

TOWN OF MAPLE CREEK
W10388 County Road W, PO Box 224, New London WI 54961
www.townofmaplecreek.com

2022 SPRING NEWSLETTER

SPRING ELECTION—TUESDAY, APRIL 5, 2022, 7:00 A.M. TO 8:00 P.M.

On the ballot:

Court of Appeals Judge District 3--Vote for one---Thomas M. Hruz
Circuit Court Judge Branch 4-----Vote for one---Yadira J. Rein
Circuit Court Judge Branch 7-----Vote for one---Mark G. Schroeder
County Supervisor District 31-----Vote for one---Dennis Clegg
New London SD School Board-----Vote for not more than *two*
Mandy Wilz, Tina Ruckdashel, Pete Bosquez, Holly Schweitzer
Shiocton SD School Board-----Vote for not more than *three*
Aaron C Pluger, Jeremy Birch, Bradley R Ritchie

If you are new to Maple Creek and need to register, or if you've changed your address or your name, please contact the clerk to get registered or go to myvote.wi.gov for more information. Remember, you need a photo ID and proof of residence to register. Voting Absentee: If you are a US Citizen, 18 years of age or older on Election Day and have resided in Maple Creek for at least 28 days, you can request to vote absentee. You will need to be registered in advance and provide proof of identification. You may make application for an absentee ballot by mail, in person, e-mail or through MyVote.wi.gov. The deadline to make application by mail is 5 p.m. on Thursday, March 31, 2022. You may also request and vote an absentee ballot in person in the clerk's office starting Tuesday, March 22, 2022 by appointment during the hours of 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday and weekends by appointment, with the last day being Sunday, April 3, 2022. Contact the clerk with any questions.

FEBRUARY 15, 2022 SPRING PRIMARY ELECTION RESULTS

We had 66 total voters.

SD of New London School Board

Ashley Clark-----3

Tina Ruckdashel-----28

Pete Bosquez-----25

Holly Schweitzer-----39

Mandy Wilz-----34

Under Votes-----3

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE ELECTORS—TUESDAY, APRIL 19, 2022 6:30 P.M.

This is the only meeting during the year where the Town Electors have an opportunity to discuss any Town business without an agenda. Please plan to attend. Refreshments will be served.

OPEN BOOK AND BOARD OF REVIEW

- **Open Book, Thursday, April 28th, 3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m., Special time set aside in addition to the below info.** At the Open Book, the assessment roll is available for review and discussion with the assessor. You can conduct an Open Book session by phone or email with the assessor during regular business hours (Monday – Friday, 8:00 AM to 4:30 PM). You may call anytime but no later than 3 days prior to the Board of Review to conduct your Open Book meeting. If the assessor is not available at the time of your call, they will make every effort to return your call within 24 hours. When leaving a message please provide your name, phone number, the Municipality in which the property is located,

and the Tax Key Number from your assessment notice or tax bill. You may contact the assessor by phone at 920-749-1995, by email at info.apraz@gmail.com or by mail at: Associated Appraisal Consultants, Inc., PO Box 440, Greenville, WI 54942

- **Board of Review, Thursday, May 19th, 5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m., Town Hall**

The Board of Review is a local, quasi-judicial body that has duties relating to the valuation of real and personal property for purposes of taxation. The board will hear and determine objections to property assessments, among other duties. The board consists of the Chairperson, the two supervisors and the clerk. After speaking with the assessor, if you still believe your tax assessment for your property is incorrect, you can appear before the board and make your case. You would obtain the objection form from, and file it with, the clerk. Appointments are required. Please note; the assessor's valuation of your property is considered accurate unless you can PROVE otherwise.

