



# Town of Port Washington Winter/Tax Collection Newsletter 2016

**BRING IT**  
— TO THE —  
**BALLOT**

## Upcoming Election Dates:

### 2017 Elections

February 21, 2017 Spring Primary

April 4, 2017 Spring Election

## **BUILDING PERMITS**

Building, Electrical, HVAC & Plumbing Permits  
These all can be obtained at the Town Hall or by  
calling the Building Inspector,

Richard Fellenz at **414-651-0021**.

All the Town's permits and planning project  
applications can be printed from our website at:

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

## **Would you prefer to receive your Newsletter via email?**

**YES-** email your Name & mailing address to : [townofport@sbcglobal.net](mailto:townofport@sbcglobal.net).

Your future newsletters will be emailed instead of sent through the mail.

**NO-** You WILL continue to receive your newsletter by mail, unless you notify us otherwise. We realize the internet is not convenient for everyone.

*Our goal is to make the information available to you in the most  
effective format. Additional copies of the newsletter are available in the clerk's  
office or at the Town website:*

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

## **Voting Information**

Contact the Town Clerk  
for information regarding:

- New voter registration applications
- Change of address or name
- Military or overseas ballots
- Absentee ballot requests

These forms can also be downloaded from the Wisconsin Election Commission website:

<http://elections.wi.gov/>

**Voter ID is now required to vote in  
Wisconsin.**

## **Town Hall / Clerk's**

### **Office Hours**

Cheryl Karrels- Town Clerk

Monday & Wednesday

9:00AM - 4:00PM

**Phone:** 262-284-5235

**Email:** [townofport@sbcglobal.net](mailto:townofport@sbcglobal.net)

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

## **Visit our WEBSITE for information on:**

Building permits

Meeting Minutes

Town Zoning code

Meeting Agenda's

Zoning Map

Election Info.

2035 Comprehensive Plan

Contact Info.

# FROM TOWN BOARD

## Speed Limits on Town Roads

By Supervisor Mike Didier

There are many types of roads in the Town of Port Washington: an expressway such as I-43, State Trunk Highways such as State 33, County Trunk Highways such as County Road KW and Town roads such as Lake Drive and Dixie Road. The speed limits on all roads are set by the State. This is important so the traveling public can have uniformity when traveling the public roadways. This article will address speed limits only on Town roads. The default speed for Town roads is **55 mph**, and the default for Town roads where buildings are on average less than 150 feet apart per 1000 feet is **35 mph**.

Municipalities can change speed limits for roads under their authority if they follow guidelines in the Wisconsin Statutes. For the Town of Port, this is all the Town roads such as Sommers LN, Willow RD, Green Bay RD etc. This authority to change the default speed limits is found in Wis. Statute 349.11, and with the exception of construction zones, is not absolute. <https://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/statutes/statutes/349/11/11>. Changing the default speed limits can be a challenge because people often disagree. The residents of a particular road may want the speed lower for their road assuming it will make the road safer. Some residents may seek lower speeds after a serious crash that was speed related or even a frightening “near miss”. However, driving behavior and habit is not so easy to manage. Federal and state studies consistently show that simply lowering speed limits has little effect on actual speeds. This is because people generally choose their speed based on what they think is safe and reasonable for the conditions present. An unreasonable posted speed gets little consideration from drivers. Also, studies show that artificially low speed limits tend to increase crash risk due to more variability in travel speeds on the road. The closer all drivers adhere to what is generally termed a rational speed, the lower the risk.

The Town only has the authority to lower a 55 mph town road by 10 mph or less and a 35 mph town road by 10 mph or less. (The town has no “Rustic Roads” as defined by the state however this type can be lowered by 15mph from the default 45mph) These roads can be changed by the Town Board without DOT (Department of Transportation) approval provided that the town performs and records its own engineering and traffic investigation. Wis. Statute 346.57 requires that **“All speed limit changes SHALL be based on a traffic engineering study, including modifications allowed under State Statute”**. The Wisconsin legislature undoubtedly included this language so all road speed are set based on factual data, not emotions. Conducting a speed study is a time consuming but necessary step to legally modify speed limits and facilitate consistency in how enforceable speed limits are set across the state.

The attached graph shows the roads, <http://www.town.port-washington.wi.us/Ordinances/SpeedLimits.pdf> or sections of town roads, on which the Town of Port Washington has taken steps (Town Ordinance) to adjust the default speed limits. When a change in the default speed is made, the road must be properly signed with the posted speed. Unless there is a change in the default speed limits, no posted speed limit signs are required.

Another type of speed sign you might see is the Advisory Speed Sign. Advisory Speed Signs are used to alert drivers that a lower speed may be necessary at curves, turns, intersections or other localized conditions. These signs recommend a safe speed to drive in these locations. Advisory Speed Signs do not imply an enforceable speed limit, do not require a town ordinance, and are not governed by the State.

Establishing reasonable and safe speed limits on town roads is the responsibility of the Town Board. This often includes balancing conflicting issues of safety, logic, facts and community concerns. In the upcoming winter months, and all through the year, we encourage you to adhere to the speed limits and drive safe out there!

