

► December 2012

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► January 2013

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► February 2013

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► March 2013

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► April 2013

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► May 2013

| Su | M | Tu | W | Th | Fri | Sa |
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| 12 | 13 | VB | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 |
| 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 |
| 26 | OC | PC | 29 | 30 | 31 | |

Key

VB -Village Board Meeting
 PC - HPC/Plan Committee Meetings
 OC - Office Closed-Observance of Holiday

The Village of Ephraim is trying a new format for the Fall Newsletter, send us an e-mail and let us know what you think! office@ephrain-wisconsin.com , the spring newsletter will still contain information from the local non-profit organizations and Committees, Commissions ,and Departments!



Village of Ephraim
 PO Box 138
 Ephraim, WI 54211



Village of Ephraim

FALL 2012

Season's Greetings from your village government,

With all the dismal news about the fiscal state of our nation, it is nice to be able to report to you that the Village of Ephraim is in excellent financial health. Our village debt load is low in proportion to our state imposed municipal borrowing limits. This is all due in part by sound fiscal planning and management by the village trustees, the village administrator, and highly focused village steering committees. Recently, the village acquired a new state of the art fire engine that will support the needs of our community for decades to come. This purchase was a perfect example of the fiscal planning ability of the village boards, past and present. The new state-of-the-art fire engine was purchased at a cost of \$519,542 of which \$363,000 had been set aside over the years in anticipation of the planned fire department upgrades. The village was able to tap its own resources to pay the balance of the purchase without having to borrow any additional funds from lenders. I would speculate that there are not many communities in Door County or Wisconsin that are in our solid financial condition.

In addition to what I have just mentioned, I am pleased to share with you that for the fourth year in a row, the Ephraim portion of your property tax bill will show zero increase. As a matter of fact, the Ephraim tax mill rate actually decreased from \$2.70 per thousand to \$2.68. Through thorough fiscal examination, the trustees have been able to hold the line on expenditures, pay down our existing debt, provide needed services; all while maintaining village municipal property adequately and appropriately.

On a personal note, by now many of you have heard that I have chose not to seek another term on the village board. I made the decision last Labor Day weekend after much thought and discussion with Shelley. After hundreds of meetings over the years and thousands of hours, I decided that I wanted to spend more quality time with my wife, my family, and friends. When you sit on the village board, you are guaranteed never to run out of meetings to attend or phone calls to take. That's not to say that I did not realize that right from day one, but when you look back and add up the vast amount of time the village trustees spend exercising the responsibilities of the office, it is quite staggering. I look forward to quieter times.

I cannot leave office without publically recognizing the great people that made Ephraim municipal government what it is today. To the trustees I have served with, past and present: Although we did not always agree on village issues, our thorough discussions served the village well. Thank you your diligence and preparation on all the issues. To our administrative staff; Charity, Brent, Susan, and Erin: The professional, personal day-to-day style in which you run our village office is outstanding. To Mike and Jim in the maintenance department: The knowledge base and skill set that you both bring to the village is reflected in the many positive comments we hear from residents and visitors. To Dave, Brad, and Russ: The wastewater plant and operation is top shelf. Keep up the great work. To Niles, Justin, and all of the firefighters: I can assure you that your time and efforts do not go unnoticed by the board or the taxpayers. To our librarian Linda: Thank you for standing with us to promote and save our library. To all the standing committee members: Without your commitment, the village board would not be able to move forward in the efficient, well informed way it does. You have unselfishly volunteered your time to this community and we all thank you. To our harbormaster Keith Lindstrand: After 12 years, I will miss working with you. You have brought an immense level of unrecognized expertise in many forms to our community. I have learned much from you.

