

# Today

**Town Annual Meeting**  
**April 18th,**  
**7p.m.**

Vol. 20, Issue 3, Spring 2017 1600 Breezewood Lane, Neenah - 920-725-0916

Website: [www.townofneenah.com](http://www.townofneenah.com), email: [tnneenah@tds.net](mailto:tnneenah@tds.net)

## No Opposition in Town Races

There is no opposition on the ballots for this year's Town and Sanitary District races.

### Town Chairman



Town Chairman **Robert Schmeichel** is seeking his fifth term as Town Chairman. A town resident

since 1984, Schmeichel joined the Park Board (now Parks and Trails Committee) in 1986, and moved to the Plan Committee (Now Plan Commission) in 2003 where he served as Chairman. In 2009, he was elected as the Town of Neenah Chairman.

A retired Registered Landscape Architect, Schmeichel has been very active in Northeast Wisconsin Stormwater Consortium (NEWSC) and has served on their Leadership Board, Chairman of the Post Construction Committee, and is currently on their Board of Municipalities.

Schmeichel serves on the East Central Regional Planning Commission (ECWRP). He also serves on Fox Cities Regional Economic Development Council.

**Races cont. on pg. 7**

## Annual Town Meeting Set to Discuss Urgent Town Issues Affecting Your Family, Taxes, Services & Property!

The Town of Neenah Annual Meeting will be held on Tuesday April 18<sup>th</sup>. The meeting will be held at the Town Hall beginning at 7 p.m.

**Because of several critical issues facing the Town, it is urged that you attend this meeting to be a part of the discussion.**

Here are a few of the problems to be discussed and which need your input:

**Road Repairs & Improvements:** The Town has approximately 28 miles of roads to maintain, repair and improve. The cost of maintenance and repairs exceeds the approximate \$2400 per mile road aids that we receive each year from the State, paving just a few feet of road eats up that State contribution very quickly. How do you believe we should fund road repairs and improvements in the future? Possibilities include an increase in property taxes, special assessments to owners of property served by the affected roads or even a wheel tax. How would you like to proceed?

**Town Owned Land:** The Town of Neenah owns approximately 75 acres of land. Currently the property is being rented to a local farmer for agricultural purposes. What should the Town do with the land we own? There are many possibilities: keep it as is since it will likely increase in value, convert it to public use, sell it for development which would generate immediate cash and future tax revenue. These are just some of the possibilities. Perhaps you have an idea for this land. If so, your fellow Town residents would welcome your suggestions.

**Town of Neenah – City of Neenah Boundary Agreement :** In 2003, the Town of Neenah and City of Neenah entered into a boundary agreement with a term of 30 years. The purpose of the agreement is for orderly, planned growth for the City and the Town. The agreement provides the City with an expanding tax base and continual development for the Town in order to replace its tax base lost due to City growth.

In the agreement, there are approximately 1,795

acres in the Town that are designated as City Growth meaning that when that area is developed it will be within City boundaries, and approximately 3,465 acres within the Town's boundaries that are designated as Town Growth which will be developed within the Town's municipal boundaries. There are numerous covenants that both the City and Town agreed to within the agreement that impact property owners in the Town of Neenah. The agreement directly impacts property owners lying within the City Growth area if they choose to develop, and indirectly impacts all property owners through the loss of property tax revenues from annexations. The agreement in its entirety can be found on the Town website under Government. Additionally, the Town of Neenah must now consider the impact of the recent incorporation of the Village of Fox Crossings and determine the necessity of a boundary agreement between the Town and the Village.

**MEETING cont. on pg 4**

## WisSafe Smoke Detector Program receives positive reviews from Town residents

In early November, Town of Neenah firefighters began installing new zero maintenance smoke detectors in Town of Neenah homes. To date our firefighters have visited 13 homes and have installed some 50 new smoke detectors that were provided to the department thru the WisSafe Smoke Detector program. These new detectors have new technology 10 year lithium batteries which make the detectors virtually maintenance free. Our firefighters have received positive feedback from several of the residents they visited as part of the program. The residents appreciated the fire safety



information that was provided to each resident as well as the installation of these life saving devices. During their visits our firefighters found many detectors that were older than 10

years in age and no longer functioned properly.

