



Grant Town Hall
 9011 County Rd WW
 Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54494
 Tel: 715-423-9193
 Fax: 715-423-9115

Website:
townofgrantportageco.com

Board of Supervisors
Chair
Sharon Schwab 715-325-3827
Supervisors
Dale Winkler 715-213-5438
Jim Yetter 715-213-2000
Clerk
Vicky Zimmerman 715-325-6319
grantclerk@wctc.net
Treasurer
Diana Luecht 715-325-3134

Planning & Zoning
Plan Commission Chair
Jim Wendels 715-423-3496
Zoning Administrator
Marty Rutz 715-421-9200
Board of Adjustments Chair
David Luecht 715-325-3134

Emergency Services 911
Ambulance
 United Emergency Medical
 Services **715-423-7777**
Fire Departments
 Grand Rapids **715-424-1815**
 Plainfield **715-335-4253**
Severe Weather Alerts
 Portage Co. Community Alert
 Register: www.co.portage.wi.us
 or by calling Sheriff's Dept.
 715-326-1400

Webmaster Kathy Lee
 715-423-3891

Fall 2016

This election year we have witnessed bad behavior by current or former government officials or wannabes. In my humble opinion, it's been difficult to listen to. Perhaps by the time you read this, the national elections will have been decided and we are all breathing collective sighs of relief. Regardless of the results, this election year has created an unpleasant atmosphere at every level of government. Things are more devious, apathetic, mean-spirited, and down-right frustrating. The budget constraints for local towns are unrealistic and simply ridiculous for the amount of work we are being asked to do not only by our residents who we immediately serve, but by higher levels of government (county and state). These don't leave room for day to day tasks to keep the "health, safety and welfare" of residents our top priority. It's a weird time – let's hope that winter cleans the air and refreshes a spirit of cooperation!

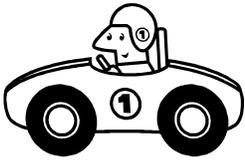
Sharon

→ **Regular Monthly Board Meetings** ←
 2nd Wednesdays, 6:30 pm

Transfer Station Hours

	<u>Wednesday</u>	<u>Saturday</u>
Nov - Mar	11am – 4pm	9am – 4pm
Apr - May	11am – 5pm	9am – 5pm
Jun – Aug	11am – 7pm	9am – 5pm
Sep - Oct	11am – 5pm	9am – 5pm

[Newsletter compiled and edited by Sharon Schwab]



Roads, roads, roads...

By Sharon Schwab

The replacement of four culverts on Evergreen Avenue where it crosses Ten Mile Creek was recently completed. The aging and deteriorated culverts were replaced with two larger arch pipes. In addition, the road was realigned to provide a straighter path; removing the dangerous reverse curves that resulted in accidents in recent years. Culvert and road design was provided by Jewell Associates Engineers; Inc., construction by Earth, Inc. and 50% cost-share from Portage County for the culverts. Our thanks are extended to landowners John & Ellen Grys and Steven Kiedrowski who cooperated in this project.

Ditch cuts and higher road profiles were created on 110th Street (Quarry – CTH W) and Griffith (CTH F – 3000 linear feet east of 130th). Following 4" of ¾" gravel were added. Timm Avenue (100th – termini) also received a gravel base. Quarry Road (90th – 100th) had ~1900 linear feet of organic material ("muck") removed, a sand lift added, and 8" crushed red granite of road material. This project was aided by precise soil profiling by Quest Engineers, LLC, with construction by Ladick Road Materials, Inc. Our thanks are extended to landowners Crimson Star Cranberries for the sand borrow and Paul O'Laufin who provided an upland site for the organic material. High groundwater conditions and organic materials made this road, with six residential homes, nearly impassable each spring and during high precipitation events. Last, American Asphalt, Inc. wedged large sections of Washington Avenue (80th – 90th) which was severely damaged by heavy trucks during the previous winter and spring.

In February \$20,000 was awarded to the Town of Grant through the Transportation Improvement Program (TRI) to reconstruct Oak Street (a minimum of 1700 linear feet east of CTH U (80th Street). Project design, a requirement for WisDOT funding, was completed by Quest Engineers, LLC and bid documents have already been sent to plan-holders statewide. A bid opening is scheduled this November with possible construction slated for June 2017. Other pending road projects without cost-share include: Elm Road resurfacing (90th – 100th), pulverizing, ditching, gravel, and chip seal for Grove Avenue (CTH U – 84th St).

