWS Hazard Simplification Project, the NWS is acting upon data collected during public and partner engagements, surveys, and social science research, leading to the renaming of Heat Watch and Warning products.
- The name change seeks to improve communication and messaging of hazardous heat and better convey that heat is dangerous.
- The name change will align our terminology with the Extreme Cold Watch and Warning products and what other agencies, media, academia, and organizations are using.

## What would this look like?

*Changes highlighted in yellow*

URGENT - WEATHER MESSAGE  
National Weather Service Sioux Falls SD  
158 PM CDT Mon Jun 24 2025

IAZ020>022-031-032-NEZ013-014-SDZ069>071-250100-  
/O.NEW.KFSD.XH.W.0001.250624T1858Z-250625T0100Z/  
Plymouth-Cherokee-Buena Vista-Woodbury-Ida-Dixon  
Dakota-Yankton-  
Including the cities of Ponca, Wakefield, Sioux City, Le  
Mars, Storm Lake, Allen, North Sioux City, Cherokee, South  
Sioux City, Jefferson, Vermillion, Beresford, and Yankton  
158 PM CDT Mon Jun 24 2025

...EXTREME HEAT WARNING IN EFFECT UNTIL 8 PM CDT  
THIS EVENING...

\* WHAT...Dangerously hot conditions with heat index values  
up to 111.

\* WHERE...In Iowa, Buena Vista, Cherokee, Plymouth, Ida,  
and Woodbury Counties. In Nebraska, Dakota and Dixon  
Counties. In South Dakota, Clay, Union, and Yankton  
Counties.

\* WHEN...Until 8 PM CDT this evening.

## Village Board Meeting Minutes March 10, 2025

On March 10, 2025, President Mark Bruner called the Village Board meeting of the Village of Brooklyn to order at 6:30 p.m. Trustees present were David Berland, Mike Gehrmann, Mike Brusberg, Dan Olson, and Christian Allen. Trustee Chris Groenier was absent. Also present was Attorney Christopher Nelson, Sue McCallum, Jason Marshall, Tim LeBrun, Mike Johnson, Public Works Director Leif Spilde, Clerk-Treasurer Linda Kuhlman. Pledge of Allegiance.

**Public Comments** – Jason Marshall asked about the tree canopy at 110 Hotel. He said numerous limbs fell out and he's nervous on what will happen. He believes the tree canopy was to be maintained for safety. Bruner said they will look into it and put on the agenda for the next meeting.

**President's report** – Bruner hopes everyone is getting an opportunity to enjoy the weather. **Allen made a motion to approve the minutes of February 24, 2025.** Gehrmann seconded. Motion carried. Bruner abstained.

**Senior Center/Council on Aging – Sue McCallum** – McCallum reported the last meeting was in January. She was gone in February. Their next meeting is March 19. They are forming a committee to review the applications for Oregon High Scholarship Award. The Council on Aging is a fundraising arm of the senior center. They had a pancake breakfast recently and made just over \$3000, which is their largest ever. She thanked everyone involved. Their next fundraiser is the Brat Bash on May 9. Recent purchases used by fundraising dollars include paper and postage for the newsletter, also includes musical support, supplies for pancakes, etc. Every month they say what the fundraising monies have gone toward. Village of Oregon created an ad hoc senior center building committee, and the chair of their organization, Clarice Dewey, is their representative. They are also trying to focus on technology for seniors. They have someone there a few times a month to help with Apple products. RSVP is partnering to start a senior in-person technology class. They have already done a piece regarding fake photos online so seniors know it's happening and how to identify its fake. At the last meeting they also talked about how well the library is doing. She asked for their 2024 highlights of the library. People from Brooklyn checked out 8514 items in 2024, up 26.1% over 6751 that were checked out in 2023. It's nice to see the facility being used. It functions well. Gehrmann asked if the increased use of library is more people. McCallum thinks it's the facility. There's more computer stations and meeting rooms, and it's also economical for people, and there's no fee for programs. She will check with the Bookmobile as well. The board thanked her for her report.

**Anchor Club alley** – Kuhlman stated that the Village attorney looked at the alley parcels and gave us an opinion on ownership of the parcels in the alley. Our attorney said it looks to be village property behind the Anchor Club. Jason Marshall stated he and his attorney reviewed also and agree it looks like the village owns something behind the Anchor Club, but without having it surveyed, we don't know for sure what. They're still paying taxes on the parking lot and the building, so somebody sometime didn't do paperwork to follow through. It's never been finalized, so they feel the village needs to get it surveyed and properly recorded, just to clarify who owns it. His lawyer and title company said it needs to be surveyed. Kuhlman sent an email to Combs and will follow up, and we have our attorney here as well as far as how to clean up the whole alley. Attorney Nelson added the legal description will likely change and show what the village will hold. Marshall said the property tax that they paid on it will be a pretty small dollar amount on that piece. He's not sure how that should work, as far as previous owner collecting anything, but as far as them owning it for three years, it would be a possibility if they want to pursue it. Kuhlman said we will have Combs come in and survey all the alley and work with the attorney. Marshall asked if we will survey the whole alley as well. Bruner confirmed yes. Brusberg added they can put pins in to determine where it's at. Marshall added there are two more nuisance trees growing in areas that the village owns, and it's something that should get addressed. They're on the west side of old Kounty Korner. It should be looked at and addressed. They're not fighting it. Bruner said we've been dealing with this for years and it's time to clean it up. **Olson made a motion to give the clerk permission**

**to talk to Combs to get them to survey the alleyway.** Gehrmann seconded. Motion carried. Marshall left the meeting.

**Berland made a motion at 6:46 p.m. to convene into closed session.** Olson seconded. Ayes – Allen, Brusberg, Gehrmann, Bruner, Olson, Berland. Noes – none. **Berland made a motion at 7:05 p.m. to come out of closed session.** Olson seconded. Ayes – Allen, Brusberg, Gehrmann, Bruner, Olson, Berland. Noes – none. **Allen made a motion to approve moving forward with the declaration of interest in said lot in the alleyway.** Gehrmann seconded. Motion carried. Board thanked our attorney. Village attorney left the meeting.

