



## ST. JOSEPH TOWN NEWSLETTER

*The Town of St. Joseph continues to move forward and is making great progress with all the activities that we have on our plate. Town Board members, Committees of the Town, and other designated individuals, continue to participate in the numerous meetings that are required to accomplish these activities. The Town continues to utilize skilled individuals, such as Accountants, Financial Planners, Computer Specialists, Parks and Recreation Professionals, retired Business professionals, and other dedicated persons on our Town Committees. They have volunteered their time and continue to work tirelessly. Their hard work, experience, and input has been extremely valuable during this time.*

## Chair's CORNER

### ■ Bridge Update

The new river crossing is tentatively scheduled for an August 2017 opening. Although vehicular traffic will begin on the new roadway, other roadway reconstruction will commence. The Houlton hill will be removed and the intersection at the top of the existing hill — near the Hilltop roads and Main Street — will be reconstructed as part of the Loop Trail. Additionally, the roadway from the top of the Houlton hill toward Scout Camp Road will be reconstructed. This will cause some inconvenience to the businesses and residents in this area — *no way around it*. WisDOT is well aware of the Town's concern over the inconvenience that will be created.

### ■ Storm Water/Wastewater

The Town continues to participate in the Storm Water/Wastewater Coalition meetings where the Hwy 64 Corridor Communities are planning for change which will potentially occur due to the new bridge. The Town of St. Joseph has reached its second milestone by completing the second submission requirement for the mandated **Municipal Separate Storm Water System (MS4)** permit, namely “*Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination*,” “*Pollution Prevention*,” “*Storm Water Quality Management*,” and the “*Storm Sewer System Map*.” As I have mentioned in the past, this is being funded by two sources: bridge MOU mitigation funds and an Urban Non-Point Source Grant. The funding and permit deadline is scheduled for December 2017.

Work continues on our **Houlton Facilities Management Plan**. We have completed the first phase and second phase and are now looking for additional infiltration sites. As a reminder, we are utilizing Bridge mitigation funds to pay for this activity. The MOU funding deadline is scheduled for June 2017.

A **Bass Lake Facilities Management Feasibility Plan** has been approved by the Hwy 64 Corridor Communities Coalition and work has begun. Outcomes from this plan include: 1) *Project Future Wastewater Needs*, 2) *Develop and Evaluate Options to Meet Projected Needs*, and 3) *Present Study Findings* which includes a written letter report summarizing the potential options and costs. Again, this is being funded by MOU mitigation funds and its deadline is the end of May 2017.



### ■ Comprehensive Plan

Our work on the Town **Comprehensive Plan** and **Natural Resource Inventory Plan** is completed. We have conducted the required Public Hearings and both have been adopted by the Town Board. Statutory requirements have been completed and electronic copies have been mailed to the required agencies. A final funding report has been submitted to the DNR to close the Funding Agreement in accordance with the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for the new river crossing. Again, the Town was granted Bridge MOU mitigation monies of **\$96,000** for the **Comprehensive Plan** and an additional **\$40,000** for the **Natural Resource Inventory Plan**.

*Chair's Corner continued on page 14*

# REMINDER - SPRING ELECTION



**APRIL 4, 2017 7:00 AM — 8:00 PM**

**Town Hall, 1337 County Road V**

### **Are you registered to vote?**

You must reregister to vote if you are a new voter, have a name or address change, or if your registration has expired. To check your registration status and view a sample ballot with current candidates — local, state-wide and national — refer to the following website:  
<https://myvote.wi.gov/en-us/>

*Want to SKIP the long Election Day lines? Vote Absentee ahead of time!*

### **Absentee Ballot Information**

All registered voters can vote ahead of each election either by mail or in person at the clerk's office. Simply fill out form EL-121 and provide a copy of your Photo ID. You can turn the documents in to the clerk's office either in person, via mail or email: [clerk@townofstjoseph.com](mailto:clerk@townofstjoseph.com).

### *In-Person Absentee Voting*

- |                                    |                                    |
|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| March 21 • 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.  | March 28 • 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.  |
| March 22 • 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.  | March 29 • 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.  |
| March 23 • 12:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. | March 30 • 12:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. |
|                                    | March 31 • 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.  |

### **PHOTO ID**

Don't Forget Your PHOTO ID. You MUST have an acceptable Photo ID to vote. For information what photo IDs are acceptable, and how to get a free State ID for voting please visit <http://www.bringitwisconsin.com>

## **PERKS FOR RESIDENTS: Rentals and more**

Town residents can rent table and chairs from the Town of St. Joseph! Have a big event coming up? Reserve the 85 folding chairs and 8 large tables housed at Town Hall. There is a \$10 use deposit for every 24 hour rental period. Rental forms are available online and in the Clerk's Office. Reservations are on a first-come, first-served basis.

Did you know that the Town of St. Joseph has an outdoor Park Pavilion? Baseball field? Playground? Walking Trails? These wonderful amenities are located outside of Town Hall at the corner of County Road V and County Road E. Please come enjoy our outdoor amenities with your friends, family and neighbors! Interested in reserving the park pavilion or baseball field for a special event? Residents can rent the pavilion FREE. Rental forms are available online and in the Clerk's Office. Reservations are made on a first-come, first-served basis. The baseball field can be reserved for \$10/4 hour slot. Contact the Clerk's Office for more information.

Have a LARGE event? Reserve the Town Hall! Residents can rent out the entire Town Hall! Amenities include a large meeting room, projector, kitchen, restrooms, and table and chairs. Rental forms are available online or in the Clerk's Office. There is a minimum \$100 rental fee plus \$100 deposit required for each rental.

# Finance Committee Update

The Finance Committee is made up of seven committee members including one Town Board member, the Town Clerk/Treasurer, Public Works Committee representative, Fire/EMS Representative, Plan Commission/Parks, Trail and Recreation Representatives and two members at-large from the public. The committee advises the Town Board and the Town Clerk/Treasurer about financial matters of the town and monitors the budget, expenditures, cash flow and updates the 10 year financial plan for the Town. It monitors the custody of Town funds and reviews the debt. We meet quarterly or as needed.

