

The Town of Rhine Newsletter

Volume 34 Issue 1

January 2021



Letter from Town Chair, Red Platz

2020 was a year unlike any other and one we will never forget. We hope you are all healthy and managing to cope with the ongoing pandemic.

As for your Town government, we have had to be very reactive to possible problems and at the same time be proactive to keep providing services and to keep everyone as safe as possible. Your Town hall has not been open for public access for most of the year, but our Clerks have been doing a great job in continuing to provide essential services to our residents.

In August of 2020, we hired an Office Assistant, Amy Weber, to help the Clerks with all of their duties. You will see an introductory article about Amy in this newsletter.

For the large numbers of voters we had at all four elections in 2020-I feel that all our poll workers and the Clerks did an outstanding job. We had record numbers of ballots casts and many of them were early, or absentees, which require a lot more work. Job well done by all and thanks to all the residents who exercised their right to vote!

We have had to adapt to holding virtual meetings first by using the Elkhart Lake Glenbeulah-High School library and now the Town hall. Thanks to monies we received from the Cares Act and other grants, we have purchased equipment in hopes to continue hosting virtual meetings in the future from the Town Hall. We are not sure yet just how many people we can accommodate with our limited broadband capability, but this is something we will continue to work on. We feel that this option will be helpful even after we get out of this pandemic. With some of the grant money, we also purchased new tablets for the Town Board to cut down on paper usage and lighten the workload for our staff. As you

can see, it has been a very busy, hectic year for us. I can assure you that we will continue to operate as efficiently as possible to serve the residents of the Town of Rhine.

We would also like to report on several other Town staffing changes that have occurred at the Town Collection Site. Dale Laack and David Lorenz decided to retire. We thank them for their years of service and wish them well in their retirement! In their place, we have recently hired Richard Specht and Mike Klahn.

Stay safe and have a happy, healthy 2021.



Happy New Year from your Clerk/Treasurer, Lexann Hoogstra!

2020 proved to be a year like no other, and it has been challenging for everyone. I would like to express my gratitude for the work and support provided by so many during this time.

I would also like to welcome Amy Weber as our new office assistant! Amy was previously employed with the Village of Howards Grove as a Financial Assistant. She is proving to be a valuable asset to the Town!

There was an excellent turnout for all

elections in 2020, and I would like to thank all of those who served as poll workers and chief inspectors. Thanks to all of our residents who turned out to exercise their right to vote.

Wishing everyone a happy, healthy, and prosperous 2021! In so doing, please enjoy a couple of my favorite inspirational quotes as we continue to work together.

"Carry out a random act of kindness, with no expectation of reward."
(Princess Diana)

"Unexpected kindness is the most powerful, least costly, and most underrated agent of human change."
(Bob Kerrey)

"Stand a little taller, rise a little higher, be a little better."
(Gordon B. Hinckley)

Who are We?

Town Board Chair

- Red Platz 920-390-0332

Supervisors

- Allen Feld 920-980-3827
- Jon Rost 920-980-4800
- Bill Jacob 920-627-2612
- Larry Eberle 920-889-5551

Clerk/Treasurer

- Lexann Hoogstra 920-876-3413

Deputy Clerk

- Catherine Loeffler 920-876-3413

Office Assistant

- Amy Weber 920-876-3413

Building Inspector

- Tony Leonard 262-364-9597

For Inspections Only 262-346-4577
The building inspector's hours are by Appointment only.



Hello from Amy Weber

Hello All, My name is Amy Weber and I am the Office Assistant here in the Town of Rhine. Before I was hired here, I was the Finance Assistant for the Village of Howards Grove (where I live). I am currently a student at Lakeshore Technical College in the Accounting program. In my spare time, (which there is not much of these days) I enjoy reading, baking, traveling, and spending time in the Northwoods. I look forward to serving the Town of Rhine residents this year!

Notes from your Deputy Clerk, Catherine Loeffler

Website

We are excited to announce the town has implemented a new homepage design with more features and functionality. Our mobile friendly website was launched in January 2021. We hope you find it easier to use and a useful tool for information you may be looking for. Enjoy the shiny, new website!

Collection Site

The Town of Rhine has mailed out new collection site tags. Your former, red tags will now be replaced with a lime green tag. All property owners were mailed tags in November 2020. It is one tag per residence. If you are a renter, you will need to obtain it from the current property owner and return it to them if you no longer reside in the Town of Rhine. Entrance with an old tag will not be permitted after January 1, 2021. This will be enforced as a way to keep the cost of waste disposal down for Rhine residents. The Collection Site is located at W6426 County Road EH (just east of State Highway 67) and is open every Saturday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. For more information on our

electronic recycling service and the fee schedule for large items, please refer to our website townrhine.com.

Dog Licensing

On another note, 2020 dog licenses will expire on December 31, 2020. If you are the owner of a dog that is 5 months of age or older, you will need to purchase a dog license from the Town Treasurer every year. All dogs over 4 months of age are required to be vaccinated for rabies by a veterinarian and re-vaccinated one year later, and every three years thereafter. This is a state imposed law. No dog licenses will be issued without a copy of their rabies vaccination certificate. An invoice from your veterinarian is not sufficient. If paying by mail, please enclose rabies vaccination certificate(s) and they will be returned to you with your license tag. A \$5 late fee will be added for each licensable dog that is not licensed by March 31, 2021. Please notify the Treasurer at the Town of Rhine office if you no longer own your dog that was previously licensed.

Dog licenses may be obtained by mailing a copy of your pet's vaccination information, a check and a self-addressed stamped envelope to Town of Rhine, P.O. Box 117, Elkhart Lake, WI 53020. You may also place this in the drop box located to the left of the Town Hall's entrance door (W5250 County Road FF, Elkhart Lake, WI)

If requesting a dog license when paying property taxes, pay for each item separately. Checks for property taxes must be separate from payment for dog licenses.

Dog license fees

\$14.00 - Male or Female
\$7.00 - Neutered Male or Spayed Female
\$55.00 - for a Kennel fee / multiple dog license for 12 or fewer dogs

Feature Article- Get to Know Your Neighbor

Every newsletter will be featuring a resident or two. If you have a friend or family member you would like featured please contact the Town Hall. We are looking for all types - young and old, newcomers to fifth generation families.



Mark your calendars!

Tuesday, February 16, 2021—Spring Primary

Tuesday, April 6, 2021—Spring Election.

Employment Opportunity

The Rhine Collection Site (W6426 County Road EH) is looking for an attendant that will work one (1) Saturday a month. Please contact Al Feld (920)980-3827 for further details.

Town of Rhine Meeting Schedule

Town Board

First Tuesday of each month

Plan Commission

Second Wednesday of each month (if required)

Board of Appeals

Fourth Wednesday of each month (if required)

