

TOWN OF WESTON

NEWS

5209 MESKER STREET • WESTON, WI 54476 • 715-241-8209 • WWW.TOWNOFWESTONWI.COM

WINTER 2018

MILTON OLSON, CHAIRMAN

Town of Weston Web Site

Stay informed with what is going on at the town board meeting by checking the town's web site. The town's web site has the current minutes and agenda. <http://www.townofwestonwi.com> If you would like to be put on a group email list and receive the agendas every month send an email with a note and your email address to the Town Clerk at twclerk@westonwi.gov

Frontier Communication

The town of Weston entered into a contract with Frontier when we received a grant from the state to update the internet in the northeast part of the town. Frontier installed fiber cable from Schofield Ave and Mesker Street all the way to half mile north of Townline Road on 93 Ave. Frontier has completed the project this last month. You can call the Frontier Sales consultant in the Wausau office at 521 N 4th Street. The phone number at the Wausau Frontier office is 715-843-7265. Another number 715-243-7005 that is also in the state will help you determine the speed that you will receive at your house. You can check out their different internet packages at <https://frontier.com/shop/internet/dsl>.

Town's New Clerk/Treasurer Robin Huempfner

Robin was appointed as the Town's Clerk Treasurer in September of last year. Robin has lived in the Town for more than 30 years in the Home Sweet Home subdivision with her husband Dave and their three children. She has an Accounting degree and works as a Tax Preparer at CS Accounting in Schofield. She enjoys golf, camping and working in her flower gardens.

Road Projects

The town applied for and received a state grant to rebuild Kramer Lane south of Gusman Road. We are going to receive \$27,883.00 to help pay for the road and will be doing the project in 2019. The Village of Weston will need to budget for their half of the road.

Everest Metro -VS -Marathon County Sheriff Department

Marathon County – **1,576 sq. miles, pop. 135,868**
Everest Metro - **33.41 square miles, pop. 18,117**

There was a great deal of discussion at the November board meeting regarding the cost of Everest Metro Police protection. Here is a part of the November board minutes.

Chief Sparks and Marathon County Sheriff Parks spoke to the board and those in attendance about the difference in how each department operates and the response time to calls. Everest Metro Police Department (EMPD) is a patrolling unit and responds very quickly to all calls. Marathon County Sheriff's Department does very little patrolling of town roads, and the response time can be long depending on the type of call. The county has a very limited number of units out (usually 5) for the entire county and EMPD has 5 for just the Village, Schofield and the Town. The County would not enforce any of the Town's ordinances and we would not receive a share of the fines that are issued. It was also noted the EMPD has capped our share of the cost for the last 5 years. A motion was made by Chilsen and seconded by Wesenick to retain the EMPD for the Town's police protection. The vote was 3 to 2 Chairman Olson broke the tie with his vote to retain EMPD motion carried.

Town of Weston New Comprehensive Plan

The Town of Weston has completed a review of the Town's Comprehensive Plan. This is a requirement from the state of Wisconsin to update every 10 years.

The Town of Weston Board of Supervisors and Town's Planning Commission held a joint public hearing on November 7, 2017 to consider a complete update to the Town's 2006 Comprehensive Plan. The Comprehensive Plan is a guide to the physical development of the Town, including land use, housing, transportation, economic development, and other policies and programs. The Plan was adopted by the town board at their November meeting. You can view the complete Comprehensive Plan at the Town's website at <http://www.townofwestonwi.com/>.

Nextdoor Social Network

Last spring the Town of Weston setup a Nextdoor neighborhood social media platform. The Village of Weston and Marathon county and most other communities in the area have also set up their neighborhoods. The basis of the Nextdoor social network is formed around specific, definable neighborhoods in the community. The Town of Weston is one neighborhood. You can also select to receive information from adjacent neighborhoods. Simply enter your street address and email address when you sign up for Nextdoor Social network at nextdoor.com and you can stay in the know about events, people, and happenings in Your Weston neighborhood.

Town Annual Meeting.