**Business Park parcel** - Tim LeBrun and Mike Johnson. LeBrun stated since we last talked, he's been going through the preconstruction process. They had some test pits dug in January to see what they were dealing with to design the site. He has some diagrams. The first page shows what they typically develop. This would be their 25<sup>th</sup> neighborhood. They've built throughout Madison and Milwaukee area and Fox Valley. They've been doing it since 2003. They usually build between 10-12 buildings. They're building by Windsor now with 22 buildings and it's now in their 3<sup>rd</sup> phase. They are all sold before they start building, and it's typically what they expect. Brooklyn is a little different. They're always concerned about market absorption. They were planning 10 buildings, which is 20 units. They're 50x50 buildings, and it's a duplex so each is 25x50. They would have small office about 11x13 and bathroom in every unit. They're very popular. The data from test pits showed concerns about the soil. They're going to need more stormwater ponds, but they're still getting final info on test pits. Last week he sat with engineers, and it wasn't great news. It's a level site. The challenge is the property drains to the southwest corner. In the southwest corner is a kettle but it has no outlet. There's no absorption going to the kettle. They have to tip the site to drain to stormwater, which is to the road. Brusberg asked if they can put a retention pond there. LeBrun said no, there's no place for the water to go. That's the low point. They've got a lot of impervious conditions. The kettle gets drainage from south and west. The 3<sup>rd</sup> page shows going down to six buildings, which almost doesn't make it worthwhile. Because they have to tip to the road, they have to fill it, they would have to build nine-foot wall on the southwest corner. A lot of fill is needed for just the north half of the property. They build slab on grade buildings. Every building will require footings and frost walls in north buildings. It surprised them. With building only six buildings, they could have delivered four times the tax revenue more than the existing buildings on that side of the business park, but they can't do it on that site.

Bruner asked what is preventing them instead of bringing fill in, digging out the pond and putting two feet of sand and two feet of engineered soil on top and keeping it at that grade, where the stormwater retention is on the north. LeBrun said they can't get absorption. It would have to get from the pond to stormwater basin to get to the road. Allen asked what he wants to do. LeBrun said he would like to scratch the deal for now until the village would have a new location. Gehrmann asked if the village has talked with our engineers. LeBrun said we did have a meeting with their engineers and Strand. Gehrmann asked if they're happy with engineered solution or this will be okay but. LeBrun said Wyser can come to an engineering solution, but it's not worth it for him. Gehrmann said it's concerning if we don't have a practical lot. LeBrun said it may be okay if we have a regional pond farther south. It's not his nature to scratch it, but he doesn't see a viable solution on the lot. He knows the board may need time to talk about it. The closing isn't going to happen on Friday. Bruner agreed closing Friday is off the table. Allen stated he appreciated LeBrun trying to make it work and appreciates him trying to invest in the property. Bruner appreciated efforts and wanted to make it work. Allen asked if we need to look into other solutions for stormwater and for building on that lot. LeBrun and Johnson left the meeting.

**Berland made a motion at 7:37 p.m. to go into closed session.** Olson seconded. Ayes – Allen, Brusberg, Gehrmann, Bruner, Olson, Berland. Noes – none. **Gehrmann made a motion at 7:52 p.m. to come out of closed session.** Allen seconded. Ayes – Allen, Brusberg, Gehrmann, Bruner, Olson, Berland. Noes – none. **Bruner made a motion to postpone any action until we hear from Strand.** Olson seconded. Motion carried. **Gehrmann made a motion to allow LeBrun properties to cancel the land purchase in the Brooklyn Business Park.** Brusberg seconded. **Gehrmann made a motion to amend the motion to return their earnest money to them from title company.** Brusberg seconded amendment. Motion carried.

**Public Works** – Spilde reported the sewer machine used to jet sewers was purchased in 2009. The pump has had issues so they took it in for maintenance. It was purchased in 2009 for \$38,000 and a new one is about \$130,000. They will be under \$10,000 to repair. The pump and propellers and pistons and motor will be all new. They had a loader repair for something that happened while out plowing snow. Gehrmann asked how we're doing on snow plowing; is it better than the budget. Spilde confirmed that and the salt was in good shape from the previous year. **Bruner made a motion to approve minutes from January 20 for Public Works Committee.** Olson seconded. Motion carried.

**Traffic study for Business Park** -- Kuhlman stated Strand sent the application to DOT for the new road into the Business Park. Their engineers think it will be sent back for more information, and they will have to do further traffic studies. Do we want them to start now or wait until we hear from DOT. Brusberg asked how long it takes to do the study. Allen said it would be useful to whoever would be going in there. Bruner said traffic volume could change. Brusberg think it's worth it to do the study. Gehrmann asked how long is it valid for once we get permit? Olson would like to bring back to next board meeting and find out how long a full study will take to do and how long is the permit valid for. **Brusberg made a motion to postpone.** Olson seconded. Motion carried.

Kuhlman asked the board to authorize reimbursement from the loan proceeds for previously paid engineering costs for the Hotel Street project. **Brusberg made a motion to approve Resolution 2025-03 Authorizing Reimbursement.** Gehrmann seconded. Motion carried. Kuhlman stated the contract with Speedway for the construction project on Hotel Street is ready to be signed. We need to put in a commencement date for the contract and is there anything we want them to do before they start work. Discussion of an April 2 start date, and if they can do work prior to April 2nd, we can let them mobilize prior to April 2. **Berland made a motion to approve contract with Speedway Sand and Gravel with a project commencement date of April 2<sup>nd</sup> with permission to stage and mobilize prior.** Olson seconded. Motion carried.

