

TOWN OF RUTLAND 2013 NEWSLETTER

Greetings from Your Town Chair:

This has been another busy year for your Town government.

There have been a number of changes made or being made in the surrounding area:

- The Town lost some territory to **annexation** by both Stoughton and Brooklyn
- The **Stoughton Future Urban Development Area (FUDA) Study** is coming to a close
- Wisconsin Department of Transportation (DOT) is continuing to move forward with plans for the **relocation and expansion of Highway 14** south of Highway 138
- DOT also has several **other studies** underway

Details on these changes are included on the pages below. All of these developments will have an impact on the Town's Comprehensive Plan. We have included funds in our 2014 Budget to review our Comprehensive Plan next year.

The Town has been working on the Town roads and will continue to do so. See the **Road Report and Snow Plowing Update** below.

Work has also continued on the Rutland Church and Cemetery property. We would like to express our sincere appreciation to the committee and all persons who were involved in the restoration project. See the **back page of this newsletter** for the full report on the restoration.

Other projects during the past year included:

- A new **Senior Center** Contract with the Village of Oregon was negotiated
- **Shared equipment** agreements were updated and new shared equipment was purchased

Our major project for next year will be the construction of a new Town Hall. The Town Board has been working on ideas for the new building. We have very limited space for record storage, there is no real office space and the large room is no longer adequate for meetings and elections. Several years ago, we purchased three acres of land directly north of the current Town Hall. This year, we did a space needs study and toured a number of other Town Halls in the area. We are now in the process of hiring an architect to design a new building and lead us through the bidding and construction. We hope to have the building designed by next summer. Estimated cost of the new building, built to commercial standards, including furnishings and site improvements, is estimated to be about a million dollars. We anticipate financing the building with a 30-year USDA Rural Development mortgage, similar to the mortgage used to finance the Brooklyn Fire Station. We will be forming a building committee in December; if interested in participating, please contact the Town Clerk.

Also coming up next year are two County-wide projects.

- The County is working with DNR on updating the **flood insurance rate maps**.
- The County is updating **farmland preservation area maps** throughout the County.

See below for details.

My best wishes for a safe and happy new year.

Sincerely,
Dale Beske
Town Chair

GENERAL INFORMATION

ANNEXATIONS

The City of Stoughton has annexed about 140 acres near the intersection of Highways 51 and 138. Another 19 acres just to the north of the intersection are in the process of annexation. Some of this land is farmland, but a portion is commercially- and residentially-zoned land, most of which is already developed. This land will become the Kettle West development within the City of Stoughton. While there are some provisions in State Statutes to soften the Town's levy impact for the first five years, these annexations will cause a reduction in the Town's equalized valuation and levy limits.

The Village of Brooklyn has annexed 50 acres along Highway 92 for a business park. The first 10 acres of this park, with room for four businesses, are currently under development by the Village. This land was zoned for agriculture in the Town.

FUDA STUDY

The Stoughton Future Urban Development Area (FUDA) study is coming to a close. This study will identify target areas for Stoughton's future growth, both commercial and residential. Area residents were surveyed in October. Survey results are not yet finalized, but preliminary results favor continued growth along a more or less northerly and westerly path.

DOT HIGHWAY 14 RELOCATION AND EXPANSION

Wisconsin Department of Transportation (DOT) is continuing to work on the design plans for the relocation of Highway 14. The scope of this project has expanded in the past several months. DOT expects to have a 30-percent design document completed by about March 2014, with the public information meeting targeted for June 2014 and a public hearing on environmental assessment to follow. Once the new road is in place, the current Highway 14 will become a Town road. It is anticipated that the north end of this new Town road will be connected to Highway 138 via a roundabout to be located just to the east of the former Mueller Implement building. It is also anticipated that DOT will build a Park'n'Ride lot near the intersection of Highways 14 and 138. The design for the south end of this new Town road is not yet known. There will be impacts to property owners along the new road and at both ends of the current road.

DOT STUDIES AFFECTING RUTLAND

DOT also has two other planning projects underway in our area. The first is an access control study on Highway 138, which is aimed at access safety and access control along the Highway 138 corridor. The study was started in 2012. Discussions with the community are anticipated in six months to a year. The other planning study is along the Highway 51 corridor from McFarland to I-90 (The Coachman's). DOT anticipates this study will be completed by next summer. Once the study is completed, and the intersection of Highways 51 and 138 has been improved, DOT plans to begin work on the intersection of Highway 51, Roby Road and Deer Point.

SHARED EQUIPMENT

The Town has had a long standing shared equipment agreement with the Towns of Dunn and Oregon. During the past year, the agreement was extended to include the Town of Dunkirk. The old excavator was traded in and a new excavator was purchased. A bobcat was jointly purchased with the Town of Dunkirk using a similar sharing agreement.