The new 2017 budget — which was approved at the Annual Budget Meeting in November -- is \$2,246,262.82. This budget includes \$399,500 for Public Works and \$495,000 plus interest for debt service for our last major road project and \$90,000 plus interest for the new fire truck.

In 2016, Public Works spent \$189,597.83. We were unsuccessful in receiving a TRI-D grant for a planned road project. Therefore, the Town moved the planned Town matching funds back into the general fund as well as some unspent snowplowing funds — due to the less than average snowfall. Without doing so, our general fund would have dropped down to approximately \$200,000. This would be unacceptable for a town of our size. In 2011, our general fund balance was \$712,508. As was explained to residents in the fall newsletter, that balance was continually being drawn down by the lack of taxation for our debt. The Town Board has had to raise taxes these last two years to accommodate the debt which is allowed under state law. For most residents, taxes that **you pay for the Town** are still less than you paid in 2011. By not funding the debt portion of budget, it takes away from our ability to provide the necessary maintenance to the roads and buildings we have all paid for.

The continued underfunding of road maintenance is a concern for the Town. We have taken out two loans, each with a 10-year payback in the past 16 years. Our latest loan started before the expiration of the old one, and we rolled that debt into the new one because of a lower interest rate. This loan will be paid off in 2019. We are looking at another loan sometime in the next two years to fund the next roads that need to be refurbished or reconstructed.

As with all public entities, we continue to underfund our infrastructure due to the levy restrictions by the State. Our maintenance budget is lower than we need and we did not do **any** crack sealing or seal coating last year. By delaying crack sealing and seal coating for one year, road's life expectancy is reduced by 2-3 years. It always costs more to replace than to maintain a road and we continue to address these issues.

Thanks for your patience with these financial matters. We recognize the importance of maintaining our roads, buildings and conducting the everyday business of the Town. All our budgets are tight and reflect our not spending more than is necessary. However, if we don't continue to maintain our infrastructure, we will be replacing it — and that costs all of us much, much more.

*Our next meeting is Thursday, April 20, 2017 at 6:00 PM.*

**For most residents, taxes that you pay for the town are still less than you paid in 2011.**

**The continued underfunding of road maintenance is a concern for the Town.**



## Reminder: St. Joseph Town Meetings

*Meetings of the Town Board, Plan Commission, Parks, Trails & Recreation, Public Works, and Finance are open to the public. Notice for these meetings are posted at the Town Hall and on our website. Many residents also request these notices via e-mail. If you would like your name added to the e-mail list, sign up directly on the Town website or just drop an e-mail to: [email@townofstjoseph.com](mailto:email@townofstjoseph.com). The annual budget meeting is normally the 2nd week of November. These are all meetings for YOU, the residents of the Town. You become the voice and vote for the many happenings within the Town. Attendance by a mere handful of residents does not accurately represent the wants and needs of the entire community. Plan to be involved in YOUR Town. Check out the website, [www.townofstjoseph.com](http://www.townofstjoseph.com), to gain additional information. IT IS THERE FOR YOU!!!*

# Municipal Separate Storm Water System (MS4) Permit & Houlton Facilities Plan Updates

## MS4 Update

As we have previously stated, the Town was mandated by Federal Law to comply with the provisions of the Municipal Separate Storm Water System (MS4) Permit for the Houlton area. The Town is required to meet specific deadlines for submission of plans and activities for this permit. One such submittal was due August 26, 2016. It included plans and documentation of compliance for the following permit sections: Public Education and Outreach, Public Involvement and Participation, Construction Site Pollution Control, and Post-Construction Storm Water Management. This 143-page document was submitted as required in August.

Additionally, we collected the necessary information on existing culverts and storm water runoff areas. We completed this activity to meet the deadline of February 26, 2017.

The submittal included the following:

- Illicit Discharge and Elimination
- Pollution Prevention Program
- Storm Sewer System Map
- Storm Water Quality Management
- Storm Water Quality Compliance Plan

Annually, by March 31, there also is a report due to the DNR describing the work done the previous year by the town to comply with the permit. This has been submitted in March 2017 for the 2016 year describing the initial work for the permit.



Photo by Rita Perzichilli Montbriand

Upcoming 2017 tasks include submittal of a Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) Assessment by the end of the year and generating regular avenues of public outreach and education. A TMDL is a regulatory term in the U.S. Clean Water Act, describing a value of the maximum amount of a pollutant that a

body of water can receive while still meeting water quality standards. The town's engineering firm will be studying the Houlton MS4 area to determine how much of the storm water that falls makes its way into the river and the potential pollutants it carries with it. Residents in the area will be asked/educated through the outreach programs to be aware of potential pollutants and how they make their way to the river. Look for this information in our newsletters, posted at the Town Hall, Houlton Elementary and various community events. The initial work for the Permit is funded through monies available to the town related to the bridge crossing. Please contact Supervisor Bohl or any Board member if you have any questions.



## Houlton Facilities Plan Update

The Town of St. Joseph has completed soil testing at two locations in the Houlton area for potential infiltration sites in the event a developer or other entity has any interest in the design or construction of a treatment facility in the Houlton area. The initial test results were submitted to the DNR. The DNR evaluation of the results required a second soil testing and those results were not rejected by the DNR. However, they encouraged the town to continue to explore other options. The funds for these tests were approved by the Hwy 64 Corridor Committee from MOU funds. The town went back to the committee stating it had completed its research/site testing and indicated we would not be pursuing any further action on the subject. The committee requested that the Town continue to pursue sites since there was still funding left to do so. The committee expressed these funds be exhausted for this purpose.

Currently the town is looking for additional test sites on private property — roughly in a mile radius of Houlton Elementary school; but not limited to it. The test involves boring a six inch diameter hole 30 to 40 feet into the ground with minimal disruption to the testing area. The resident would receive a report of the test and would have no obligation to any future action. *The Town makes it clear that we have no interest in pursuing a treatment facility. We are simply using the allocated funds for the bridge crossing to gain information about the soil composition in areas around Houlton.* Please contact Supervisor Bohl or any Board member if you have any questions.

