

TOWN OF RUTLAND 2014 NEWSLETTER

Greetings from Your (Now Former) Town Chair:

The Building Committee came up with a design for a new Town Hall, which was rejected at the April Annual Meeting. Following the directives given at that meeting, the Committee came up with several less expensive options, which were rejected at the reconvened Annual Meeting in September. The Board will be preparing for another vote at the April Meeting in April 2015.

The Department of Transportation is continuing to work on designs for the relocation of Highway 14. This project will impact several Town Roads, including Rome Corners Road, Biglow Road and West Rutland Road. Rome Corners Road and West Rutland Road will become cul de sacs where they intersect with the new right of way. Information on the project is available at <http://dot.wi.gov/projects/swregion/14recon/public.htm>.

Alliant is presently finishing the reconstruction of its electric lines along Old Stone Road, from Old Stage Road to just east of Ol' Stone Estates and along Center Road from County A to Old Stone.

About 19 acres was annexed to Stoughton during 2014. This included the car dealership properties along Highway 51, north of the Kettle West annexation and south of Stoughton Garden Center.

The Stoughton FUDA (Future Urban Development Area) study is nearing completion. The primary area recommended for urban expansion is the area along Highway 51 on the east edge of Rutland. Other areas recommended were generally on the west side of Stoughton, near Highway B.

The local Fire and EMS services are all undergoing change. Rutland supports the Brooklyn, Oregon and Stoughton Fire and EMS Services. Stoughton EMS Director Kathy Rigdon retired in early 2014. Stoughton Fire Chief Marty Lamers has announced he will be retiring in 2015. Oregon Fire Chief Dave Bloom has also announced his retirement; he will be retiring in May 2015. Brooklyn Fire/EMS is budgeting for its first full time staff member starting in 2015. These are all major changes for these services. Fire and EMS services are increasing in cost. One way to keep these rising costs in check is through the use of volunteers. Please consider volunteering for one of these departments.

This has been a year of great change for me personally. My spouse and I have purchased a new home which will better fit our needs during our retirement years. This new home is located outside the Town of Rutland, so I have resigned my position as Town Chair, effective October 15, 2014. I have enjoyed serving the Town over the past 28 years; 14 before coming Chair and 14 as Chair. According to State Statutes, the remaining Town Board members and the Town Clerk elect a new Chair to fill out the term. On November 6, 2014 they unanimously elected Supervisor Jan Walker as the new Chair, to serve the remainder of my term, which ends in April 2015. Jan has served as Treasurer, Plan Commission and Board member for a total of 32 years. I am confident she will continue to serve the Town well as Chair. Please support the new Chair as she leads the Town!

Sincerely,
Dale Beske
Former Chair, Town of Rutland

Greetings from your appointed chair as of November 6, 2014

I would like to thank Dale Beske for 28 years of devoted service to the Town of Rutland. It was a pleasure to work with you, and you will certainly be missed. We wish you and Dorothy the very best during your retirement.

Recently, as a board we have tried to pull some items out of the large bundle proposed to residents during the April and September Annual Meetings. Therefore, we have had an energy audit for Focus on Energy to address updating lighting with partial grants (unfortunately, there are not any programs to do weatherization for municipalities), working to replace panels on garage doors with new weather stripping, and replacing the door in the office area.

Also, at the recent Town Budget Meeting, residents gave approval to build a new salt shed. We will be pursuing that, but placement must be done carefully to distance it from our well and surrounding wells.

In January we plan to reconvene the building committee. It is anticipated that a single proposal will be generated from that committee that residents may vote on at the annual meeting in April. Proposal A lost by only 11 votes so many residents see the value in that proposal.

I can be reached at chair@rutland.wi.us or my home phone of 608 873-8130. I am planning to run for the chair position in the April election.

Sincerely,
Jeanette Walker

TOWN OF RUTLAND WEBSITE

The Town of Rutland website contains a great deal of information. Many questions can be answered on the website. Election information, agendas, minutes, ordinances, building permit information and current topics of interest are all posted to the website.

Please visit the website at www.town.rutland.wi.us

GENERAL GOVERNMENT INFORMATION

THE RUTLAND TOWN BOARD

Chairman	Jeanette Walker	(873-8130)
Supervisor	Mark Porter	(345-7510)
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	(445-9715 cell)
Assessor	Gardiner Appraisal Service	(838-3993)

THE PLANNING COMMISSION

Jeanette Walker	873-8130		Jim Lunde	873-9726
Keith Onsrud	228-3541		Bruce Sime	873-8781
Mark Porter	835-9115		Dale Arndt	692-6392

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

- Currently there are court cases and new legislation proposals pending, any of which could change the voter registration rules, photo ID requirements and absentee voting rules. Changes will be posted to the Town's website at www.town.rutland.wi.us

2015 ELECTION DATES...ALL ELECTIONS HELD AT THE TOWN HALL, 785 Center Road

FEBRUARY 17, 2015 - SPRING PRIMARY (if necessary)

APRIL 7, 2015 - SPRING ELECTION

Town Officers whose terms will be expiring and will be filled at the election in April are Chairman Jeanette Walker, Supervisor, Clerk Dawn George, Treasurer Kim Sime, and Constables Shawn Hillestad and Nels Wethal.

The candidates for these offices will be nominated at the **Caucus to be held on January 20, 2015 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 first 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.

GENERAL INFORMATION

ANNEXATIONS

The City of Stoughton has annexed about 19 acres just to the north of the intersection. Some of this land is farmland, but a portion is commercial, most of which is already developed. 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.

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.

ROAD REPORT AND SNOW PLOWING UPDATE

In 2014, we rebuilt the north mile of Starr School Road.

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

Windmill Road reconstruction has been delayed until 2016 although some culverts were replaced in 2014.

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 2014-2015 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.

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. Once the new road is in place, the current Highway 14 will become a Town road. It was anticipated that the north end of this new Town road will be connected to Highway 138 via a new connector road and a roundabout to be located just to the east of the former Mueller Implement building. It was also anticipated that DOT will build a Park'n'Ride lot near the intersection of Highways 14 and 138. However, due to budget restraints, DOT may not be able to include a new connector road between the current Hwy 14 and Hwy 138 and they also may not be able to include the proposed Park and Ride on the north end of the project. 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.