

TOWN OF CATO NEWSLETTER

	2025
EXPENDITURES	BUDGET
General Government	152,689
Public Safety	197,632
Public Works	252,300
Sanitation	27,000
Capital Outlay	258,000
Debt Reduction	15,197
2025 Anticipated Expenses:	902,818
2025 Anticipated Revenue:	337,912
2025 Local Tax Levy:	564,906
2024 Local Tax Levy	559,823

The town proposes a levy of \$564,906. It carries a tax rate of \$2.81 per \$1,000 of property value. That means that the owner of a \$100,000 home will pay \$281 for the town portion of the tax bill for 2024. One of the largest single spending category in the 2025 budget is \$258,000 for Capital Outlay, including \$210,000 for highway and road work, \$48,000 for equipment and equipment replacement. The budget also calls for spending \$252,300 for Public Works, which includes road maintenance and snow and ice removal, street lighting, worker's compensation for road and physical plant work and other expenses. Other spending categories include: \$197,632 for Public Safety, including fire and ambulance service and the Town Constable; \$152,689 for General Government including all legislative expenses, publication and legal costs and expenses for the Clerk/Treasurer and assessor and building and plant; and \$27,000 for sanitation. Non-tax revenue for 2024 is projected at about \$337,912, including State Transportation Aids and Shared Revenues.

RECYCLING CENTER

Our Recycling Center is open every Saturday from 8:00 A.M. to 1:00 P.M., year around. The following is a list of items currently accepted: Aluminum cans; Plastic jugs; Glass - clear, brown and green separated by color; Tin cans; and Paper . The Town Board of Cato selected GFL. IN AN EFFORT TO PROMOTE REDUCTION OF WASTE BY BURNING, CONTENTS OF THE BURNING BARREL MUST BE DUMPED INTO A CARDBOARD BOX OR IN A PLASTIC BAG, BEFORE BRINGING THE CONTENTS TO THE RECYCLING SITE, DUE TO FIRE HAZARDS. THESE CONTAINERS MAY NOT CONTAIN RECYCLEABLE MATERIALS, SUCH AS METAL, GLASS, PAPER OR PLASTIC. Also, please be advised that you can only bring items to the Recycling Center on "SATURDAYS ONLY" and the Recycling Center will no longer accept refrigerators, freezers, computers or microwaves.

HIGHWAY OBSTRUCTIONS

Pushing snow or other materials onto or across highways from private driveways often causes hazards to the traveling public, and is prohibited by Wis. Statutes 86.01, 86.07 and 346.94. For safety reasons, and to permit reasonable and prompt maintenance on town highways, we must report all violations. Mailboxes become a problem during snow removal. For safety reason, and to avoid damage, the nearest part of the box should not be closer to the traffic than the shoulder line. The box and post should also be strong enough to withstand the flying snow and slush from traffic and snowplows. The Town of Cato will not be responsible for replacement for any mailbox due to snow removal activity. Private driveways will not be plowed due to the time needed to do the work and difficulty and potential liability in plowing some driveways. Private driveways will be plowed only if access is needed in an emergency or fire.

BUILDING PERMITS

The Town of Cato has a Building Inspection Ordinance. Our Building Inspector is Scott Beining of Beining Building Inspection - 920-680-3376. For further information on Building Permits, please call Mary Muench, Town Clerk/Treasurer at 920-732-3615.

TOWN MEETINGS

The Town of Cato meetings are held the first Monday of each month. These meetings are open to the public and residents are urged to attend. The meetings are held at the Town Hall in Clarks Mills, beginning at 7:30 P.M. Please always check the Valders Journal or our website at townofcato.com to see if the time and date has been changed.

As of April 1, 2025, Shannon Resch will be the Clerk/Treasurer for the Town of Cato. The office will be located at 14004 Upper Falls Road, Cato, WI. Office hours will be announced at a later date. The phone number for the Town office will be 920-775-4741. During this turnover of personnel, the former clerk/treasurer will be available if needed.

NOTICE TO ALL DOG OWNERS

Pursuant to Section 174.052, Wisconsin Statutes, notice is hereby given to all dog owners in Manitowoc County that rabies vaccinations and dog licenses are required under the Statutes.

Vaccination by a veterinarian against rabies of all dogs is required within 30 days after the dog reaches 4 months of age and re-vaccinated within one year after the initial vaccination. (There is no provision in the law for vaccination other than by a veterinarian.) Older vaccinated dogs must be re-vaccinated when the certificate expires or within 3 years of the previous vaccination. Certificates of current vaccinations must be presented when obtaining dog licenses.

Owners of all dogs 5 months of age or older on January 1 of any year, or 5 months of age within the license year, shall annually on or before the date the dog becomes 5 months of age pay the dog license tax and obtain a license. The minimum license fee for neutered males or spayed females is \$5.00 upon Presentation of Evidence attending to the same, and \$10.00 for an un-neutered male or un-spayed female. Kennel licenses are \$35.00 for a kennel of 12 or fewer dogs and an additional \$3.00 for each dog in excess of 12.

Penalties

1. A late fee of \$5.00 must be assessed the owner of each dog 5 months of age or over who fails to obtain a dog license by April 1 of such year, or within 30 days of acquiring ownership of a licensable dog or if the owner failed to obtain a license on or before the dog reached licensable age.
2. An owner who fails to have a dog vaccinated against rabies as required by County Ordinance shall be punishable by a forfeiture not to exceed \$100.00.
3. The 2023 dog licenses can be obtained from Mary Muench, Town Clerk/Treasurer beginning December 21, 2024.

Any strays found in the Town of Cato, please contact the Constable, Chuck Muench at 920-901-5210.

NOTICE AS TO PAYMENT OF TAXES

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN by the undersigned Town Clerk/Treasurer of the Town of Cato that the tax roll for said Town for the year 2024 is in my hands for collection, and taxes charged herein are subject to payment on or before January 31, 2025.

Real Estate taxes may be paid by installments: First payment of 50 percent plus all special assessments, special charges and/or special taxes due on or before January 31, 2025; the second installment due and payable to the County Treasurer on or before July 31, 2025. Any tax of \$99.99 or less must be paid in full. If you are paying your second installment to the County Treasurer by mail, you must include a self-addressed, stamped envelope if you would like a receipt returned.

I will hold my office hours as follows at 2805 N. CTH-S, Cato, Wisconsin on January 18, 2025 from 10:00 A.M. to 1:00 P.M. and January 22, 2025 from 4:00 P.M. to 8:00 P.M. Accommodations can be made by APPOINTMENT ONLY to pay outside of the regular office hours.

I would prefer if you could mail your taxes. Taxes received by mail will receive prompt attention. Also, You may deposit your taxes in two separate drop boxes, one by the back door and the other by the end of my driveway at the address below.

Address: 2805 N. CTH-S, Cato, WI 54230

Telephone: 920-732-3615

Please pay with check or money order for the exact amount of tax owed. NO CASH PAYMENTS. Please make out a separate check or money order for Dog Licenses.

Thank You!

Makes checks payable to: Town of Cato

If you would like a receipt returned, please include a self-addressed, stamped envelope.

MARY MUENCH
CLERK/TREASURER