# Fire/Rescue/EMS Update

mark your calendar!

The Town of St. Joseph will be putting two new fire trucks in service in 2017.

In January, the Town bought a 2017 Ford ¾ ton pickup. We used department fund raiser money to install a water tank and pump on the truck. Currently being installed is emergency lighting, a winch, emergency radio and other miscellaneous necessary equipment to make it fire ready. All of the aftermarket equipment the department needed are being paid for from fundraising money raised — including events such as the St Joseph Fire & Rescue Fundraiser on April 21, 2017. The new brush truck should be ready for the 2017 grass fire season.

In January the Town also ordered a new Pierce Manufacturing fire engine. It will replace a 1989 engine. We are waiting for the final specs and blueprint of the truck. We are planning to give the final approval for the truck to go into production around April 1<sup>st</sup>, with delivery in September 2017. The vehicle will be built by Pierce Manufacturing in Appleton, Wisc.

*Due to the fact that we did not receive much snow this winter or alternative precipitation, we are expecting a dry and, possibly dangerous, grass fire season this spring. Please take care when burning!*

Burning permits are required for any fire that takes up an area larger than a three foot diameter circle. To obtain a **FREE** perpetual burning permit, contact the Clerk or Deputy Clerk at the Town Hall, any fire department member or any Town Board member. Once you have the permit in hand, you simply call the non-emergency

*Plan on attending this year's*  
**FIRE AND RESCUE FUNDRAISER**  
 April 21, 2017  
 beginning at 4:00 PM  
 Big Guy's BBQ & Road House  
 BBQ Chicken and pulled Pork Buffet  
 will be served from 5:00 pm to 8:00 pm  
 Early Bird Drawing, 50/50 raffle, gun raffle  
 and general raffles throughout the evening.

sheriff's department dispatch number (715-386-4701) and tell them that you wish to burn. They will ask if you have a perpetual permit on file and then ask you to verify your name, location (address) of the burn and a phone number where you can be reached. If possible, give them your cell phone number. If someone calls in your fire, dispatch will call you — if no one answers the phone, they will page the fire department. Remember — **once**

**Make sure your FIRE NUMBER is visible at all times..... remove all overhanging branches, plants and snow to protect the visibility of your sign and the safety of your family and residence.**

**you strike a match, you are responsible for the fire, and with or without a permit you will be billed if the fire department has to extinguish your fire!**

Thanks to all of you who continue to support the Fire and Rescue Departments. We appreciate

your support. Stop by and see our new trucks. Department Meetings are on the first and third Mondays of the month 6:00 pm to 9:30 pm.

The Fire and Rescue Departments are looking for new members. There is training required to become a member of either organization, however, it is provided by the department. Both males and females are welcome, and there is much to become involved in — regardless of your age or physical condition. We never ask anyone to do anything that they are not comfortable doing.

Any person interested in joining, please contact one of the officers listed below or attend one of the fire meetings. Fire Meetings are held on the first and third Mondays of the month at 6:00 pm – 9:30 pm at the Fire Hall.

## St. Joseph Fire Department Officers

Chief	Ron Burton	715-222-4887
Asst. Chief	Charles Barrette	651-303-8857
Asst. Chief	Tyler Williquett	715-808-1692
Captain	Cale Dahm	612-709-2390
Captain	Zac Spates	612-205-0914
Captain	Jeff Amundson	651-269-6573
Captain	Tim O'Brien	715-497-6896

# Plan Commission Update

The Comprehensive Plan is *done!* *The guideline for the future of the Town of St Joseph for the next 10 to 20 years has been adopted.*

Many thanks and kudos to the hard working Plan Commission members and Chair Spaniol who saw the final product — with all its appendices — through to the end! Members were Steve Balfanz, Jason Coyle, Laurie DeRosier, Dan Lynch, Chris Matter, Joy Packard, Anton Rang, and Theresa Schousek.

The Comprehensive Plan's first four chapters are a picture of the Town and its residents — detail that is needed in every plan. Each chapter — whether planning or descriptive — ends with a set of goals and the policies to achieve them for implementation in the next few years. Chapter 5, Community Facilities, discusses the infrastructure and services available. Parks and bicycle/pedestrian trails are an important part of this section. Chapter 6, Agricultural, Natural and Cultural Resources, discusses the Town's natural resources with an emphasis on enhancing and maintaining rural character, protecting the ground and surface water quality, and encouraging natural resources.

Chapter 7, Economic Development, focuses on employment and economic development, including two different speculations about potential growth in the Town. The need for efficient, planned commercial and business development and local job opportunities are among the goals. (The Plan Commission has renewed activity on the Non-Residential Design Guidelines for our future business areas.) Chapter 8 focuses on Intergovernmental Cooperation and how the Town works with adjacent jurisdictions.

Chapter 9, Land Use Implementation, maps present and future land uses, and describes proposed land uses. This chapter studies a Houlton Town Center mixed use concept, including a

*“full development concept” that was rejected by the Plan Commission.*

The chapter also includes illustrations depicting actual, potential growth in the Town (Concepts A, B and C) and uses a map to depict future growth.

Chapter 10 is a reprise of all Goals and Policies in the previous chapters. The Appendices — the bulk of the Plan — are background materials used to develop the Comprehensive Plan. They include a rural character memorandum, the 2013 planning survey, two economic impact studies, and a 2006 future land use map. The Houlton Municipal Services and the MS4 storm water

memoranda about surface and ground water in Houlton are included. The Non-Residential Design Guidelines Manual and Natural Resources report round out the Comprehensive Plan appendix section.

With the Comprehensive Plan complete, and the document published/distributed, the Plan Commission can resume *planning*. Residents concerned about local government and how it serves the Town are needed to join the Plan Commission. Now is the opportunity to guide your Town into the future. The Commission needs members to serve now and in the future.