Discussion about charging special assessments for curb/gutter and sidewalk on Hotel Street project. Kuhlman needs to check with engineer on Goble property curb cut. She thought they were removing that. The procedure is for the board to approve the preliminary resolution authorizing we will be charging special assessments for curb/gutter and sidewalks. On March 24<sup>th</sup> there will be a public hearing, with notice going out to property owners. On the 24<sup>th</sup>, special assessments will be approved, and then on April 14 there will be a final resolution with length of time and interest rate. Board would like to make sure deputy is on duty. **Brusberg made a motion to approve Resolution 2025-04 for special assessments.** Gehrmann seconded. Motion carried. Berland abstained.

Gehrmann reviewed bills and asked about sales tax on a few items. Kuhlman stated they have been fixed, but it was from a credit card purchase, so they're behind a month. Olson asked about the room tax for Kalahari. Kuhlman stated she called them and they removed it, but it won't show up until the next month credit card statement. Olson said the bills looked okay. Olson can't approve dues for deputy clerk Olson. **Gehrmann made a motion to approve the bills as presented, noting the couple of sales tax items.** Allen seconded. Motion carried. Olson's abstention on a particular charge is noted.

**Finance committee** – Brusberg stated they met earlier to talk about financing for Hotel Street project. The recommendation was to proceed with \$920,000 from the State Board of Commissioner of Public Lands for 20-year loan term with 6% interest rate. It's an easier process versus One Community Bank, where the interest would float. \$920,000 also includes contingency of 10%, and if not needed, we would seek to pay back some on the loan. We will check on prepayment penalty. Gehrmann stated if rates go down, could we refinance. Bruner said we would have to go with private financing at that point. Brusberg added there's no closing costs. **Brusberg made a motion to proceed with a \$920,000 loan through Board of Commissioner of Public Lands over the term of 20 years with approximately a 6% interest rate.** Berland seconded. Motion carried.



**Fire/EMS** – Brusberg stated their meeting was on the 19<sup>th</sup>. Discussion was mostly focused on chief's performance review. In terms of old ambulance at station, transfer process is still ongoing. They had to leverage county ambulance during the transfer. They approved pumps to treat water before going into water/sewer system. Each one is roughly \$3000 each and one went out. They know we need one, and they're potentially getting two. The commission moved to go forward with \$6000. Looked at ambulance billing rates. They were last changed in 2023. Found that our rates were significantly lower than communities around us, so they decided to increase rates to be more on par with neighboring districts. Approved holiday pay adjustments, which is more just policies. Approved policy around the SAP contribution. Ultimately, the members are working through updating policies and working toward an employee handbook.

**Recreation Committee** – Kuhlman reported they met last Monday, and they're working on sending out food truck and craft fair registrations.

**Clerk's Report** – Kuhlman reported financials. We had total deposits for February of \$225,232.95. That includes the last of taxes of \$134,849.34. We had withdrawals of \$758,820.48, and that included the February tax settlements to all taxing jurisdictions of \$546,080.15. She will let the board know at next meeting what percentage of taxes have been paid. The ending balance in all accounts at the end of the month was \$2,929,673.67. Other financial reports were handed out. Election absentee ballots go out in mail tomorrow. Election is April 1. Ballots are posted here and at community building and on the website. Absentee in person voting starts March 18 and runs through the 28<sup>th</sup>. Special assessments for Hotel Street were given to the board. Deputy Grumke is back full time as of today. Village hall remodel is planning to start after April 1. The flooring and painting bid requests went out and are due back the 20<sup>th</sup>, so they will be at the next board meeting. Swinehart put in sink in back room and the rest will be coordinated with the construction. We have samples of paint and countertops which can be reviewed if anyone wants to weigh in. We received a thank you from Sno Hornets and Sno Blazers for last year's tractor pulls. The assessors had a meeting with us last week. They haven't been in town for field work yet. We set open book on May 14 from 4-6 and Board of Review on June 2 from 6-8 p.m., and the market revaluation will be taking place next year. Statutes now allow assessors to do open book by virtual appointments or in person, and so Kuhlman asked the board which way they want to go. Virtual would be done by residents calling and making an appointment to speak with assessor during open book hours over the phone. We still have to be here for that time and still have to have tax roll available to be viewed. Brusberg asked about a cost savings. Kuhlman said no. Gehrman asked how many people come. Kuhlman said normal year has 2-3 people. Olson said for sure the year we're reassessed needs to be in person. Kuhlman said if we only offer virtual, we might be hindering who might not have that option. Gehrman said if it's in person, no one can complain that they couldn't get through. **Gehrman made a motion to have Open Book and review done in person during the required timeframe.** Olson seconded. Motion carried.

Kuhlman explained that some of the pickleball nets have been damaged and paddles have gone missing. We track the keys we give out and people are supposed to let us know when they're in, but they don't always. The board discussed options. Brusberg suggested sending an email to those with keys, stating if there continues to be damage or things missing, we will take away all keys. Board talked about cameras and talked about keypad locks. Allen talked about cameras with storage to the cloud. They don't need to be commercial. Spilde said short term that's great, but water and wastewater facilities will be required soon to have video, and we've been pushing it down the road. At some point we need to revisit all buildings. Another option for the letter is that if behavior continues, village board will be required to take some degree of action.

Kuhlman explained that employees' health flex account right now is done by physical check when a claim comes in, but we do have an ACH option to have the company retrieve funds from our account and send them to employees by ACH when they file a claim. **Brusberg made a motion to move forward for ACH transactions from the main account for flex plans.** Gehrman seconded. Motion carried.

Kuhlman explained that she and Spilde looked into getting Spectrum service at the treatment plant. They have Frontier now. It would get all village buildings on Spectrum and would upgrade the service. It will cost over \$14,000 to put in the lines, but Spectrum covers the first \$10,000. Spilde added they will be doing upgrades in a few years to the SCADA system, which is 15 plus years old, so we should look at upgrading. When people log in to help, they struggle with the internet. Gehrman asked about the terms of the contract. The board would also like to confirm pricing and get a rate lock term of 36 months. **Brusberg made a motion to postpone, pending getting more information around pricing from Spectrum.** Olson seconded. Kuhlman asked about a date for a meeting in April to have the hearing for the new ordinance. The last meeting with the current board will be April 14, so do they want to stay with that or look at a meeting with the new board. Kuhlman will not be available for the second board meeting on April 28. Board agreed to set the hearing on the ordinance to be April 14.

