TOWN OF LIMA SHEBOYGAN COUNTY WISCONSIN

AUTUMN 2014 NEWSLETTER



ANNUAL UPDATEChuck Born, Town Board Chairman

Hello from your Chairman. I trust you all survived the long, cold winter and kind of weird spring and summer. Thanks to the County Highway Department, the snow plowing and grass mowing was done without problems.

A few issues come to mind as I write this. We seem to get several requests to fill in ditches for better grass mowing or a more attractive lawn. The ditch in front of your home is engineered to keep the water moving and keep the base of the road (the base is what's under the pavement) dry. The ditch is in the right-of-way. Yes, you pay taxes on it, but the township controls it. Utilities have the right to locate in the right of way, too, and can dig any time they have a need to do so. Areas in Gibbsville have installed culverts and filled in the ditch. While this works, it does NOT work when it freezes up full of water, and it does NOT drain the base of the road properly. Fixing drainage problems in this area will be very expensive and disruptive, so please don't ask to fill in any more ditches.

Another problem that gets complaints is burning of plastic and other smelly materials. It is CLEARLY ILLEGAL TO BURN PLASTICS, TREATED LUMBER, RUBBER PRODUCTS ETC in the state of Wisconsin. That is why we maintain our fine trash collection/recycling center. Burning these materials will violate our Township Nuisance ordinance, which now carries a fine plus court costs. However, several residents are suggesting a ban on all burning barrels. My suggestion would be to quit burning these materials. Every time we have to send one of our Constables out to investigate a burning complaint, it costs the taxpayers dollars. If, however, you would want the Township to put a burn barrel ban in place, contact me or one of your supervisors. This issue will not go away!

Road update: Our next major project is Miley Road. Utility work is in progress this year. Ditching, tree removal, and culvert replacement will take place next year, with paving done in 2016. I know that that makes no sense to a lot of people, taking that long to do a project, but that's the only way we can afford to do it, and it's good to let the culverts and new ditches settle in before grinding the old pavement and repaving. We continue to maintain our good roads and streets with cracksealing and slurrysealing. As you know, we raised your taxes this year to do this work, and we will not take any loans to do this work. We'll do what we can afford.

BUILDING PERMITS

Teri Stengel, Town Clerk/Treasurer

Just a reminder that building permits are required for any project with a value of \$500 or more. Re-roofing also requires a \$40 building permit, regardless of the cost. Please contact Town Building Inspector Jon Buyze to obtain a permit before construction begins. He can be reached at (920) 980-8780 or through e-mail at townlimainspector@gmail.com. Thank you!



COMPACTOR / RECYCLING CENTER INFORMATION

Allen Price, Town Board Supervisor

If you don't already know, the town is leasing a new compactor to replace our old north compactor. The old compactor frame was getting very rusty and kept cracking, requiring constant repairs. The hydraulic system was to the point where it could have failed at any time, causing very expensive repairs. The new compactor is located on the west side of the unloading area on a new concrete slab. The open dumpster, which is for scrap metals and was located outside, will now be located inside the building.

Another change is that one compactor is for garbage and non-recyclables and the other compactor is for all recyclables. These include clean paper and cardboard, tin and aluminum cans, #1 through #7 plastics, and glass containers. Remember that all plastic or glass containers and jars must be rinsed and be in blue or clear plastic bags.

IMPORTANT REMINDERS:

Hang tag users

Tags must be renewed every year by August 1st. They are not to be shared with others. All garbage and non-recyclables must be in clear bags. NO BLACK BAGS WILL BE ACCEPTED!! All recyclables must be in clear or blue bags.

Yellow bag users

<u>ALL</u> garbage and non-recyclables <u>MUST</u> be in the YELLOW bags or they will not be accepted! All recyclables must be in clear or blue bags.

Hang tag purchase or renewal information is available on the Town's website or by calling your Clerk at 467-6037. Yellow and clear bags are sold at the Compactor/Recycling Center.

SOME THINGS TO THINK ABOUT

Tom Jens, Town Board Supervisor

Many of us wonder why there are so many mandates and regulations today. The Nanny State seems to be in full swing. None of us seem to be able to take care of ourselves. We have the First Lady telling us what we should eat, officials from New York telling us how big our soft drink can be, and so on.

A lot of things that seem unnecessary are mandated to our Town from County, State, and Federal levels. To comply with the law, we must follow these mandates. Your Town Board, Planning Commission, and Board of Appeals all try to follow these dictates, but we do so with our fellow town residents' best interests in mind.

We can't do much about County, State, or Federal regulations, but we can do a lot about how we conduct ourselves in our township. We don't need to make stricter ordinances and tougher regulations if we "will each other to good." Respectfully engaging each other, being true to our word, and following the Golden Rule will suffice in most instances.

