

Town of Port Washington

2019 Newsletter

PROPERTY TAX BILLS & PAYMENTS

IN FULL & FIRST INSTALLMENT:

2019 Tax Bills were mailed in early December. The full amount or first installment will be due to the Town of Port Washington by Tuesday, January 31, 2019.

BY MAIL:

Include the tear off stub for the 1st installment or full payment with your check made payable to **Town of Port Washington** and mail to: (Include a self addressed stamped envelope if you would like a receipt.)

Town of Port Washington Treasurer
2354 Willow Road
Port Washington, WI 53074

LOCAL BANK:

Port Washington State Bank, 206 N. Franklin St., Port Washington is the only bank that payments will be received at. Payment accepted during lobby hours.

* If you have a refund coming, payment at the bank is suggested. Refunds can only be made after the entire tax bill has been paid.

IN PERSON: December & January, the Treasurer will be available to take payment at the Town Hall:

December 2019 / January 2020

Mondays: 9:00 am—Noon

Tuesday: December 31st 9:00 am—Noon

Wednesdays: 1:00 pm—4:00 pm

Thursdays: Dec. 19 & 26: 4:00 pm—6:00 pm

Jan 23 & 30: 4:00 pm—6:00 pm

Friday: January 31st 9:00—Noon

Saturdays: Dec 21 & 28: 8:00 am—Noon

Jan 18 & 25: 9:00 am—Noon

SECOND INSTALLMENTS or late First Installments: The Town cannot accept second installment payments or late first installment payments. Payment is only accepted by the Ozaukee County Treasurer. Due by July 31, 2020. Mail or in person to: 121 W. Main Street, Port Washington, WI 53074



Your Town Board:

Chairman:

Jim Melichar
262-206-1731

Supervisors:

Mike Didier
414-573-0018
Gary Schlenvogt
262-483-7712

Building Inspector:

Rick Fellenz
414-651-0021

Treasurer:

Mary Sampont
262-284-5394

Clerk:

Heather Krueger
262-284-5235

Town Hall Hours:

Monday & Wednesday
9:00 am—4:00 pm

Or by Appointment

Phone: 262-284-5235

Email: clerk@town.port-washington.wi.us

CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE:

www.town.port-washington.wi.us

ELECTIONS

2020 ELECTIONS

February 18, 2020

Spring Primary

April 7, 2020

Spring Election

August 11, 2020

Partisan Primary

November 3, 2020

General Election



VOTING LOCATION, Wards 1 & 2

Town Hall

3715 Highland Drive

To Register to Vote:

Register online at: myvote.wi.gov

Register to vote in person at the Town Hall any time before an election or on election day. You will need to provide at least one form of ID showing residency in the town for a minimum of 10 days. Any document used as proof of residence MUST include your current address and complete name, your current and complete residential address. Examples of proof of residency: drivers license, utility /phone bill or bank statement.

PHOTO ID: It is now a law that photo id: driver's license, military ID or Passport , is provided before voting

To Vote Absentee:

Register online at: myvote.wi.gov

Keep in mind that if you plan to vote Absentee, you need to fill out the WI Application for Absentee Ballot every year, unless you have checked the box on the form that says you're Indefinitely confined, which will add you to the Absentee list until you take yourself off. You can also find the forms and link on the towns website:

www.town.port-washington.wi.us

Interested in working the election polls? Call the Clerk at 262-284-5235 and ask for information on how to become an election inspector

Town meetings

All Meetings are held at the Town Hall, 3715 Highland Drive

Town Board Meetings:

The Town Board meets the first Monday of each month at 7:30pm.

Planning Commission Meetings:

The Planning Commission meets the second Wednesday of each month at 7:30pm.

By state statute all agendas are posted in at least three places:

- Town Hall –outside bulletin board
- Town Hall /Drop-off site sign
- Town website: <https://www.town.port-washington.wi.us>

*Annual Meeting of Electors—3rd Tuesday of April

*Board of Review & Open Book with Assessor—TBD, Spring

*Town of Port Washington Public Hearing, meeting of Electors to pass Levy—November

**These meetings will be posted and also published in the Ozaukee Press*

Agendas of upcoming meetings and also Minutes of past meetings can be found on the Town Website. All meetings are open to the public, and we welcome you to attend. If you would like to have an item placed on the agenda of either the Town Board or Planning Commission meeting, please notify the Town Chairman, Jim Melichar or the Town Clerk, Heather Krueger no later than the Wednesday prior to the meeting. It remains at the discretion of the Town Chairman whether or not your item will be discussed.

Time to renew dog licenses

Fill out enclosed form and include it with your tax payment as a separate payment, or mail or stop at Town Hall.

