

Town of Neenah

Today

Town of Neenah Fireman's
Picnic
August 20th, 10am-3pm
Mahler Park

Vol. 20, Issue 2, Summer 2017 1600 Breezewood Lane, Neenah - 920-725-0916

Website: www.townofneenah.com, email: ellen@townofneenah.com

CHAIRMAN'S CHATTER:

Welcome...to this edition of your town newsletter which has no doubt arrived after this year's Memorial Day Festivities. I trust most of you took the time to pay tribute to the men and women who are serving or have served in our armed forces. Town of Neenah and I "Salute" all those who have served overseas in combat zones and to those

who have served our country wherever they were assigned including those serving here at home. **Thank you to our military.**



**Town Chairman
Bob Schmeichel**

I also want to say "Thank You" to all of the town residents that showed up for our annual town meeting. By having to open our town fire department facility to accommodate everyone was a very positive testimonial to the sincere interest by our town residents in important issues facing us in the Town of Neenah. Town road maintenance, repair, and

reconstruction is of concern to all of us. To date 73% of state town paved roads need major and expensive maintenance procedures. With the amount of state transportation funding in question we need to look at possible supplement alternatives. Moving forward, our clerk/treasurer, myself, and your town board supervisors will be working on keeping you informed about any and all funding issue updates. Watch for those updates and other additional meeting open discussions on our town website and in future newsletters.

Now that summer has officially arrived, adults and children are out and about; biking, walking, and enjoying activities in all of our fine town parks. Mahler Park, being our largest park, has a very nice park shelter facility that can be rented for your family fun. Call for a reservation and enjoy Mahler Park. It is important to note here that South Park Avenue that runs north and south adjacent to the entirety of Mahler Park has **No Parking** signs on both sides of the road. For the safety of all, please obey this posted no parking zone. Summer also brings out many residents that like to walk down our roadways during nice weather. I say this every year: We all need to **slow down**

when driving down any of our town roads because of those children, bikers, and walkers. That goes for any time of the year. I also ask that you bikers and walkers at all times **wear bright and or reflective clothing** so drivers can see you well in advance especially at dusk. Just because you can see a car coming, doesn't mean the driver will see you until they are almost right in front of you. Think Safety.

I offer to also "Think Safety" and "Respect" for your neighbors when it comes to fireworks. By State of Wisconsin statutes, Aerial Fireworks cannot be fired off without a permit. Please be safe and respect your neighbors especially during late evening hours. Please observe and enjoy those types of firework activities at any of the many planned municipal festivals.

Let's get to my "Fun Facts":

Summer is time to have fun and did you know:

Official Summer Holidays include Memorial Day, Fourth of July, and Labor Day, and that the Dog Days of Summer refers to the weeks between July 3rd and August 11th. They are named after the Dog Star (Sirius) in the constellation of Canis Major. Here in Wisconsin we should call that time frame the "Mosquito Days". Mosquitoes, summer's pest, have been around for more than 30 million years and will no doubt be here many, many, more! And their "Bite is worse than their Buzz".

July is National Ice Cream Month. More Americans buy ice cream in July than any other month. How much you ask? Approximately 10 percent of all the milk produced by U.S. dairy farmers is used to produce ice cream, and it takes 3 gallons of milk to produce 1 gallon of ice cream.

I'm not sure who came up with this next fact; It takes 50 licks to finish a single scoop ice cream cone!

Really!?!...I don't think so...and my wife definitely agrees.

So that's it for this edition. Enjoy the summer. Be safe. And hope to see you at your **Volunteer Fireman's picnic on August 20th at Mahler Park.**