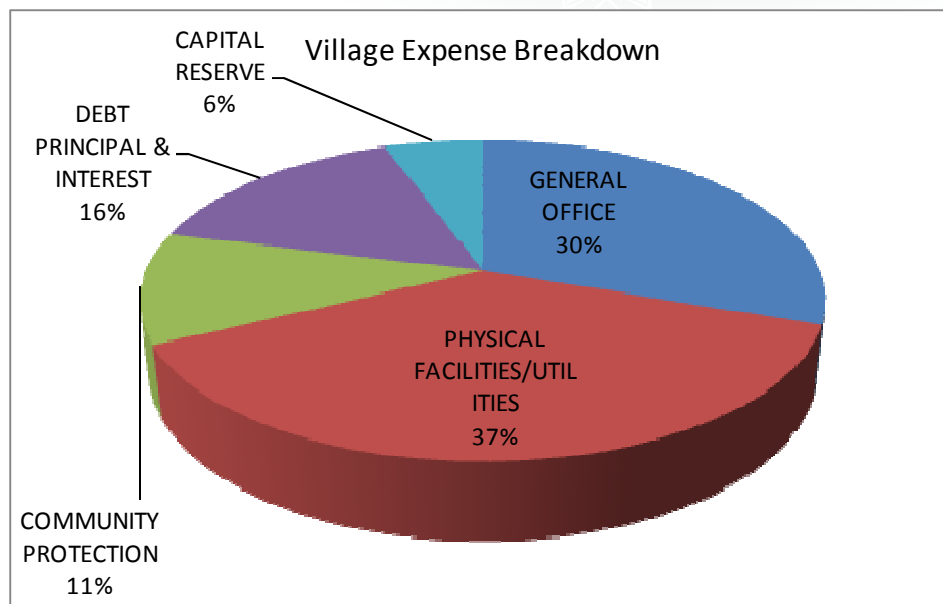
Finally, to the taxpayers of the Village of Ephraim: Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to serve.

Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays to you all,

John Cox, Village President



Where do my tax dollars go?



Tax Bill Breakdown....

| | |
|---------------|--------|
| County..... | 32.60% |
| State..... | 1.50% |
| School | 23.86% |
| NWTC | 15.18% |
| Village | 26.86% |
| Total | 100% |

Dog Licenses....

If you have a dog make sure that it's licensed. Licenses are available at the Administration Office with proof of rabies vaccination.

10005 Norway Street
Ephraim, WI 54211



Where to send tax payments....

Jay Zahn
421 Nebraska Street
Sturgeon Bay, WI 54235

1st Installment due by January 31, 2013

2nd Installment due by July 31, 2013

Planning a Building or Remodeling Project????

Don't forget to give Brent Bristol a call at the Village Administration Office if you are doing any type of work....he can help you through the entire process! If you have questions give him a call (920) 854-5501.



Christmas Trees in the Village....

A huge Thank You to Rob Hults and the Open Door Bird Sanctuary for the donations of both Village of Ephraim Christmas Trees!!

Why is it important to make my fire numbers visible?????

This is a question that has come up a lot lately and the Village wants to make sure that everyone understands that in order for emergency services personnel to find homes when needed, the property owner is responsible for making sure that the fire numbers are in an easily visible location and that they are in good shape. If you are in need of new fire numbers, just give the Village Administration Office a call (920) 854-5501.



**Don't
forget...Village
Board Meetings
are now on the
Second Tuesday
of the Month!!**



Winter Recycling

Hours

1st and 3rd Saturday

9:00 AM – 12:00 PM

New Rules

***All recyclables can
be comingled and
placed in the bins.
There is no longer a
need to separate
paper and plastic/
glass!***

Can I light off fireworks in the Village of Ephraim without the proper licenses and permits??

The answer to this question is very easy...NO! State statute 167.10 explains that unless you hold the proper permit and license, you are not able to light fireworks off at all, no matter where you are. If you have questions or would like to see if you are eligible for a permit give the fire chief a call (920) 421-0931.

**Interested in volunteering for a
Committee.... Give the Village Office a**

***Administration Office Hours are Changing...
effective January 2, 2013..***

Monday—Friday 8:00 AM to 4:00PM

Who is responsible for trees in the Right of Way ???

There have been a few questions over the past year regarding who is responsible for maintaining the right of way. The answer is spelled out in the Wisconsin State Statutes 86.03 (1) Removal of fallen trees. If any tree falls from adjacent land into any highway, the owner or occupant of the land shall immediately remove the tree from the highway.

In the event that the trees fall into the road the Village along with the County will do our best to clear it out of the roadway so it doesn't impede traffic, however it is the responsibility of the property owner to clean up the remnants.

If you have any questions regarding this, please feel free to give the office a call!