The Town's Annual Meeting will be held on April 17. 7:30 pm
The town's financial statement and audit report will be handed out. This will give you the financial status and future of the Town of Weston

County-Wide Uniform Addressing Project Update

By Jennifer Higgins, Director of Planning & Development



Within the next few months, Marathon County will be releasing the new addresses for ALL PARCELS within the communities participating in the Uniform Addressing Project. **EVERY household and business may be given a new 6-digit address, and some may also be getting a new street address**

name. As we get closer to the implementation of the County-wide Uniform Addressing Project and release of the new addresses, we believe now is a good time to address some misconceptions and rumors we are hearing regarding the project, its cost, and its implementation.

Marathon County recently enacted Resolution #R-65-17 *Suspend Rule 2.01(23) Environmental Impact Fund Policy to Commit \$1.2 Million From Environmental Impact Fund to Support Transition of Municipalities to Uniform Addressing and Remove the Uniform Addressing Project from the 2018 CIP.* Through this resolution, **Marathon County committed \$1.2 million from the County's Environmental Impact Fund (EIF) to pay for the Uniform Addressing Project, thus eliminating the previous \$20-per-address formula.**

They also amended the scope of the project to include the initial manufacture and installation of signage to reflect the changes in name or number subject to the terms, timelines, and other conditions contained in the contract between the vendor and Marathon County. This means that **the County and its vendor will be supplying each household with new address numbers or flag signs for their homes and will be installing the flag signs at no charge to the resident.** Residents may be required to install their own address numbers on their homes after they are distributed by the County. Please note, this does not include address bricks at this time.

No exact implementation date has been released yet.

Marathon County envisions implementation in Spring/Summer 2018. If the Village proceeds Planning and Zoning Department will be sending out an official letter notifying each property owner of the property's new address. It will have the projected date when implementation will begin. A more formal list of resources to help you transition through this address change will also be included.

Due to some of the questions and confusion we have heard out in the public, here is brief synopsis of who should be notified of your address change and who will be responsible for the notification.

Marathon County will take care of notifying:

- The United States Postal Service (USPS)
- Other Local Government Officials
- SAFER, EMPD, and Other Local Fire / Police Departments
- Marathon County E911 Communication Center
- Marathon County Clerk / Elections
- Marathon County Treasurer
- Other Marathon County Departments

Property owners will be responsible for notifying:

- Banks / Lenders
- Cable / Dish / Cell Phone Providers
- Employers
- Utilities
- Insurance Companies
- Magazine Subscriptions
- Online Purchasing Websites
- Family and Friends
- Tenants / Renters
- Medicaid, WIC, Other Government Offices

A new deed for your property will not be required, as a property is described by the legal description and assessor's tax parcel number or PIN, not by the address. The address change should not affect any related legal documents for your property, as Marathon County will be working with their departments, including the County Clerk / Elections, to update records that would contain your address. Marathon County will also inform the USPS of your new address, so **you do not need to file a Change of Address Form** with them. The address conversion will happen between Marathon County and the United States Post Office headquarters in Madison.

Marathon County will also be working with Google Maps and GPS systems to notify them of street name and address changes. Since these are private companies, Marathon County has little control over their update cycles. **You will not need to get a new driver's license.** Per the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) website, you are not required to get a new driver's license with an address change; **you only need to notify the DMV of the new address so they can update their records.** You can update your address directly with the DMV online (<http://wisconsin.gov/Pages/online-srvcs/change-addy/default.aspx>), by calling 608-266-2353, or by mailing it to them.

The same goes for passports. **You do not need to update your current passport with your new address** (<https://travel.state.gov/content/passports/en/passports/services/correction.html>).

However, if you have a passport application that is currently in process, and you'd like to change your mailing address, please call 1-877-487-2778 or 1-888-874-7793 (TDD/TTY).

You will need to contact your bank/lender, utility providers, employer, insurance company, credit card companies, and anyone else you may get mail from. Much of this can be done with a phone call or online over the course of a year, as your mail will be forwarded just like if you had moved. We are not aware of any fees that any of these companies would charge to update your address.

Finally, another misconception out there is that you will need to go out and order new checks. **You can do this if you wish, but it is unnecessary. You can still use your current checks; just use an ink pen to cross through the old address on**

your checks and write the new address at the top of the checks. If you are concerned about appearance, you can print some new address labels; use the new address label to cover up the old address.

Many details of the project are still being worked out by Marathon County. For this reason, they have created a website (<http://mymarathoncountyaddress.org/>) to keep residents and local communities informed as we move through the process of implementation, which is scheduled for Spring/Summer 2018. The County also has a list of Frequently Asked Questions, which will be updated as the project proceeds to the next phases.