Cost-share applications with state programs titled: Local Road Improvement – Discretionary (TRIP-D) and Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) with the WisDOT were unsuccessful in 2016. If funded, the TRIP-D applications would have cost-shared the following roads: 1) Culvert crossings over Buena Vista Creek on 95th and 100th with failing pavement, inadequate guardrails, and loss of wall integrity abutting the culvert pipes; 2) Quarry Road (90th-100th) for common excavation, sand lift, and road base; and 3) Mill Road (100th – CTH F) for proper ditching, road base, and eventual asphalt surface. The TAP application submitted for Mertz Subdivision would have provided 80% cost share for bicycle and pedestrian paths throughout the entire subdivision. At this writing the Quarry Road project was completed with town funds. In July, the Town applied for cost-share from Portage County for one of the culvert crossings listed above. Otherwise, TRIP-D applications can be reapplied for in 2018 and TAP in 2020.

A recent survey by the Wisconsin Towns Association (WTA) determined that road reconstruction in towns statewide are occurring every 80-140(!) years versus the recommended 20-40 years. Towns receive just over \$2,000 for every mile of certified roadway. The Town of Grant receives ~ \$250,000 in WisDOT funds each year, but conservative estimates for us to properly maintain and reconstruct our roads is \$5,750,000.

Town of Grant et al. vs. Portage County
Case No. 15-CV-176

In July 2015, the Town of Grant and three resident co-plaintiffs sued Portage County over an errant levy for ambulance services; so called *County-wide Emergency Medical Services (EMS)*. As of this writing, a portion of every Town of Grant property owners' county taxes goes to support the City of Stevens Point Fire Department and the Village of Amherst Fire Department for ambulance services. No county taxes, from any municipality in Portage County, goes to support our ambulance provider United Emergency Medical Response (UEMR). In 2016 Town of Grant taxpayers paid \$38,095 to the county for ambulance services we do not use, and also pay UEMR \$37,792 from our town taxes for the ambulance services we do use. **No other municipality in Portage County is double-taxed in this way.**

State Statute 60.565 requires that Towns, not counties, contract for ambulance service. We are the only municipality in Portage County that has a contract on file with a provider; as the law requires. Portage County has assumed the responsibility for ambulance services without either verbal or written consent from us, and taxes us annually for it. And although we all pay for other services provided by the county that we may not use commonly or at all, it is relevant that ambulance (and fire protection) services are a responsibility of the Town, not the county. We contend that Portage County has no authority, under current state law, to levy us for ambulance service.

To exaggerate this issue, beginning in 2008, Portage County exceeded the State of Wisconsin levy limits caps under the auspices of *County-wide EMS* to accrue enough funds for the aforementioned fire departments to support ambulance services. Since that time the Town of Grant has actively protested the county's actions through meeting attendances, county board appearances, written memos and letters, preliminary legal action and ultimately, formal legal action. .

On October 23, 2015 an initial hearing was held in a Portage County with Judge Bernard Bult of Marquette County presiding. Judge Bult did not grant the Town of Grant the temporary injunction it was seeking to prevent Portage County from taxing us in 2016 for *County-wide EMS* from the 2015 fiscal year. But, he also did not grant Portage County the dismissal of this case they were seeking. He said the case had merit and would continue in the court system.

So, on September 23, 2016 a formal hearing was held. Judge Bult did not grant Portage County a dismissal of the Town of Grant as plaintiffs. However, he did find in favor of them in his summary judgment. At this writing all Town of Grant residents must continue to pay for ambulance contracts with the Amherst and Steven Point Fire Departments for services which do not serve us. An appeal is being considered.

On June 29, 2016 the Town Board voted to adopt an ATV/UTV Ordinance on a 2:1 vote. Supervisors Dale Winkler and Jim Yetter voted in favor and Chair Sharon Schwab voted against the following:

TOWN OF GRANT
PORTAGE COUNTY WISCONSIN
**ALL-TERRAIN VEHICLE/UTILITY TERRAIN VEHICLE
ROUTES ORDINANCE**
ORDINANCE NO. 16-01

SECTION I – PURPOSE:

The purpose of this ordinance is to establish All-Terrain Vehicle/Utility Terrain Vehicle routes in the Town of Grant and to regulate the operation of All-Terrain Vehicle/Utility Terrain Vehicle in the town.

