

TOWN OF RUTLAND 2010 NEWSLETTER

Greetings from your Town Chair:

Financially, the last few years have been very trying years for many units of government, from the Federal government on down to the local level, including the Town.

Our costs have been increasing steadily. Everything from asphalt to equipment to fuels to health insurance has become more expensive. This has meant that it takes more money every year just to maintain the same levels of service.

At the same time, our revenue from the property tax levy has been limited to a 2% or 3% annual increase. State shared revenues, essentially sales and income tax money collected by the State and partially shared with local units of government, has been decreased several times and frozen the other years as the State deals with its own budget issues. Highway aids, essentially state gas tax money, some of which is distributed to the local municipalities, has increased only a small amount in the last 10 years, again as the State deals with its issues.

This has made it increasingly difficult to balance the budget each year while continuing to maintain and rebuild Town roads, operate the collection center and recycling operations, fund the Fire and EMS services and provide other town services. Over the past several years, in order to balance the budget, we have had to reduce the amount of money going into the road maintenance and rebuilding funds. For many years, the Town was able to rebuild a mile of road each year. Currently, the estimated cost to rebuild a mile of blacktop to Town road standards, with a 9 inch base and 3.5 inches of asphalt, is about \$200,000. This has doubled in less than 10 years. In 2009, we only had enough funds to do double chip sealing on Oak Ridge Road, and reluctantly had to dip into reserve funds to pave the south half of it. In 2010, our rebuilding budget had shrunk to about \$65,000, which we used for maintenance activities (mostly chip sealing).

With 46 miles of road, we should be rebuilding at least one mile every year. The Board made the difficult decision to resume rebuilding one mile every year by requesting approval to exceed the levy limit by 31%. This decision was not made lightly, as we are aware that times are tight, and that other taxes are also increasing. As required by State Statute, the resolution to exceed was approved at a Town meeting in November.

We plan to use the higher road budget amount (\$250,000) to rebuild the north half of Center Road during 2011. This is about 1.25 miles. We are hopeful that we will be able to maintain this amount in future budgets, as there are other roads that need rebuilding now or will very soon (including the rest of Center, the north half of Sunrise, Windmill, the north half of Starr School, and so on).

We hope that town residents will understand the reason for this increase and support it, so that we can maintain the roads in a timely manner and provide other Town services. It was not an easy decision to make, but there did not seem to be any other choice.

In addition to the above, I would like to note a few other updates on other items of interest:

- . The cell tower at the collection center is still on track to be built as soon as a new Conditional Use Permit is obtained.
- . The Hwy 14/138 interchange will be rebuilt in 2011 with 2 roundabouts.
- . Public meeting on 14/138 interchange is coming soon (January 25, 2011 – see website for further details).
- . The relocation of Hwy 14 between Hwy 138 and W. Rutland Rd. is off the table indefinitely again.
- . The desired stoplight at Deer Point and 51 is not on the DOT calendar.
- . The next Highway 51 meeting should be coming early 2011.
- . 14/92 water issues are being worked on.
- . The Town's website (www.town.rutland.wi.us) should be checked frequently for agendas and updates.
- . After many years of service, Sarah Shapiro Hurley has retired from the Board and Planning Commission, and Myron Bacon has retired as the town's road commissioner. Both they, and their expertise, will be missed.
- . The new parcel of land adjacent to the Town Hall property is almost paid for (the final payment will be made April 1, 2011).
- . Feb 18, 2011 deadline for creation of an AEA (Agricultural Enterprise Area).

Sincerely,
Dale Beske
Town Chair

THE RUTLAND TOWN BOARD

Chairman	Dale Beske	(835-7606)
Supervisor	Jeanette Walker	(873-8130)
Supervisor	James Lunde	(873-9726)
Supervisor	Milt Sperle	(873-3078)
Clerk	Dawn George	(455-3925)
Treasurer	Kim Sime	(873-8781)
Constable	Denise Markham Shawn Hillestad	(225-5308) (455-2614)
Building Inspector	Steve Kittelson	(873-8784) (445-9715 cell)
Assessor	Gardiner Appraisal Service	(838-3993)

THE PLANNING COMMISSION

Dale Beske	835-7606		Jim Lunde	873-9726
Jeanette Walker	873-8130		Bruce Sime	873-8781
Mark Porter	835-9115		Harley Stokstad	835-7085

The Planning Commission meets on the Monday before the 1st Tuesday of each month and the Board meets on the 1st Tuesday of each month. Both meetings are held at the Town Hall (873-9553) at 785 Center Road. A preliminary agenda for these meetings is published in both the *Oregon Observer* and the *Stoughton Hub* and a final agenda is posted in three places in the Town on the Friday before the meetings. The agendas are also posted to the town web site.

If you have questions or concerns, please contact the clerk ten days prior to regular monthly meeting to get scheduled on the agenda.