## Hudson Area Public Library

*Something for Everyone @ the Hudson Area Public Library*  
By Tina Norris, Library Director

The Hudson Area Public Library has something for everyone, so check us out!

A lot is happening at the Hudson Area Public Library this year. Have you checked out *Tumblebooks*, our new virtual library for children? Did you know that you could sign-up your children or grandchildren for our *1,000 Books before Kindergarten* program from the comfort of your own living room? Are you an investor? Interested in the stock market? Did you know that the Hudson Area Public Library now offers the Morning Star Investment Research database? Check these great programs and databases out at: [www.hudsonareapubliclibrary.org](http://www.hudsonareapubliclibrary.org) and while you are there be sure to check out all of the great events, new books, and happenings at the Library.

Be sure to check the Library's webpage often, especially with the annual Summer Reading Program being just around the corner. This year's theme is "Build a Better World" and we will be offering virtual registration on our website beginning June 3, 2017. Again, this year we will feature a special community program every Tuesday afternoon at 1 PM at the Library (except for July 4<sup>th</sup>). Our first program, *The Magic of Isaiah* will be on June 13<sup>th</sup>, so mark your calendars. On June 20<sup>th</sup> come check out the amazing animals of the RadZoo. On June 27<sup>th</sup> stop in and enjoy *The Music of Tom Pease*, the come back on July 11<sup>th</sup> for *The Magic and Comedy of Brodini*. Of course, the summer would not be complete without visits from Ragamuffin Raccoon and the Nature Carpenter Center — check the website for the exact dates of these visits.

On Saturday, July 15, the Hudson Area Public Library will celebrate its third Annual Ice Cream Social. This is a joint event hosted by the Library, Hudson Area Library Foundation, and the Hudson Area Friends of the Library. Stop in between 11 AM and 12:30 PM for a refreshing root beer float! The Splatter Sisters will be providing entertainment from 11 AM – 12 PM.

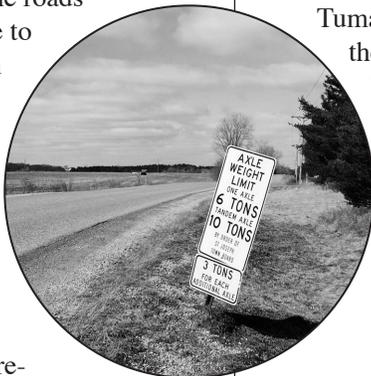
We hope to see you soon @ the Hudson Area Public Library! The Hudson Area Public Library where knowledge flows freely...come check us out!

# Public Works

The Public Works Committee consists of five members. We meet once a month to address the maintenance and condition of our roads (generally the first Tuesday of the month). The Pavement Management Plan guides the work that needs to be done concerning road maintenance. We also review the work being done on our roads and make recommendations to the Town Board. The 2017 Public Works budget is \$399,000 — with the largest share set aside for snowplowing.

## Spring Update:

- Summer maintenance will include crack sealing and sealcoating on approximately 2 miles of roads. \$150,000 has been budgeted.
- In April, our spring road inspection will identify other maintenance needs in the town; such as potholes, shouldering, brushing, mowing & sweeping.
- Road weight restrictions have been posted on all roads. Our 2016-2017 winter had many thaw and freezing cycles making the roads more susceptible to water infiltration causing boils and alligator cracking. The restrictions will, most likely, be enforced longer this year than in the past. These restrictions are necessary to prevent damage to our roads during the spring thaw.
- A reflectivity sign inventory was completed this year. Signs which need to be replaced in order to comply with Federal reflectivity standards will be ordered and installed in the coming months.



- NOTE: Town road right of ways (ROW) extend 33 feet from the centerline of the road. Refrain from placing debris, planting crops, trees, placing walls or other items that can obstruct drainage and maintenance within the Right of Way (ROW).

State law governs Town Right of Ways. Reference: *State Statute: 86.21*

- \* No person shall, within the limits of any public highway, plow, cultivate or otherwise work any lands in such manner as to interfere with or obstruct the drainage in any public highway ditch, nor shall any person operate any farm or other machinery on, over, along or across any public highway in such manner as to materially damage the said highway.
- \* Any person who shall violate the provisions of this section shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon conviction, thereof, shall be punished by a fine of not less than \$10 nor more than \$50, or by imprisonment in the county jail not less than 10 days nor more than 30 days, and shall in addition pay the whole cost of restoring the ditch or highway, or both, to their former condition.

- **Chapter 149**, Roads, Driveways, Trails, Erosion and Sediment Control and Right of Way Construction has been updated to address infrastructure details to insure that future growth in the Town is done to meet the details set forth in the aforementioned updated regulations.
- Our contractors Schmitt & Sons and Tuma Excavating continue to meet the snowplowing needs of the Town.
  - We are continuing to pursue the erection of a Public Works building to consolidate and store the Towns equipment and assets.

## Road Right of Ways

Please be aware that our road right of ways extend from approximately 33' from the center line of the road.

It is against town ordinance #160-1 to deposit or plow snow onto or across a town road.

Per State Statute: 86.021(1)(2), Please refrain from landscaping, installing irrigation, building, depositing debris, planting crops, or any activity that would deter storm water drainage, snow removal, and future construction areas for roads.

## Northwest Communication's Internet Update

Northwest Communications will be burying fiber in the Bass Lake Cheese Factory area this year. The roads include 60th St, Valley View trail and 160th Ave. We are always looking for more areas to build; and if we are not in your area currently, please give our office a call. The more interest we have in a specific area, the sooner we may construct it. Also if you are new to the Town, fiber may be in your area that you are unaware of. Please call our office to inquire: Northwest Communications — 715-268-3379.

# Parks, Trails & Recreation

The Town of St. Joseph's Park Trails and Recreation Committee provides input and recommendations to the Town Board on issues pertaining to existing parks as well as the potential development of future parks and trails in the Town.

