

SEYMOUR

chronicle



TOWN OF SEYMOUR
6500 TOWER DRIVE
EAU CLAIRE, WI

Phone: (715) 834-4999 || Office Hours: Monday through Friday, 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM ||

www.townofseymour.org

From your

TOWN CHAIR

Happy Autumn Fellow Seymour Residents,

The Town Board and Fire Department are continuing to inform you, the residents, of the dangers of wild fires and about how you can protect your property from such fires. Please help us mitigate this danger by keeping your property free of unnecessary debris and by having an accessible driveway for emergency vehicles to easily get to your property.

The Wisconsin DNR has informed us that local municipalities are now responsible for removal of car-killed deer carcasses' from Town roads. The State no longer funds that program. If there is a dead deer on the Town road, please call the town hall at 715.834.4999 for removal. If you live on a County road call the County Highway department for removal.

The garbage haulers and rolloff providers that are licensed in the Town of Seymour are Advanced Disposal, Express Disposal, RightAway RollOff, Waste Management, Northern Metals and ProVyro Waste Services. All others are not licensed to conduct business in the Town at this time. Only call those that are licensed.

I received a call about someone shooting guns late at night. It was disturbing to a neighbor. There is no ordinance against shooting in a rural area but you may want to be considerate of your neighbors.

At the 2016 Annual Town meeting, the residents gave the Board approval to purchase 10 acres of land adjacent to the existing Town property for the purpose of adding a Babe Ruth sized ball field. That purchase was completed this past summer. We purchased nine acres which was all that was available but it will be sufficient for a ball field and parking.

There is a continuing problem of people dumping garbage along Town roads. If you see anyone doing so, please attempt to get a license plate number so that we can follow-up and try to determine who was the culprit.

Call a Town Board member if you have questions or concerns.

Douglas Kranig

TOWN OFFICIALS

Douglas Kranig, Chair	(715) 877.2899
Sheila Running, Supervisor	(715) 832.9686
Gary Schulenberg, Supervisor	(715) 835.0938
Sue Larson, Clerk Treasurer	(715) 834.4999
Laura Konwinski, Dep. Clerk/Treas	(715) 834.4999
Fred Hankel, Building Inspector	(715) 577.7983
Roger Koski, Assessor	(715) 835.1141
Douglas Kranig, Co. Board Rep	(715) 877.2899

RECENT RAIN AND OUR ROADS

On September 21, 2016 most of our Town was hit with some major rain. We had 9 inches at my house and I know those amounts varied throughout the Township. We had 14 roads that received some sort of damage, 5 of which were major. We are still in the process of doing some of the repair work. There was approximately \$60,000 worth of damage - possibly more. Our Town was declared a State Disaster Area along with some other towns in Eau Claire County and that makes us eligible for some reimbursement for those costs. In addition, FEMA is looking at the area for possible Federal Disaster Relief. We hope that that might happen as well. Your Town Board tries to keep our budget as low as possible but when these type of emergencies arise, the budget gets hit really hard. I hope that your roads were not affected by the rain, but I also hope that you had a chance to witness some of the damage so that you saw for yourselves what needed to be dealt with. Thanks to Kerry and John for their long hours and hard work to get those areas up to snuff as soon as possible.

Sheila Running, Supervisor

From Your

TOWNSHIP FIRE DEPARTMENT

October is Fire Prevention month. Please remember to change the batteries in your smoke and carbon monoxide detectors if applicable. It's also a good time to refresh/remind your family what to do in case of a fire in your home. Have an escape plan, including a meeting place once you're outside.

We had great turnout at our annual Pancake Breakfast this year. We love to see our neighbors, and appreciate the support from our community.

The Fire Dept is working on an automated system to issue burning permits. Until that is up and running, please continue calling the Dispatch office. Business hours are 8:00 am to 8:00 pm Monday through Saturday. Office is closed Sundays. No burning is allowed on Sundays or holidays.

This year we've seen an increased number of water related calls. Please be careful in, on, or near the water. And, remember below the dam on Lake Altoona is no place to be in the water!

