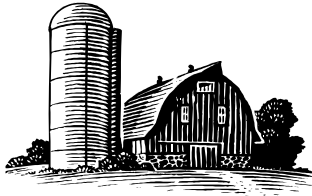


Grant Town Hall
9011 County Rd WW
Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54494
715/423-9193



Board of Supervisors

Chair

Sharon Schwab 325-3827

Supervisors

Richard Kertis 421-5644

Jay Goska 325-6285

Clerk

Vicky Zimmerman 325-6319

grantclerk@wctc.net

Treasurer

Dorothy Raasch 423-6589

Planning & Zoning

Zoning Administrator

Marty Rutz 335-6835

Plan Commission, Chair

Jim Wendels 423-3496

Public Works/Roads

Full-Time Employee

Garry Saeger 423-9118

First Responders

Chief

Jerry Reinwand 423-8720

Jim Yetter Christina Oleson

Robin Villeneuve Lisa Ross

Steve Sawyer Lori Stanton

Monthly Board Meeting

Aug 12 Sept 9

Oct 14 Nov 11

[Note: Meeting subject to change]

Budget Hearing

November (TBO)

> *Newsletter prepared by Sharon Schwab*

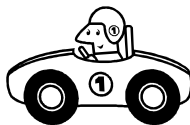
Summer 2009

Moving Forward – by Sharon Schwab, Chair

There has been a change on our town board since the last edition of the newsletter. We bid farewell to Supervisor Jim Wendels, who chose not to seek re-election, and greeted first-time Supervisor Jay Goska. Since April, he has been on a crash-course of road maintenance and has taken on a daunting subject – fire protection.

Wisconsin towns are required to provide fire protection by state statute. Currently, the Town of Grant contracts with the Town of Grand Rapids and the Village of Plainfield. The combined cost of these services rose from \$37,000 in 2005 to \$99,000 in 2009, an increase of more than 250%. During that same time, the state legislature held towns statewide to a 2% increase in their levy – that amount contributed by residents on the line item of your tax bill that reads “Town of Grant”.

For the past two years the town board has taken money from road construction and maintenance to pay for fire protection. The referendum to increase our levy amount failed. Other towns have started adding on “special assessments” or “special charges” to resident’s tax bills to pay for fire protection. But, according to the Wisconsin Towns Association and the Department of Revenue, this method may not be legal. So, how do we continue to pay for this vital service without breaking the bank and presumably, the law? Inside this edition read about our current efforts to explore our options.



Roads, roads, roads....

(Look inside for details!)

Transfer Station Hours

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

2009 Road Bids – Sharon Schwab, Chairperson

The Town Board opened road bids in late April and decided which to let out mid-May. Thanks are extended to former Supervisor Jim Wendels for preparing professional road bids which allowed contractors to compete fairly for these projects.

We bid out a total of 15 road projects which came in at \$397,761.18 (lowest bids). Not all can be completed this season because our budget for preventative maintenance and reconstruction on existing hard-surface roads is only \$150,000. The proposed levy increase failed last November, but that would have provided an additional \$100,000 to our budget.

The following roads have been joint and crack sealed:

- 90th Street (CTH F – STH 54) = \$9,805.00
- 100th Street (Lake – Grant) = \$895.00
- Elm Street (100th – 105th) = \$4,820.00
- Glenwood Drive (90th – 100th) = \$2,470.00
- Lake Road (90 – 100th) = \$2,965.00

Significant maintenance or reconstruction has or will occur on:

- 90th Street (Evergreen to Quarry) – hot mix wedging and single-coat chip seal = \$64,592.92
- 95th Street (Lake – FF) – patching major cupped cracks and single coat chip seal = \$14,420.00
- 100th Street (FF – Elm) – pulverize & re-laid pavement, 3 to 4" of dense graded base coarse, asphalt pavement = \$49,651.50

The total cost of these projects is \$149,619.42. Project awards went to American Asphalt of Wisconsin and Fahrner asphalt sealers. All projects will be completed by August 15, 2009.