GENERAL INFORMATION (Continued)

SENIOR CENTERS AND SENIOR CENTER AGREEMENT

Seniors from Rutland may use either the Stoughton or Oregon Senior Center facilities. Outreach services are provided through the McFarland Senior Center for Rutland residents in the Stoughton area and through the Oregon Senior Center for Oregon area residents. The McFarland Case Manager is able to meet with seniors at the Stoughton Senior Center. The Town supports all three of these centers financially.

After many discussions, the Town, along with the Village of Brooklyn and the Town of Oregon, entered into a new contract for the funding of the Oregon Senior Center. This contract allocates costs based on both population and usage.

ROAD REPORT AND SNOW PLOWING UPDATE

In 2013, the Town rebuilt the north half of Sunrise Road and all of Oak Lane. We also did some repairs on the east ends of Old Stone and Old Stage Roads.

In 2014, we will rebuild the north mile of Starr School Road. We will also work on the worst parts of Windmill Road and then double seal coat that entire road.

In 2015, we anticipate rebuilding our portion of Union Dane Road and all of Shady Willow Road.

We have other roads that need work, including Hildreth Road and Rutland-Dunn Townline Road. There are roads within Ol' Stone Estates that also need to be repaired and or rebuilt. We have typically only had enough budget to rebuild one mile or so each year, so it will take years to get through this list. We are also working on crack filling and chip sealing each year to preserve the roads that have already been rebuilt to current standards.

The snow plowing policy for the 2013-2014 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's 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.

FARMLAND PRESERVATION MAPPING PROJECT

Dane County will be updating its maps which show the parcels eligible for farmland preservation credits. There will be more information on this in January.

FLOOD INSURANCE RATE MAP (FIRM) UPDATE PROJECT

DNR is in the process of updating the floodplain maps for southeastern Dane County. These maps (called Flood Insurance Rate Maps [FIRM]) are used to determine which portions of properties are in the floodplain or flood storage areas. This update will affect some properties in Rutland, mainly those near the Badfish Creek. Letters were sent to affected property owners and a public meeting was held during October. Most of the changes were reductions in the area covered by the floodplain. The deadline for objecting to the proposed changes is December 12, 2013. The final maps will be made available sometime in the spring, after which the County will hold a public hearing and incorporate the maps into Chapter 17 of the County ordinances.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT INFORMATION

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	Shawn Hillestad Nels Wethal	(575-8899) (577-5691)
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
Keith Onsrud	228-3541			

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 Courier-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.

ATTENTION VOTERS ... IMPORTANT CHANGES

- All municipalities in Dane County have new ballot counting machines. This change should not make any noticeable difference to voters.
- Currently there are court cases and new legislation proposals pending, any of which could change the voter registration rules and absentee voting rules. Changes will be posted to the Town's website at www.town.rutland.wi.us

2014 ELECTION DATES...ALL ELECTIONS HELD AT THE TOWN HALL, 785 Center Road

FEBRUARY 18, 2014 - SPRING PRIMARY (if necessary) APRIL 1, 2014 - SPRING ELECTION
 AUGUST 12, 2014 - PARTISAN PRIMARY NOVEMBER 4, 2014 - GENERAL ELECTION

Town Officers whose terms will be expiring and will be filled at the election in April are Supervisors Jeanette Walker and Jim Lunde.

The candidates for these offices will be nominated at the **Caucus to be held on January 21, 2014 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 may also request an absentee ballot by email or by fax. You must be registered to vote before an absentee ballot may be sent.

COLLECTION CENTER AND BURNING PERMIT INFORMATION

BURNING PERMIT REQUIRED.....USE 911 FOR ANY EMERGENCY.....

To acquire a burning permit, Town Residents must call both the fire department providing coverage as well as the Town Board Chairman or one of the Supervisors. There may be a \$200 fine for a fire without a permit, as well as a fire that gets out of control, as provided by the Burning Ordinance.

<u>BROOKLYN FIRE DEPARTMENT</u>	455-3812
<u>OREGON FIRE DEPARTMENT</u>	835-5587
<u>STOUGHTON FIRE DEPARTMENT</u>	873-7218

SINGLE SOURCE RECYCLING USED AT THE 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 reminded that only **residential waste** is accepted at the collection center. Other arrangements must be made for solid waste from a business. Construction waste is also not accepted at the collection center; it must be privately contracted for or taken to the Dane County landfill.

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

Please check the list on the website (www.town.rutland.wi.us) for the items that can be deposited in the recycling bin. This does not include garbage, nor does it include plastic bags.

The Collection Center at 4232 CTH A is open on Saturdays from 8 A.M. until 4 P.M. Please arrive at the collection center prior to 4 P.M. and allow enough time to complete the drop off before 4 P.M.

BURN PILE AT 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 are 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.