Thank you for understanding that our property taxes had to be raised to meet the average of our neighboring townships. Hopefully we can operate without borrowing more money. Fiscal responsibility is a good thing and the best course for the future.

Our Town officials differ on their political outlooks. However, every discussion we have and solution we determine is done with the best interests of our residents first and foremost.

One last important note: It is always good to have town residents present at our monthly meetings. Your concerns are important to us and not taken lightly. Thanks!

TOWN WEBSITE

Be sure to visit your town website at www.townlima.com

There is a lot of interesting and useful information there, and it can be a helpful tool for our residents. Check it out!

TOWN OF LIMA – WHO ARE WE?

Jim Heinen, Town Board Supervisor

This is a question that comes up every time the Town Board and Planning Commission are charged with doing any long range planning. I remember when, in the late 80's and early 90's, as a township we were working on a Long Range Plan. At that time we had a population of about 2,850. Today we have a population of 2,986 according to the latest amended census estimates. This makes us the seventh largest municipality in Sheboygan County. We had two sanitary districts in Gibbsville and Hingham back then, and today we have two sanitary districts in Gibbsville and Hingham. We also enjoy great neighbors in Sheboygan Falls and Oostburg in that they are not trying to annex large tracts of land from our community into theirs.

However, many other things have changed. Today only 2% of the population is involved in production agriculture compared to 10% then. Due to farmland consolidation, farms are larger, but there are less of them. Also, we are an aging community with the average age of 41.5 compared to about 34 back then. Some might say that we are somewhat of an affluent community with an average household income of \$72,675, and 66% of the population has a household income of \$50,000 or more. That was not the case twenty years ago. Also, we had a growing population of school-age children then and today it is declining with 35% of school age children being in Elementary School; 40% Middle School; and 35% in High School with fewer Kindergartners than High School Seniors.

So what do these numbers tell us? 1. People when they retire are staying in the Township and are staying in their homes longer. 2. Young people are going off to school and are moving away for employment. 3. People are moving into the Town of Lima in retirement looking for a safe, rural setting. 4. Growth will continue at a modest level of 2 to 3% with most of this occurring in the two sanitary districts of Gibbsville and Hingham. 5. Farms will continue to get larger, with less of the population being

employed by production agriculture. 6. More people from outside the community are going to continue to move in looking for the same things that we as natives find so appealing. 7. People are no longer going to know their neighbors like they used to.

Conclusion: Town of Lima – Who are we? We are a bedroom community with modest growth. We are a production agriculture community, which varies from Dairy Farming, Fur Farming, Cash Cropping and other Livestock Production. We will see ethnic change, along with many name changes on mail boxes. This brings us a challenge in that we all need to know our neighbors and befriend them so we do not lose the quaintness that we have all enjoyed; it is this quaintness that makes people in other communities envy us.

FARMLAND PRESERVATION PLAN UPDATE

Al Bosman, Town Board Supervisor

The township's plan commission is working to update the current town Farmland Preservation Plan (FPP) adopted by the County in 2005. State FPP began in 1977, which significantly shaped township zoning.

Background: Chapter 91 of the Wis State Statutes has been Wisconsin's Farmland Preservation Law since 1977. Shebovgan County adopted its first FPP Subsequent plans were adopted in 1985 and 2005. In 2009, Wis Act 28 (2009-2011 Budget Bill) created what has become known as the "Working Lands Initiative." This new initiative called for modernization and expansion of the State's existing Farmland Preservation Program, establishing Ag Enterprise Areas and creating a Purchase of Agricultural Conservation Easement (PACE) matching grant program. Sheboygan County, including the Town of Lima, must update their FPP by December 31, 2015.

Work Progressing: The Lima Town Board and Plan Commission are being assisted by Kevin Struck of UW-Ex in developing a specific plan for the town that meets the State of Wisconsin

criteria and also addresses local concerns and priorities. Any town resident who participates in the Farmland Preservation Program is welcome to attend and contribute to the discussions and development of our town's FPP.

Points of Interest:

- 1. Town of Lima has 18,724 acres enrolled in the Farmland Preservation Program (latest statistics)
- 2. All Farmland Preservation Program participants must comply with Wisconsin Land and Water Standards (ATCP 50, Wisconsin Admin Code).
- 3. The County Comprehensive Plan must include the FPP. If there are inconsistencies between the two plans, the FPP supersedes the County Comprehensive Plan.

Conclusion: The update of the local and County FPP lends strong support to the preservation of productive farmland and environmentally significant natural areas, while providing for planned growth that is compatible with local agriculture and natural resources.

