



EAU CLAIRE COUNTY, WISCONSIN
5750 Old Town Hall Road ♦ Eau Claire WI 54701
(715)834-3257 ♦ Fax (715)834-3325 ♦ www.townofwashington.org

TOWN OF WASHINGTON NEWSLETTER

Vol. 43 No. 1 ~ March 2021

Elections

We encourage residents to obtain information regarding voting and elections only from our office or the Wisconsin Election Commission (including the MyVote website); other sources content are not always accurate. Be aware that 3rd party groups send mailings to voters that may be inaccurate and look like they came from our office. The only election mail you would receive from our office is an official ballot if we have a request on file from you. Our website, www.townofwashington.org or the myvote.wi.gov website has information on how to register and what you need to do so, absentee voting, and more.

The check-in process on Election Day has been streamlined with the use of electronic poll books called Badger Books. Voters can check-in at any station as the entire poll book is on each book. Photo ID is required, for a list of acceptable photo IDs go to: <https://bringit.wi.gov/do-i-have-right-photo-id>

Upcoming Election

April 6 - Spring Election

Polls are open from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.



Annual Town Meeting

Tuesday, April 27 at 5:00 PM

Town of Washington

Municipal Building

5750 Old Town Hall Road

Location is tentative

Check website for updates

Dog License Reminder!

If you no longer have a dog that was previously licensed with the Town, let us know or you will continue to receive reminders. If you have not already complied, license your dog before April 1 to avoid a late fee. Applications for new dogs are on our website (under How Do I tab) or at the Town Office; you must provide written proof of vaccination against rabies from your vet. The State of Wisconsin requires dogs to be licensed. The license fees are divided between the Town and the County and help offset the cost of contracting with the County Humane Association for enforcement and investigations.

To report obsessive barking, animals at large, biting, an animal being mistreated, or a vicious animal; call the Eau Claire Communication Center at 715-839-4972.

A humane officer will not be dispatched to pick up a dog or cat at large unless the animal has first been contained.



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April 6 Spring Election

Town Board Chairperson, and two Town Board Supervisor positions are up for election on April 6, 2021. Offices are for a two year term. A statement from each candidate is listed below.

MICHEAL PETERSON (Incumbent) – The Town of Washington has been my home for the past 51 years and I have enjoyed serving the Town on many levels. Six years as a Town Supervisor, 15 years as the Town Administrator, 31 years as a Police Officer, and the past 11 years as the Town Chairperson. With your support I look forward to continued service on the Town Board as Chairperson. Special thanks to the current Town Board for their dedicated service.

ANDREA KOTT – I am running for the Town of Washington Board Supervisor position and would like to share a little information about myself. My husband Andy and I along with our three small children value all the freedoms this country has afforded us. As a first generation American and growing up on our family dairy farm, I learned the importance of hard work, dedication and responsibility. Having a strong faith and character have provided the strong deep roots that I cling to as I embrace the future to raise our young family. I hold a B.B.A. in Accounting from UW-Eau Claire and work as a Senior Tax Accountant with a local firm. I have a strong understanding of finances and the importance of fiscal responsibility. I have also fulfilled my passion for serving the past seven years by volunteering as a First Responder and EMT.B. If elected to the Town of Washington Supervisor position I will bring my extensive background in agriculture, finance and a work ethic to serving the residents of the Town of Washington. I believe along with my skills and passion for serving I would be a strong local advocate and for that reason I humbly ask for your support in the coming election.

JANE MUELLER (Incumbent) – I have been a resident of the Town of Washington for 41 years. As former middle school Social Studies and Math teacher, I believe in an active citizenry. I graduated from the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire in Education and Leadership Wisconsin (a UW-Extension program formerly known as Wisconsin Rural Leadership Program). I live on my late husband's family farm, Mueller Hilltop Farms, along with our three grown children, Dr. Meg Mueller, DVM, Peter (and his wife, Lydia) and Steven; and work as a part time receptionist in my daughter's veterinary office. I am active in many local community groups, including Eau Claire County Dairy Promotion, Eau Claire County Farm Technology Days 2021 Executive Committee and the Cleghorn Lions Club. In addition, I am an active member of St. Raymond of Peñafort Parish and serve on their Leadership Team.