**Gehrman made a motion at 8:50 to adjourn.** Berland seconded. Motion carried

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**Village Board Meeting Minutes  
March 24, 2025**

On March 24, 2025, President Mark Bruner called the Village Board meeting of the Village of Brooklyn to order at 6:30 p.m. Trustees present were David Berland, Mike Gehrman, Mike Brusberg, Dan Olson, Chris Groenier, and Christian Allen. Also present were Jon Solan from Strand, Frank Simpson, Ashley Leavy, Deputy Merrick Grumke, and Clerk-Treasurer Linda Kuhlman. Pledge of Allegiance.

**Bruner convened the public hearing at 6:30 p.m.** No written comments. Jon Solan went through the Hotel Street and parking lot project. Hotel Street will be one-way from Rutland to Commercial. Putting in new asphalt paving on street and the parking lot. Contract signed. Finalizing preconstruction meeting for next week. Curb and gutter and sidewalk is subject to special assessment per village ordinance. A sidewalk will go through the space between Village Hall and building next door. Simpson asked if getting rid of bump-outs by 92. Solan said we still have it because it will match what state is doing on 92. We're trying to get the project done before the state comes through on Highway 92, so we're on a fast construction schedule. There will be limited access on the street, but there will be times it can't be parked on. The project should start in late April, early May. They will start with underground utilities and will be done by mid-July. Simpson asked about driveway access on south side of the road. Solan said there's one by the apartment buildings. Simpson asked if it will be curb along the south side now with no driveways. Gehrman said if they change in the future and need access, the curb can be cut. Allen asked if there will be an apron there. Solan confirmed that yes, it will be thicker, and there are a few properties that have the 7" for the driveway added to their special assessments. Solan said utility relocations will impact residents on north side of the street. South side of street is fed behind the buildings. There will be a four-hour window for crossover to new service. They can communicate on timing. Simpson asked about power. Solan said it will remain overhead. Alliant is not using this as an opportunity to bury power. The pole in front of Anchor Club will be gone during construction, but will go back up after project done. Simpson asked about lighting for the parking lot. Solan said it will be along the fence line coming back to the west. Alliant will put in a few more poles. Simpson asked about concrete if he can get four feet past the gate with concrete pad for the dumpsters. Solan will look at that. It's a big pad, with privacy fence around it. Brusberg asked about communication to residents about construction schedule. Solan said however the village wants to handle that. They will have someone on site that can update residents. The contractor has to build ramps for residents to get in and out as much as possible. They will over-communicate scheduling. Ashley Leavy asked when the project is scheduled. Solan said mid to late April and they have to be done by mid-July. Leavy asked if there's been an environmental study done. Solan said yes, they have to include all that with the project applications to the state. Leavy asked about air quality. Solan said they are supposed to keep that to the minimum using water or other products. **Allen made a motion at 6:50 p.m. to close public hearing.** Groenier seconded. Motion carried.

**No public comments. President's report** – Bruner's second to last meeting. He received a catalog from Spielbauer Fireworks. He doesn't know what the board's intention is. He would like to put on agenda for next meeting. He wished everyone good luck, and don't forget to vote April 1.

**Brusberg made a motion to approve minutes from March 10.** Olson seconded. Motion carried.

**Special Assessments on Hotel Street** – How long does the board want residents to be able to pay back the special assessments, what interest rate do they want to use if not paid all at once, and if they want to charge an admin fee if it goes to the tax roll. Gehrmann asked what we typically charge. Kuhlman said 10% of what's being paid each year, for time for clerks to send out letters and put on tax roll. Bruner said normally it's 10 years for payback. Gehrmann said that's what it was on S Kerch and then the interest at that time. Residents can pay back all at once, or split it over 10 years, and interest is paid on the annual amount. The admin fee is based on the yearly amount due and is only charged if it's not paid annually and we have to put it on the taxes. A reminder letter is sent out by August-September and the residents have until November 15 to pay before it goes to the taxes. They have the option to pay either the whole amount or annually, and they can pay off the amount anytime before the 10 years. **Brusberg made a motion that the special assessments for Hotel Street project will have a payback period of 10 years, an interest rate of 6 percent mirroring our interest rate anticipated for the project and a 10% admin fee tacked on only if not paid by November 15 of each calendar year.** Gehrmann seconded. Motion carried. Berland abstained.

**Main Street Music special event May 16 and 17** – Andy Meyer wasn't present. Kuhlman said it is on his private property. They play music outside during the day and outdoor music will stop early evening. Gehrmann asked about neighbors. Olson stated it hasn't been a problem in the last few years. Bruner said it's been signed off by public works and fire department. Kuhlman also sent to Deputy Grumke. **Berland made a motion to approve the Main Street Music special event and sound amplification permit.** Groenier seconded. Motion carried.