Bob Schmeichel
Town Chairman

Building Permits
 (Projects valued at \$1,000 or less)
 February 2017

Scheffler	101 Sugar Tree Ln.	Garage	\$27,500
Gmeiner-A1 Heating & Air Stanelle	1445 Glenview Dr.	HVAC	\$1,700
Hoekman-Stanelle-EDW Radtke & Sons, Inc.	242 Old Orchard Ln.	Remodel	\$30,000
Franck-Enterprise Electric	242 Old Orchard Ln.	Plumbing	\$7,000
Omdal	539 Plummers Harbor Rd.	Electric	\$1,250
Korb-Integrity Homes	115 Muttart Rd.	Remodel	\$30,000
Alliant Energy-Pieper Electric	1331 Radcliff Rd.	New House	\$285,000
Johnson-Mad City Windows	200 Cty. Hwy CB	Electric	\$70,000
Stadler-Watters Plumbing	574 Irish Rd.	Plumbing	\$6,500
Auchter-Modern Sheet Metal	371 Muttart Rd.	Plumbing	\$1,600
	204 Limekiln Dr.	HVAC	\$3,099

March 2017

WE Energies-Gauthier Const.	1414 CTH JJ	Razing	\$15,300
LeDoux-Modern Sheet Metal	617 Harvard Dr.	HVAC	\$2,795
Hartman-MCM Air	112 Hilltop Dr.	HVAC	\$6,300
Houlihan-Modern Sheet Metal	157 Kuettel Ct.	HVAC	\$3,700
Millay & Schneider	100 Courtney Ct.	Remodel	\$8,000
CKB Creations	184 Adella Beach Rd.	Remodel	\$30,000
Geurts Plumbing	184 Adella Beach Rd.	Plumbing	\$1,000
Podojil-Drucks Plbg. & Heating	436 Rainbow Beach Rd.	Electric	\$3,100
Olsen-Cumings Electric	452 Rainbow Beach Rd.	Electric	\$1,500
Giese-Step Industries	1478 Glenview Dr.	Remodel	\$12,000
Michalkiewicz-Tundraland	1610 Oakridge Rd.	Remodel	\$8,999
McGinnis	421 Maple Ln.	Electric	\$1,820

Conservancy Park



Spring has sprung in the Town of Neenah Parks. Here are just a few of the new residents at Conservancy Park. Above is a Great Blue heron.

Did you know?

Great Blue Herons look enormous in flight, with a six-foot wingspan
 Both parents incubate the eggs for 25-29 days (4 weeks).
 In flight, a Great Blue Heron usually holds its head close to its body with the neck bent.
 The young can first fly at about 60 days old.



April 2017

Auer	842 Terra Cotta Dr.	New House	\$300,000
Hyne-Modern Sheet Metal	108 Old Orchard Ln.	HVAC	\$3,099
Nickash-Martenson Const.	498 Sunrise Bay Rd.	REmodel	\$50,000
Rietveld-Watters Plbg.	1615 S. Park Ave.	Plumbing	\$1,750
Scheffler	101 Sugar Tree Ln.	Electrical	\$1,800
Gunther- Bay Area Services	108 Wenban Ave.	HVAC	\$6,350
Fish-Tundraland	511 Plummers Harbor Rd.	Plumbing	\$10,000

WisSafe Smoke Detector Program is Continuing into the Summer Months

The WisSafe Smoke Detector program that started last fall in the Town of Neenah is continuing into the summer months. After installing almost 60 new, maintenance free smoke detectors at Town of Neenah homes, our fire department has requested additional units in order to continue with those successful efforts. Firefighters have been out in several neighborhoods over the last few weeks doing installations at no cost to Town residents.

The WisSafe program is a great way to upgrade the smoke detectors in your home to the latest technology, including 10 year maintenance free batteries. If your home was built prior to 1992, you are more than likely using battery powered smoke detectors in your home and are eligible to participate with this program. If you do not have any smoke detectors in your home, the fire department certainly wants to help you as soon as possible and have you and your home properly protected.

A quick call to the Town Hall at 920/725-0916 can get you signed-up for the program where firefighters will visit your home, install the new

detectors and provide fire safety training for you and your family. Visits normally take between 30 to 45 minutes.



The advantages of the program are very straight forward, early detection of a fire in your home gives you the time to safely exit and avoid serious injury or even death. Over 4,000 people die in the US each year as a result of residential home fires. Most of these fires occur between the hours of 11PM and 7AM when most of us are asleep. Protect your family and sign-up to have these new smoke detectors installed in your home.