Look for us, and “LIKE” us on **Facebook!** Town Facts, Historical Photos & the latest news in the Town. Look for the “Town of Port Washington” Page and start following us today!



## Using the Town's Zoning Map and Zoning and Subdivision Code

By Christy Cramer, Town Planner

An important role of the Town Board is to regulate the division and development of land to promote the general comfort, health, safety, prosperity, aesthetics and welfare of the Town. It does so through the Town's Zoning Map, Zoning and Subdivision Code, and the Plan Commission.

The Zoning Map is the first step in figuring out what types of uses and development might be allowed for your property. The Zoning Map is available on the Town's website ([town.port-washington.wi.us](http://town.port-washington.wi.us)) under the tab labeled "Maps".

Each zoning district has different requirements for lot and building configuration and a list of land uses that are allowed: farming, residential, retail, office, manufacturing, warehousing, government, etc. The regulations for each zoning district can be found in the Zoning and Subdivision Ordinance, available on the Town's website under the tab labeled "Codes", under the subtab labeled "Zoning Codes". A few terms are important to understanding these regulations:

Permitted uses are those that are allowed within the district without any special permits.

Permitted accessory uses are allowed within the district, but only as an accessory to the main use of the property.

For example, in the A-1 Exclusive Agriculture district, single-family homes are allowed as an accessory use to the main use of the property for farming.

Conditional uses are uses that may be allowed in a district but require special review by the Plan Commission and a Conditional Use Permit that may include special conditions.

Overlay districts, such as the Knellsville Overlay District, have two sets of requirements to follow. The first is the basic zoning district regulations. The overlay district has additional regulations, such as higher standards for parking, landscaping, and building materials.

The Zoning and Subdivision Code also describes the Town's standards and procedures for rezoning, dividing property into smaller lots, temporary uses, nonresidential signs, drainage, wireless communication towers, infrastructure requirements for subdivisions, and requirements for nonresidential development. Rezoning, dividing land, non-residential (non-ag) development, conditional uses in any zoning district, and any building activity or change of land use in the Knellsville District require approval by the Plan Commission and in some cases the Town Board.

If you have questions, you can contact me, the Town Building Inspector, the Town Clerk or one of your Plan Commission members. Contact information is available on the Town's website.



## Building Permits

By Rick Fellenz

A permit is not required for window or door replacement as long as there are no structural modifications. No permit required for residing, the first reroof [unless there is an engineered report for a second overlay total three roof layers]

Most every thing else would require a permit, replacement heating equipment, replacement plumbing, new electrical work and wiring breakers.

All remodeling or alterations, additions, garages, basement build outs etc. would require a permit. If you are unsure if a permit is required please call me or e-mail me. 414-651-0021 or [rgfellen@powercom.net](mailto:rgfellen@powercom.net)

# News from Town Treasurer

## WHAT HAPPENS WITH THE DOG LICENSE FEES?

By Mary Sampont

The minimum dog license tax is \$3.00 for a neutered male or spayed female dog, and \$8.00 for an unneutered male or unsprayed female dog, or ½ of these amounts if the dog became 5 months of age after July 1 of the license year. A late fee of \$5.00 may be collected if the owner fails to obtain a license prior to April 1 of each year or within 30 days of acquiring a dog. All late fees collected shall be considered revenue of the town.

By State Statute 174.06, every municipality shall annually, by September 15, provide a listing of all dog licenses issued for the current year to the County Clerk's office. Upon approval by the County Board, there will be a compensation of \$0.50 for each dog listed to the municipality. This in turn is forwarded to the person responsible for providing the list.

At the end of the year, all unsold dog licenses must be returned to the County Clerk's office and payment for all sold licenses must be made to the County Treasurer along with 2 completed lists (1 alphabetical; 1 numeric), and a summary showing a breakdown of neutered/spayed and unneutered/unsprayed dogs, and the total amount of fees collected. The local municipality retains \$0.25 per dog license as a compensation for the service.

Within 30 days after receipt of the payments, the county treasurer shall pay into the state treasury 5% of the minimum tax as provided for under s. 174.05 (2) of all dog license taxes received by the county treasurer.

**Make Check Payable To:** TOWN OF PORT WASHINGTON

**Mail Application, Information and Check To:** MARY SAMPONT, TREASURER  
2354 WILLOW ROAD  
PORT WASHINGTON, WI 53074

### FEE SCHEDULE:

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

**OWNER'S NAME:** \_\_\_\_\_ **PHONE NO.** \_\_\_\_\_

**OWNER'S ADDRESS:** \_\_\_\_\_

**NAME OF DOG:** \_\_\_\_\_ **BREED:** \_\_\_\_\_ **COLOR:** \_\_\_\_\_

**SEX: MALE      FEMALE      (CIRCLE ONE)**  
**SPAYED      NEUTERED      (CIRCLE ONE)**

**NAME OF DOG:** \_\_\_\_\_ **BREED:** \_\_\_\_\_ **COLOR:** \_\_\_\_\_

**SEX: MALE      FEMALE      (CIRCLE ONE)**  
**SPAYED      NEUTERED      (CIRCLE ONE)**

**NAME OF DOG:** \_\_\_\_\_ **BREED:** \_\_\_\_\_ **COLOR:** \_\_\_\_\_

**SEX: MALE      FEMALE      (CIRCLE ONE)**  
**SPAYED      NEUTERED      (CIRCLE ONE)**

PLEASE BE SURE TO FILL IN ALL INFORMATION TO KEEP ALL RECORDS CURRENT

# GARBAGE & RECYCLING

The Drop-Off Site at 3715 Highland Drive is open for Town of Port residents during the hours of:

**THURSDAYS: 4:00PM – 6:00PM**

**SATURDAYS: 8:00AM – NOON**

**PLEASE NOTE THE SPECIAL HOLIDAY HOURS!!**

**SATURDAY, December 24th: 8:00 AM - 12:00 PM**

**SATURDAY, December 31st: 8:00 AM - 12:00 PM**

- Many items are recyclable, The Town receives a rebate on all recyclables collected so it is in our best interest to get these items out of the garbage and into the recycling dumpster.
- Please respect the hours as posted. The Attendant needs time to close and open the site, and coming early and late does make his job a little difficult.
- All garbage must be bagged.
- To improve traffic flow, we require all cars to enter from Highland Drive, on the south side of the building. This allows for a drive-thru flow of traffic, to eliminate congestion.
- Please pull to the side if you plan to socialize, so as to accommodate your neighbors in a hurry.
- You may continue to use your current residency card to prove residency, when necessary. You may also provide a drivers license with your current Town of Port Washington address. Our attendant tends to recognize most Town of Port Washington residents, but it's a good idea to have the card with you, if necessary.



Ozaukee Iron & Metal is a family owned scrap metal recycling facility, located in Port Washington, WI. Our facility caters to Ozaukee County and southeastern Wisconsin with the resources and equipment to solve any recycling requirement. Our mission is to be the number one destination for all your scrap metal needs. Our customers can rely on OIM for efficient and dependable scrap metal management solutions at competitive pricing. Ozaukee Iron & Metal offers a convenient drive-thru service and friendly staff to assist you. We are open Monday through Friday from 7am to 4:30pm, Saturday from 7am to 12:00 (Noon) and we are closed on Sunday.

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See website for acceptable items. <http://www.ozaukeeironmetal.com/items-we-accept>

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## IMPORTANT NOTICE TO ALL TAX PAYERS

Property tax payments will be accepted by the Town Treasurer only. Do not send payments to the County Treasurer.

**BY MAIL:** include the tear off stub for 1<sup>st</sup> 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**

\*If you would like a receipt, please include a self-addressed, stamped envelope with your payment.

**LOCAL BANK:** You may make payments during lobby hours only at:

**Port Washington State Bank  
206 N. Franklin St.  
Port Washington, WI 53074**

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

**IN-PERSON:** The treasurer will be available during regular office hours at the Town Hall during the months of December and January, in addition to the dates listed below:

Fri. Dec. 23, 2016	6 – 8 pm	Fri. Jan. 20, 2017 6 – 8 pm
Sat. Dec. 24, 2016	9 am – 12 pm	Sat. Jan. 21, 2017 9 am – 12 pm
Fri. Dec. 30, 2016	6 – 8 pm	Fri. Jan. 27, 2017 6 – 8 pm
Sat. Dec. 31, 2016	9 am – 12 pm	Sat. Jan. 28, 2017 9 am – 12 pm

## HOW TO CONTACT THE TOWN

**CHAIRMAN:** Jim Melichar 262-206-1731  
**SUPERVISORS:** Mike Didier 414-573-0018  
Jim Rychtik, Jr. 262-689-7852  
**CLERK:** Cheryl Karrels 262-284-5235  
**TREASURER:** Mary Sampont 262-284-5394

**BUILDING INSPECTOR &  
ZONING ADMINISTRATOR:**  
Richard Fellenz 414-651-0021

### **PLAN COMMISSION MEMBERS:**

Jim Melichar	262-206-1731
Mike Didier	414-573-0018
Jim Rychtik, Jr.	262-689-7852
Chuck Baranek	262-284-3869
Brian Verheyen	414-758-3079
Dale Noll	262-355-6002
Randy Noll	262-483-6574

**Town Board – 1<sup>st</sup> Monday of each month @ 7:30 pm**

Jan 2, Feb 6, March 6, April 3 and May 1, 2017

**Plan Commission- 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of each month @7:30pm**

Jan 10, Feb 8, March 8, April 12 and May 10, 2017

**Annual Meeting– TBD– mid April 2017**

**Open Book with the Assessor – TBD- late April 2017**

**Board of Review – TBD- mid May 2017**

Plan Commission members are appointed to 2– and 3-year terms by the Town Board. It is also required that they be Town residents. Plan Commission members advise the Town Board on Zoning and Development of the Town.