DROP-OFF SITES FOR WASTE OIL

Teri Stengel, Town Clerk/Treasurer

Waste oil is not accepted at our Compactor Site / Recycling Center. For many years, Lima Auto Enterprises at W2254 Ourtown Road has been a waste oil drop-off facility for our residents, and will continue in that capacity. I have been notified that Larry Born, N3027 Camp Riversite Rd., will also accept waste oil.

TAX COLLECTION

This year is flying by, and before you know it, tax season will once again be upon us.

There will be two options for paying first-installment or full-payment taxes: In-person payments at Oostburg State Bank, or through the U.S. Mail. This is unchanged from the past few years.

If you wish to make an in-person payment and receive a receipt immediately, you can go to

Oostburg State Bank at 905 Center Avenue in Oostburg. Be sure to bring your tax bill with you. Please note that all payments should be made inside the Bank, no tax payments will be accepted in the drive-through.

The other option is to mail your tax payment along with your tax bill to the Town of Lima, W2351 Spring Lane Ct., Sheboygan Falls, WI 53085. If you would like a receipt, be sure to include a self-addressed, stamped envelope.

Please note: if you choose not to make a payment at Oostburg Bank, you are mailing your payment to the home of your Town Clerk. This is my home and not a business, so I ask that you respect it as such. There will be no in-person payments accepted at my home, and it is illegal to use a mailbox as a drop-off for letters that have not been mailed. No exceptions will be made. Please keep this in mind and use Oostburg Bank if you wish to make an in-person payment. Thank you in advance for your cooperation, it is very much appreciated.

DOG LICENSES

All dogs must be licensed annually prior to April 1st every year by State law. License fees are currently \$15 per dog, or \$10 if the dog is neutered/spayed.

You can obtain a license through the mail at any time after late December, but please remember to renew before the April 1st deadline. Just send the fee (checks payable to the Town of Lima) along with proof of rabies vaccination and a self-addressed stamped envelope to Teri Stengel, W2351 Spring Lane Ct., Sheboygan Falls, WI 53085. Please keep in mind that no license can be issued without proof of rabies vaccination per state statute. The rabies vaccination papers will be returned to you along with the license in the envelope you provide.

A late fee of \$25.00 per dog will be collected for any license issued after April 1, in addition to the regular license fee.

All of this information is also available on the town website: www.townlima.com

ELECTED OFFICIALS AND OTHER FOLKS TO KNOW

Town website: www.townlima.com

Town Board Chairman Charles Born 838-4020 W3224 STH 28 Sheboygan Falls, WI 53085

Town Board Supervisors
Alan Bosman 467-6974
W3847 CTH N
Sheboygan Falls, WI 53085

James Heinen 467-6760 N4408 STH 32 Sheboygan Falls, WI 53085

W. Thomas Jens 564-3342 W3949 CTH V Sheboygan Falls, WI 53085

Allen Price 564-2150 W2456 Holland-Lima Road Oostburg, WI 53070

Clerk/Treasurer

Teresa Stengel 467-6037 W2351 Spring Lane Ct. Sheboygan Falls, WI 53085 e-mail: clerk@townlima.com

Constables

Brian Tenpas 980-4922 W3048 CTH V Sheboygan Falls, WI 53085

Ralph Scholten 564-2591 N2953 Century Lane Rd. Oostburg, WI 53070

Planning Commission Chairman Alan Bosman 467-6974 W3847 CTH N Sheboygan Falls, WI 53085 **Building Inspector**

Jon Buyze 980-8780 N2937 Sunset Drive Oostburg, WI 53070

e-mail: townlimainspector@gmail.com

NOTE: Jon plans to resign from this position at the end of the year. Our website will have updated contact information when available, or you can call your Clerk/Treasurer at 467-6037.

Assessor

Associated Appraisal Consultants 1-800-721-4157 1314 W. College Ave., P.O. Box 2111 Appleton, WI 54912-2111

Town Hall Custodians & Schedulers Brian & Linda Tenpas 980-4922 W3048 CTH V Sheboygan Falls, WI 53085

Fire Department Chiefs
Village of Oostburg Richard Neerhof 564-2595
330 N. 8th Street
Oostburg, WI 53070

Village of Waldo -Jason Parrish 980-8713 wfd53093@hotmail.com

Town of Sheboygan Falls -Robert Kroeplien 467-8324 N5761 CTH TT Sheboygan Falls, WI 53085

TOWN BOARD MEETINGS

The second Monday of each month, 7:30PM Lima Town Hall – N3689 CTH I

(Changes will be published in the Plymouth Review and posted at the Town Hall, Gibbsville Cheese, and the Hingham Post Office)

PLANNING COMMISSION MEETINGS

The fourth Monday of each month, 7:30PM Lima Town Hall – N3689 CTH I

(No Plan. Comm. meeting in December)