## *Did you know?*

The Town of St. Joseph Park is adjacent to the Town hall and consists of a picnic pavilion, a playground, ball field, and a beautiful, long trail that will lead you along wetlands and prairie. The park is 24 acres and is filled with native floral species, grass trails, and various forms of wildlife. Those who visit the park can enjoy hiking, bird watching, and a picnic in nature.

The Pavilion is available for Town Residents to use. To reserve the Pavilion, call the Town of St. Joseph Clerk at 715-549-6235. A refundable deposit of \$100 is required.

The Parks, Recreation and Trails Committee would like you to help us name the trail. If you have any ideas, please e-mail Pat Tuma at [tptuma@gmail.com](mailto:tptuma@gmail.com)

The Committee is looking for volunteers for various projects within the parks. Interested Scouts, church groups and other organizations should contact the Town Hall Staff at 715-549-6235 and leave your name and contact information.

Members include: Town Board member – Laurie DeRosier, Chair – Mark Vanasse, members - Kevin Moeltor, Pat Tuma, Kyle Lindstrom, Janet Lindstrom, and Nina Boonacker. The Town of St. Joseph's Park, Trails, and Recreation Committee meets the third Wednesday of every month at the Town Hall at 6:00 pm. We would appreciate your ideas and suggestions!



For more information on the St. Croix County Bicycle & Pedestrian Plan, see links below:

<http://www.sccwi.us/bikepedplan>

St. Croix River Crossing Link: [www.dot.state.m.us./stcroixcrossing/index.html](http://www.dot.state.m.us./stcroixcrossing/index.html)

## Town of St. Joseph Assessor's Update

Following is a brief update on the real estate market in the Town. As you know, we recently completed a full revaluation in the Town and reassessed all properties during 2014. As a result of this process, we were able to get the Town in compliance with the Department of Revenue for the year 2014. However, as you may already know, the real estate market has picked up significantly since that time. We are currently seeing a very active and strong market in the Hudson/St Joseph area. There has been a 25% increase of appreciation in property values since 2014.

For example, in 2014, the average sale price for a home in St Joseph was approximately \$250,000 and the average vacant residential lot sold for approximately \$73,000. Then, in 2015, the average house sale price increased to \$285,000 and the average vacant lot sold for approximately \$93,000. Currently, in 2016, the average house sold for \$322,000 and the average lot price was \$110,000. You can clearly see an upward trend. So far in 2017, the market seems to be strong and we can expect to see similar increases this year as well.

Therefore, as a result, we will be updating assessed values in 2018 to reflect the current market. Please remember, that an increase in your assessed value does not necessarily mean an increase in your tax bill. When the Township's total assessed value goes up, the mill rate reacts in a favorable way for the taxpayer. Accordingly, following is what you can expect in 2018. We will be performing a revaluation that is called a market update reassessment. This means that we will be updating the assessed value of your property to reflect market value in 2018. We will not be re-measuring your house/buildings or taking pictures again like we did in 2014. However, we will be analyzing sales and visiting properties to verify information. As always, please feel free to contact me directly with any questions or concerns. Mark Garlick; Chimney Rock Appraisal - 715-287-3376.

# Perch Lake & Bass Lake Management Plans

The Lake Management Plans for both Perch Lake and Bass Lake have been completed. The lake advisory groups completed their work in late fall and the plans were reviewed by the Town's Parks, Trails, and Recreation Committee then forwarded on to the Town Board for their approval — which occurred in late December. In addition, both plans have been adopted by Resolution into the Town's Comprehensive Plan. Both plans were then submitted to the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources; whereby, they were accepted and approved in January 2017. This approval makes the Bass Lake Rehabilitation District (BLRD) and the Town of St. Joseph eligible for Lake Planning and Lake Protection grants for these lakes.

Subsequent to DNR approval, the BLRD applied for a Lake Protection Grant. Notification of this grant award should be coming shortly. Previously, the BLRD had applied for, and

was awarded, a Lake Planning Grant for preliminary work on storm water runoff management. Individual riparian owners have come forward to have their properties evaluated for potential mitigation activities under this Lake Protection Grant. Additionally, the Lake Protection Grant, if awarded, will be used for expansion of storm water runoff management as well as fishery habitat improvement and lake chemistry monitoring.

As far as Perch Lake is concerned, the Parks, Trails, and Recreation Committee is discussing an application for a Lake Protection Grant as well. Within the Perch Lake Management Plan, several issues were identified that could benefit from this type of grant. It should be remembered that for the first time, Perch Lake, an "Outstanding Resource Waters" (ORW), as designated by the State, now has a Lake Management Plan to help protect this unique resource.

Both of the watersheds of these lakes are relatively small and most of the protection practices MUST come from the watershed property owners. We cannot "blame" someone upstream, because there is no "upstream." The BLRD, the Town of St. Joseph, and St. Croix County are the responsible parties to protect these resources through Ordinance development and enforcement; such as Low Impact Design Standards for storm water runoff when development or redevelopment occurs, or other activities to protect the water quality.

If you have an interest in being active in helping protect these Outstanding Resource Waters, please attend or become a member of the Parks, Trails, and Recreation Committee. We are always looking for dedicated individuals to help us improve our beautiful resources.

Both Plans are now posted on the Town's website ([townofstjoseph.com/PlanningResources/LakeManagementPlans](http://townofstjoseph.com/PlanningResources/LakeManagementPlans)) for your review.

## Little Falls Lake Project: Willow River State Park

Governor Walker has allocated \$19 million to remove the old dam, build a new dam capable of withstanding a 1000 year flood, rebuild the park's roads, restore the swimming beach, and restore Little Falls Lake in the Willow River State Park. This project is critical for the Park to continue as a prime tourist attraction. It's reasonable to expect one million visitors to the park after this project is completed in 2020-2021. The Town of St Joseph support will help insure that this budget item receives final approval in the Wisconsin Legislature session in August 2017.