REVALUATION 2023

The Town Board is in the process of renewing our 2022-2026 Maintenance Assessment Contract with Associated Appraisal Consultants, Inc. Along with this contract is the Revaluation Services Contract. This year will be the 5th year that the town will be out of compliance with the State's equalized value. If the town doesn't do the revaluation in 2023 the State will step in and do it for us and that would be much more expensive. The board is considering either an "Exterior" contract or an "Interior" contract. The name is also its description. The Exterior contract would utilize an evaluation form that the resident would complete to describe/rate the condition of the interior of their home along with an external evaluation. With the Interior Contract, assessment personnel would evaluate the interior of the home, by appointment, along with an external evaluation. The difference in price is: Exterior=\$27,000 and runs simultaneous with the 2022-2026 contract for maintenance services which is an additional \$4,800; Interior=\$30,000 plus \$4,800 for the simultaneous maintenance contract. We currently have \$35,000 budgeted for this expense.

POSSIBLE SOLAR FARM IN MAPLE CREEK???

The board was approached by/has been in contact with Derek Buss, Senior Business Developer with Avangrid Renewables, Chicago Illinois, regarding the construction of a possible solar farm in Maple Creek. There is not a whole lot of information right now and is still in the planning/inquiry stage.

Here's what we do know:

- They are looking at a 200 +/- megawatt farm. This would require approximately 1500 acres of land and the acres don't have to be contiguous, but preferred. They are contacting land owners for interest.
- According to County Zoning, solar facilities 100 megawatt or larger are exempt from local zoning (town or county) and are regulated by the Public Service Commission. The PSC would conduct any public hearings, etc. This is exactly what happened with the ATC lines that went in years ago. Basically, the town cannot stop this project if 100mw or over. The State regulates them.
- Avangrid, Inc. is a US utility that is 81.5% owned by the Spanish Company, Iberdrola, S.A. They provide energy services in 27 states from New England to the West Coast and employs 6800.
- The acreage MAY be too far from the power station off of Hintzke Road and would require a small transmission station. The company cannot confirm whether the ATC lines could/would utilize their power, though. Therefore, the logistics of transmitting the power is a factor.
- They have/offer a "Good Neighbor" agreement which compensates any adjacent home owners to the project which includes a large upfront payment and annual payments throughout the life of the project. Some of you may have already been contacted by someone from the company.
- Mr. Bus stated that the State of Wisconsin requires a tax of \$400,000 for every 100mw farm. If this is 200mw, the tax would be \$800,000 of which the town would receive 1/3 or approximately \$266,666. I have not confirmed this with the State however.

Mr. Bus recommended that we put his information in the newsletter, so here it is; Derek.Bus@avangrid.com or 971-346-0090. Call him for more information. The Town Board wanted to set up a public hearing this month but Mr. Bus stated that he doesn't have enough information to report. Again, this project is in very early stages

and may never come to fruition. Meanwhile, you can do your own research. The largest solar farm in the Midwest is called the “Badger Hollow” solar farm down in Iowa County in the Southwestern part of the State. There’s a lot of information on the web regarding solar farms; pro and con.

DEPUTY CLERK HIRED!

The Board hired Amiee Stracy as Deputy Clerk last November. She has been working closely with the clerk, learning the ropes, so to speak. Amiee is interested in running for the Clerk’s position next April, 2023. She and her husband Tom and daughter Evelyn have lived in Maple Creek on Hintz Road for 3 years. She has prior experience in insurance and, currently, in addition to the Town, is working for DHS as an RN at an acute psychiatric facility.

CEMETERY

Then next cemetery commission meeting is being proposed for Monday, April 4th starting at 6:30 p.m. Please watch the website for the official date. A new zero turn riding lawnmower is being purchased this year.

Reminder.... Winter decorations must be taken down by April 15th. Spring decorations can be put up after that date.

RAFT PERMITS

It’s that time of year when the rafts will go out. Maple Creek has a raft permitting ordinance which states; “Any person mooring, placing, or maintaining a fishing raft on the Wolf River and its tributaries, within the Town of Maple Creek shall register each fishing raft annually with the municipality in which the fishing raft will be most frequently moored.” All registrations expire on December 31st of each year. Please contact the clerk for your raft permit, and Joe Close, for inspection at 920-572-2943. The total cost of the permit is \$30.

DOG LICENSES

All dogs 5 months of age in 2022 and older, need to be registered by April 1, 2022. You can license your dog at tax time. Proof of a current rabies vaccination is required. Licenses are \$8, but are reduced to \$3 for a spayed or neutered animal. Fines will be tacked on starting April 1st. If you have further dog licensing questions, please contact the treasurer.