SECTION II AUTHORITY:

The Town Board of the Town of Grant, Portage County, Wisconsin, has the specific authority to adopt this All-Terrain Vehicle/Utility Terrain Vehicle Route Ordinance under s. 23.33 (8) (b) and (11), Wis. stats.

SECTION III ADOPTION OF ORDINANCE:

This ordinance, adopted by a majority of the town board on a roll call vote with a quorum present and voting and proper notice having been given, provides the Town of Grant the authority to designate All-Terrain Vehicle/Utility Terrain Vehicle routes in the town and provides for the regulation of the use of those routes and of All-Terrain Vehicle/Utility Terrain Vehicle in the town.

SECTION IV –OPERATION OF ALL-TERRAIN VEHICLE/UTILITY TERRAIN VEHICLES:

Pursuant to s. 23.33 (4) (d) 4., Wis. Stats., except as otherwise provided in s. 23.33 (4), Wis. Stats., no person may operate an All-Terrain Vehicle/Utility Terrain Vehicle on the roadway portion of any highway in the town except on roadways that are designated as All-Terrain Vehicle/Utility Terrain Vehicle routes by this ordinance. Operation of All-Terrain Vehicle/Utility Terrain Vehicle on a roadway in the town that is an All-Terrain Vehicle/Utility Terrain Vehicle route is authorized only for the extreme right of the roadway except that left turns may be made from any part of the roadway that is safe given prevailing conditions.

SECTION V – DESIGNATION OF ALL-TERRAIN VEHICLE/UTILITY TERRAIN VEHICLE ROUTES:

The following routes are designated All-Terrain Vehicle/Utility Terrain Vehicle routes in the Town of Grant:

1. Tower Road from County U to Town Line Road

- A. Routes shall be marked with uniform All-Terrain Vehicle/Utility Terrain Vehicle route signs in accordance with s. NR 64.12 and. NR 64.12(7)c, Wisconsin Administrative Code. No person may do any of the following in regard to signs marking town All-Terrain Vehicle/Utility Terrain Vehicle routes:
1. Intentionally remove, damage, deface, move or obstruct any uniform All-Terrain Vehicle/Utility Terrain Vehicle route or trail sign or standard, or intentionally interfere with the effective operation of any uniform All-Terrain Vehicle/Utility Terrain Vehicle route or trail sign or standards if the sign or standard is legally placed by the state, any municipality or any authorized individual.
 2. Possess any uniform All-Terrain Vehicle/Utility Terrain Vehicle route or trail sign or standard of the type established by the department for the warning, instruction, or information of the public, unless he or she obtained the uniform All-Terrain Vehicle/Utility Terrain Vehicle route of trail sign or standard in a lawful manner. Possession of a uniform All-Terrain Vehicle/Utility Terrain Vehicle (ATV/UTV) route or trail sign or standard creates a rebuttable presumption of illegal possession.
- B. Operation shall be subject to all provisions of s. 23.33, Wis. Stats., which is adopted as a part of this ordinance by reference, pursuant to s. 23.33(11), Wis. Stats.
- C. A copy of this ordinance shall be forwarded, by the Town Clerk to the Portage County Sheriff's Department, the Wisconsin State Patrol, and Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources.
- D. The ordinance will be reviewed annually at the first regularly scheduled Town Board meeting in April.
- E. Additional restrictions are as follows:
- ATV/UTV operators of all ages are encouraged to complete a certification course.
 - The maximum speed on ATV/UTV routes is 35 miles per hour.
 - All ATV/UTV operators shall slow the vehicle to 10 mph or less when operating within 100 feet of any person who is not on a motorized vehicle including a horse rider. Care must be taken not to spook a horse.
 - Operation of an ATV/UTV on the designated route is limited from 8:00 a.m. until one hour after sunset.
 - All ATV/UTVs must be operated in single file.
 - All ATV/UTV operators under the age of 18 must wear a helmet. All other operators are highly encouraged to wear a helmet.
 - All ATV/UTVs must have headlights and taillight on at all times.
 - All ATV/UTVs must be operated on (paved, graveled, or maintained) road surfaces only.
 - No ATV/UTV's may be operated on road shoulders or in road ditches. No straddling of the shoulder or ditch is allowed.
 - Any load carried on the ATV/UTV must be secured to avoid loss of the load and to avoid increased instability of the vehicle.
 - The ATV/UTV routes will be closed from November 1 through April 30.