**Autumn Harvest Festival at Legion Park** – Ashley Leavy stated she has volunteered to organize an annual harvest festival. We have some amazing local farmers and producers in the community. Chamber has done a great job promoting Bountiful Brooklyn. She hopes to combine traditional harvest festival with family friendly activities and education. She talked with Oregon Public Library about setting up a seed library and other education materials. She has seven farms in the area who have agreed to set up and provide produce, meat, eggs, flowers, fruits, vegetables. She is trying to get the Bookmobile. The 4H club has agreed to help out with parking and setting up. She got tentative approval that the Brooklyn Dairy Queen will be there with trays of cheese. There will be three to four food trucks, all of the farm vendors, activities for children, and she's proposing a community art project. Emma Dehlinger, who grew up in Brooklyn, owns an art studio in Oregon and she has volunteered to sponsor materials and run it where people can paint small 3" canvases. The Chamber has allowed them to use their insurance. Emma will then put the canvasses into a quilt and hopes to install it in the community building as an annual art feature. Brooklyn Barn agreed to come and make soaps and candles. She wants to stick with locally produced things. Someone will run a tomato taste test, they will have small contests. She would like board help in approving the application with an amendment of a new date of September 20 and no sound amplification. No alcohol. She needs to get some banners done and port-a-potties. She thinks it will get a big draw. She's asking for whatever support the village can provide. Gehrmann said someone wanted to do a fun run last year, and that might work in the morning. Leavy said Green County Humane Society is interested in bringing animals for adoption. Gehrmann said they would probably have insurance that would cover that. Allen asked if this has been done somewhere before, because it's very well down. Leavy said no, she's been working on the idea for awhile. She has invited Alpine Ridge but hasn't heard back. Kuhlman added that she will need to work with fire/EMS and public works. Leavy said they would need small barricades by parking and event space, for safety. Kuhlman will coordinate with Grumke on sheriff coverage. Leavy she would like to do free or low cost to farmers. She will speak with McCann's about port-a-potties. Simpson said he will take care of getting the port-a-potties. Allen likes the event, and it seems like a good idea. Brusberg asked when they would start setting up. Leavy said probably 8 a.m. Allen asked if any problems with public works bringing out barriers. Bruner confirmed touch base with them a few weeks before. Brusberg asked her to get resources from fire/EMS. They will have someone out there. Simpson reminded to

talk to the state on when they'll be done with Highway 92 project. **Gehrmann made a motion to approve the fall harvest permit application with the amendment of date change and no PA system.** Olson seconded. Motion carried.

**Business Park village-owned parcels** – Jon Solan from Strand showed an aerial of business park with contours as of now. The area is full of kettles, with high and low spots and depressions. It can be challenging with Dane County's requirements for developing. Phase 2 took excess excavation material from the ditch and pond and spread it out to fill in depression in phase 3 areas to make the lots more attractive to developers and builders. The 2.3 acre lot is a little more challenging. There's a ridge that goes through the park, and everything north of the ridge drains to 92 and south drains toward Rock County. That parcel is right on the edge. There are depressions and kettle in southern area, and there's infiltration requirements with developments in Dane County. There's not enough room for drainage to the regional basin to the north, so those parcels need stormwater controls onsite. LeBrun wanted buildings throughout the site. The northern portion of the property isn't too bad, but southern part they would have to bring in a lot of fill for infiltration. For infiltration they go out with a boring machine and a geotechnical engineer finds apparent high ground water elevation. In this case it's 969. In Dane County, you need another five feet of separation between that. You still want more on top to make ponds hold and store it. That's what drove him to not like southern part because he wasn't having a good way to put the buildings in and getting infiltration requirements without bringing everything up significantly, like 6-7 feet. In the future when there's a regional pond in phase 4, we can take that regional treatment out and provide what we're providing in the north, so they can do their actual storage offsite. It's still a challenging lot. You're still going to need a lot of fill in the southern part of the lot. If someone wanted to come in and wanted an acre and a half, acre and a quarter, the northern part is probably a good spot. Southern part is challenging. Gehrmann asked about the lot of Northern Metal. Solan said they looked at both lots there. The new Northern Metal lot is served by the northern stormwater pond so they don't have to have the same storage. Solan talked about the elevations. He's not overly concerned about that lot. A standard type of development will be okay. The north part of the 2.3 acre lot will be okay. Wade Wyse even said they could put four buildings in there, but they wanted 8-10 buildings. Someone smaller looking for a 2,500 square feet, some storage, some parking, might be a better fit. Brusberg asked about the 8 acres to the east. Solan said they looked at the elevations 971, 972, it's at the point where some drains to the north and some south. You're getting the 973 range, and if you spread it out and put building pad in, you're probably high enough to get infiltration okay. Discussion of contours on whole property. He would be surprised if they would get the same issue as the 2.3 acre lot. The 8 acre lot will have to have some kind of pond. They don't see it being a huge issue. Brusberg asked about the southern 40 acres and to maximize buildable acreage, how do we design infrastructure to maximize that. Solan said that also has a depression. It will probably flag for a wetland area, and there will be an environmental corridor that they can't touch. They'll put stormwater controls by that because they're tighter setbacks than development. They laid out alternatives for that, and they think stormwater will be challenging down there. Brusberg asked if it's possible to determine what will be developable before doing future deals. Solan said it's a good idea to explore in more detail before negotiating costs. Gehrmann asked to look at big picture for the whole thing. We should get a handle on everything so we know what we're looking at. Solan said right now, developers have to do their own infiltration. Allen asked where in phase 4 a stormwater detention would be best. Solan said in the southeast area. The tough part of stormwater is everything will have some issues. Allen asked about putting in infiltration now and only buy what we need and have an easement. Solan said it would be tough. Kuhlman mentioned if we split the 2.3 acre parcel, if we split to a 1-1.5 acre parcel the northern portion would be okay, and the southern part wait until we got the regional pond to help that. Allen said he showed even in the northern part he had to bring in soil. Solan said he hasn't seen their documents. For infiltration for Dane County and a different builder, it may be more buildable for because they may put something to the north and get infiltration where the land is the highest, and then by the time they put a laydown yard or parking area it doesn't have the same infiltration requirements. Gehrmann said with all the buildings and all the parking, made that worse. Solan agreed. He said for LeBrun's application, it is a challenging site with infiltration. The message is he can't guarantee where the ground elevation is, but he thinks there's enough relief there. Brusberg asked for the 2.3 acres should we do a cutoff and take off the southern portion, or do we wait on the whole 2.3 acres until phase 4. Kuhlman said



if there's a way to sell something, we're better off. It's in the TID and we need to have development to help pay off the TID. Solan said we can look at that and discuss it. There's a chance that can break north. If someone comes in and says they want a little over an acre, he wouldn't turn them away. Olson asked how much is needed for a water tower. Solan didn't know. Olson asked if it's possible to put a water tower on the southern section, if we were to divide that out and it's not buildable. Solan said you don't need a ton of space. Bruner asked if we need as big as what we have now. Solan said they would have to look at it. Bruner said if we can use that for a water tower, it would solve problems for phase 4. Brusberg asked about another lift station. Solan said the one put in will serve for phase 4, and potential tie-ins to the west. Kuhlman said if you're talking about putting in a water tower in that spot, it has to be built before 2028 or it can't go in until after the TID closes, because there is a cutoff for building from the village five years before a TID closes. Solan also knows an updated water study has been talked about. Brusberg asked if we go all the way east, with a potential development, will we need a water tower at that point to help with flows. Solan said the water tower needs are for fighting commercial fires. It's not an on-demand capacity, it's for fire capacity. There are certain requirements for certain buildings. He doesn't know about pressure. From a capacity standpoint okay, but if we had a tower closer, pressure might be better, but he hasn't run that yet.