TOWN HALL RENTAL

The Town Hall is once again available to be rented. The fee is \$100, with \$50 refunded if the hall is cleaned up and put back in its original condition. Contact the clerk for the form.

BUILDING PERMITS

Building permits ARE required in Maple Creek. Contact the building inspector, Mike Miller, with questions. His contact information is at the end of this newsletter.

BURNING PERMITS

Please contact the Chairperson, Susan Griffin, for a burning permit.

FREE TIRE DROP OFF IN SEPTEMBER

Every year the County Recycling and Solid Waste Department offers a time when the municipalities can bring in tires for recycling from their communities. We participate in this every year. You can bring your tires, **18 inch in size-only 4 per household**, starting at 5 p.m. Friday September 16th, to 8 a.m. Monday September 19th, to the Town Hall and put them in the dumpster. The tires will then be picked up early Monday morning and taken to the County landfill.

MEETING MOTION HIGHLIGHTS

Town Board:

December 13, 2021

- Young made a motion, seconded by Knapp to pay the membership dues of \$153 to the Town Advocacy Council. Ayes 3, Opposed 0, Abstain 0. MOTION CARRIED.
- Knapp made a motion, seconded by Griffin to approve the Election Inspector List for the 2022-2023 Election cycle. Ayes 3, Opposed 0, Abstain 0. MOTION CARRIED.
- Griffin made a motion, seconded by Young to approve sending all three board members to the WTA District meeting held in Stevens Point on Saturday, February 12th for \$60 each. Ayes 3, Opposed 0, Abstain 0. MOTION CARRIED.
- Griffin made a motion, seconded by Knapp to hire Jim Young to shovel the handicap entrance at the town hall for \$12 per hour when needed. Ayes 2, Opposed 0, Abstain 1. MOTION CARRIED.

January 10, 2022

- Young made a motion, seconded by Griffin, to approve sending a monthly bill with interest to Matt Larsen and if not paid, then put on his tax bill. Ayes 3, Opposed 0, Abstain 0. MOTION CARRIED.
- Griffin made a motion, seconded by Young, to renew for 1 year with GO Daddy for the Town website for \$162.87. Ayes 3, Opposed 0, Abstain 0. MOTION CARRIED.
- Griffin made a motion, seconded by Young, to approve sending Supervisor Knapp to the WTA District training on February 12th in Stevens Point for a \$60 registration fee. Ayes 3, Opposed 0, Abstain 0. MOTION CARRIED.
- Griffin made a motion, seconded by Young, to approve securing 2 dumpsters for the tire pickup in September. Ayes 3, Opposed 0, Abstain 0. MOTION CARRIED.

Plan Commission:

January 20, 2022

- Motion made by Gitter, seconded by Coroneos, to approve the proposed CSM for Zuehls/Jillkat, LLC for parcel nos. 160026200, 160026201 and 160026202 on Buboltz Road. ALL AYES. MOTION CARRIED.

MISCELLANEOUS INFORMATION

- Effective January 1st, 2022 Outagamie County will be changing how they process and issue Shoreland Grading & Filling permits, converting (in most cases) permit issuance from a Conditional Use Permit (CUP) to an administrative permit. This change is being made after reviewing what typical operating procedures are for counties throughout the state, and based on feedback from internal departments, town public works/community development departments, the County Zoning Committee and other stakeholders.

The procedures for submitting Shoreland–Grading/Filling permits as of January 1, 2022 are as follows:

- Apply for a Shoreland Grading/Filling Permit on our applicant portal:
<https://cityview.outagamie.org/>
- Select “ Apply for a Zoning Permit”; log-in and select “Shoreland – Grading/Filling”
- Complete all steps & upload required documents
- Pay Fee: \$450.00
- The Wisconsin Help for Homeowners (WHH) program provides housing grants to owner-occupied households who have experienced a COVID-19 related financial hardship, based on income level. Financial hardship is defined as: A material reduction in income or material increase in living expenses associated with the coronavirus pandemic that has created or increased a risk of mortgage delinquency, mortgage default, foreclosure, loss of utilities or home energy services, or displacement for a homeowner. Eligible types of expenses under this program may include but *are not* limited to: mortgage and interest payments, real estate taxes, condominium and association fees. The property must be the owner's primary residence. Vacation homes, rentals, cabins, and second homes are ineligible for assistance through WHH. A working draft of the state plan is [available for review](#). Two public hearings were held on August 31. [Watch the recording here](#). To get notified when the WHH program goes

live, [fill out a contact form through Take Root Wisconsin](#) or sign up for the [Badger Bounceback e-newsletter](#).