The WisSafe program is a great way to upgrade the smoke detectors in your home to the latest technology with 10 year maintenance free batteries. The program is still available to Town residents and just a quick call to the Town Hall at 920/725-0916 can get you signed up.

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 receive new smoke detectors installed in your home.

The Town of Neenah firefighters want to thank those who participated in the program and are taking steps to keep their homes as safe as possible.

The Town of Neenah Fire Department looks forward to working with our residents to ensure their homes are as safe as possible. Thank you.

Fire Chief Ed King

### Town of Neenah Fire Department adds new piece of equipment for off road operations



Lieutenant Dan Koland (left) and Lieutenant Dan Osero (right) are shown with the new Polaris Ranger during a recent training drill.

In January, the Town of Neenah Fire Department purchased a new 2017 Polaris Ranger UTV to aid in handling incidents that may occur in areas that are not accessible to our other equipment. The new Ranger also replaces an older unit that was shared with Fox Valley Technical College, that unit was 16 years old.

The purchase of the Ranger was made possible with funds that had been raised over the last several years with our annual raffle which is held at our Firemen's Picnic each August.

The Ranger will be used for both grass fire responses as well as any EMS call that may not be easily accessible from area roads and highways.

For those Town residents who have supported our fund raising efforts, we thank you very much and please know that your donation has gone a long way to support the purchase this important piece of equipment.

### Town of Neenah Fire Department Promotions

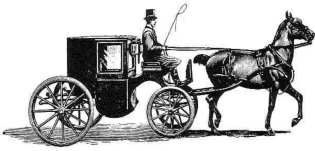
*The Town of Neenah Fire Department is proud to announce the promotion of two firefighters to the rank of Lieutenant.*

*Firefighter Dan Osero, serving since February of 2011 and Dan Koland, a member since January 2014 were recently promoted to the rank of Lieutenant.*

*Both of these firefighters have participated at very high levels since joining the department and are also serving as First Responders, responding to medical calls throughout the Town. In addition, each firefighter has attended a significant amount of additional training leading to Driver Operator certification for FF Osero. FF Koland has gained State certification as Fire Instructor I and also as an EMT-Basic.*

*The level of dedication both of these firefighters have shown is part of the reason they have been asked to provide a higher level of leadership to the fire department and to help lead the department into the future.*

*Please join me in thanking both men for their service to the Town of Neenah Fire Department.*



## The Good Ol' Days

By Supervisor Glenn Armstrong

### June 21, 1915 Board Meeting

The Town Board met with the City Council of the City of Neenah, at City Hall and exchanged deeds on the Cemetery-Highway matter.

The following resolution was unanimously approved:

- The City of Neenah convey to the Town of Neenah, certain lands owned by the City. The lands are east of the east addition to Neenah Cemetery, are in the Town of Neenah, and owned by the City of Neenah. The Town of Neenah in return conveys to the City of Neenah lands in the present highway known as the Old Cemetery Road, for the purpose of vacating said highway and substituting another. For consideration of said transfer the Town of Neenah shall have the privilege at all times, without cost or charge for lots, for burying it's pauper dead in the Potters Field or paupers burying ground including within the Neenah Cemetery. The Town of Neenah shall in no way be liable for the maintenance or improvement of any part of said cemetery in said Town of Neenah and with the further condition that residents of the Town of Neenah shall have the right and privilege of burial lots, for said purposes on two acres of The Neenah Cemetery with the same terms and conditions, and with the same discount allowed resident of the City of Neenah.

And whereas, at the annual meeting of said Town of Neenah, held on the first Tuesday of April, 1915, a majority of electors voted in favor of vacating said highway known as the Old Cemetery Road, substitute another road therefore.

In witness there of the said party of the first part has caused this deed to be executed on its behalf; by Ed Muttart, it's clerk under his hand and seal, and with the corporate seal, of said Town of Neenah, hereto affixed this 21<sup>st</sup> day of June, AD 1915.

