

# Town of Port Washington

2022 NEWSLETTER

## PROPERTY TAX BILLS & PAYMENT

### IN FULL & FIRST INSTALLMENT:

2022 Tax Bills were mailed in early December. The full amount or first installment will be due to the Town of Port Washington by Tuesday, January 31, 2023

**BY MAIL:** Include the tear-off stub for the 1st installment or full payment with your check made payable to **Town of Port Washington** and mail to:

**Town of Port Washington Treasurer 2354 Willow Road, Port Washington, WI 53074**

(Include a self-addressed stamped envelope if you would like a receipt.)

**DROP BOX @ Town Hall:** Located on the south doors of the town hall. Please include your statement and check, along with your phone number.

**BANK:** Port Washington State Bank, 206 N. Franklin St., Port Washington is the only bank that payments will be received at. Payment accepted during lobby hours.

*\* If you have a refund coming, payment at the bank is suggested. Refunds can only be made after the entire tax bill has been paid.*

**IN PERSON:** The town Treasurer will be available at the Town Hall the following hours:

**December:** Mondays: Dec 19 & 26: 9:00 am—Noon

**January:** Mondays: Jan 23 & 30: 9:00 am—Noon

Wednesdays: Dec 21 & 28: 1:00 pm—4:00 pm

Tuesday: Jan 31: 9:00 am—Noon

Thursdays: Dec 22 & 29: 4:00 pm—6:00 pm

Wednesdays: Jan 18 & 25 - 1:00 pm—4:00 pm

Saturdays: Dec 24 & 31: 8:00 am—Noon

Thursdays: Jan 19 & 26 - 4 pm—6 pm

Saturdays: Jan 21 & 28 - 8:00 am—Noon

**SECOND INSTALLMENTS** or late first payments: The town cannot accept either, Payment is only acceptable by the Ozaukee County Treasurer by July 31, 2023. In person or mail to: Ozaukee County Treasurer, 121 W Main St., Port Washington, WI 53074.

## TOWN MEETINGS:

All Meetings are held at the Town Hall, 3715 Highland Drive

Town Board Meetings: The Town Board meets the first Monday of each month at 7:30pm.

Planning Commission Meetings: The Planning Commission meets the second Wednesday of each month at 7:30pm.

Annual Meeting of Electors—3rd Tuesday of April

Board of Review & Open Book with Assessor—TBD, Spring

Town of Port Washington Public Hearing, meeting of Electors to pass Levy—November

All meetings are posted at the town hall & on the town website.

Agendas of upcoming meetings and also Minutes of past meetings can be found on the Town Website. All meetings are open to the public, and we welcome you to attend. If you would like to have an item placed on the agenda of either the Town Board or Planning Commission meeting, please notify the Town Chairman, Mike Didier or the Town Clerk, Heather Krueger no later than the Wednesday prior to the meeting. It remains at the discretion of the Town Chairman whether or not your item will be discussed.



### Your Town Board:

Chairman:

**Mike Didier**  
414-573-0018

Supervisors:

**Greg Welton**  
262-370-6207  
**Gary Schlenvogt**  
262-483-7712

Building Inspector:

**Roger Kison**  
414-333-4511

Treasurer:

**Mary Sampont**  
262-284-5394

Clerk:

**Heather Krueger**  
262-284-5235

### Town Hall Hours:

Monday & Wednesday  
9:00 am—4:00 pm

Or by Appointment

Phone: 262-284-5235

Email: [clerk@town.port-washington.wi.us](mailto:clerk@town.port-washington.wi.us)

**CHECK OUT OUR  
WEBSITE:**

[www.town.port-washington.wi.us](http://www.town.port-washington.wi.us)



It has been a year of loss in the town as several prominent residents have passed away:

Jim Melichar had been serving as Town Board Chairman and Plan Commission Chairman when he resigned in 2020 due to health issues. Jim had been serving for over 10 years, and prior to that served on the Board of Appeals, as Town Supervisor and on the Plan Commission. Jim passed away on January 19, 2022 after a two-year battle with brain cancer.

Dale Noll was very civic minded and served as an active member of the town Plan Commission for over 20 years. Dale was involved in an automobile accident in the town in September 2021 and passed away in May 2022 from complications several months after the initial accident.