Restoration of Little Falls Lake is also important to the Town of St Joseph. Presently, four previous recreational lakes do not exist in our Town. Removing three dams in the Willow River State Park destroyed three of these lakes. Public access to the fourth of these lakes was lost because removing the three dams lowered the water table. Fewer lakes for recreation in our Town have increased public pressure on the remaining two lakes, Perch and Bass. For example, Donna Seim's letter to the editor in the Hudson Star Observer (2-2-17) noted the loss of revenue to Homestead Park (Perch Lake) because guests are being turned away with no place to park.

The Town will be passing a Resolution supporting the Little Falls Lake project. The Town will show their support by sending the Resolution to Governor Walker and other elected officials, such as Shelia Harsdorf and Shannon Zimmerman. Town of St Joseph residents may also show their support by contacting these representatives.

*Submitted by James Laird, Town resident*



*The "Boat Launch"*



*Former Dam*

# Understanding Stormwater

## NOTE:

The following article is written for Minnesota. However, the Minimal Impact Design Standards (MIDS) – Model Stormwater Ordinance is also being used for Wisconsin, in particular, St. Croix County. One of the authors, Jay Michels is working with St. Croix County on its' Stormwater Management Ordinances. Since the original article is quite lengthy, we will divide it into two parts and publish Part A in this Spring newsletter and follow with Part B in the Fall newsletter.

Article Title:

## **“Minimal Impact Development Standards: A New Cutting Edge in Stormwater Management”**

March 13, 2017

Written by: Spencer Peck & Jay Michels, Emmons & Olivier Resources, Inc.

## Part A

### Introduction

This article presents a practical description of Minnesota's Minimal Impact Design Standards (MIDS) and how it is being implemented around the state. Part I discusses the history of stormwater management, and the development of the MIDS Model Ordinance and performance standards. Part II describes, in detail, the basic principles and the crucial components and tools of the MIDS Model Ordinance and Community Assistance Package. Finally, Part III reviews the success Emmons & Olivier Resources has had in working with communities across Minnesota to integrate the MIDS system in local ordinance to improve protection of local and regional water resources.

### I. Stormwater Management History & Development of MIDS

This section briefly reviews the state-wide importance of water resources, the evolution of stormwater management generally, and how the Minimal Impact Design Standards (MIDS) Model Stormwater Ordinance was designed to protect our state's valuable, fragile water resources.

Water is one of the most important natural resources in Minnesota. It is important to local economies, crucial for wildlife, and a critical component of Minnesotans' lifestyles and recreational pursuits. Clean, abundant water is a key issue all across the state: from the beautiful north shore of Lake Superior, to the game fishing and water recreation on the numerous in-land lakes, to the agricultural heartland of the south and west. The pervasive importance of water is the fundamental rationale for protecting and restoring the State's highly valued water resources. One crucial component in protecting and restoring Minnesota's water resources is effective stormwater management.

From the 1890s to the 1960s concern for stormwater runoff was almost nonexistent, with dilution being the only solution.<sup>1</sup> However, a new environmental consciousness swept the nation in the 1970, most notably after a major fire on the Cuyahoga River as a result of major pollution.<sup>2</sup> In fact, the late 1960s and early 1970s were a major turning point for environmental protections in U.S.—the Clean Water Act, the Clean Air Act, and the National Environmental Policy Act were all passed by the U.S. Congress, dramatically accelerating the improvement of natural resources. The evolution of stormwater management can largely be traced to amendments to the Water Pollution Control Act (predecessor to the Clean Water Act) in 1972, which recognized the deleterious effects of non-point, urban runoff. However, at this time, it was still “uncertain” (at least to Federal agencies) whether urban runoff actually caused significant impacts to water resources.<sup>3</sup> The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) “National Urban Runoff Program” (NURP), established in 1978, was one of the first comprehensive efforts to study the characteristics of urban stormwater runoff, the extent of impact of that runoff, and the effectiveness of existing runoff management programs and practices. The NURP project culminate in a final report published in 1983.<sup>4</sup> Stormwater management has evolved substantially during the past 30 years. Until recently, stormwater

management solutions concentrated on directing stormwater off-site quickly and reducing flooding concerns. The main tool to achieve these goals was collecting runoff in stormwater ponds and other detention facilities.

The shortcomings of these approaches are well documented.<sup>5</sup> Worse, the results of continued stormwater pollution can be seen — first-hand in any urban water body and in thousands of impaired waters across the nation. Unfortunately, water resources in and around the Minnesota have not avoided damage or degradation from the failures of outdated stormwater management.<sup>6</sup> Modern and more effective methods of protecting waterbodies focus on retaining the raindrop where it falls through the use of retention methods. This minimizes runoff, reduces pollution, and increases infiltration and groundwater recharge. Stormwater retention, as opposed to detention, is the overarching concern of the Minimal Impact Design Standards (MIDS).

The MIDS performance standards and Model Ordinance were developed over the course of four years (October 2009 – June 2013) with the help of the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) and a diverse group of stakeholders and experts. Its development was initiated by impending Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) permit updates that included anti-degradation compliance and outstanding resource value waters (ORVW) requirements. In response, a diverse collection of stakeholders, including the Minnesota Cities Stormwater Coalition, MS4 communities, the League of Minnesota Cities, the Builder's Association of the Twin Cities, environmental advocacy organizations, local watershed districts, the Stormwater Steering Committee of the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA), and key state legislators convened to develop a set of tools to address the general problems of stormwater management and as well as the MS4 permit updates. The coalition's efforts culminated in legislative support and funding for the MIDS concept,<sup>7</sup> as well as the MIDS Model Ordinance and Community Assistance Package.<sup>8</sup>

## II. The Minimal Impact Design Standards Explained

### Basic Principles of MIDS

The Minimal Impact Design Standards represent the next generation of stormwater management in Minnesota. The foundation of MIDS is Low Impact Development (LID) standards, which use technologies and best management practices (BMP) to mimic a site's natural hydrology as the landscape is developed. The package of tools includes performance goals, a calculator for determining stormwater credits for best management practices, and ordinance guidance for communities. Using Low Impact Development (LID) principles, MIDS emphasizes keeping the raindrop where it falls in order to minimize stormwater runoff and pollution. Low Impact Development is an internationally recognized approach to stormwater management that mimics a site's natural hydrology as the landscape is developed.<sup>9</sup> The LID approach preserves and protects environmentally-sensitive sites and natural features, including riparian buffers, wetlands, steep slopes, valuable trees, floodplains, woodlands, and highly permeable soils.