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**Supervisor  
Glenn Armstrong**

## 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

Town of Neenah Today Volume 20, Issue 1 Spring 2017. Town of Neenah Today is published quarterly by the Town of Neenah, Wisconsin for the residents and businesses of the Town. If you see your address is incorrect or has been changed, please contact the Town Clerk. Address changes or updates send to Town of Neenah, 1600 Breezewood Ln., Neenah, WI 54956

Advertising rates for the Town of Neenah newsletter are: full page-\$240, ½ page-\$120, ¼ page-\$60, and 1/8 page-\$30.

Call the Town Hall at (920)725-0916 for information.

**The Good Ol' Days continued:**

**July 15, 1915 Special Town Board Meeting at Clerks Office**

The following resolution passed unanimously:

- Be it resolved by the Town Board of the Town of Neenah, Winnebago County, Wisconsin, that on and after July 1, 1915, any circus show, menagerie or entertainment is hereby required to pay to the Town of Neenah for such exhibition, in said Town, as follows to wit. For circuses the sum of \$25.00 for each and every day that said circus performs in said Town. For all other shows, including carnivals, the sum of \$5.00 for each and every day that said show or carnival operates in said Town. That before any circus show or carnival is permitted to operate they shall obtain a license from the Town Board and pay for said license in advance, before any performances shall take place. For each and every person who violates any of any of the above resolution, shall be punished by a fine of not less than five dollars nor more than one hundred dollars. In default of payment of such fine they shall be committed to the Winnebago County Work Force, for not less than ten days nor more than sixty.

**EMAIL CONTACT FOR YOUR TOWN BOARD**

Now, in addition to calling your Town Board Representatives, you can reach them through individual email addresses:

- [Bob@TownofNeenah.com](mailto:Bob@TownofNeenah.com)
- [Glenn@TownofNeenah.com](mailto:Glenn@TownofNeenah.com)
- [Brooke@TownofNeenah.com](mailto:Brooke@TownofNeenah.com)
- [Jan@TownofNeenah.com](mailto:Jan@TownofNeenah.com)
- [Jim@TownofNeenah.com](mailto:Jim@TownofNeenah.com)

**Wisconsin's Town Meetings are Among the Last Vestiges of Pure Democracy Left in America!**

If you live in a City or Village, you have little power to steer the direction of your local government. That's not the case if you live in a Town like ours. Town residents have wide powers to set the course for their local government.

State law requires each Town to hold an Annual Town Meeting on the third Tuesday of April in each year. Any resident eligible to vote is entitled to attend, speak and vote on matters that come before the meeting. The assembled electors have broad powers (defined in Wisconsin Statute 60.10) to give direction and authority to their Town Board. In some instances, the electors can even give pay raises or pay reductions to their elected officials. With that kind of power, your views are likely to be heard!

Here is how the Town's Annual Town Meeting works:

The meeting is presided over by the Town Chairman. His only duties

and powers are to conduct the meeting in an orderly fashion in accordance with parliamentary procedure. Other than that, neither he nor any Town Supervisor has any more power or authority than any other elector in attendance. All other matters are decided by a majority vote of all Electors.

In past years, the Electors at our Annual Meeting have used their powers effectively. Town of Neenah Electors assembled at the Annual Meetings have voted to construct a new town hall, created the Town's Land Trust, expanded the Town Board from three to five members, combined the offices of clerk and treasurer, pushed to have a town newsletter, changed the offices of treasurer and clerk from elected to appointed, authorized the purchase of land and much, much more.

Plan to attend the Annual Town Meeting and become part of the solution.

**Town Meeting cont. from pg. 1:**

**Other Issues:** This is a Town meeting where every elector is entitled to be heard on any issue facing the Town. Don't give up your right to be heard or to learn details of the issues and opportunities facing your community. Have the kids go to Grandpa and Grandma (they will thank you for it) and plan to attend, Tuesday April 18<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm.



## 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.

### September 2016

- Approved an Easement for distribution of underground electrical communications for We Energies to access Town owned property on Rainbow Beach Rd.
- Approved the use of up to \$25,000 of Impact Fee Funds for a half court basketball court at Franzoi Park.
- Accepted the offer to purchase Town of Neenah Fire Department Pumper 39.
- Approved Certified Survey Map for parcel 010-1483 and 010-1484, owner Steven Schroth located at 600 Harvard Dr.
- Approved Operator's License for Shane Lettau.