Peter Didier was a member of the Plan Commission and an instrumental developer in the Town of Port Washington. Pete developed Birch Lane, Rolling Hills subdivision, Safe Harbor Storage, KW Storage, Bayhill Subdivision and Dixie Highlands Subdivision. Pete passed away unexpectedly while visiting The Nation of Luxembourg in June 2022.

*Please keep the families and friends of these town residents in your prayers.*

# TRASH & RECYCLING

## TRASH AND RECYCLING:

Located at the Town Hall, 3715 Highland - open for Town of Port Washington Residents ONLY.

### DROP-OFF HOURS:

THURSDAYS:  
4:00PM—6:00PM

SATURDAYS:  
8:00AM-NOON

### Keep doing your part!

The Town of Port Washington is the only township in Ozaukee County that does not charge for trash or recycling!

Please be mindful when separating your recycling: Recycled products to not include plastic bags of any type. Any food item in or on a recycled product is not recyclable—please clean recycling products before separating. All plastics #1-7 are allowed (except for foam cups or packing materials)

### Drop-off Site reminders:

- ◆ Please respect the hours posted, the attendant needs time to open/close the site.

- ◆ Limit of 5 bags weekly . Only household garbage is accepted, no construction or yard waste allowed.
- ◆ Please enter from the south side of Highland Dr. to allow for drive-through traffic.
- ◆ Please pull to the side if you plan to socialize so your neighbors can continue to drive-through in a timely manner.
- ◆ A Town resident card which is available from the clerk, or your driver's license with current address may be necessary if the attendant does not recognize you.

**Food particles will contaminate the entire recycling dumpster!**

**THE FOLLOWING ITEMS SHOULD NOT BE PLACED IN THE COMMINGLED RECYCLING BIN:**

**The new Trash-Recycling Drop-off Shelter will be opening in early 2023!**



# SPECIAL CHARGES FOR FIRE PROTECTION IN THE TOWN OF PORT

By: Chairman Mike Didier

## FIRE PREVENTION

The most important non-emergency function a fire department can do for its community is to promote fire prevention. Fire prevention activities are divided between fire inspections, fire investigations, and public fire education.

Properties are inspected by the Port Washington Fire Department each year, with most being inspected twice a year. Every building in the City and Town of Port Washington, with the exception of single family and two family dwellings, is inspected. Many of the buildings have multiple addresses due to mixed occupancies. Another branch of fire prevention is the testing and inspection of new fire sprinkler systems and new fire alarm systems. Owners of the buildings, where these systems are located, must furnish the fire department with plans of the systems for review. Once these systems are in place, testing, witnessed by the fire department, must be complete before occupancy is given.

Public Fire Education has the largest impact on a community's fire prevention program. A great deal of time is spent educating children with hopes that they will carry fire safety messages throughout their lives. The department uses educational handout materials provided by the National Fire Protection Association. Elementary school children in grades K-2, as well as pre-school children throughout Port Washington, are taught age appropriate fire safety education.

To reach the adult population, the fire department conducts an annual Open House during Fire Prevention Week in October. Fire safety educational materials are available to the attendees, as well as hands-on fire extinguisher training. The department also participates in a national fire safety program, "Change Your Clocks – Change Your Smoke Detector Batteries". This program is promoted twice a year to remind people to replace the batteries in their smoke alarms when changing their clocks in the spring and the fall.



Earlier this year a town property owner had a substantial fire at his property. After the smoke cleared, he received an invoice for \$5,172.00 for fire department charges.

Wisconsin law requires all towns to provide fire protection, but the Town of Port does not have its own Fire Department. Therefore, beginning in 1987, the Town has provided fire protection under a contract agreement with the City of Port Washington

Fire Department.

The annual cost of fire protection and ambulance services provided to the Town of Port Washington pursuant to its contract with the City of Port Washington is included in the Town's annual budget and is a part of its annual property tax levy. This is the dollar amount we pay to the Port Washington Fire Department each year to have resources and labor available to provide fire protection services to the town. An example of this is the fire department's ownership and maintenance of a 3,000-gallon tanker truck and a 2,000-gallon pumper/tanker truck designed exclusively with Town of Port fire protection in mind.