2011 ELECTION DATES...

Spring Primary – Tuesday, February 15, 2011 (if required)
Spring Election – Tuesday, April 5, 2011

Town Officers whose terms will be expiring and will be filled at the election in April are Chairman Dale Beske, Supervisor Milt Sperle, Clerk Dawn George, Treasurer Kim Sime, and Constables Shawn Hillestad and Denise Markham. The candidates for these offices will be nominated at the **Caucus to be held on January 18, 2011 at 6:30 pm.**

Contact the Clerk if you need an absentee ballot. Written requests should be sent to the Clerk at 4177 Old Stage Rd., Brooklyn, WI 53521. You must be registered to vote before an absentee ballot may be sent.

Polling Place..Rutland Town Hall..785 Center Rd.

TOWN OF RUTLAND WEBSITE

The Town of Rutland website contains many items of interest. The agendas, minutes and various notices are among the items available on the Town's website: www.town.rutland.wi.us.

ANNUAL MEETING..April 12, 2011– 6:30 p.m. Rutland Town Hall

BURNING PERMIT REQUIRED...

CALLS Use 911 for any EMERGENCY

BROOKLYN FIRE DEPARTMENT

Fire Chief Phil Mortensen 455-3621 (work) or 455-4252 (home)
Fire Department 455-3812

OREGON FIRE DEPARTMENT 835-5587

STOUGHTON FIRE DEPARTMENT 873-7218

SINGLE SOURCE RECYCLING USED AT THE COLLECTION CENTER

The collection center uses a single source recycling system. Residents do not need to separate the newspapers, cardboard, and magazines and other paper from the recyclable containers (glass, tin and aluminum cans, plastic food and laundry containers). All recyclables can be mixed and placed in the specified containers (dumpsters) at the collection center. These containers are emptied weekly and transported to the recycling center in Madison by Waste Management. We strongly urge all residents to use extreme care to make sure that only recyclable materials go into these containers. To keep the volume down, we encourage all residents to crush all non-glass containers. The Town can be charged \$100 each time a non-recyclable item is found in the recycle containers. We appreciate your cooperation.

The Wisconsin DNR recently put out a news release in honor of America Recycles Day (November 15th). Here is a portion of that release for your information. The following material notes some specific links to recycling pages on the DNR website. A useful website is <http://dnr.wi.gov/org/aw/wm/household.htm>.

10 ways people can boost the amount of materials they and their family recycle:

1. Compost food and yard debris. [Suggestions on how to construct and maintain your own bin](#) are on the DNR website.
2. Remember to reuse. If you have clothing, furniture or other household items you no longer use, consider donating them to a local nonprofit or resale store.
3. Take time to reacquaint yourself with your community's recycling program. Many communities have expanded the number of materials they collect and simplified the process for you to recycle. See [www.recyclemorewisconsin.org] (exit DNR) for a list of recyclables in your community.
4. Recycle your electronics. [E-Cycle Wisconsin](#), a new program run through the DNR, is making it easier to recycle electronics like TVs, computers, computer accessories.
5. In addition to standard recyclables, find out what other products your recycling program accepts. Many communities have programs to recycle prescription pills, electronics, and other household hazardous wastes.
6. In places you visit frequently—grocery store, workplace, gas station and others—ask whether they accept recycling. If not, ask them to put out a recycling bin for customer and employee use.
7. Recycle construction and demolition debris. Several businesses across the state recycle or reuse shingles, construction lumber, lighting fixtures, drywall, concrete, glass and other construction materials.
8. Talk to your kids about ways they can recycle at home and at school. Ideas on simple activities to teach kids about recycling can be found on the [Wee Recyclers](#) page of the DNR's [EEK! Environmental Education for Kids](#) website.
9. Find businesses in your community that accept materials your local recycling program may not. The [Wisconsin Recycling Markets Directory](#) (exit DNR) allows you to search by material to find recyclers in your community.
10. Be a thoughtful shopper. Look for products labeled with a high recycled content or that use "post-consumer" recycled materials, or buy products with minimal packaging or packaging that is easily recyclable.

IDENTIFICATION NUMBERS REQUIRED AT COLLECTION CENTER...

The Collection Center is available for use by Town residents after obtaining an identification sticker (number). This number is available from the Clerk, Treasurer, or members of the Town Board prior to use of the Collection Center. These identification stickers are not available at the Collection Center.

Residents are asked to have the recyclables separated from solid waste before arriving at the collection center and to time the arrival so that all items can be unloaded by 4:00 p.m.

The Collection Center at 4232 CTH A is open on Saturdays from 8 A.M. until 4 P.M.