We were recently dispatched to a vehicle crash where the vehicle went over an embankment and rolled over. The passengers were ok, no injuries but were shaken. After assisting a young lady up the embankment she first asked for water and then, jokingly requested a brandy. We do not carry such "medicine", and have decided to leave that assistance to the St. Bernards. Thankfully no one was seriously hurt and the young lady's sense of humor was still in tact.

If you are interested in becoming a Firefighter or Emergency Medical Responder, please contact our Dispatch Center at (715) 834-6868 for an application.

Kerry Parker

Battlion Chief
Township Fire Dept – Seymour Station

LANDFILL USE POLICY

As we continue to have issues with the use of the landfill, the Town Board adopted the following written Landfill Use Policy at their October Board Meeting.

The Town of Seymour, in agreement with the Advanced Disposal Seven Mile Creek Landfill, is able to provide free landfill services for all Town of Seymour residents for the disposal of residential waste under the following conditions:

1. The free service is available on Tuesdays from 12:00 to 4:00 pm and Saturdays from 8:00 to 11:30 only.
2. Items not included for the free service are construction and demolition type materials, tires, car batteries, asbestos, electronics, appliances with Freon, and commercial business related waste. Questions regarding allowable items should be deferred to the landfill personnel. 715-830-0284
3. All residents are encouraged to recycle as much as possible. Recycling information can be found on the County website at www.co.eau-claire-wi-usa. Also, consideration should be given to donating useable items to various nonprofit organizations in the area such as Goodwill and Hope Gospel Mission.
4. All residents are allowed only one permit per household and the permit is vehicle specific to the vehicle to be used for their garbage hauling. Changes in vehicles must be reported to the Town. Attempting to use the landfill with a different vehicle, shall result in refusal of service by the landfill.
5. Permits are not to be shared with non residents or others.
6. Residents are not allowed to remove anything from the landfill that they might consider salvageable.
7. Privileges may be revoked and/or suspended for violations of the policy as agreed to by the Landfill and the Town of Seymour.

From Your

BUILDING INSPECTOR

What you need to know about Demolition and Asbestos

Before beginning any demolition project, it is important to know about harmful materials that may be present on your project site. The Wisconsin DNR has a Planning Guide that can be found on their website www.dnr.wi.gov. We will also have these available at the Town Hall. This guide will walk you through the steps to identify harmful materials commonly found at project sites, including asbestos, CFCs and halons, lead, mercury and PCBs, and how to handle and dispose of them safely. The Town of Seymour requires that you also obtain a demolition permit from us and we will no longer approve permits for demolition unless you have first properly notified the DNR of the proposed demolition and have the required approval and/or permits from them.

Fred Hankel

Building Inspector

From Your

CLERK TREASURER

NOVEMBER ELECTION In case you haven't heard, there is an election coming up on November 8, 2016! We have been very busy at the Town office since September 26, 2016 with early –in office voting and absentee requests. You may still early vote through November 4, 2016, M-F, 9 to 1pm at the Town Hall. On Friday, November 4th, we will also stay open until 5 pm for early voting and voter registrations. Be sure to bring your photo ID.

Speaking of Photo IDs , if you do not have a photo ID, you can still get a Free ID for voting purposes from the DMV. For more information on what you will need to bring to the DMV, you can call (844) 588-1069 or visit www.wisconsinDMV.gov or www.bringit.wi.gov.

If you requested and received an absentee ballot in the mail from us, make sure that you get it returned as soon as possible. **We must receive all mailed absentee ballots by no later than the date of election – November 8, 2016 in order to be counted. This is a change in the election laws that is effective for the first time with this election. If its postmarked November 8th and we receive it the next day – it is too late.**

We are expecting record turnout for the November election. Hopefully, the weather will remain nice and the lines won't be too long. Please be patient if you do need to wait in line for a short period of time. Your vote is so important. I am sure that we have had a record number of new Voter Registrations this year. At the April election, we had 135 new registrations the day of election and we have had about 75 new registrations within the last month. If you are unsure if you are registered or not, you can check it out on the website www.myvote.wi.gov.