The Town of Neenah firefighters would also like to thank those residents who have already participated in the program and most importantly, improved fire safety in their homes.

Thank you. Fire Chief Ed King

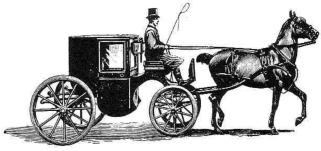
Town of Neenah Fireman's Picnic

August 20th 10am-3pm, Mahler Park, South Park Ave., Town of Neenah

Join your neighbors and friends to support the Town of Neenah Fire Department in raising funds to go towards needed equipment.

Raffle with prizes totaling \$3,500, 50/50 cash raffle-visits by: Winnebago County Sheriff's Vehicles, Gold Cross ambulance, ThedaStar helicopter fly-in, Jaws of Life demo, classic car show and MUCH MORE! Hot dogs/Brats/Burgers





The Good Ol' Days

By Supervisor Glenn Armstrong

Prior to our state being formed in 1848, a large portion of the Valley was a community known as the Town of Neenah. This covered the present day towns of Clayton, Vinland, Winchester, Neenah, Village of Fox Crossings and the cities of Neenah and Menasha. In 1849 the towns of Clayton, Vinland, and Winchester were set off from the Town of Neenah by an act of legislature. The Town of Neenah was now comprised of the present day Town of Neenah, Village of Fox Crossings and the cities of Neenah and Menasha.

Although one town, a rivalry sprung up between the two sides of the river. Both sides fought over the placement of a government built canal, roads, school funding, county board representation, polling, and meeting sites. The legislature had



long ago set the meeting and polling sites in the present City of Neenah.

Supervisor Glenn Armstrong

The Menasha area claimed that on alternate years it should be held on their side.

In 1854, the Menasha area wanted improvements to the railroad systems on their side; the Neenah side did not feel a need for these improvements. To avoid paying for this, they petitioned the county board for a division. With this division Menasha would gain equal numbers on the county board which addressed concerns of lack of representation.

The Board of Supervisors of the County of Winnebago passed an order providing for a division of The Town of Neenah, and for the organization of the Town of Menasha.

Be it resolved that said order was adopted contrary to law, and in opposition to the known wishes of at least three quarters of the voters of the Town of Neenah, and to the wishes of every voter of the proposed Town of Menasha.

Town of Neenah

1600 Breezewood Ln
Neenah, WI 54956
www.townofneenah.com Email:tnneenah@tds.net
Town Population: 3,435

Chairman

Robert Schmeichel - 729-5995

Supervisors

Glenn Armstrong - 722-3355

Brooke Cardoza - 727-1750

Jan DeKeyser - 725-3284

Jim Weiss - 727-1952

Clerk/Treasurer

Ellen Skerke - 725-0916

Building Inspector

Gary Klinka - 727-9200

Fire Chief

Ed King - 725-8261

Animal Control

Glenn Armstrong - 722-3355

Plan Commission Chairman

Tom Wilde - 725-0014

Parks and Trails Committee Chairman

Dave Bluma - 428-4595

Weed Commissioner

Dave Bluma - 428-4595

Newsletter

Pam Winek - 428-0768

Sanitary District Commissions

#2-President - Dan Osero - 740-5757

#3-President-Bryan Von Deylen - 751-8791

County Board Supervisors

District 7-Bill Roh - 725-5999

District 9-Alvin Long - 722-7795

District 30-Chuck Farrey - 582-7733

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"Give me a buzzzz.....but please don't call me honey".

Clerk's Corner:



Town Clerk
Ellen Skerke

Town Board meetings are held the second and fourth Monday of the month, 7:00 pm at the Town Hall. Agendas are posted on the Town of Neenah website, on the posting boards located at Town Hall, at Conservancy Park and Oakridge Place. Minutes of each meeting can be found on the website. This is a brief summary of recent Town business.