**Truancy ordinance** – Kuhlman said it was a request from Deputy Grumke and the school. Brusberg asked if it's similar to others. Kuhlman said it's pretty standard and follows state statutes. Grumke said the big difference is like Oregon, for example, has municipal courts where the court can order certain outcomes for being truant. Ours can only be monetary. It's another way to get someone back in school. This will serve the elementary school and is written so parents can be ticketed for not bringing kids to school. Brusberg and Berland said this is only for the elementary school. Grumke spoke with the Brooklyn principal. She has looked at the ordinance. Olson asked if it was run through legal department through Dane County. Grumke said it's based off the other ones, and states statutes are attached and define truancy and what makes it habitual. Berland asked if there's a conflict between Dane County statutes and Green County statutes. Grumke said it's the state one. It's just like any of our other ordinances that would be handled by Green County. **Gehrmann made a motion to approve ordinance 20-17 for truancy.** Brusberg seconded. Motion carried.

**Discussion on temporary structure ordinance** – Kuhlman said Grumke weighed in and asked for definition of recreational, so she changed it to leisure activities. We took out the time period for tents in public spaces because it has to be authorized by village board anyway. It won't be approved until next month's public hearing. Allen asked about the citations and removal paragraph, is there a verbiage in reoccurring offenses that no warnings or citations after immediate removal following that. He has concern that we remove it, it comes back and we have to give three warnings again. Bruner asked if that's how it would be interpreted. Grumke said they should define it. He views as once he's been working with them, it's to be removed. But if he's not the one we get, they could interpret it differently. If there's a tent, and then sleeping in a car, that's two different circumstances. Should put something in that there's only one notice in a year or whatever, to make it clear. Bruner suggested adding any further violations of this ordinance will result in the removal of the violation immediately with no additional warnings. Grumke suggested spelling out public assembly and define leisure activities. Grumke will talk to county attorney about how to deal with situation if person is in vehicle when it needs to be towed but owner not leaving the vehicle. Bruner said we need to work on wording and have ready for public hearing. Deputy Grumke left. Groenier left.

**Traffic study at Business Park** – Jon Solan said they sent in preliminary counts associated with driveway onto 92. They submitted the application and heard back from DOT. DOT wants an abbreviated TIA, which is good, but when they listed requirements, it's almost a full TIA. They have reached back out to DOT, but haven't heard back yet. They have a call planned for Thursday. They will question some of their requirements. DOT wanted some additional intersections counted, like 14 and Rutland. Strand will challenge them on that. We're in a standstill right now. What they want will entail modeling the intersections, which will go above and beyond what they scoped before. If we get the answers and it's in line with scope in task order, they could proceed. Allen asked if any change if it happens to be 25 through that whole area. Solan said it might. They'll talk to DOT and then stop until they get additional approval to move forward. If they start working on it, it will be about two months back and forth with DOT. The TIA is specific for the development proposed. If that changes, we

would have to submit a new one, but they would swap in the new proposed counts and resubmit. That's the risk of going forward, but we might want to get it approved. Approval is good for about a year for groundbreaking, and the counts are good for about a year. Solan said at the end of the day connecting with Kings Lake Road or maybe looking at a bypass or can't connect. Olson would like some more information before deciding. Brusberg asked if a development down 92 closer to 14 would have to do a study of 14 at the roundabout. Solan said if they're closer, they probably will have to do a count. That's one thing they will argue, that this was destined to be a business park when they first started. **Brusberg made a motion to postpone.** Olson seconded. Solan left.

Olson asked if the costs for removing the outside work was added into the loan amount. Kuhlman stated it was not, because that had been paid by general fund balance previously. **Berland made a motion to approve Resolution 2025-05 Hotel Street and parking lot project borrowing from Board of Commissioners of Public Lands of Wisconsin, and read the entire resolution into the record.** Brusberg seconded. Ayes – Berland, Olson, Bruner, Gehrmann, Brusberg, Allen. No noes. Motion carried with six aye votes.

Kuhlman stated with the remodeling we won't need some of the filing cabinets and tables and asked if we can sell them, along with some public works items, at auction. We would send in photos, and purchasers would have to pick up from here by end of April. **Allen made a motion to approve sale of extra furniture, and items from public works.** Brusberg seconded. Motion carried.

**Village Hall interior painting** – Kuhlman stated we received three quotes – Fine Finishes (\$7,800), Hallinan (\$6,550), and Summers (\$6,750). Berland asked what we know about the lower bidder. Bruner said he's local and painted the community building. **Berland made a motion to accept Hallinan as painting project bidder.** Brusberg seconded. Motion carried.