BUDGET PUBLIC HEARING AND SPECIAL MEETING TO SET TAX LEVY is scheduled for Tuesday, November 14, 2016 at 7:00 pm at the Town Hall. The proposed budget for 2017 does not include an increase in the town levy at this time. The proposed budget is available in detail for inspection at the town clerk's office.

TAX BILLS and DOG LICENSES – Tax bills along with Dog License renewal notices will be mailed out in early to mid December. The fees for Dog Licenses will stay the same as last years with \$7.00 Fee for altered dogs and \$18.00 for unaltered dogs. Please remember when submitting either your dog license or tax payment by mail or tax payments, to include a self addressed stamped envelope.

Sae Larson, Town Clerk Treasurer

From Your

TOWN SUPERVISOR

In my article for this newsletter I would like to discuss attendance or rather the lack of attendance at Town Meetings and especially the Annual Town Meeting held in April. At our last Annual Meeting in April of 2016, on the agenda was the purchase of additional acreage for the ball fields. There were only 19 community members in attendance. Those advocating for purchasing the property were present in significant numbers. The motion was made to purchase approximately 10 acres of land for no more than \$75,000. The vote of the citizens present was 18 to 1 in favor of the purchase.

I am not anti ball club. Our great facility is only possible because of the many selfless volunteers over many years donating their free time unselfishly for the good of all youth. I'm sure many had other things they would have rather done and I thank you all.

My concern is that the Town of Seymour budgets approximately \$13,000 annually for recreation expenses. The majority of that is spent on the upkeep for the ball fields. This does not include capital improvements such as the cost of new bleachers, parking expansion, etc. Our six town subsidized fields are more than all other Eau Claire County Townships combined with the new land purchase. Anticipated future capital improvements may include field development, fencing, parking, bleachers, concession stand, bathrooms, sewer system upgrade, lights, etc.

The Ball Fields are enjoyed by many youth that live outside of the Town of Seymour. And in my opinion, the taxpayers here are carrying the financial load for youth living in Dunn, Chippewa and Eau Claire counties. My point is this, the purchase could not have happened without the resident's vote at the April Town Meeting. If you think we are not spending enough, continue to not attend board meetings and the annual meeting. It doesn't do any good to voice those concerns after the fact. Pay attention to the business being conducted by your Town Board. Agendas are always posted on the website or on the bulletin board at the Town Hall. Attend the meetings. Be aware of the importance of the Annual Town Meeting and that this is where, you the resident, get to vote on concerns facing the town.

Gary Schulenberg, Supervisor

WATER TESTING FOR PRIVATE WELLS

Most private wells provide a safe and uncontaminated source of drinking water. Some wells do however become contaminated with bacteria and nitrates over time. To ensure your well is not contaminated, it is a good idea to regularly test your water. The recommendation is that water should be tested at least annually and whenever you notice a change in the taste, odor or color of the water. The Eau Claire City County Health Department is providing the Town of Seymour with about 25 test kits (including sampling instructions) that residents can come and pick up at the town hall to use to test their water. There is not a cost for the bottle, but there will be a fee once you send your water in to be tested.

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EAU CLAIRE, WI 54703**

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Home Improvement Resources

With the recent significant rainfall, we are aware that many households may have suffered damage to their homes that may not be covered by their home insurance. Some area organizations that may be able to assist those that qualify (income and asset limits may apply) are as follows:

USDA Rural Development that has a 504 Home Loan/Grant Program. Loan funds available up to \$20,000 at a 1% interest rate and grants of up to \$7500 for residents over 62. Income limits apply. Contact person is Melinda Wagner at 715-232-2614, ext. 4.

Eau Claire County Housing Authority that has some CDBG and HOME funds available. Income limits apply. Contact person there is Kay Hestekind at 715-839-4741.

Western Dairyland, EOC provides for Weatherization Funds to make energy saving improvements to your home and also administers the Energy Assistance Program. You can apply to them through their Eau Claire office located at 418 Wisconsin Street in Eau Claire or call them at 715-985-2391. Their website is <http://www.westerndairyland.org/weatherization.phtml>

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