Road Report – By Dick Kertis, Supervisor

When all our snow had finally melted and before the frost (5 ft. of it in places) had thawed, we were able to get some roadside brush cutting accomplished. As the roads thawed, we worked the grader as much as possible to get the roads shaped ahead of the upcoming dry season. On several occasions, our backup grader operator (Dale Winkler) helped to get the shaping done before the moisture left.

About 700-800 tons of road base gravel and/or granite was spread in various locations throughout the Town to reinforce soft or thin spots that continue to show up here and there every year.

All joint repair, crack sealing and single-coat chip sealing has been completed by the contractor and after inspection, it was determined all work was done professionally and, therefore, acceptable.

Pulverizing 100th St. north of FF to Elm St. will begin after we get the ditch shaping and backslopes established. The right-of-way has been staked and Diggers Hotline has been notified. We expect to get on this right after the 4th of July. American Materials has penciled in the 15th as a tentative date for pulverizing.

At this writing, Sunday, June 28th, we have about one day to go and all roads will have been mowed. Tomorrow, June 30th, we will be spreading a 4,500 gallon load of Magnesium Chloride (for dust control).

And finally, aside from a few small failures, all Town-owned equipment is operational.

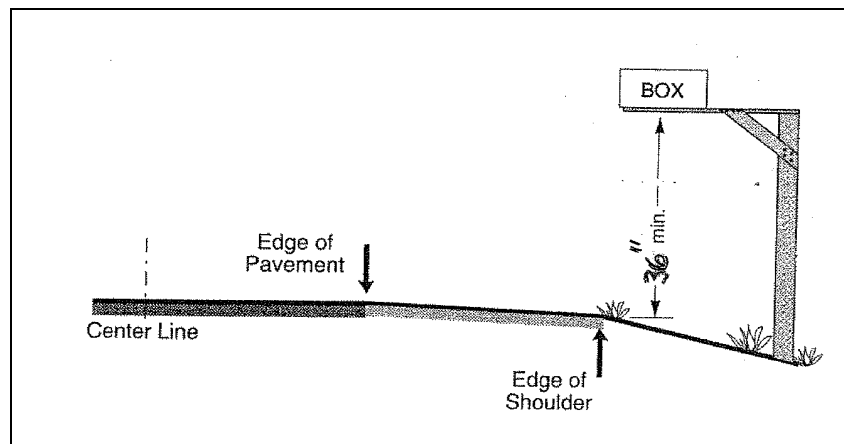
Mailbox Installation

Place your mailbox according to the diagram shown below. There are two key aspects of the installation:

1. Face of mailbox is directly over the edge of shoulder
2. 36" minimum height and not too much higher

If the face is aligned over the edge of shoulder gravel this allows us to clear snow and bench it back from the main traveled roadway and shoulders. This also allows our mail carrier to keep at least one set of tires on a surface that provides traction. In the case of an all gravel roadway or dirt roadway, this edge is defined as where the gravel or dirt meets the grass line. To allow our mail carriers to reach into the back of your mailbox without having to exit the vehicle, the height of the mailbox should be 36" or slightly higher.

Your cooperation with these installation details would be greatly appreciated by both the Town Board and the US Postal Service. Thank you!

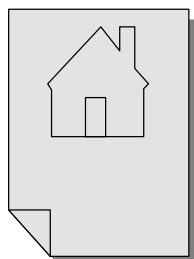


Zoning Update – by Marty Rutz, Zoning Administrator

2009 has been a little slow for construction. I have issued only 19 permits this year compared to 26 last year. Here's what I have so far:

3 - New Residences	5 - Accessory Buildings	2 - Additions	3 - Porches
3 - Decks	2 - Ponds	3 - Razes	1 - New Address

If you are planning on doing any kind of construction and are not sure what restrictions may apply in your zoning district please call me at 421-9200 so I can let you know what is allowed.



