

1102 BRIDGE STREET PO BOX 143, GRAFTON PHONE: 262.377.8500

TOWN CHAIRMAN LESTER A. BARTEL, JR.

### **TOWN SUPERVISORS**

TOM GRABOW
KARRON STOCKWELL
TOM SYKORA
JEFF THOMA

### WE'RE ON THE WEB-

www.townofgraftonwi.gov STOP BY FOR TOWN INFO, MEETING PACKETS, PUBLIC HEARING NOTICES, & MORE!

Be sure to JOIN OUR EMAIL Notifications LIST!!

### **TOWN OFFICE HOURS**

**MONDAYS - THURSDAYS** 

8:30am - 4:30pm

#### **FRIDAYS**

8:30am – 12:00pm Closed Fridays – June thru September

### CHRISTMAS TREE PICKUP

CHRISTMAS TREE PICKUP
WILL TAKE PLACE ON
JANUARY 6, 2025
AND
JANUARY 13, 2025

### **2025 ELECTION DATES**

FEBRUARY 18 – SPRING PRIMARY
APRIL 1 – SPRING ELECTION

### **2025 ROAD PROJECT**

Fox Tail Lane

# TOWN OF GRAFTON ANNUAL NEWSLETTER

2024 EDITION

### 2024 HOLIDAY OFFICE HOURS

TOWN OFFICE will be closed on both
CHRISTMAS & NEW YEARS EVE 12/24, 12/31 & DAY 12/25, 1/1/25

Town Office is open for final December Tax Payments on MONDAY December 30<sup>TH</sup> 8:30AM till 5:00PM

### 2024 TAX BILL COLLECTION

### TAX PAYMENTS CAN BE MADE AT ONE OF 3 PLACES: 1) TOWN OFFICE (1102 BRIDGE STREET)

Please feel free to use our drop box by the Bridge Street entrance door if office is closed. All payments placed in the drop box will be deposited the **next business day**. If paying by **mail or drop box**, please enclose a self-addressed stamped envelope if you would like mailed receipt.

2.) HORICON BANK (previously CORNERSTONE) – 2090 WISCONSIN – No REFUNDS

HORICON BANK will ONLY EXCEPT exact amount checks – NO REFUNDS

3.) PORT WASHINGTON STATE BANK – 2080 WASHINGTON STREET

You may pay in the Lobby or at the Drive thru. They will collect IN FULL PAYMENTS OR 1<sup>st</sup> INSTALLMENTS only - DECEMBER through JANUARY 31, 2024

If your Escrow check is more than your tax bill and you need a refund, please go to Port Washington State Bank for immediate cash back. Or to Town Office for a check refund, which will take a few days to process.

ONLINE PAYMENTS: 2024 Taxes may be paid on the Town's website (www.townofgraftonwi.gov) by using a MasterCard, Visa, Discover, or American Express credit card. Please note that there is a convenience fee for this payment option – 2.39% of the total amount being charged to your card. E-Checks may also be used for fee of \$1.50.

### **OBTAINING A DOG LICENSE**

All dog licenses are valid from January 1st through December 31st each year, regardless of when purchased. Puppies should be registered by 6 months of age (WI Stat. §174.05). Renewals are due by March 31<sup>st</sup> of each year, and a late fee of \$5.00 will apply for renewals after that date. Please bring in a current Rabies Certificate which includes the vaccine manufacturer, expiration date, and vaccine serial number (WI Stat. §174.07). If mailing, enclose a copy of the rabies certificate, along with a self-addressed, stamped envelope to receive your license and tag in the mail.

SPAYED/NEUTERED DOGS: \$5.00 SUNALTERED DOGS: \$10.00 MULTIPLE DOGS: \$35.00

### **ARE YOU TECH SAVVY??**

- Would you like to know amount of your Tax Bill in late November instead of waiting for Tax bill to arrive?
- Or know we have posted your payment from your Bank Escrow?
- IF so, sign up for TEXT/EMAIL Notification Program directly through Oz County Tax Bill Text/Email Notification Program Sign Up Page:

https://ascent.co.ozaukee.wi.us/AscentNotifications/index.html

Tax Bill Text/Email Notifications Instructions:

https://ozaukeecounty.gov/DocumentCenter/View/14640/Text-Email-Notification-Program-Instructionpdf?bidId=



## FROM THE DESK OF TOWN CHAIRMAN LESTER A. BARTEL, JR.



From all of us at Town Hall we hope that you had a Blessed Thanksgiving, were able to enjoy the Christmas Parade and are preparing for the best Christmas ever! Every year is busy for us and this year has been no exception.

We, along with the Town of Saukville, Village of Saukville and Village of Grafton successfully put together an operating agreement for the newly created Ozaukee Central Fire and Rescue Department. This joint department is a wholly independent department that will be supported by the four member communities. There is still much to be done by the new Fire Board and Fire Commissions that will be responsible for operating decisions and budgeting. I want to publicly thank and acknowledge Village Presidents Dan Delorit and Andy Hebein along with Town of Saukville Chairman Kevin Kimmes for working positively to create this entity that will serve us with 21<sup>st</sup> century professional manpower (womanpower too!), equipment, technology and training.

Work on the new Town Hall is moving along nicely. We expect construction to finish by the end of the year. Once that is done the next step will be acquiring and setting up furnishings, installing communications and IT, and arranging parking and traffic flow. When we move it will be dictated by those things being done and us not being in the middle of an election or tax collection. Watch for notices into the New Year for a moving date.

Road work scheduled for this year is the reconstruction of Fox Tail Lane. Bi-annual roadside brush pickup continues to grow in usage. This is resulting in far less open burning which makes Chief Rice happy as the risk and frequency of grass fires is greatly diminished.

Our fall election was a success with a new record voter count of 3,164 with 93% of total eligible voters participating. As early voting continues to grow, we are adapting our protocols to match as best as we can. One way you can help. If you need to mail in your ballot because you are either not in Town, are confined, working or serving away we are happy to process that option for you. If you wish to vote early, coming into the Town Hall in person saves us on labor, envelopes and postage that mail in ballots require. I would be remiss not to acknowledge the hard work, extra hours and professionalism that our office staff and election workers put in to make this another successful election without any problems. We are blessed that these people do what they do to make the process work.

Like every community we have our challenges. But as we celebrate the Christmas season and all the joy and camaraderie that goes with it, let's all be thankful for the blessings we have in this wonderful community. Whether it is watching School music concerts, youth sporting events, 4-H, scouting, and the plethora of activities that go on here for people of all ages, I continue to be assured that Grafton will continue to be a great place to raise our families as well as enjoy our seasoned years in.

However, you and yours celebrate, I wish you all a Merry Christmas and Happy and Blessed New Year.

Sincerely, Lester

Lester Bartel, Town Chairman