### October 2016

- Approved Operator's License for Alyssa Hawkins.
- Approved 2017 Maintenance Agreement with Winnebago County Highway Department.
- Approved Fire Fighter Applications for Michael Jones and Henry Schultz.
- Approved Lease Agreement for the rental of Town owned property located at Tullar

Road and Oakridge Road for farming purposes in 2017.

- Approved Conditional Use Permit Request for parcel 010-008805, owner Luke and Katie Brucks located at 6976 Woodenshoe Rd.
- Approved Assessor Contract for 2017 with Bowmar Appraisal.
- Approved Auditing Services Contract for 2017-2019 with Schenck.
- Approved Annexation of Parcel 010-023001 and 010-0234 to the City of Neenah. Property owner Calvary Bible Church.

### November 2016

- Approved 2017 Budget.
- Approved 2017 Stormwater Utility District Rate change for 2017 to \$85 per equivalent run-off unit.
- Approved Temporary Class "B"/"Class B" liquor license for Paynes Point Hook and Spear Fishing Club.
- Approved Lease agreement with Scott and Trish Jurek for land and outbuilding located on Oakridge Rd.
- Approved Joint Powers Agreement with Winnebago County 911 Emergency System.
- Accepted Harter's Fox Valley Disposal Agreement for Trash and Recycling Services.
- Approved Agreement with McMahon for Road Reconstruction Design of Sunrise Bay Road and Hunters Point Road.
- Approved Auto-Aid agreement between Town of Clayton and Town of Neenah.

### December 2016

- Awarded Winnebago County IBD funds to Future Neenah.
- Approved 2017 Compensation Schedule.

### January 2017

- Approved 2017 General Engineering Agreement with McMahon.
- Approved 2016/17 Memorandum of Understanding between Village of Fox Crossing Park and Recreation Department and Town of Neenah for CB Trail Maintenance.
- Approve Transfer of \$3,963.68 from Parks and Trails Budget Surplus to Fox Cities Regional Partnership, which matches Per Capita Funds Designated to Future Neenah and Authorize the Clerk to make the Donation in 2016.
- Discharge of Fire Fighters Jeff Dean and Nick Neabling Effective January 9, 2017.
- Passed Ordinance 2017-01 Redacting and Amending Town of Neenah Municipal Code Chapter 12 Town Building Code, Section 12.04 State Codes Adopted, Sub-section (1) Electrical Code, Wisconsin Administrative Code Comm. 16.

## **Harter's Trash Collection**

By now everyone should have their Harter's trash (black lid) and recycling (green lid) carts and be getting used to Thursday as the new day for pick up. Thank you to all for your patience and cooperation during the transition. Harter's Fox Valley Disposal offers some additional services such as large household item pickup, additional rental carts and yard waste services, Contact Harter's directly at 1-888-804-8556 for pricing and scheduling.

Visit the Town of Neenah's website at [www.townofneenah.com](http://www.townofneenah.com) to find the recycling calendar, information about Winnebago County's Hazardous Waste Collection Facility, the Single Stream Recycling guide, and pricing for Winnebago County Landfill.

**Town Races Cont. from pg. 1:****Town Supervisors**

Supervisors Brooke Cardoza and Jan DeKeyser are seeking re-election this year.



**Brooke Cardoza** is seeking re-election to her second term as Town of Neenah Supervisor. Brooke has been a Town of Neenah resident

her entire life, leaving for only 4 years to attend the University of Wisconsin – Madison where she earned a degree in Journalism with an emphasis on Advertising and Public Relations. Cardoza is married with two boys, ages 5 and 9, and works full-time as a Tactical Design Manager for Photoype, a packaging graphics company.

One of the things she appreciates most about serving on the Town Board is being able to help residents with their individual questions and concerns. "It is rewarding to be able to answer a question or do research to provide them with the information they are looking for," said Cardoza. "And each topic discussed at the Town Board meetings is an opportunity for me to learn and gain knowledge that will help me make informed decisions in the future."

In addition to the Town Board, Brooke also serves on the Parks & Trails and Communications Committees. The Communications Committee has already taken some steps to optimize communication such as the Town of Neenah Facebook page and will be doing some exciting things this year in an effort to enhance communication with Town residents that includes more readily available information on the website. She looks forward to being a part of these ongoing efforts to work collaboratively with Town of Neenah residents.