- Any or all ATV/UTV routes may be closed at any time at the discretion of the Town of Grant.

SECTION VII – ENFORCEMENT

This ordinance may be enforced by any law enforcement officer authorized to enforce the laws of the state of Wisconsin.

SECTION VIII – PENALTIES

The penalties under s. 23.33 (13) (a), Wis. Stats. are adopted by reference.

SECTION IX – SEVERABILITY

Should any portion of this Ordinance be declared unconstitutional or invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, the remainder of this Ordinance shall not be affected.

SECTION X – EFFECTIVE DATE

This ordinance is effective upon publication or posting. The Town Clerk shall properly publish this ordinance as required under s. 60.80, Wis. Stats.



Grant Medical First Responders

by Robin Mateer, Jerry Reinwand, and Lisa Ross

Grant Medical First Responders (EMR) are looking for people who are interested in being part of our Grant EMR team. You do not need a medical background, just a dedication for helping your fellow neighbors in times of need. Classes are available through Midstate Technical College. After completion of a one-year commitment to Grant EMR you can be reimbursed for your training by the Town. Your commitment to Grant EMR is simply whenever you are available to respond to calls, plus a team meeting the second Monday of each month at 6:00 pm at the Grant Town Hall.

If you are interested in becoming a Grant EMR please contact Jim Yetter at 715-213-2000, Jerry Reinwand at 715-570-8720 or Lisa Ross at 715-459-2493 today!



The Town of Grant works with Portage County Humane Society (PCHS) on animal control. Here are a few facts from 2016:

1. 34 complaints were handled by PCHS of which there were 3 bites, 12 running at large, 5 barking dogs, 3 mistreated, 8 strays and 3 misc.
2. Dog license issued in 2016 was 447.
3. We held a rabies clinic February 19, 2016. The clinic offered rabies shots, Lyme booster, leptosporosis booster, microchips and dog license. Everyone that attended was happy to see the clinic held and I have received many calls about doing it again next year.
4. All dog license expire December 31st each year. In your tax bill we include a form for renewing your license for your convenience. You have a grace period from January 1st until March 31st each year to purchase your license. Late fees are assessed after April 1st. To avoid late fees many people send the form in for license at the same time they pay there taxes.
5. If you are new to our town or still need to license your dog you may contact me at 715-325-3134 to make arrangement to purchase a license. It is a state statue that all dogs over 5 months of age must be licensed.

Town of Grant

DOG NOTICE & APPLICATION – 2017

If you own a dog, or have renters that own a dog, I'd like to take this opportunity to share an important message about Dog licensing... (Landlords - we rely on YOU to inform your renters about the dog license requirements)!

State Statute 174.05, Portage County Animal Control Ordinance, and Town of Grant Dog Ordinance **REQUIRE EVERY DOG OVER THE AGE OF 5 MONTHS TO BE LICENSED. CURRENT LICENSES EXPIRE DECEMBER 31, 2016.**

FAILURE TO OBTAIN A LICENSE OR HAVE A DOG VACCINATED AGAINST RABIES IS \$169.00 to \$263.50. The Town of Grant works closely with Portage County Humane Society (agency responsible for the enforcement of animal control) to insure compliance of the laws.

For each dog requiring licensing at your residence or rental you must provide (either send or bring to me) a copy of its current rabies certificate. If you are sending for a license, you must include the following items or a license will not be mailed:

1. Rabies Certificate with dates and Serum Number (if your dog is currently licensed and the shots are still in effect) you do not have to send #1 or #2 because they should already be in my computer).
2. Proof of dog having been neutered or spayed.
3. Fees (below) [Note: Late fee of \$10.00 **per dog** for application after April 1, 2017].