What is **NOT** a part of the tax levy is the actual itemized cost of fire protection services on a per call basis. For each fire call, the property owner will be charged for labor hours (Port Firefighters are paid employees of the City) and also water assuming the water is from the city water department. You can read the Town's code on fire protection here:

[https://docs.wixstatic.com/ugd/b75751\\_d0567dc2cbb048c1b3d3073dcc66d126.pdf](https://docs.wixstatic.com/ugd/b75751_d0567dc2cbb048c1b3d3073dcc66d126.pdf)

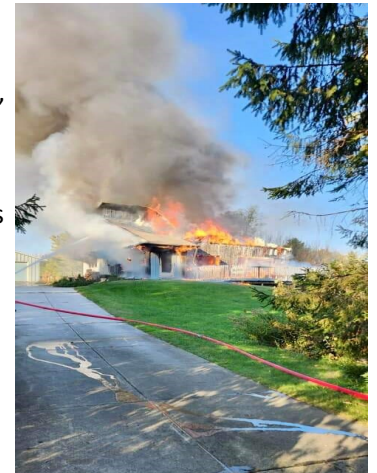
Back to our town property owner who had the fire earlier in the year. His bill was for the labor hours of the paid firefighters that are not a part of the service contract. The property owner was insured and submitted this invoice to his insurance company; however his policy only covered up to \$500 for "fire department charges" leaving him with the balance of \$4,672.00 After speaking with this individual, I asked two other town residents to call their insurance agent to find out how

much their policy covered for fire department charges. One said \$500, and the other said \$3,000. I then spoke with my own insurance agent and was told the amount of coverage for fire department charges is up to the policy holder and can be adjusted at any time.

We encourage you to check with your insurance agent and decide on the proper coverage for your property.

Feel free to contact me with any other specific questions about Fire/Ambulance protection within the Town of Port. -Mike

The pictures in this article are from some of the fires that occurred in 2022. Top photo: Iron Hog fire on 2/2/22. Middle photo: fire at private residence on Lake Dr. on 10/21/22. Bottom photo: Shed fire in town.



# ELECTIONS

Are you interested in having input on decisions made by the Town Board? Every odd numbered year the Town Board Chairman and Supervisor positions are up for re-election. If you are interested in running for a position, please contact the clerks office. The first day to circulate nomination papers is Dec. 1, 2022. Papers can be picked up at the town hall. The completed packet needs to be filed with the clerk no later than 5:00 PM on January 3, 2023.

## VOTING LOCATION, Wards 1 & 2

Town Hall  
3715 Highland Drive



## To Register to Vote:

Register online at: [myvote.wi.gov](https://myvote.wi.gov)

Register to vote in person at the Town Hall any time before an election or on election day. You will need to provide at least one form of ID showing residency in the town for a minimum of 28 days prior to the election. Any document used as proof of residence MUST include your current address and complete name, your current and complete residential address. Examples of proof of residency: drivers license, utility /phone bill or bank statement.

## To Vote Absentee:

Register online at: [myvote.wi.gov](https://myvote.wi.gov)

You must be a registered voter in the town to register for an absentee ballot. If you would like to vote absentee, you must fill out the WI Application for Absentee Ballot [each calendar year](#).

## 2022 General Election results:

Total registered voters: 1108

Total Votes Cast: 947

### Governor:

Evers 306

Michels 625

### Attorney General:

Kaul 321

Toney 614

### Senator:

Barnes 302

Johnson 636

## 2023 Election Dates:

**February 21, 2023—Spring Primary, (if required)**

**April 4, 2023—Spring Election**

## **2022 Passed Ordinances:**

- ◆ 2022-01: Broadband Forward Community Ordinance: Added to the town code, this chapter is to encourage the development of broadband access in the Town by reducing administrative obstacles to broadband.
- ◆ 2022-02: ATV/UTV : Ordinance allowing ATV/UTV use on Town Roads and County Roads where the speed limit is 35 mph or less. Please see the town website for further explanation and map of roads.

*All passed ordinances and resolutions can be found in entirety on the Town's website.*



**Fire / Address Signs:** Fire signs, or address markers issued by the town are not to be moved, altered or decorated. These signs are put in place so they are clearly marked for the Fire Department and Emergency Response vehicles to easily locate a residence when called upon for aid. If yours is damaged or missing, call the Town Hall to request a new one. Please keep the fire sign area free of snow so that they are visible to emergency personnel. Remember—fire signs are for your family's safety and protection.



## Town Roads:

The Town of Port is responsible for the construction, maintenance, repair and plowing of only the Town roads, not the County Roads. Town roads are always known by just a name such as Lake Dr., Norport Dr., Sauk Rd. The



County Highway Dept is responsible for the County Trunk Highways, which always have a letter designation such as CTH B, CTH LL, CTH KW. If you live on a private road or joint driveway, snow plowing and pot-holes are likely the responsibility of you and/or your neighbors' such as; Pierron Lane, Sucker Brook Lane and High Point Beach Lane.

