ANNUAL NEWSLETTER
DECEMBER, 2022

Town of Turtle

Town of Turtle's New Website will be up and running soon!

We are very excited to share the news that the Town of Turtle has been working on building a new website for our residents! The new site will be a great resource for Zoning Ordinances, meeting schedules, agendas, minutes, as well as any Town news. We will have all of the contact information for Town officials and staff, applications for licenses, Election information, Lost dog postings, and details on some great local businesses. The website is a work in progress, but the hope is to have it up and running before the end of 2022. Please be sure to check it out at www.townofturtlewi.gov. In the meantime, information is still available for a limited time on our current website www.tn.turtle.wi.gov.

A Letter From Your Chairman

Dear Town of Turtle Residents,

On August 19, 2022, the Lathers Road bridge was closed permanently following the annual inspection by the Department of Transportation. The bridge report is very detailed, outlining the damage and fractures causing the bridge to be unsafe.
The Town Board has taken action, together with the Rock County Department of Public Works, to apply for Federal grants to build a new bridge. We have been approved for the grant, which would provide for a new bridge in 2027. With the failure of our iron bridge, we have requested that the timeline for the new bridge be moved up if possible. We have not yet heard back on the request to expedite the timeline.

There have been a lot of questions about what we are going to do with the iron bridge. We are in the process of finding out what the costs would be to keep the bridge in place. We do not have any solid numbers yet for the repair and painting, but a best guess is that would be in the two hundred thousand range which does not include the cost for repairing the foundation issues. Additionally, if the bridge is kept in place, even if just as a walking bridge, all repairs must be made, and the bridge must be inspected every year to insure it meets a safe standard. Furthermore, if we keep the iron bridge and build a new bridge beside it, additional easement will need to be secured adding to the cost of a new bridge. These costs would most likely be all on the Town, as it doesn't appear there is any grant money available for the repair of the old bridge. The process has already begun to select an engineering firm for the design of a new bridge. Members of the Town Board participated in that process with Rock County DPW locally and now the State DOT will complete the process.

Certainly, there are many more questions than answers as to what direction we will take in determining the future of the bridge. We have heard from a lot of people about the need to maintain a bridge over the creek at Lathers Road, and I think we all agree. Obviously, there is a lot to be taken into consideration, and as we go forward the matter will be on the Town Board's agenda. I encourage folks with concern and questions to watch the Town's website for updates and action to come before the Board at the monthly meetings.

Wishing you health and happiness,

Roger Anclam
Chairman

Dog Licenses

Dogs that are more than 5 months of age are required to be licensed (Wis. Statute 174.05). Dog licenses may be obtained at, or mailed to the Town of Turtle, 6916 S County Road J, Beloit, WI 53511. Office hours are: Monday, Wednesday, and Friday- 8:00 am-noon. When applying for a dog license, **a copy of the certificate of rabies must accompany your application** and payment. Fees: $5.00/ altered dog, $10.00/unaltered, $5.00/puppy. To ensure that all of the necessary information is included, please get the official Dog License Application off of the Town's website. Any applications made after March 31, 2023 will be considered late and assess a late fee of $5.00.

Protect Wisconsin Waterways

In 2022, the Town of Turtle joined the Rock River Storm Water Group, a group of communities from Waupun to Beloit committed to improving the health of the Rock River and other Wisconsin waterways by reducing storm water runoff pollution. **Learn simple things you can do around your property to reduce storm water runoff** and help Protect Wisconsin's Waterways at www.protectwiwaterways.org.

Save the date and join a Rock County area waterway clean up on September 23, 2023!

What is Storm Water Runoff & Why It Matters?

Storm water runoff is rain and melting snow that flows off building rooftops, driveways, lawns, streets, parking lots, construction sites, and industrial storage yards. Storm water runoff goes directly into our waterways – but is not clean water. Storm water runoff often carries pollutants that can seriously harm our waterways and wildlife. It can also cause erosion. **Own waterfront property? Minimize your shoreline erosion** by following the tips at protectwiwaterways.org.

WHEN REGISTERING YOUR VEHICLES BE SURE TO REPORT THAT YOUR VEHICLE IS KEPT IN THE TOWN OF TURTLE.

THE ANNUAL E-WASTE DROP OFF WITH WASTE MANAGEMENT WILL BE MAY 6, 2023. IF YOU HAVE E-WASTE THAT NEEDS TO BE DISPOSED OF OUTSIDE OF THAT DATE, IT CAN BE DROPPED OFF AT CITY OF BELOIT DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS, 2351 SPRINGBROOK COURT, ON SATURDAYS, FROM 9AM-12PM FOR A FEE.

Town of Turtle Real Estate and Personal Property Taxes

All payments will be collected by the **Rock County Treasurer's Office.** Payments can be made by e-check through GovTech for $1.00, Debit Card payments will incur a $3.95 transaction fee, and Credit Cards are 2.29% of the transaction amount. Multiple Parcels can be applied to a single transaction. To pay online visit https://www.co.rock.wi.us/treasurer-paying-property-taxes. When paying by mail, the address is 51 S. Main St, Janesville, WI 53545. Please send a self-addressed envelope with your payment if you want a receipt. Make check payable to Rock County Treasurer, and write the Tax ID# on the check. Or call 1-855-912-7625 and follow the voice prompts. There is a fee for using these services. There is also a **DROP BOX** inside the building next to the office door. You can call the office at 608-757-5670 with questions. **Please check your real estate tax bill to verify that you are receiving the Lottery Credit. The Town of Turtle will not collect any payments.**

2022 Property Tax Levies and Mill Rates

County Levy	$1,253,238.22	
Local	$ 350,251.00	
Clinton School	$2,525,101.91	Clinton School-$23.71
Beloit Turner	$ 348,968.19	Turner School-$17.20
Beloit School	$ 141,616.64	Beloit School-$13.31
Blackhawk Tech	$ 232,371.27	
State School Credit	$- 425,538.92	
Total to be collected	$4,426,008.31	

	Lottery Credit	First Dollar Credit
Beloit School	$133.47	$40.66
Beloit Turner	$214.17	$65.25
Clinton School	$348.82	$106.27