

# Town of Plover Newsletter

## December 2025

### From the Town Board:

The Town of Plover tax rate for 2025 (payable in 2026) holds steady. Our 2024 tax rate was \$1.53/thousand; the 2025 tax rate is \$1.54/thousand. This does not include the taxes levied by the County, School Districts and Vocational District.

Your Town taxes provide your local services – fire and EMS service, garbage collection, road maintenance and reconstruction, snow plowing, and animal control. Our budget for 2026 is a balanced budget of \$1.2 million and the Town of Plover has no debt.

In 2025, our summer road maintenance efforts included chipsealing 6.37 miles of road. Asphalt overlay was completed on Prairie Drive and parts of River Drive, Park Drive, and River Heights Court. Cheryl's Drive was reconstructed with 2" of asphalt. Many roads were crack filled, ditches were mowed and significant brushing efforts in the road right of way were completed on four miles of roads. These brushing efforts will continue as our road right of ways have become overgrown with brush and definitely need attention.

Your Town Board consists of a Town Chairperson, four Town Supervisors, and a Town Clerk/Treasurer. Each position is filled for a two-year term and elected in our April elections. The Chairperson, two Supervisors and the Clerk/Treasurer are elected in the odd numbered years; the other two Supervisors in the even numbered years. If you have a desire to serve on the Town Board, you must complete and circulate nomination papers. These papers can be obtained from the Clerk/Treasurer and must be completed and returned by January 6, 2026 to have your name on the ballot for the election on April 7, 2026. We always welcome any level of involvement from our citizens!

As we enter the new year, we are excited for all the opportunity in the Town of Plover. Our landscape may be changing, but we continue to work to make our township a great place to live.

Jim Garbe, Chair      Patricia Weller, Clerk/Treasurer

Supervisors: Roger Bentley, Joe Firkus, Dick Pingel,  
Timothy Tuttle

### Winter Snow Removal Policies

Town Ordinance prohibits parking on town roads and right of ways during a snow emergency. State law prohibits the depositing of snow or ice from a premise, residence, or property onto any public place, street, or road in the Town of Plover. No person shall place an obstruction in any ditch constructed to drain any town road including compacted snow that will impede drainage.

Our snow plow drivers try their best to avoid hitting mailboxes when plowing. However, sometimes it happens. The Town's policy is to reimburse for damage to mailboxes to a maximum of \$35 from damage caused by a direct hit by the plow. If the mailbox falls over due to the weight of the snow hitting it (which often happens when the post is rotted), there will be no reimbursement.

Sand/Salt is available to Town Residents at the Town Garage – bring your own bucket and shovel. Take from the pile on the right side of the Salt Shed.



Trumpeter swans resting in a Town of Plover farm field during their spring migration.

## WHY ARE THERE BARRELS ON THE BIRON DRIVE BRIDGE?



Biron Drive has been weight limited for decades. For the last several years, a concerted effort has been made to enforce the weight limits due to concerns about the integrity of the bridge over Crooked Rift Creek. Records detailing the age of the bridge cannot be found – it is believed to be about 70 years old. The bridge was inspected four years ago and received a rating of “poor” due to concerns regarding the amount of rust on the support girder on the north side of the bridge. Another inspection was recently done and that same girder has further deteriorated to the point where the inspector put a hole through it with a hammer. The inspector immediately ordered that the barrels be put in place to limit the load on that side of the bridge. The Town will now have to investigate options for repair or replacement of the bridge. Either option will take time to complete, therefore, the barrels will be in place for the foreseeable future.

### Please help us with the following:

We currently have a weight limit permit requirement that restricts truckers crossing the bridge fully loaded. However, we likely have only a small fraction of the truckers using the bridge under compliance. There are many truckers ignoring the requirement for the permit.

If you live on Biron Drive and have plans for any heavy deliveries to your property, please advise the trucker of the need for a weight limit permit or have the trucker call the Chair at 715-340-2799. All vehicles over 6 ton need a permit to travel Biron Drive. The permit application can be found on the Town of Plover website.

## 2026 Elections

There will be four elections in 2026 on the following dates:

Spring Primary: February 17, 2026

Spring Election: April 7, 2026

Partisan Primary: August 11, 2026

General Election: November 3, 2026

Mark your calendars and plan to vote!!

## Portage Solar Under Construction

You may have noticed that the first of two solar farms coming to the Town of Plover began construction this spring. Trucks with loads of road material, semis full of pilings, tracker components, and solar panels have been using our town roads to make deliveries to the appropriate solar sites. Signs on our roads indicate permissible routes these vehicles may use. Limits to the availability of our roads is crucial to minimize damage to the roads. The Joint Development Agreement executed with Portage Solar specifies that they may only use roads named in the agreement and then must repair damage to those roads when the construction of the project is complete. Much progress has been made with their construction over the course of the summer and fall. Construction will continue year-round until complete. It is estimated the project will reach commercial operation in 12/2026.

Vista Sands Solar project is slated to begin construction in the spring of 2026.