**Village Hall Flooring** – Kuhlman stated we received three quotes – Coyle (\$17,725 or \$20,725 depending on style), Crown (\$24,517.01) and Sergenians (\$20,375). We asked Gerlach to bid, but they weren't able to make the timeline work. Kuhlman stated Sergenians pulled up carpet in different areas in the building and stated they think the area on the south has asbestos in the glue of the carpet. All bidders were told about the asbestos under the tile. Neither of the other companies looked. Public Works took a couple samples of the carpet to the state for testing. It takes a couple weeks to get results. We felt it was better to know for sure. The carpet companies do not do that work. She is asking for permission to get quotes and line someone up if it comes back positive. None of the carpet companies will do the abatement. We would have to call an abatement company. They can pick the flooring company, though. Sergenians called and got an average quote of \$6,600. Bruner said let's wait to see what the state says. Kuhlman would like to have the board pick the flooring company so we can let them know. Allen suggested going with Sergenians. They're lower and they had the mindset to look for the asbestos. He's worked with them before and they do a good job. Coyle does a good job also. Kuhlman said the prices are the same. Brusberg asked about the difference between the Subtle style and Balcony style. Kuhlman gave the same specs to everyone, but she doesn't know the difference. We need to confirm with Sergenians the style they quoted to make sure it's apples to apples. **Allen made a motion to approve Sergenians if they went with Subtle style in their bid and Coyle if Sergenians used Balcony in their bid.** Brusberg seconded. Motion carried.

Kuhlman asked if we have permission to pursue the asbestos, if it is there. Allen asked if we know who we're going with. Kuhlman doesn't know yet but doesn't want to waste time. Olson says Dirty Ducts does. Allen agreed and Safe Abatement are who he's worked with. Brusberg asked for a list of by contractor, project name and dollar amount we've approved to date relative to the budget. Kuhlman stated we have a balance of \$77,183 set aside for this project. Not including the outside, because that was paid with fund balance last year, we have spent \$13,785 on the LED light changeover, \$42,000 for Joe Daniels, \$6,550 for Hallinan painting, about \$21,000 for flooring, possible abatement, and \$6,412 for Swinehart Plumbing. Allen asked if Joe Daniels is doing the electrical. Kuhlman said yes, the electrical to move what they have to move. Brusberg said without abatement we're at \$89,747. Kuhlman said we have \$173,000 in general fund balance, which is undesignated funds not part of the budget. Brusberg asked what else we're not figuring in. Kuhlman said some desks and a

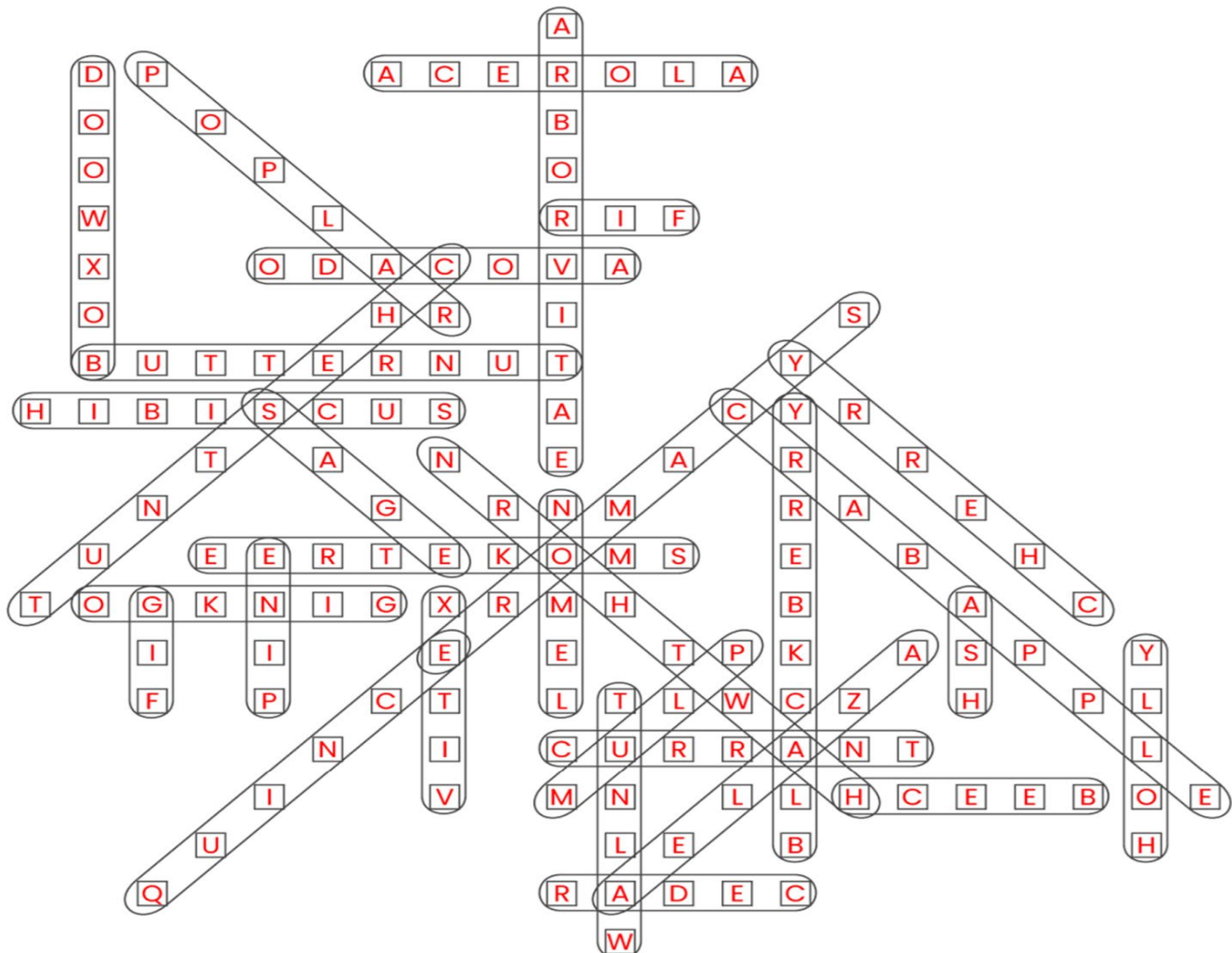
table for the board. Olson asked about locks. Kuhlman said locks were paid for last year. Brusberg said we're at \$95,747 if we include abatement. **Allen made a motion to approve a budget of \$7,000 on abatement costs if needed, preferably three bids and select the lowest bidder out of the three that come forward with a price.** Gehrmann seconded. Motion carried. Kuhlman asked if the board wants to go with the logo in the middle of the tile where the counter is being removed. The board said just a tile for contrast.