Mail to:

Diana Luecht, Treasurer, 8811 90th Street South, Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54494

[Note: if paying in person or with questions please call ahead at 715-325-3134]

*** I allowed for 3 dogs on this form. If you have more please feel free to copy this form**



Owner's Name _____

Address _____

Telephone # _____

Dog

#1

#2

#3

Dog(s) Names _____

Breed(s) _____

Color _____

Date(s) Vaccinated _____

Expiration Date(s) _____

Manufacture of Vaccine _____ Lot/S/N of Vaccine _____

Veterinarian Clinic _____

Male Neutered \$7.00 _____ Male \$17.00 _____ Female Spayed \$7.00 _____ Female \$17.00 _____ Multi \$55.00 _____

Please mark with an "X" Yes _____ send back my veterinary information or No _____ it's a copy.

Late Fee per Dog (after April 1st) \$10.00 _____

Total Enclosed \$ _____

Type	Conservancy/Residential/Agricultural	Commercial/Industrial
New residence including mobile home (new or old) & commercial/industrial building	\$200.00	\$400.00
Additions: Structural alteration for Primary residence or Commercial/Industrial Building	\$100.00	\$200.00
Establish an address	\$50.00	\$50.00
Moving a previously located residence or commercial/industrial building into the town	\$300.00	\$400.00
Moving residence or commercial/industrial building within the town	\$200.00	\$400.00
Moving accessory building within the town	\$100.00	\$200.00
Moving accessory building into the town	\$200.00	\$400.00
Moving building through the town on town roads	\$30.00	\$30.00
Accessory building or addition under \$1000 or 100 square feet or less	\$0.00	\$0.00
Accessory building or addition above 100 square feet to 200 square feet	\$30.00	\$60.00
Accessory building or addition above 200 square feet to 2500 square feet	\$50.00	\$100.00
Accessory building or addition above 2500 square feet	\$75.00	\$150.00
Utility Accommodation Policy (UAP)	\$20.00	\$20.00
Outdoor wood burner furnace installation	\$25.00	\$25.00
Razing any building	\$15.00	\$15.00
Signs and Billboards	\$25.00	\$50.00
Public Hearing	\$150.00	\$300.00
Certified Survey Map review and processing	\$20.00	\$20.00
Driveway	\$25.00	\$25.00
Quarrying – Permitted Use	\$50.00	N/A
Quarrying – Conditional Use (does not include public hearing fee)	\$250.00 minimum plus \$50.00/acre greater than 1 acre in size with a maximum amount of \$1,250.00 (Example for 3 acres: \$250 + \$150)	
Decks, Porches, Pools	\$15.00	\$30.00
Telecommunication Tower	\$500 – Class 2, \$3000 – Class 1 and new installation	
Penalties – Failure to purchase a permit prior to construction, moving or demolition shall result in twice the cost of such permits		
Fees are charged by current zoning district or proposed zoning district at the time of construction		

Town of Grant Zoning (building) Fees – Effective July 1, 2014

ATTENTION BUSINESS OWNERS

by Kathy Lee

Is your Town of Grant club or business in the directory located on the Town's website?

If not, consider being added. There is no cost to have your Town of Grant club or business included in the online business directory. The guide includes the name of the club/ business, the address, phone number, email, a website address (if you have one), and a short description of the club or business. Businesses are listed based on categories such as agriculture/farms, animal husbandry, auto (repair/sales/salvage), banks, bars, beauty salon, Christmas trees & wreaths, churches, clothing, clubs, construction, dog and pet (grooming/kennels/training), entertainment, food products, gifts, hunting preserve, insulation, landscaping, massage therapy, painting, restaurants, septic service, storage, taxidermist, vacation rentals, wellness, and yarn. If your business does not fit under any of these categories, additional categories can be added. Check out the Business Directory on the Town's website at <http://www.townofgrantportageco.com/business-directory.html>

If you would like your club or business to be included, send me the name of the club/ business, the location, phone number, email, website address, and a short (1-3 sentence) description. You can send it to K.LEE.RN@CHARTER.NET or to Kathy Lee, 9330 Buena Vista Road, Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54494.

Presorted Standard
U.S. Postage Paid
Wisc. Rapids, WI
Permit 98

Town of Grant
9011 County Road W
Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54494