BURN PILE AT COLLECTION CENTER

We continue to find non-permitted items thrown on the burn pile at the Collection Center. We are allowed to burn **only brush and unpainted, untreated wood**. Treated wood, painted, stained or finished wood is not permitted. Furniture, mattresses and other trash is also not permitted. The DNR may revoke our burn permit should these items continue to be found in the burn pile. Should that happen, all such items will then need to be taken to the County facility. We appreciate your cooperation.

Residents are reminded that the collection of **residential waste** is all that is allowed at the collection center. Other arrangements must be made for any solid waste from a business. Construction waste is also not accepted at the collection center and must be taken to the Dane County landfill or privately contracted for.

Collection Center Charges:

- Recyclables.....no charge.
- Solid Waste.....\$2.00 per 30-gallon trash bag or the equivalent.
- Auto tires \$3.00 ea., plus \$5.00 if the tire is on a rim.
- Light truck tires 15"-17"...\$5.00 ea., plus \$5.00 single piece rim only.
- Tractor tires or truck tire over 17"..... \$10.00 ea.
Tires on a multi-piece rims or tractor tires on rims will not be accepted.
- Batteries..... \$2.00 ea.
- Refrigerated Appliances\$25.00 ea. (includes refrigerators, air conditioners, dehumidifiers)
- Non-refrigerated Appliances.....\$15.00 ea. (includes washers, dryers, stoves, microwaves, dishwashers, televisions, fluorescent light fixtures, large furniture items)
- Bulky Items, such as furniture \$5.00 to \$15.00 each (as determined by the judgment of the Attendant)

SNOW PLOWING POLICY

The snow plowing policy for the 2010-2011 winter will be as follows. No driveways will be plowed before town roads are open, except in an emergency. When private driveways are plowed by the Town, a charge of \$60.00 will be made for the first 10 minutes or less, plus \$3.00 per minute for each minute in excess of ten minutes. The town policy entitles Senior Citizens (age 65 and over) to one free plowing per season. The Town will assume no liability for damages to mailboxes and posts, which occurs when plowing is taking place. Every effort will be made to keep this from occurring. Salt and sand for residents' home use is usually available inside the metal building at the town hall. Residents may pick up reasonable amounts for use on sidewalks.

ROAD PROGRAM

The Town's largest investment is the Town road system which consists of approximately 46 miles of roadway. All roads in the Town should meet the Town road standards as set forth by the State of Wisconsin. The road program in the Town is based upon an annual road survey. The survey results are processed through a computer program that suggests what roads should be upgraded. Based upon this analysis, a five-year program is approved by the Board and updated annually. In 2010, the town sealcoated Flint, Sunrise, Oak Hill and a portion of Old Stone Rd. The crack-filling

program continued. The north half of Center Road between Old Stone Rd. and CTH A will be reconstructed in 2011.

SENIOR CENTERS

Seniors from Rutland may use either the Stoughton or Oregon Senior Center facilities.

Outreach services are provided through the McFarland Senior Center for Stoughton and through the Oregon Center for Oregon. The McFarland Case Manager is able to meet with seniors at the Stoughton Senior Center.

Telephone numbers for the Senior Citizen centers are:

Oregon Senior Center, Allison Koelsch – Director 835-5801

Stoughton Area Senior Center, Cindy McGlynn – Director 873-8585

McFarland Outreach Services, Sara Sprang – Case Manager 838-7117 (Available T,Th, Fri)

2009-2010 MILL RATE COMPARISON BY SCHOOL DISTRICT

	STOUGHTON	% of Millrate	OREGON	% of Millrate	EVANSVILLE	% of Millrate
2009						
STATE	0.18779777	0.01	0.18779777	0.01	0.18779777	0.01
COUNTY	3.1737482	0.19	3.1737482	0.17	3.1737482	0.17
TOWN	2.206481800	0.13	2.206481800	0.12	2.206481800	0.12
MATC	1.45301028	0.09	1.45301028	0.08	1.45301028	0.08
SCHOOL	9.623239700	0.58	12.11034824	0.63	11.60557563	0.62
		1.00		1.00		1.00
TOT. Mill Rate	16.644277750		19.131386290		18.62661368	
Less School Credit	1.749933054		1.749933054		1.749933054	
Final Mill Rate	14.894344696		17.381453236		16.876680626	
2010						
STATE	0.16770684	0.01	0.16770684	0.01	0.16770684	0.01
COUNTY	3.08425070	0.19	3.08425070	0.16	3.08425070	0.16
TOWN	2.60239293	0.16	2.60239293	0.14	2.60239293	0.13
MATC	1.45724436	0.09	1.45724436	0.08	1.45724436	0.07
SCHOOL	9.27515474	0.56	11.82686047	0.62	12.20837488	0.63
				1.		
TOT. Mill Rate	16.586749570	1.00	19.138455300	00	19.519969710	1.00
Less School Credit	1.56999521		1.56999521		1.56999521	
Final Mill Rate	15.016754360		17.568460090		17.949974500	
Change	0.1224		0.1870		1.0733	