The standards and procedures in MIDS are a set of effective, flexible, and adaptable tools designed to retain stormwater where it falls. In fact, these tools go beyond just managing stormwater, but also provide solutions for numerous issues associated with utility and infrastructure projects such as requiring financial securities, codifying fair and effective enforcement procedures, and ensuring facility inspection and maintenance. MIDS incorporates these concepts to achieve more effective stormwater management with four main components:

1. Strong, consistent performance standards for the full range of constructions projects.
2. Flexible Treatment Alternatives designed to achieve high water quality standards despite site constraints such as high water tables, karst geology, or soil issues.
3. A MIDS Design Sequence Flow Chart to assist all stakeholders—from the most experienced developer to a first-time home builder—navi-

gate, understand, and effectively apply MIDS to specific projects.

4. A new calculator and credit calculations that standardize the use of a range of innovative structural stormwater practices and facilities.

### Performance Standards

The MIDS Model Ordinance ensures consistent and effective management of a range of stormwater issues, including reducing the velocity at which stormwater leaves a particular property (rate), reducing the amount of water generated by the impervious surfaces on that property (volume), and removing sediment, nutrients, and other pollutants contained in the stormwater (water quality). These factors have important impacts on the body of water receiving stormwater—if not properly managed, each can damage, or even destroy a body of water. Performance standards differ depending on the severity of the storm (e.g. the 1-year, 2-year, 10-year, and 100-year, 24-hour storm events). Generally under MIDS, new development and redevelopment projects must capture, and retain on-site, up to 1.1 inches of runoff from all impervious surfaces on the site.<sup>1</sup> This volume represents the 90<sup>th</sup> percentile storm, meaning that 90 percent of the storm events are less than 1.1 inches. Linear development (e.g. road construction) must retain at least half volume (0.55") from new or fully reconstructed projects, or the full 1.1" of runoff volume from the net increase in



impervious surfaces from the site.<sup>2</sup> The MIDS model ordinance also sets a consistent and strong threshold for when these performance standards must be met.

When adopted, MIDS can help communities achieve both stormwater quality and quantity goals. For instance, MIDS can be used to meet anti-degradation requirements; achieve rate and volume controls, actively reduce several pollutant loads; and achieve waste load reductions as specified in a Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) standard. The clear, concise, and quantifiable standards provided by MIDS also prevent anyone in the community from avoiding, exploiting, or neglecting the requirements of the ordinance. Simply put, the standards cannot be flouted or abused. Finally, MIDS is an approved approach for satisfying the requirements for new development and redevelopment outlined in Minimum Control Measure (MCM) 5 of the General Permit for small Municipal Separate Storm Sewers (MS4 Permits).

- <sup>1</sup> U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, *Results of the Nationwide Urban Runoff Program: Final Report*, Washington D.C., Dec. 1983, available at [https://www3.epa.gov/npdes/pubs/sw\\_nurp\\_vol\\_1\\_finalreport.pdf](https://www3.epa.gov/npdes/pubs/sw_nurp_vol_1_finalreport.pdf).
- <sup>2</sup> Jennifer Laston, "The Burning River That Sparked a Revolution," June 22, 2015 available at <http://time.com/3921976/cuyahoga-fire/>.
- <sup>3</sup> Ibid. at 1-1. Uncertainties were so great and cost estimates were so high that funding for treatment of separate stormwater discharges was deleted from the Clean Water Act of 1977 (P.L. 95-217).
- <sup>4</sup> U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, *Results of the Nationwide Urban Runoff Program*, available at [https://www3.epa.gov/npdes/pubs/sw\\_nurp\\_vol\\_1\\_finalreport.pdf](https://www3.epa.gov/npdes/pubs/sw_nurp_vol_1_finalreport.pdf).
- <sup>5</sup> See, i.e., Vladimir Novotny & Harvey Olem, *Water Quality: Prevention, Identification, and Management of Diffuse Pollution*, Wiley, 1994; E. E. Geldreich, et al., *The Bacteriological Aspects of Stormwater Pollution*, 40 J. of Water Pollution Control Federation 1861 (Nov. 1968).
- <sup>6</sup> In fact, there are 4,603 "impaired waters" just in the state of Minnesota. See MPCA, *2016 Draft Impaired Waters List*, available at <https://www.pca.state.mn.us/water/minnesotas-impaired-waters-list>.
- <sup>7</sup> See 2009 Minn. Laws Ch. 37, art 1, § 37, available at <https://www.revisor.mn.gov/laws/?year=2009&type=0&doctype=Chapter&id=37>.
- <sup>8</sup> Minnesota Pollution Control Agency, *MIDS Community Assistance Package*, available at [http://stormwater.pca.state.mn.us/index.php/Community\\_Assistance\\_Package](http://stormwater.pca.state.mn.us/index.php/Community_Assistance_Package).
- <sup>9</sup> Michael E. Dietz, *Low Impact Development Practices: A Review of Current Research and Recommendations for Future Directions*, 1 Water, Air, and Soil Pollution 351 (Sept. 2007).

# Looking back...

## Hudson Star Observer

3 Oct 1929

### To Start Grading For Houlton Span in Fall

Stillwater (Special) – Grading for the new bridge across the St. Croix River here will begin before winter. This was announced Friday by Engineer Hoffman of the Minnesota Highway Commission in St. Paul. He stated that the plans and specifications for the grading had practically been completed and that “we hope to advertise for bids shortly.” Just how soon the bids would be advertised he did not state. He advised that the plans for the grading would be sent to the Eau Claire office of the Wisconsin Highway Commission so that they could be checked and approved by that body. While the plans and specifications of the bridge have been prepared, work has also progressed rapidly on the plans for the spans of the bridge. Companies holding patents for lift spans have been advised of the proposed structure here so that they can submit bids for the lifting devices. According to persons who recently saw the plans of the proposed structure at the Minnesota state capitol, the new bridge will not go directly across the river from Chestnut street but will curve to the north and the fill will strike the old road on the Houlton hill at about the curve. From that point the fill curve northward.

