



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

December 10, 2018

RE: Portage County Tax Bills Complete

I am happy to report to the citizens of Portage County that on December 7th—11 days after the former Treasurer’s last day in office—tax bills were completed for 2018. This success is reflective of a genuine team effort where everyone who had a part to play stepped up to get the job done. I’d like to express my thanks for the strong leadership from several individuals who guided the process from beginning-to-end; Interim-Treasurer Pam Przybelski, Assistant Finance Director Trisha Heyman, Finance Director Jennifer Jossie, Information Technology Director Al Hawker, Transcendent Technologies Director of Operations Steve Moore, and all of our municipal clerks and treasurers who really got the process off to a strong start.

The County’s statutory deadline for completing the tax bill generation process is December 17th. Since the County was able to accomplish the task with ten days to spare, people should have plenty of time to complete their taxes. This is a little later than usual, but this was already not a normal year given that the County had a referendum on the November ballot. That delayed everything by two weeks on its own. Still, the County exceeded all expectations given that we had to also overcome the resignation of the former Treasurer, the adoption and implementation of an entirely new tax software program, and a lot of expected and unexpected hiccups along the way. Many would have wilted under the pressure that built with each new development.

This was the first—and arguably the largest—hurdle to overcome given the situation the County found itself in. Citizens looking to pay their first installment before the end of the year can help us get past the next one by not waiting until the last minute to get their payments in. In a normal year, the County Treasurer’s Office processes 2,000-3,000 tax bills per day in the last few days of the year. This often requires working on the weekend to finish before midnight on New Year’s Eve. If those looking to pay this year can get their work done sooner, we can help to spread that out over a few more days. Those looking to pay in January can also help by paying before the first installment deadline of January 31st, 2019.

Thank you for your patience and understanding as we move forward.

Chris Holman
Portage County Executive

**1462 Strongs Avenue, Stevens Point, WI 54481
Phone: (715) 346-1327 ♦ Fax: (715) 346-1995 ♦ .**