February 2017

- Approved 2017 Budget Amendment to increase Highway expenditures by \$126,391 and Parks and Trails expenditures by \$21,725 for the unused 2016 budget for projects that could not be completed in 2016.
- Discussed City of Neenah's notice to Town residents of special assessment for repairs to Yorkshire Road from Yorkshire Court to Sunrise Bay Road.
- Approved Resolution 2017-01 Variance application for Greg and Petra Otto at 607 Plummers Harbor Road.

March 2017

- Approval to remove unpermitted culvert installed at 1370 Harvest Moon Drive.
- Approved Resolution 2017-05 Zoning Map Amendment request by Winnebago County for several areas affected by navigability determinations.
- Approved Town of Neenah Fire Department changes to the By-Laws Article 2 Section 2 – Membership Eligibility.

April 2017

- Accepted 2016 Financial report from Schenck, the 2016 Audited Financial statements are available upon request in the Town Hall office.
- Fire Chief Ed King presented the quarterly report for the Fire Department.
- Approved Yorkshire Road Reconstruction Intermunicipal Agreement between the Town of Neenah and City of Neenah.
- Discussed potential landscaping project at the Town Hall, and potential project to equip the conference room with an overhead projection system.
- Approved Resolution 2017-03, Zoning Map Amendment request for Lori Chevalier and John Ross at 1417 County Rd JJ.
- Approved Agreement for Automatic Assistance between Town of Neenah and Village of Fox Crossing.
- Approved Parks and Trails Committee request regarding permanent No Parking signs on South Park Avenue.

Seeking a Volunteer for the Town of Neenah Plan Commission

The Town Board is seeking a volunteer to fill the vacancy on our Plan Commission. The Plan Commission is made up of seven members who meet on the third Monday of each month to review all land use planning aspects for the Town of Neenah. Some of the items discussed include Certified Survey Maps (CSM's), Zoning Map Amendments, the Comprehensive Plan plus others items as requested. The Commission makes a recommendation to the Town Board for further action on the requests. There are also opportunities to meet and network with neighboring communities to discuss planning issues. Educational materials and training is available, and our current Plan Commissioners are very knowledgeable to help along the way. The only qualifications necessary are you must be a Town of Neenah property owner, have the desire to become involved in your community, learn about planning and land use, and learn more about your Town of Neenah.

Contact Chairman Bob Schmeichel at 729-5995 or the Town office at 725-0916 if you would like to learn more.

A Day in the Life of the Town Clerk

I receive many phone calls every day, here is a sampling of a few:

Do I need a fence permit?

You do not need a permit for a fence from the Town of Neenah but you are required to get a zoning permit from Winnebago County Zoning; 920-232-3344 or www.co.winnebago.wi.us/planning-and-zoning.

Will the Fire Department fill my pool?

No the Fire Department will not fill your pool.

My neighbors were blowing off fireworks at 11:00 pm last night and I couldn't sleep. What should I do?

Talk to your neighbor, have a reasonable conversation with them and ask them to stop. If that does not work, you may want to call the Winnebago County Sheriff's Department. Obviously calling law enforcement on a neighbor may not be the best option for long term relations. Hopefully the initial conversation will help you get your point across so that they understand your concerns

The general rule of thumb for fireworks is that a permit is required if the device explodes or leaves the ground. The Town of Neenah does not issue permits for fireworks, so it is illegal in the Town of Neenah to have these types of fireworks, including firecrackers, roman candles, bottle rockets and mortars.

State law allows the sale, possession and use, without a permit, of sparklers not exceeding 36 inches in length, stationary cones and fountains, toy snakes, smoke bombs, caps, noisemakers, confetti poppers with less than ¼ grain of explosive mixture, and novelty devices that spin or move on the ground.



Renew Our Waters

Every choice counts.

Kids can help too!

There are lots of things kids can do to help keep our rivers and lakes clean.

Have you ever thought about where rain goes after it lands on your house or driveway? Rain drops roll down your driveway and into the road. Once in the road, rain enters the storm drain - the grates in our city streets.

Do you know what happens to things that enter the storm drain? Water or any thing else entering those drains travels through pipes and empties right into our rivers and lakes!

You can help clean up our local rivers and lakes by making sure only rain goes down the storm drain.