Town of Grant Zoning Fees – Effective July 1, 2008

Type	Conservancy/Residential/Agricultural	Commercial/Industrial
New residence including mobile home (new or old) & commercial/industrial building	\$200.00	\$400.00
Additions: Primary residence or Commercial/Industrial Building	\$100.00	\$200.00
Establish an address	\$30.00	\$30.00
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
Razing any building	\$15.00	\$15.00
Signs and Billboards	\$25.00	\$50.00
Public hearing fees	\$150.00	\$300.00
Quarrying – Permitted Use	\$50.00	N/A
Quarrying – Conditional Use (Does not include public hearing fees)	\$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 Permit Fees	\$2500 – Collocation on existing tower & \$5000 – New Tower	
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		

Fire Protection – by Jay Goska, Supervisor

In my short time as Supervisor, I've been visiting with town residents discussing whatever issues they may have. It seems that issues regarding the roads are the topics most often discussed. I've been educating myself by talking with American Asphalt, Fahrner Asphalt, and county officials as to how to fix drainage problems, rough roads etc.

Another very important issue for the future of the Town of Grant is determining if there is a way to lower the high cost of fire protection. Most of my time has been spent chairing the Town of Grant Fire Protection Committee. Earlier this spring the Town Board established this 3-person committee to investigate costs and future options associated with fire protection for the town. Currently, Grant contracts with the Grand Rapids Volunteer Fire Department and the Plainfield Volunteer Fire Department. In recent years our costs associated with fire protection have become prohibitive and threaten the future financial stability of the town.

Items the committee is investigating include:

- A. Review contracts that are in effect with our primary service providers including: associated service areas, response times, annual reports, audits, taxation rates, homeowners and business insurance rates.
- B. Investigate the potential for obtaining new service providers.
- C. Investigate the feasibility of our town establishing it's own volunteer fire department, or as a satellite station of an established fire department

The committee meets on an "as needed" basis. The meetings are posted in advance and are open to the public. Our job is to research these issues and provide the Town Board with viable options for fire protection, as well as information critical to contract negotiations. The committee consists of Town of Grant residents Jay Goska (Town Supervisor), Ron Paterson (Bancroft Fire Department Assistant Chief) and Darcy Held (Plan Commission).

One factor critical to establishing available options to the Town is determining if there exists sufficient interest in local people becoming volunteer fire personnel. The following narrative outlines what would be expected in this duty:

What is a Volunteer Firefighter?

A Volunteer Firefighter can be a homeowner, resident or someone who lives close to our Town who, just like you, has an interest in helping their neighbors whenever a fire or other disaster strikes. Volunteer Departments like Almond, Plainfield or Bancroft depend on the timely and determined response of these citizen members who selflessly serve their community when an alarm sounds.

Working under the general direction of the Fire Chief, a volunteer firefighter is responsible for answering calls for assistance, extinguishing fires, protecting life and property, operating and maintaining fire equipment, fire apparatus, and the fire station. The position requires training in the use of apparatus, tools, equipment and the performance of hazardous tasks under emergency conditions. These tasks may require strenuous exertion under such handicaps as smoke and cramped conditions.

Essential Duties and Responsibilities

While not all inclusive, the following duties are normal for this position:

- Respond to fire and other emergency calls
- Drive and operate fire fighting vehicles and equipment
- Select hose and nozzle depending on the type of fire and direct stream of water or chemical onto fire
- Position and climb ladders to gain access to upper levels of buildings or to assist individuals from burning structures
- Create openings in buildings for ventilation or entrance using axe, power saw, or smoke ejector
- Communicate with supervisor during emergency operations using portable two way radio
- Participate in drills, demonstrations, and courses in hydraulics, pump operation and fire fighting techniques
- Attend training courses, read and study assigned materials related to fire prevention, suppression, rescue, training and public fire safety education
- Participate in public fire safety education

Physical Demands and Work Environment

Firefighting is very heavy work. Occasionally you may need to exert in excess of 100 pounds of force to move an object, and frequently you will need to exert in excess of 50 pounds of force. The job is performed both indoors and outdoors in approximately equal amounts. Firefighters are occasionally exposed to hazards or risk of bodily injury. They are also occasionally exposed to extreme heat, extreme cold, and wet or humid conditions. There is also the occasional exposure to odors, toxic conditions, dust, poor ventilation, vibrations, and moderate noise.