Include:

1. Rabies vaccination certificate
2. Self-addressed, stamped return envelope
3. Check made out to Town of

Port Washington

Cost:

Spayed/neutered \$3.00 each

Male or Female \$8.00



Speed Limits on Town Roads

By Supervisor Mike Didier

There are many types of roads in the Town of Port Washington: an expressway such as I-43, State Trunk Highways such as State 33, County Trunk Highways such as County Road KW and Town roads such as Lake Drive and Dixie Road. The speed limits on all roads are set by the State. This is important so the traveling public can have uniformity when traveling the public roadways. This article will address speed limits only on Town roads. The default speed for Town roads is **55 mph**, and the default for Town roads where buildings are on average less than 150 feet apart per 1000 feet is **35 mph**.

Municipalities can change speed limits for roads under their authority if they follow guidelines in the Wisconsin Statutes. For the Town of Port, this is all the Town roads such as Sommers LN, Willow RD, Green Bay RD etc. This authority to change the default speed limits is found in Wis. Statute 349.11, and with the exception of construction zones, is not absolute. <https://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/statutes/statutes/349/II/11>. Changing the default speed limits can be a challenge because people often disagree. The residents of a particular road may want the speed lower for their road assuming it will make the road safer. Some residents may seek lower speeds after a serious crash that was speed related or even a frightening “near miss”. However, driving behavior and habit is not so easy to manage. Federal and state studies consistently show that simply lowering speed limits has little effect on actual speeds. This is because people generally choose their speed based on what they think is safe and reasonable for the conditions present. An unreasonable posted speed gets little consideration from drivers. Also, studies show that artificially low speed limits tend to increase crash risk due to more variability in travel speeds on the road. The closer all drivers adhere to what is generally termed a rational speed, the lower the risk.

The Town only has the authority to lower a 55 mph town road by 10 mph or less and a 35 mph town road by 10 mph or less. (The town has no “Rustic Roads” as defined by the state however this type can be lowered by 15mph from the default 45mph) These roads can be changed by the Town Board without DOT (Department of Transportation) approval provided that the town performs and records its own engineering and traffic investigation. Wis. Statute 346.57 requires that **“All speed limit changes SHALL be based on a traffic engineering study, including modifications allowed under State Statute”**. The Wisconsin legislature undoubtedly included this language so all road speed are set based on factual data, not emotions. Conducting a speed study is a time consuming but necessary step to legally modify speed limits and facilitate consistency in how enforceable speed limits are set across the state.

The attached graph shows the roads, https://071a82c2-d117-46bd-9fc1-c8af71b0fad4.filesusr.com/ugd/b75751_7a8201c9dece4397bd58dd211423d62d.pdf or sections of town roads, on which the Town of Port Washington has taken steps (Town Ordinance) to adjust the default speed limits. When a change in the default speed is made, the road must be properly signed with the posted speed. Unless there is a change in the default speed limits, no posted speed limit signs are required.

Another type of speed sign you might see is the Advisory Speed Sign. Advisory Speed Signs are used to alert drivers that a lower speed may be necessary at curves, turns, intersections or other localized conditions. These signs recommend a safe speed to drive in these locations. Advisory Speed Signs do not imply an enforceable speed limit, do not require a town ordinance, and are not governed by the State.

Establishing reasonable and safe speed limits on town roads is the responsibility of the Town Board. This often includes balancing conflicting issues of safety, logic, facts and community concerns. In the upcoming winter months, and all through the year, we encourage you to adhere to the speed limits and drive safe out there!

TRASH

& RECYCLING

Located at the Town Hall, 3715 Highland Drive is open for Town of Port Washington Residents

DROP-OFF

HOURS:

THURSDAYS:
4:00PM—6:00PM

&

SATURDAYS:
8:00AM-NOON

Drop—Off Site, things to remember

Keep doing your part!

The Town of Port Washington is one of the only townships in Ozaukee County that does not charge for trash or recycling!

Please be mindful when separating your recycling: Recycled products to not include plastic bags of any type. Any food item in or on a recycled product is not recyclable—please clean recycling products before separating.

Do your part ~ Recycle!

- ◆ Limit of 5 bags weekly . Only household garbage is accepted, no construction or yard waste allowed.
- ◆ Please enter from the south side of Highland Dr. to allow for drive-through traffic.
- ◆ Please pull to the side if you plan to socialize so your neighbors can continue to drive-through in a timely manner.
- ◆ A Town resident card which is available from the clerk, or your driver's license with current address may be necessary if the attendant does not recognize you.
- ◆ Please respect the hours posted, the attendant needs time to open/close the site.

Single-Stream

Recycling

CO-MINGLE

IN ONE CONTAINER

(NO PLASTIC BAGS)

Magazines

Office Paper

Brown paper bags

Newspapers

Paperboard

Cardboard

Phone books

Junk mail

Paper cardboard, dairy & juice containers

Aluminum cans

Tin or steel cans

Glass bottles & Jars

Plastic bottles & Containers

#1-7



OZAUKEE
IRON & METAL, LLC
"The first choice in recycling"

Give Us A Call
(262) 284-4060

When items cannot go in the dumpsters, please take them to a reputable facility that will dispose of them correctly.