If you would like more information about this project, please contact Marathon County Conservation, Planning and Zoning at 715-261-6000 or cpz@co.marathon.wi.us or visit the <http://mymarathoncountyaddress.org> website. You can also contact Village Planning and Development Department Staff at 715-359-6114 or PlanDev@westonwi.gov or subscribe for updates to be emailed to you.

New Building Permit & Inspection Process

By Jennifer Higgins, Director of Planning & Development

Commercial and Residential Building Permits are required in both the Town and Village of Weston. In March 2017, the Village went live with a new online Licensing and Permitting Software called Evolve. **Now, all building permits in the Town and Village of Weston must be applied for online using our new Evolve software available at www.westonwi.gov/ePermits.**

Many permit applicants over the last few months have found this to be an easy transition as they can apply for permits at their convenience 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Village staff is still available to assist those contractors and residents who do not have a computer (or are not computer savvy) by appointment at the Municipal Center (5500 Schofield Avenue). Since it takes additional time for staff to assist these customers, we have found that we will no longer be able to serve walk-in customer traffic regarding planning, zoning, and building permit questions. Beginning October 1, 2017, **customers wanting to meet with a Planning & Development staff member to discuss their building projects and to take out building permits with staff assistance will need to make an appointment** by calling the Village at 715-359-6114 or emailing the Planning & Development Staff, at plandev@westonwi.gov.

We also have a computer kiosk available for those who don't have access to a computer but are able to fill out the applications themselves. No appointment is needed to use the self-service kiosk.

Once the permit is issued and you are ready for an inspection, you can also easily schedule an inspection using the Evolve online portal at www.westonwi.gov/ePermits. Please plan accordingly, as **our inspectors are unable to schedule same-day appointments and inspections.**

Through this change in daily office hours and the permit process, we are now able to offer additional inspection times to our customers. **The new inspection hours, as of October 1, 2017, are:**

- **Mondays & Thursdays – Full days (8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.)**
- **Tuesdays – Mornings only (9:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.)**
- **Wednesdays – Afternoons only (1:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.)**

The inspectors will continue to offer very limited appointment times on Fridays, as they utilize this time to perform their Village maintenance duties and to catch up on office paperwork.

Again, please plan accordingly when proceeding through the stages of your building project. **The Village has 2 business days from the day of request to perform the actual inspection.**

When requesting an appointment or inspection, please make sure to provide your contact information (phone number and email), a few dates that would work for your schedule, and if morning or afternoon times work better for you. You will be provided with a date and if mornings or afternoons work better at the time of scheduling the appointment with one of our administrative staff. **One of the inspectors will contact you closer to the date to give you their estimated time of arrival.** By doing this, it allows our inspectors to better plan out their schedules and avoid unnecessary trips back and forth through the Village/Town. Ultimately, the goal is to make their inspection days more efficient and to be better able to spend their time completing more inspections, instead of driving in the truck traveling to job sites.

If you have any questions or concerns with our new processes, please feel free to contact the Planning & Development Department at 715-359-6114 or plandev@westonwi.gov.

TOWN OF WESTON
 5209 MESKER STREET
 WESTON, WI 54476

PRSRT STD
 US POSTAGE
PAID
 WAUSAU WI
 PERMIT #600

SAVE THE DATE

JANUARY 31

- Property Taxes are Due

FEBRUARY 20

- Spring Primary Election

APRIL 3

- Spring Election

APRIL 17

- Annual Meeting

IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

715-241-8209

Town Office Part-time Employee

TAX COLLECTION

877-687-3445

Greg Schmidt (Contracted Service)

ASSESSOR

715-355-6763

Non-emergency

FIRE & EMS

715-359-4202

Non-emergency

POLICE EVEREST METRO

715-359-6114

Village of Weston

BUILDING INSPECTOR

715-359-6114

Village of Weston

GARBAGE & RECYCLING

715-848-3355

Arnie Baumann

ROAD MAINTENANCE

Town Board always meets on the third Tuesday of each month at 6:30pm in the Municipal Court room (5209 Mesker St.) The Town's Annual meeting is scheduled for April 17 at 7:30 p.m.

TOWN MEETING SCHEDULE

