



Town of Prairie du Sac Newsletter

Welcome to the 2021 edition of the Town newsletter. This newsletter is published by the Town Board to keep Town residents current on events affecting the Town.

Town Hall Updates

The town hall is not available for rent at this time. Last year, improvements were made to the ventilation system and a new door was installed. Town meetings are held in person with a remote access option. We welcome your participation at our meetings. Contact the Town Clerk, Dick Nolden (608-544-2406) for more information

Road Improvements

The town roads are in very good condition. This year's road work (2021) focused on maintenance:

Chip Sealing

This work included River Road, the portion of Old Bluff Trail north of Prairie Road and the section of Prairie Road east Old Bluff Trail to USH 12.

Crack Filling:

The east half of River Road was done along with Exchange Road, Block Road and Center Street.

Next year (2022): The town is considering a road milling and overlay project, also funds are allocated for continued road maintenance including crack filling and grading the town gravel roads.

2022 Town Budget

At its November board meeting and public hearing, the Town Board adopted its budget for the 2022 calendar year in the amount of 398,941. This is an increase of approximately \$5,000 over last year. An increase in transportation aid income of \$2,000 and state shared revenue of \$3,000 is also projected. This year, the town's portion of the budget covered by property taxes will be about the same as last year at \$171,952. The town's mill rate (tax per \$1,000 of assessed value) will be \$0.98 as compared to last year's \$0.964 a 1.7% increase.

Major budgeted expenses for 2022 include roadway maintenance and repair (\$162,866), fire protection

(\$50,500), salaries and wages (\$61,500) and collection of recyclables (\$21,200). The town is again participating in the joint municipal recreation program this year and has budgeted \$6,665 for this program. The town also earmarked funds for capital projects and equipment replacement (\$10,000).

Real Estate Tax Bills

When mailing your payment just remove the appropriate stub and mail with your check. If you received an escrow check from your Mortgage Company please make sure it is endorsed properly. If your mortgage company issues a check for more than the tax you owe ask the mortgage company to reissue the check. Remember to mail timely as the postmarked dates are used for payments. Postdated checks will not be honored. Tax payments made in December and by January 31, 2022 must be made out to and mailed to the Town of Prairie du Sac Treasurer. If you pay the second half of the Real Estate Tax in July, that payment is made out to and mailed to the Sauk County Treasurer. Personal Property tax bills for both half's are paid and mailed to the Town Treasurer. Addresses are on your tax bills

Broadband

The town will benefit from a recent broadband grant under the American Recovery Plan (Covid Relief Funds) that will provide high speed internet service to areas currently lacking service in the north and southwest portions of the township. The grant of \$7 million dollars was a part of an effort by Sauk County and the Reedsburg Utility Commission to provide high speed internet service to unserved areas including portions of the towns of Troy, Honey Creek, Sumpter and Prairie du Sac. Construction on the first phase of the project will start in 2022 and is targeted to be completed by 2028. At this time, it is unknown when service will be provided in our township. More information on the service area covered under the grant can be found at

<https://ruclightspeed.com/new-customers/>

Land Use Planning

The Town and the villages of Sauk City and Prairie du Sac updated their comprehensive plan during 2021. The updated comprehensive plan as well as town ordinances can be found at www.townofprairiedusac.org

Landowners with farmland within the Extraterritorial Zoning (ET) Agriculture Perseveration zoning district may be eligible for farmland preservation tax credits. Landowners who claim a farmland preservation tax credit must also be in compliance with Wisconsin soil and water conservation standards. Sauk County Department of Land Resources and Environment monitors compliance and issue certificates of compliance. For more information about the farmland preservation program tax credits, contact the Sauk County Department of Land Resources and Environment 608-355-3245.

Land Division and Permits Questions

If you have questions on land divisions or new driveway access in the town or have any questions regarding the need to obtain approval or a general permit, you can contact the Town Clerk, Dick Nolden at 608-544-2406 or go to the town website at www.townofprairiedusac.org. The Town is in the process of updating its Applications Guide. This document is available from the Town Clerk and web site, which may help answer your questions. If you have a question regarding the need for a building permit, you may call Tracy Johnson, the building inspector, 608-444-0372.

Planning Commission

The Town Planning Commission meets on the third Thursday of each month (as needed). There are five citizens on the committee. Members include Dennis Porter (Chairperson), Dave Lundgren, Janine Godfriaux-Leystra, Galen Alwin and Brandon Dowd.

Commercial Agricultural Vehicle Permits

The weight limit on roads is 92,000 pounds; any equipment that is over 92,000 pounds must apply for and be granted a permit to exceed those limits. Permits can be obtained from the town clerk.

Outdoor Wood Heaters

The Town has an Ordinance to regulate the placement of these outdoor heaters. The wood heaters require a \$25 permit for installation. Please contact the town clerk for permit and guidelines 608-544-2406.

Recycling and Trash

Residential pick up of recyclables is made twice a month on the second and fourth Monday of the month. All recyclables should be placed at the end of the driveway in a clear plastic bag. Recyclables are to be mixed in the same bag (they do not need to be separated) and may include glass, plastic, tin and aluminum as follows:

- Plastic - no. 1 thru 7, rinsed, caps off
- Glass - rinsed, caps off
- Aluminum/tin - rinsed
- Newspapers - bundled and tied
- Cardboard - flattened and tied in bundles
- Magazines – bundled and tied

This service is available to all town residents and includes recyclables only. This service has been contracted to Town & Country Sanitation; any questions call 800-626-1915 or 608-375-5856. The recycling service does not include regular garbage pickup nor does it include non-recyclables (lead batteries, tires, yard waste, major appliances or motor oil). The Sauk County landfill is now closed. Dumping of any type of trash at the Town Hall is prohibited. You will need to contact a private contractor if you wish to dispose of material which is other than that accepted for recycling.

Fire Works Displays

Residents are reminded that the Town does require that anyone using fireworks in the Town need to obtain a permit from the town clerk. If you are planning a display, please call the town clerk and obtain the proper permit which needs to be signed by the town chairperson. Also residents will need proof of insurance liability coverage.

Web Page

The Town's webpage is located at www.townofprairiedusac.org. The web page includes information on town meetings, ordinances, permit requirements, resources, our local businesses and things to do in the Town.

Current Town Officers

Janinie Godfriaux-Leystra-Town Chair Person
John Lichtenheld-First Supervisor
Tom Schneller-Second Supervisor
Tom Murphy-Third Supervisor
Craig Walch -Fourth Supervisor
Richard Nolden-Town Clerk
Richard Meier- Town Treasurer