You can help clean up our local rivers and lakes by making sure only rain goes down the storm drain!

CLEAN UP AFTER YOUR PET

Pet waste is not only gross to find in yards or on sidewalks, it carries bacteria and germs that cause beach closings in the summer.

To keep our waters clean, pick up after your pet often. Even waste in your backyard can pollute local waters.

Bring a small plastic bag with you on walks and pick up after your dog.

HELP WITH THE YARD

Grass clippings and leaves from our yards are causing our lakes and rivers to turn green! You can help by sweeping grass clippings off your driveway and sidewalk back onto your lawn after your mom or dad mows the grass. You can also help your dad and mom rake up the leaves in your yard in the fall!

GET SOME EXERCISE

You may have heard that car and trucks can cause air pollution but did you know driving cars and trucks can also affect water? Oil, grease and dirt that fall from our vehicles when we are driving are washed into storm drains and into our rivers and lakes. One way to help clean up water is to drive less. Instead of asking for a ride, ask your mom or dad if you can walk or bike with them to a friend's house or the park!

MOST IMPORTANTLY, NEVER PUT ANYTHING DOWN THE STORM DRAIN. THE FISH AND FROGS AND ESPECIALLY YOUR FRIENDS DON'T LIKE TO SWIM WITH GARBAGE! ONLY THE RAIN GOES DOWN THE STORM DRAIN!

Stormwater is rain or snowmelt and water from things people do, like overwatering the lawn. As water makes its way to the storm drain it picks up pollutants like oil from car leaks and bacteria from pet waste. When we choose products carefully and dispose of products properly, we can greatly reduce the amount of pollution that enters our local waters through runoff.

Untreated runoff is the biggest threat to our nation's water quality, according to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. Let's make the small, important changes that will reduce that threat and improve water quality and our lives!

Realize

What touches the ground enters the water

RenewOurWaters.org

Northeast Wisconsin Stormwater Consortium
P.O. Box 1861 Appleton, WI 54912 | 920.858.4246

Town of Neenah Roads-How Do They Rate?

The Town of Neenah is responsible for approximately 27 miles of local roads. The condition of all Town roads are rated on a 10 point system every two years per State Statute and submitted to the Department of Transportation. The system is called PASER – Pavement Surface and Rating System. Per the most recent PASER report, 15 % of the Town Roads were rated as fair to poor and 40.1% as good.

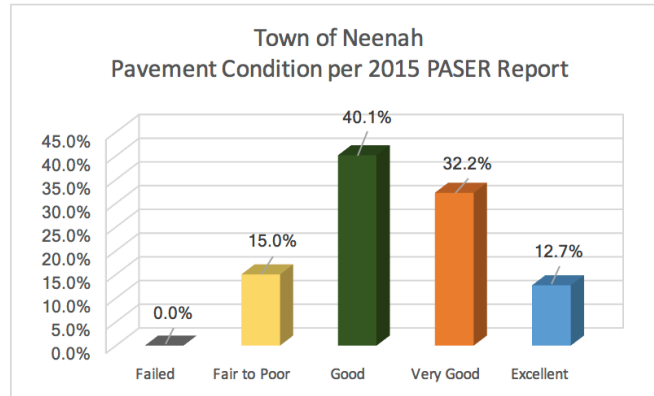
A Fair to Poor rating indicates surface aging and in need of sealcoating or major overlay.

A Good rating means the road is showing signs of aging and needs routine maintenance such as crack sealing, chip sealing or surface overlay.

Very Good Rating means recent seal coat and an Excellent rating is new construction. Maintaining roads *before* they fail is critical, full road construction is far more costly than routine maintenance or overlay. In the 2017 budget, the Town Roads Supervisor requested \$945,580 for road maintenance repairs and construction. Due to the lack of funds, the Town Board

reduced the budget by 33% to \$630,591, however the Town will use \$309,459 from the Reserve Fund to balance the 2017 budget. At these current spending levels, the Town reserves would be empty in 2 years.