MICHAEL STACY (Incumbent) – I have served several terms as a supervisor on the Town of Washington Board. I am running for re-election and would appreciate your vote on April 6, 2021. As a retired member of the Town and a resident for over 40 years, I have been able to devote a considerable amount of time and effort to studying the concerns and issues facing the Town residents. As a result, I have gained the experience needed to make decisions that serve the best interests of the Town and its residents. During my years as your Town Supervisor, I once served on the Personnel Committee, was a part of the committee that created a new park in the Park Creek Addition, helped with the Land Use Plan as well as the Town's waste water management and environmental policies. Every two years I attend workshops as required to serve on the Board of Review for real estate tax assessments. During my tenure I have actively sought and encouraged input from the Town residents which helps me to make zoning decisions which will preserve the rural nature of our community. I have always had an "open door" policy and am willing to listen to the concerns of any Town of Washington resident at any time. I would appreciate the opportunity to continue to serve the residents of the Town of Washington by re-electing me as your representative on the Town of Washington Board of Supervisors. Thank you for your support.

2021 Road Projects

Roads to be Paved:

Schultz Road S Lowes Creek (194 bridge to Sindelar)
Watt Avenue Sindelar Drive (S Lowes Creek to Palomino)

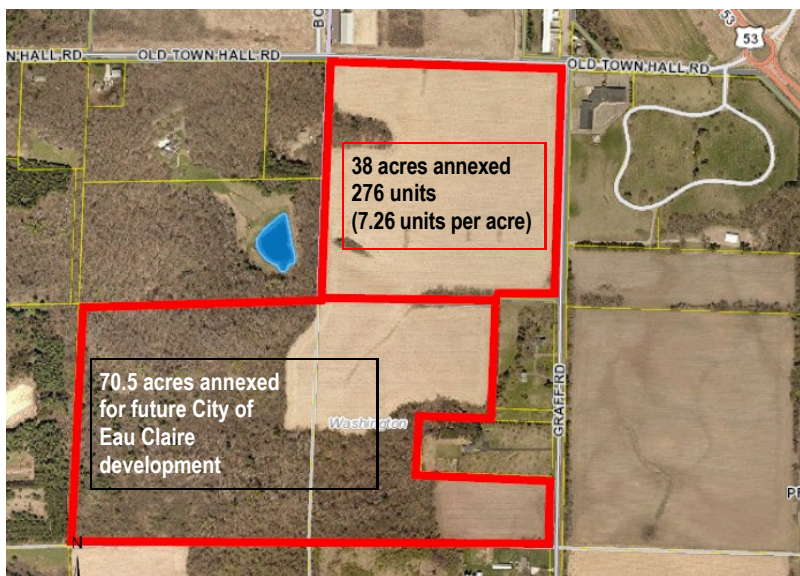
Road Seal Projects:

Chip Seal—North Road, Prill Road, and Mayer Road
GSB88 Seal—Friedeck Road

All projects are subject to bids and approval by the Town Board



Annexations



Annexations transfer unincorporated territory from towns to an incorporated city or village. 38 acres adjacent to the Town Hall were annexed to the City of Eau Claire last year and an additional 70.5 acres was just annexed in February of this year.

Open Book & Board of Review

Your property assessment is determined by the Town of Washington Assessor as of January 1 each year. Questions about your assessment should be addressed to John or Gene from Appraisal Services, 715-834-1361. Under WI State Statutes, the assessor's values are assumed to be correct until proven otherwise, which places the burden of proof on the taxpayer. If you are not satisfied with the assessment of your property, the time for you to voice your concerns is during Open Book. You do not need an appointment; just come during the hours it is held to speak to the assessor. If after reviewing your information at Open Book you believe your property is not assessed fairly in relation to other Town of Washington properties, you can file a written objection form to be heard by the formal Board of Review. Factual evidence must be presented at the hearing. **Dates below are tentative; check our website for possible changes.**

Open Book

Tuesday, May 18 from 3:00 to 5:00 p.m.

Board of Review

Wednesday, June 2 from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m.

Storm Water Pollution Prevention



Spring is just around the corner!

Time to spruce up the lawn and garden.

Here are a few suggestions to avoid adding phosphorus and fertilizers to nearby waterways.

- Reuse leaves and grass clippings as mulch, add it to a compost pile, or till into gardens.
- Test your soil before fertilizing. Fertilize per specified rate and clean up excess.
- Use a soaker-style hose to water and don't overwater.
- Conserve water by planting a rain garden of native plants, shrubs and trees to maximize infiltration and reduce runoff. Consider capturing rain from your downspout in a barrel for watering.

Illicit Discharges

When traveling around town be on the lookout of "illicit discharges" to storm drains and ditches. This includes materials from failing septic systems, spills or dumping of chemicals, oils or ag by-products, and pipes carrying anything other than storm water. Storm water that enters a storm drain in urban areas is NOT treated before entering waterways. Discharges into ditches may not immediately reach a waterway; nevertheless, they pollute the ditch line and may reach waterways when ditches are frozen and little infiltration takes place. If you observe an illicit discharge contact the Town Office for investigation.



