



Town of Prairie du Sac Annual Newsletter

Welcome to the 2022 edition of the town newsletter. This newsletter is published by the Town Board to keep town residents current on issues and events affecting the township.

Town meetings are now held in person with a remote access option. The town board recently invested in new audio-visual equipment for the town hall. This allows anyone who would like to remotely participate in meetings to do so. ***There is information on each agenda on how to join the meeting***, or contact the Town Clerk, Dick Nolden, at (608) 544-2406

Road Improvements

As a part of its annual road improvement program this year, both Dam Road and Dam Heights Road were reconstructed.

Crack Filling:

Both Prairie Road (Old Bluff to Honey Creek town line) and Rahl Road were crack filled this year.

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2023 Town Budget

At its November board meeting and public hearing, the Town Board adopted its budget for the 2023 calendar year in the amount of \$412,350. This is an increase of approximately \$15,000 over last year. This is primarily due to an increase in transportation aid. This year, the town's portion of the budget covered by property taxes will be about the same as last year at \$172,322. The town's mill rate (tax per \$1,000 of assessed value) for this year of \$0.98 will be about the same as last year.

Major budgeted expenses for 2023 include roadway maintenance and repair (\$162,830), fire protection (\$53,000), salaries and wages (\$61,500) and

equipment replacement reserve (\$60,000). The town is again participating in the joint municipal recreation program and has budgeted \$6,500 for this program.

Garbage and Recycling

New garbage and recycling protocol will begin in 2023. All town residents will be eligible for both garbage and recycling pick up. Garbage will be picked up ***every week*** and recycling will be picked up ***every other week***. Containers for garbage and recycling will be provided by the contractor. The contractor will be sending out information including what will be collected, a calendar of pick-up dates and correct placement of the totes. Links to information can also be found on the 'Residents' page of our website.

Broadband

Construction on broadband service in unserved areas of the town is scheduled to begin next year (2023). This is part of a \$7 million dollar 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. More specifically the effort will provide fiber optic cable capable of 1 Gb of download and upload speed to residents along Prairie Road, Swiss Valley Road, Von Wald Road, and Matoushek Road in the northern portion of the town. Service in the southwest portion of the town includes Skunk Valley Road, STH 60, Ferry Bluff Road, Schroeder Road, Baum Road, Huerth Road and Seitz Road. More information on the service area covered under the grant can be found at <https://ruightspeed.com/new-customers/>

2022 Property 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, 2023 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.

Land Divisions

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 permit, you can contact the Town Clerk, Dick Nolden, at (608) 544-2406, or go to the town website at www.townofprairiedusac.org. If you have a question regarding the need for a building permit, you may call Tracy Johnson, the building inspector, at 608-444-0372.

Planning Commission

The Town Planning Commission meets on the third Thursday of each month (as needed) at the Town Hall. There are five citizens appointed by the Town Chairman on the committee. Members include Dennis Porter (Chairperson), Janine Godfriaux-Leystra, Brandon Dowd, Dave Lundgren, and Galen Alwin. Committee members serve for a period of

one to two years. If you are interested in serving on the Planning Commission, please contact the Town Chairperson, Janine Godfriaux-Leystra.

Web Page

The town web page is located at www.townofprairiedusac.org. It is a good resource for information regarding town ordinances, permit requirements, news, meetings, resources, and contacts.

Outdoor Wood Heaters

The Town Board has adopted an ordinance to regulate outdoor wood heaters. Because of the concern expressed by some town residents and problems that occurred in other communities, the town has now regulated the placement of these outdoor heaters. Regulations include chimney height (**minimum 12 feet**), proximity to neighboring buildings (300 feet), and no garbage or treated material can be burned in the heaters. They cannot be installed in areas of the town zoned Residential or General Agriculture that have a lot size of under 4 acres. The wood heaters now require a \$25 permit for installation. Before installing a wood heater, please contact Town Clerk, Dick Nolden, at 608 544-2406 for a permit and more details on installation guidelines.

Current Town Officers

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