## WINTER MAILBOX DAMAGE POLICY

The Town can only assume responsibility for mailboxes damaged by direct contact with snowplow equipment. If a mailbox or post is pushed over or damaged as a result of the snow or slush coming off the snowplow, it is considered a winter hazard. Therefore, the Town will not assume responsibility, as the mailbox should be designed to stand up to the rigors of the winter plowing season.

If damage is discovered, residents should report it to the Town via e-mail or phone as soon as it is discovered. The Town will have the damage inspected and determine if it is a result of a direct hit with snow removal equipment. If it is determined that the damage is from the snowplow and not from snow load or inferior-quality products the Town will, at the Town's discretion, either:

- ⇒ Furnish and install a standard replacement post and/or mailbox; this may include a temporary repair until weather conditions permit final repair. OR
- ⇒ Reimburse the owner in an amount of not more than \$75.00



This repair or reimbursement policy does not apply to inferior construction or mailboxes and post in deteriorated condition or improperly installed per U.S. Postal guidelines.

**Please note:** Plastic mailboxes are more prone to damage due to the varying qualities of plastics and the brittle nature of the plastic in extreme cold temperatures. Please consider this when purchasing a mailbox. Plastic parts have a high failure rate on Town roads.

MAILBOX INSTALLATION GUIDELINES ESTABLISHED PER USPS REGULATIONS \*Mailboxes MUST be 41" to 45" above the roadway surface. \*The face of the mailbox must be between 6" to 8" back from the edge of the roadway surface.

### DIXIE HIGHLANDS:

#### The Town's First Conservation Subdivision

340.20.2 ACS-1: (Added 2009) The intent of the ACS-1 Agricultural/Conservation Subdivision District is to allow a limited amount of residential subdivision lots to be developed while maintaining and preserving significant natural open space areas and prime agricultural lands historically utilized for crop production and the raising of livestock. This district is further intended to assist the economic feasibility of existing farming operations by allowing carefully planned condensed residential development to preserve the rural Town character.

All the lots in the Dixie Highland Subdivision are sold and most homes are complete.



## BUILDING PERMITS:

Building permits and planning project applications can be printed from the Town website: <https://www.town.port-washington.wi.us/>

Permits are required for any structural changes, remodeling and alterations, additions, basement and/or garages. Also, replacement of heating equipment, plumbing and electrical. A permit is not required for residing, window or door replacement as long as there are no structural modifications or the first reroof. If you are unsure or have questions please call the Building Inspector.



**Roger Kison 414-333-4511 rkiston@wi.rr.com**

## **Keep informed!**

**Check out the Town's website: [www.town.port-washington.wi.us](http://www.town.port-washington.wi.us)**

**Sign up to receive monthly agenda's and the newsletter!**

## **CALLING ALL DOGS!**

If you are more than 5 months old, tell your owner that you need a shiny new tag for your collar.

Your owner must bring in a current rabies vaccination certificate from a veterinarian in order to be issued a license. It's only \$3.00 if your spayed or neutered, but your owner needs to bring proof of that from your vet.

You can mail your completed application with payment, rabies certificate and & self-addressed stamped envelope to: Mary Sampont, Treasurer 2354 Willow Rd, Port Washington 53074. Please submit a separate check for the dog license-DO NOT include dog license payment with property tax payment.



Spayed /Neutered: \$3.00 ea.—Not spayed or neutered: \$8.00 ea.

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## **TOWN OF PORT WASHINGTON DOG LICENSES**

FEE'S:

**SPAYED OR NEUTERED DOGS \$3.00 each FEMALE OR MALE DOGS: \$8.00**

OWNER'S NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

Owners Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Dog: \_\_\_\_\_ Breed: \_\_\_\_\_ Color: \_\_\_\_\_

Sex: Male Female (Circle one)

Spayed Neutered (Circle one)

*\*Include all dogs you own, add additional pages if necessary*

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: TOWN OF PORT WASHINGTON

\*Note: Dog license and tax payment need to be separate payments, please submit multiple checks.

Mail application, Information and Check to: Mary Sampont, Treasurer  
2354 Willow Road, Port Washington, WI 53074