Minimum Requirements for a Volunteer Firefighter

- 18 years of age
- Posses a valid Wisconsin drivers license
- No felony convictions
- Live within the Town of Grant or a reasonable distance of the proposed fire station
- Not subject to restrictions that would interfere with firefighting duties

Previous education or experience in the area of firefighting is not necessary. Applicants selected for membership will be provided with the equipment and support needed to complete State of Wisconsin entry-level firefighter training requirements (60 hours)

Training

If you do not have previous firefighting education, or experience, you will be provided with the equipment and support needed to complete State mandated entry-level firefighter training. This training will be provided by Mid-State Technical College and funded by the State of Wisconsin.

Entry-Level Firefighter, Part 1 (30 hour course) and Entry-Level Firefighter, Part 2 (additional 30 hour course) introduce you to the basic knowledge and skills necessary to perform firefighting functions under direct supervision.

Upon successful completion of the Entry Level Firefighter Course you will now be allowed to conduct structural firefighting, however this course satisfies only the minimum requirements. Future members are encouraged to continue their education with the Firefighter I Course (36 hours) which, upon successful completion of a written and practical exam, results in certification as a Firefighter I. This certification is a state requirement for entry into the Certified Fire Apparatus Driver/ Operator training program. Additional training is also available to those interested in Officer Positions.

Continuing as an Active Member of the Department

Volunteer Firefighters are expected to participate in 1 – 3 scheduled training sessions per month, attend regularly scheduled business meetings, and to respond to emergency calls when available. If you experience a work/ family/ personal conflict on a scheduled meeting night, you would need to contact the Chief or another Officer to be excused.

Who to Contact

If you would like to explore this opportunity further, please contact:

Ron Patterson - e-mail at rpatrson@wctc.net or call 325-5071 or

Jay Goska - email at jay@pcs-wis.com or call 325-6285 **by July 31st**.

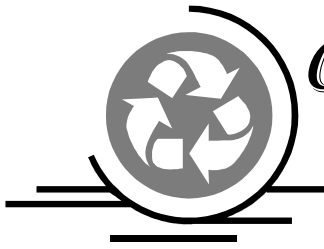
Thank you.



Emergency Address Plaque Update – by Marty Rutz, Zoning Administrator

Installation of double sided, reflective fire numbers at each address location in the Town will be completed this year. All of the large address numbers will be installed by July 10th. I will be starting on the smaller address numbers for the high density residential areas on July 13th. I am trying to install the numbers with some sort of uniformity throughout the town, for aesthetics but more importantly, for the emergency personnel that may have to find **your** house. So I ask you to please respect where your fire number is placed – do not remove.

If you have a concern or question about your emergency address plaque placement, call me at 421-9200. Thank you.



CHOOSE TO RE-USE!

August 8

9AM – 5PM

Bring items in good working condition that you intend to discard but that perhaps someone else can use (e.g. outdoor furniture, small working appliances, grills, lawn care items, household goods, etc.) Take any item that you can use - FREE! Photos or descriptions (on a 3" x 5" card) of large items (sofa, chairs, etc.) along with contact information can be posted at the Transfer Station. Items that have fees associated (e.g. refrigerators, microwaves, etc.) must be signed for and will be charged for if no one chooses item by end of day.

Did you know? Town of Grant residents can purchase an annual pass to use the City of Wisconsin Rapids east-side Compost site. The cost is \$35. Call Clerk Vicky Zimmerman.

Town of Grant

9011 County Road WW

Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54494

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