**Jan DeKeyser** is a 54-year Town resident and has served on the Town Board for 22 years. She started working with Town government at elections and helping count paper ballots during the 1970's. She attended

many meetings and was then appointed to the Park Board in 1980 and was its chairman from 1985-2015. Since 1990, and currently, she is also administrator of the Town's Sanitary Districts #2 and #3. DeKeyser serves on the Executive Board of Wisconsin Towns Association Urban Towns Committee and is secretary of the Wisconsin Utility Tax Association.

She considers running for Town Supervisor an honor as she has served the Town in many respects and enjoys it very much. She hopes to accomplish results in the future equal to those past contributions she has made on behalf of the Town. These include a top priority of maintaining the Town as a great place to live and work, traveling to Madison several times a year to work with various State agencies on issues affecting towns. She is also Vice Chair of the Winnebago County Unit of Wisconsin Towns Association, which networks locally to keep our Town current on local, county and state issues. In addition, she was recently re-appointed by Governor Walker to serve on the State of Wisconsin Waste Facility Siting Board.

Town Chairman and Supervisors each serve two year terms.

**Sanitary District Commissioners**

Both Sanitary District #2 (which includes most of the Town's sewered area) and Sanitary District #3 (which includes parts of the Town's north end) have one seat up for election to their respective three-member commission.



In Sanitary District #2, **Russell Gossen** is seeking to continue his position as a Sanitary District Commissioner after being appointed to the position in 2015 to fill in for a resident that left

the town. Russ has a wide range of experience in civil engineering. Russ is a single parent raising a teenage daughter.

In Sanitary District #3, **Bill Buksyk** is seeking to be re-elected as a Sanitary District Commissioner for his third term. Bill enjoys participating in Town government and looks forward to serving another term as TNSD#3 Commissioner.

Sanitary District commissioners serve six-year terms.

**Spring Election****April 4, 2017****Polls are open****7:00 am – 8:00 pm.**

Located at Town Hall

1600 Breezewood Ln

**Register**

Register to vote online at

[MyVote.wi.gov](http://MyVote.wi.gov), at the Clerk's office or at the polls on Election Day.**Absentee / Early Voting**

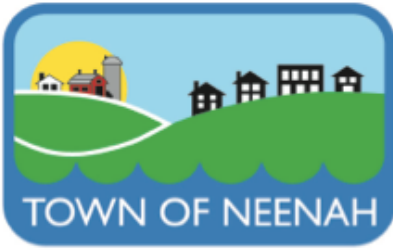
You may vote early at the Town Hall from March 20th – March 31, 2017.

Hours posted on Town website.

To request an absentee ballot by mail contact the Clerk at 920-725-0916, email [ellen@townofneenah.com](mailto:ellen@townofneenah.com) or visit the Town website.

View your sample ballot on the Town website

[www.townofneenah.com](http://www.townofneenah.com) and on the Town Hall posting board.



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  
2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Mondays

Town Plan Commission  
3<sup>rd</sup> Monday

Town Parks & Trails Committee  
1<sup>st</sup> 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.

## A Waterway in Your Front Yard

The ditch in front of your home is an important part of the Town's drainage system and must be protected.

Ditches or swales are placed along roads and in drainage easements alongside back lot lines as a part of our stormwater system. This ditch system, treats stormwater from individual lots by encouraging water to sink into the ground and carries excess stormwater downstream. Most road side ditches are owned by the Town of Neenah, however side and back lot line ditches may or may not be.

The Town of Neenah welcomes your assistance in efforts to maintain the ditch or swale that touches your property.

- Remove trash or debris and dispose of properly.
- Report signs of invasive species.
- Do not dump anything into the swale, including your yard waste. This is prohibited by the Town of Neenah, State and Federal Government.
- Do not use your ditch as a location to burn your yard waste.
- Do not alter the shape of the ditch or swale.
- Do not replace the grass with rock, bark, plants or other vegetation other than grass (Any changes made to the ditch in front of your property need prior approval from the Town of Neenah).
- Do not use fertilizers or pesticides in the ditch.
- Prevent off-street parking or other activities that may cause rutting or compact the soil in the swale.