The future plans include reconstruction of Hunters Point Road and Sunrise Bay Road (a stretch of ½ mile) with a preliminary estimated cost of \$600,000. That does not leave much room for regular road maintenance including snow plowing, chip sealing and crack filling. Additionally, there will still be 3.5 miles of road in the “fair” category that need to be addressed.



Looking Ahead-

Over the next several issues of the newsletter, you will see additional information about road maintenance and repair costs as well as options that will be considered as the Town looks to the future and plans how to fund the rising costs of keeping the 27 miles of Town roads in good condition.

2017 Road Construction Plans

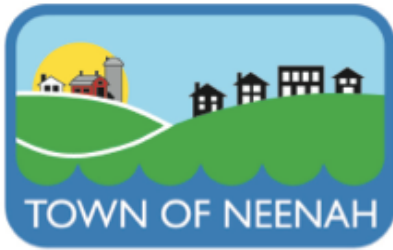
2017 construction season is upon us. The plan, weather permitting and depending on crew availability, is to complete the final layer of asphalt in the Rolling Heights Subdivision on Dartmouth Drive, Harvard Lane, Radcliff Road from Dartmouth Drive to the end of Franzoi Park, Yale Lane and Vassar Lane. Glenview Drive will be pulverized and paved, Fieldcrest Drive will be milled and receive an overlay and a portion of Woodenshoe Road between Breezewood Lane and CTH G will be pulverized and paved, total estimated cost for these projects is \$500,995. There is no crack sealing or chip sealing planned for 2017 due to budget constraints.



Preventative Road Maintenance

Just as you put oil in your car and paint your house as preventative maintenance, the Town follows a program of preventative maintenance to preserve the life of our roads, including drainage maintenance, crack filling, chip sealing and overlays.

Without a comprehensive preventative maintenance program, a newly and well-constructed asphalt road will only have a useful life of 20 years. When a comprehensive maintenance program is followed, that same road should last twice as long, saving the tax payers money. An asphalt road maintenance program includes crack filling every 3 years, chip sealing every 5-7 years, a mill and over-lay (mid-life treatment) at about 20 years and reconstruction at 30 – 40 years.



1600 Breezewood Lane
Neenah, Wisconsin 54956

REGULAR MEETINGS

Regular meetings are held at the Town Hall beginning at 7PM. Special meetings may be held on other days and times.

Town Board of Supervisors
2nd & 4th Mondays

Town Plan Commission
3rd Monday

Town Parks & Trails Committee
1st Monday April through October

- **BURNING:** Burning is permitted in the Town of Neenah, but the Fire Department requests that you use common sense (dryness and wind are always factors to consider) and that you call the Winnebago County Sheriff's office non-emergency number (236-7300#0) before and after burning to avoid false alarms. Please be considerate of your neighbors when burning, making sure that smoke isn't blowing in their direction. Burning garbage is prohibited as well as any petroleum-based products.
- **MINUTES AND AGENDAS:** Town minutes and agendas are posted on the Town website, three posting locations and are also available at the Town Hall during regular business hours.
- **ADDRESS SIGNS:** Homeowners are responsible for maintaining the emergency address signs placed in front of their homes by the Town. Assure that the sign remains visible by keeping brush and snow away from the sign. Also, do not remove or relocate the sign.
- **BUILDING PERMITS:** All building permits are issued by Building Inspector Gary Klinka (727-9200). Information about permits can be found on the website www.townofneenah.com/building-permits/.
- **DEER/WILDLIFE:** The Town has no authority to handle wildlife problems. If you have wildlife problems, call a pest/wildlife service.
- **OBSTRUCTING RIGHTS-OF-WAY AND DRAINAGE DITCHES:** You cannot place a fence or greenery in the Town's road right-of-way. No part of a mailbox should extend over the paved portion of the road. In addition, culverts and drainage ditches must not be filled in. If you have a question about water drainage issues or the right-of-way, contact Town Chairman Robert Schmeichel.
- **HOLIDAY CHANGES:** Trash and Recycling collection will be delayed until Friday on the following Holiday weeks: Memorial Day, 4th of July, Labor Day, Thanksgiving, and Christmas.