- WIS 76 Project Notice—The WisDOT is in the process of developing plans for proposed improvements on WIS 76 from the WIS 54 to US 45 in the towns of Bovina, Liberty, Maple Creek and Deer Creek and within the Villages of Bear Creek and Shiocton. WisDOT has updated the WIS 76 design project website that outlines all the project improvements and possible impacts. The website includes a project handout, maps, exhibit and the ability to provide comments. Project schedule: Real Estate acquisition will be completed in 2022, Design is on-going and will continue through 2022, Construction is tentatively scheduled for 2024 but could be moved up to 2023 if funding becomes available. <https://wisconsindot.gov/Pages/projects/by-region/ne/76shiocton/default.aspx> For questions: Contact: Jesse Hansen, Project Manager, 920-360-5630, jesse.hansen@dot.wi.gov

UPCOMING MEETINGS/EVENTS (Town Hall):

- ✓ March 22 – First day to vote absentee in clerk's office
- ✓ April 4 – Cemetery Meeting 6:30 p.m.
- ✓ April 5 – Spring Election 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.
- ✓ April 11 – Town Board meeting 6:30 p.m.
- ✓ April 19 – Annual Meeting of the Electors 6:30 p.m.
- ✓ April 28 – Open Book 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. or anytime 8 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. M-F
- ✓ May 9 - Town Board meeting 6:30 p.m.
- ✓ May 19 - Board of Review 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.
- ✓ June 13 - Town Board meeting 6:30 p.m.
- ✓ (Plan Commission meetings as needed.)
- ✓ The Fall Partisan Primary is August 9, 2022
- ✓ General Election is November 8, 2022

REFUSE AND RECYCLING:

Here's the schedule:

Dates:	Garbage (Harter's): 1-888-804-8556	Recycling (Orion): 1-920-759-0501
March	4, 11, 18, 25	4, 18
April	1, 8, 15, 22, 29	1, 15, 29
May	6, 13, 20, 27	13, 27
June	4 , 10, 17, 24	10, 24

*Refuse pickup is every Friday while recycling pickup is every other Friday. The only exception is when there is a holiday during the week, then pickup is on **SATURDAY** as highlighted in **bold** on the table.*

If for some reason you are missed during the garbage pickup, please call Harter's or Orion right away so they can get back to you while their trucks are still in the area.

Harter's also offers large item pickup days during the month. Call them for the details.

Contact Information

Susan Griffin, Chairperson

burning permits

920-538-3312

maplecreekchair21@gmail.com

Tory Much, Treasurer

taxes, dog licenses

920-982-3915

maplecreektreasurer@gmail.com

Lynette Gitter, Clerk

meetings, election admin

920-982-5258

maplecreekclerk@gmail.com

John Knapp, Supervisor

920-250-1292

jknappmaplecreeksupervisor@gmail.com

Jim Young, Supervisor

920-450-5287

mcsupervisorjy@gmail.com

Matthew Bruette, Constable

animal calls

920-858-9455

Paul Gitter

culvert, driveway permits

920-538-4999

Gary Coroneos, Cemetery Sexton

& Plan Commission Chairman

920-982-5617

Joe Close

raft inspections

920-572-2943

Mike Miller

building permits

920-428-3331

spike54170@gmail.com

Amice Stracy, Deputy Clerk

920-470-3101

maplecreekclerk@gmail.com

Associated Appraisal

1-800-721-4157

www.apraz.com

Harter's Refuse Service (refuse)

1-888-804-8556

Orion Waste Solution (recycling)

920-759-0501