ARE YOU ELIGIBLE FOR A COVID-19 VACCINE?

See who is eligible
and how to sign up here:
bit.ly/covidvaccine-ec



For additional questions, call our
COVID-19 Call Center: 715-831-7425

Seeking Proposals for Watershed Education Projects

The Eau Claire River Watershed Coalition is seeking proposals for educational stewardship projects that promote or build capacity for regenerative agricultural practices within the Eau Claire River Watershed.

Three projects will be selected to receive grants of \$4,800 for their proposed project. No match is required. Eligible applicants are local education agencies, colleges or universities, state education or environmental agencies, and nonprofit organizations.

There is no deadline to apply and applications will be accepted until all program funding is successfully awarded.

For questions, contact Landon Profaizer at lprofaizer@wcwrpc.org or (715) 836-2918.



Eau Claire River
WATERSHED COALITION

Healthy Soils • Clean Water • Pass It On

Rest Haven Cemetery

Rest Haven Cemetery is owned and operated by the Town of Washington. For information regarding flowers, wreaths, stone sizes, purchasing spaces, transferring spaces, or scheduling a burial, contact Jackie at 715-834-3257. Spaces are currently available for \$650.



Winter decorations must be removed from the cemetery before April 1, each year. In the Spring, flowers (real or artificial) can be placed in a plant stand beginning May 1 and must be removed no later than October 15 each year. Anything remaining after this date will be disposed of. Items placed in/on the ground or on a shepherd's hook are not allowed and will be removed.

Township Fire Department

Happy New Year! We hope this new year is bringing you and your family good health and some sort of return to normal. We are so grateful that our members have remained safe and healthy while serving all of you. We also are excited as it seems that the brutally cold is behind us and we can start looking forward to spring!

We are so thankful for all of your contributions towards our extrication tools and are pleased to announce that we have met our goal and ordered our tools in the beginning of November. There have been some delays due to Covid-19 but we are expecting delivery sometime in March. Your generosity is very much appreciated in a time where budgets are tight and new equipment and technology is constantly evolving. Thank you again!

Here at the Washington Station, we are the busiest of all five stations due to our central location as well as I94 and Highway 53, we run a lot of calls! We again are looking for more volunteers in the Fire Department; and, if you don't want to do the fire side of things, we also desperately need first responders. Our membership for the entire department is at the lowest numbers that we have ever seen. Training is provided through the department and in most cases are evening classes at Chippewa Valley Technical College. We encourage anyone who may be interested to check out our webpage to obtain more information. Please strongly consider giving back to your community and join us! There are two common problems that we encounter when responding to calls in residential areas. The first is seeing your address from the road. It is vitally important to have your address displayed clearly on your mail boxes and on the residence itself. We also have had problems in the past with overgrown trees and brush on driveways that make entering your property difficult with large trucks. We encourage you to keep driveways as accessible as possible by trimming back trees as far as practical. These two problems can slow us down in an emergency when seconds count. Lastly, we would like to touch on our Annual Chicken Feed fundraiser. It is unknown if this fundraiser will occur or not; it is dependent on Covid-19 and restrictions that may be in place. Check our website or the Town of Washington's for updates.

Township Fire Department www.townshipfire.org

Burning Permits are required when you are burning anything more than a campfire. **PLEASE NOTE!** effective April 1, 2021 you can **ONLY** obtain a permit online at www.townshipfire.org. then click on the "Burning Permit" button and you can read the ordinances as well as obtain a burning permit.





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PRSR STD
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Eau Claire, WI
Permit 203

TOWN STAFF & BOARD MEMBERS

Administrator/ Clerk/Treasurer:	Janelle L. Henning	715-834-3257
Deputy Clerk:	Jackie Vold	715-834-3257
Deputy Treasurer:	Aleta Kauffman	715-834-3257
Chairperson:	Micheal Peterson	715-497-6333
Supervisors:	Jane Mueller	715-878-4058
	Bob Solberg	715-833-0919
	Michael Stacy	715-834-5665
	Karen Tomesh	715-835-4742

Town Board Meetings

3rd Thursday each month at 5:00 PM

Office Hours

Monday - Friday

8:00 AM – 4:00 PM

Close at 3 PM on Fridays (May - August)

Office Closed

Monday, May 24

Monday, July 5

Monday, September 6