Ozaukee Iron & Metal, 728 Schmitz Drive, Port Washington

ITEMS ACCEPTEED: (w/ disposal fee) Freon Units, furniture, mattresses, TV, monitors, microwaves, construction debris.

Ozaukee Iron & Metal will purchase Ferrous & Non-Ferrous products from you.

Check out their website for more information: www.ozaukeeironmetal.com



215 Park Street, Port Washington - Open Mondays only 8:00—5:00

Veolia accepts electronics, TV's, appliances, hazardous waste and other items that are not allowed in the recycling/landfills. Please call for a complete listing

262-243-8900

Do you want your trash/recycling picked up weekly at your home?

Please contact Waste Management directly for schedule and fees.

888-960-0008

Town Treasurer: Elected vs Appointed

The Town of Port Washington treasurer is currently an elected position. Once elected, the treasurer holds the position for two years. The town board has decided to ask the electors if they would like to see this position to be appointed rather than elected. The Town will have a referendum question on the spring ballot at the April 7, 2020 election asking town residents the following question:

“Shall the person holding the office of Treasurer in the Town of Port Washington be appointed by the Town Board?”

The key differences between an appointed treasurer and elected treasurer:

Appointed treasurers:

1. Do not have to be town residents.
2. Have their qualifications, job descriptions, and wages/benefits set by the town board as they are essentially town employees hired by the board.
3. Cannot be removed by the board during their term of office, unless there is “cause” for removal (misconduct in office or neglect of duties). The board can simply choose not to re-appoint an official at the end of his or her term without having to establish cause.
4. Can be appointed for a term not to exceed 3 years at one time. Can be appointed for a shorter term such as six months or one year or whatever the board deems appropriate.

Elected treasurers:

1. Do have to be town residents.
 2. Are answerable to the electorate and can’t be required by the board to hold specific qualifications or obtain training.
 3. Can be recalled from office like other elected officials, but can’t be removed from office by a board vote.
- Are elected for two year terms at the spring election in odd-numbered years.

NEW TANKER TRUCK!



The Port Washington Fire Department has a new tanker truck which will be used for servicing the Town residents. The tanker is equipped with a 1,000 gallon per minute pump, and carries 3,500 gallons of water. This replaces a 32 year old tanker that is now serving Madeline Island in Ashland County WI.

Pictured with the tanker are: Gary Schlenvogt, Town Supervisor, Chief Mitchell, Jim Melichar, Town Chairman and Mike Didier, Town Supervisor.

RESPONSE CALLS IN THE TOWN:

FIRE CALLS = 35

AMBULANCE CALLS = 84

BUILDING PERMITS

Building permits and planning project applications can be printed from the Town website:

<https://www.town.port-washington.wi.us/>

Permits are required if there are any structural changes, remodeling and alterations, additions, basement, garages. Also, replacement of heating equipment, plumbing, new electrical. A permit is not required for residing, window or door replacement as long as there are no structural modifications, or the first reroof. If you are unsure or have question please call the Building Inspector:

Rick Fellenz

414-651-0021

rgfellen@powercom.net



Town of Port Washington
Town Hall
3715 Highland Drive
Port Washington, WI 53074



Town Roads Update:

2019

Mother Nature make it a challenging year for road repair in the state, including the Town of Port! The weather did not cooperate, and the town had to postpone some maintenance work until next spring. Dynna Drive did get completely redone this summer. Work repair work was also completed on Willow Lane, Green Bay Road, Terry Lane and Bay Hill Road. The town received bids to repave Hawthorne Dr., but will have to wait because the proposals received were not within the town's annual budget.

2020

will include the annual Road Tour, which takes place in Spring. It is when the Town Board members tour and rate all the Town roads. This is performed to anticipate which roads will need repairs. The Town will be repairing Northwoods Lane, Mink Ranch Road—bridge patching and possibly Hawthorne Dr.

Winter

has come early in WI! The Town will continue using private contractors to remove snow and to salt/sand Town roads. The Town participates in an early buy salt program with the state. Road salt is purchased at a discounted rate by committing to the purchase early in the year, and storing the salt ourselves. We have two licensed storage facilities in the Town where over 100 ton of salt is currently being stored. By using private contractors and self-purchasing the salt, the Town is able to save you tax dollars!

Please use caution this winter, and keep in mind that this is a rural area and perfectly clear roads will not always be possible. Please do not follow plow trucks closer than 200 feet. Pushing your driveway snow onto or across a Town road, or into the right-of-way is illegal. Please keep all right-of-ways free from snow piles or any personal items.