**Spectrum proposal for village hall** – Kuhlman spoke with Spectrum about putting in telephone and internet lines to the other side of the building for the new offices. They came back with a proposal to change services and it was \$750 per month. Kuhlman has spoken with the contractor from Joe Daniels, and he said their electrician can pull the lines. Then our computer company will hook up to our system.

**Bills** -- Brusberg reviewed the bills and instead of \$554.45 for Computer Know How, it should be \$544.45. It was just a typo. There was also a \$5.05 credit for GFC leasing. Kuhlman stated that was a payment to GFC. We had several credits from GFC, but in order to claim credits, you need to go online and match a credit with an invoice. She's been doing that over the last several months, and used the final credit with the last invoice. Olson also reviewed bills and found nothing additional. **Brusberg made a motion to approve bills, with the correction to Computer Know How decreasing it to \$544.45 in total.** Olson seconded. Motion carried.

**Fire/EMS District Commission** – Brusberg reported they had a discussion about the old ambulance. They are checking into options for selling. When they have meetings with Oregon, with the intent to have district meetings with Brooklyn and Oregon, and weave it into conversation. New ambulance is in service, and they have used it. Still working out putting in defibrillator with mounts. Rate increase went into effect February 26. They talked about employee assistance program. Received an FAP grant in 2025 in excess of nearly \$23,000. The same grant last year was slightly less than \$7,000. There were changes at the state level. Gehrmann asked what it's used for. Brusberg said on the EMS side for supplies and equipment. Oregon meetings will be starting in April. 2% dues got submitted. DHS has a certified public expenditure program, and Sarah, the district secretary, was going to opt into a medicare EMS program to get additional monies. They are looking ahead to 2026 budget.

**Clerk's Report** - Election is next Tuesday. Absentee voting is this week, 7 a.m. to 4 p.m. We have about 96 absentee ballots so far. We talked about village hall remodeling. Kuhlman was appointed by the Wisconsin Municipal Clerk's Association as treasurer. Board congratulated her. Public Works received a quote from the company that repaved the community building and public works parking lots to repave the basketball court and bike path at Smithfield Park. Quote was for \$2,000, so they will proceed with that project. In talking with One Community Bank about getting a loan, they asked if we would ever consider putting accounts with them. Kuhlman is exploring the option to move a few of our accounts that we don't use that often, we could split it up. She will get back to the board. Our attorney missed the court time last week regarding Railroad Street, but property owner was present. Our default judgment was not approved, but the case was set to a scheduling conference on April 7. If the owner appears, a hearing date will be set. Kathy Pennington, Town of Brooklyn Chairperson and Green County Board Supervisor, sent an email that Green County, the Sheriff's Department and the state are looking at the safety of Highway 104, and are talking about a project in 2028 that would include widening the paved shoulders to three feet along the roadway, installing centerline and edge line rumble strips, upgrading pavement markings to 6-inch markings and installing safety edge. Board discussed meetings in April. The last meeting for current board is April 14. Kuhlman won't be available for the 28<sup>th</sup> meeting. Brusberg asked if Olson is available. Kuhlman stated it is her normal day off. Gehrmann stated if Olson is available on 28<sup>th</sup>, that's fine. Allen asked if we can meet on Tuesday, the 29<sup>th</sup>. The board will think about it and talk about it at the April 14<sup>th</sup> meeting. Brusberg's only request is to try and get an update from Mark or Jeff ahead of 14<sup>th</sup>. Also get an update on village hall with abatement and include spreadsheet of village hall expenses with board packets.



# May

# 2025

| Sunday                               | Monday                                                                                                       | Tuesday                                                                                            | Wednesday                                         | Thursday                                                                     | Friday                                                   | Saturday                                            |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|
|                                      |                                                                                                              | Questions about your property assessment: talk with the Assessor on May 14 <sup>th</sup> from 4-6p |                                                   | 1                                                                            | 2                                                        | 3<br>Dumpster Days<br>Noon to 5 pm                  |
| 4<br>Dumpster Days<br>10 am to 2 pm  | 5                                                                                                            | 6<br>Tires**, Oil & Battery Pick-up<br>Chamber Business Fair<br>430-630p                           | 7<br>Garbage & Recycling<br>Yoga 6 pm             | 8<br>Bookmobile-Gazebo 6-730p                                                | 9<br>Dumpster Days<br>2 pm to 7 pm                       | 10<br>Dumpster Days<br>Noon to 5 pm                 |
| 11<br>Dumpster Days<br>10 am to 2 pm | 12<br>Board Meeting<br>630 pm                                                                                | 13<br>Brush Pick-up                                                                                | 14<br>Garbage<br>Yoga 6 pm<br>OPEN BOOK<br>4-6 pm | 15<br>Bookmobile-Gazebo 6-730p                                               | 16                                                       | 17                                                  |
| 18                                   | 19                                                                                                           | 20<br>Food Truck Night – Legion Park starting at 5 pm                                              | 21<br>Garbage & Recycling<br>Yoga 6 pm            | 22<br>Bookmobile-Gazebo 6-730p<br>Community Lunch – Noon at Methodist Church | 23                                                       | 24                                                  |
| 25                                   | 26<br>Memorial Day - Program in a.m. at Veterans Memorial Site<br>Clerk's Office & Public Works Dept. Closed | 27                                                                                                 | 28<br>Yoga 6 pm                                   | 29<br>Garbage<br>Bookmobile-Gazebo 6-730p                                    | 30                                                       | 31                                                  |
|                                      |                                                                                                              |                                                                                                    |                                                   |                                                                              | Exercise Classes are held at the Brooklyn Community Bldg | **\$ 10/Tire<br>Contact Clerk's Office 608-455-4201 |