31 Oct 1929

### Agreement on Bridge at Houlton Is Up to Babcock for Signing

Construction of the new bridge over the St. Croix River at Stillwater and Houlton awaits the signing of an agreement between Wisconsin and Minnesota by C. M. Babcock, state highway commissioner. M. J. Hoffman, chief bridge engineer of the Minnesota Highway Department, announced in St. Paul that a tentative agreement, between Minnesota and Wisconsin highway departments was returned to him with the acceptance of the

highway authorities of Wisconsin. This agreement, he said, was originally drawn by the Minnesota highway department and included allocation of costs, location and kind of a bridge to be constructed over the St. Croix. It was agreed upon by the Wisconsin authorities, with a few minor changes. Mr. Babcock will look over the agreement as signed and altered by Wisconsin and in a few days announce whether or not it is acceptable to Minnesota. Mr. Hoffman stated that the major specifications and location as designated in the agreement by the Minnesota highway department were not materially changed by Wisconsin and intimated that Babcock would accept it. No announcement, he said, would be made as to when the construction will be started until Mr. Babcock okays the agreement.

30 Jan 1930

### Start Grade at Houlton — Sculley Company Gets Contract to Build Wisconsin Approach for \$116,179

Actual work on the grading of the Wisconsin approach to the proposed new Stillwater-Houlton bridge was launched this week by the Sculley Construction company of St. Paul, which was awarded the grading contract by the Wisconsin Highway commission following the opening of bids at Eau Claire last week. The Sculley company bid was \$116,179.30, the lowest of the 11 bids submitted. St. Croix county highway officials were inclined to regard the Sculley bid as reasonable. N.O. Varnum, chairman of the county highway committee, state that from his estimates Wisconsin’s share of the bridge cost should be sufficiently low to make the \$79,000 levied by St. Croix county adequate to take care of the county’s assessment



Photo provided by Anna LaVenture

toward the bridge. Mr. Varnum said that much of the dirt moved in grading the Wisconsin approach would be used in constructing the dike on the Wisconsin side of the St. Croix. This will lessen the expense of the bridge considerably. In fact, Mr. Varnum felt that perhaps the county might get a small refund from its \$79,000 assessment if nothing unforeseen develops and if bids for construction of the span remain within estimates. Mr. Sculley was in Stillwater last week making arrangements to start work on the approach this week. The dirt will be moved by shovel and truck. He stated that he expected to have from 25 to 30 men at work at the start and that more would probably be added later. The approach and fill are to be completed by fall. The plans for the bridge work proper are being rushed, according to an announcement by the Minnesota highway department, and it is expected that bids for the bridge construction will be called within a short time.

27 Feb 1930

### Houlton Bridge To Be Kept Open

Assurances have been given the Stillwater association that the Houlton hill road will be kept open during the construction of the new bridge across the St. Croix river. W. F. Baumgartner, division engineer of the Wisconsin highway commission, stationed in Eau Claire, has advised the association as follows: “We wish to state that our plans are to keep traffic going through at all times, except perhaps for a few days when it will become necessary to close the road to allow the

contractor to cut through the old road. We realize the importance of keeping this highway open for traffic, and we shall do our utmost to keep the road open and in satisfactory shape for traffic. Of course, it must be understood that while this road is under construction, traveling conditions may not be entirely satisfactory, but at least we expect to be able to maintain traffic through the job.”

**7 Feb 1930**

**Steam Shovel Starts Removal Dirt for Cut Through Houlton Hill**

Construction work on the approach to the new proposed Stillwater-Houlton bridge over the St. Croix was under way in full blast this week. The Scully Contracting Company early last week unloaded a big steam shovel at the shops tracks in North Hudson and the shovel traveled under its own power to Houlton. Last Thursday the nose of the steam shovel was shoved into the side of the Houlton hill and the first dipper of dirt was moved in connection with the building of the grade to the new bridge. A large crowd of people, most of them from Stillwater, were on hand to watch the steam shovel get at its work. Fairly good progress in the removal of dirt had been made up to the middle of the week.

*Hudson Star Observer —*

**7 Aug 1930**

**Start Work on New Stillwater Bridge**

Preliminary work on the construction of the new Stillwater-Houlton bridge was started this week by Peppard & Fulton, Minneapolis contractors, who will build the bridge. Only a small sized crew was put at work this week but more men will be added as rapidly as possible. While the “key” men on the job will be regular employees of the Peppard and Fulton firm, it was stated by G. W. Steed that as much Stillwater labor as possible will be employed after the construction work is well launched.

# St. Croix River Crossing update



Looking west at Piers 8-12 and the Minnesota approach work from above Wisconsin shoreline.  
Photo: Jan 14, 2017



Looking west at the Minnesota approach work from atop Pier 8.  
Photo: Feb 27, 2017

*Photos taken from the stcroixcrossing project website*



Looking east toward Piers 9-12 from atop Pier 8.  
Photo: Feb. 21, 2017



View of the Span 9 closure pour that was completed on Feb. 9. Crews completed the 6th and final closure pour on Thursday, Feb. 9. Closure pours fill in the 2 foot gap that was left between each pier location after all 29 segments were in place. Crews began working on the closure pours in Dec. 2016. With this final closure, the bridge deck is complete from the Minnesota abutment to the Wisconsin abutment, according to project manager, Michael Beers.  
Photo: Feb. 21, 2017

*For additional updates, the River Crossing project can be contacted at the following:*

*Phone: 1-855-Go-Croix*

*Email: stcroixcrossing.dot@state.min.us*

*Facebook: www.facebook.com/saintcroixsingmindot*

*Twitter@stcroixcrossing*

*or visit the Wisconsin project site for more information.*

■ **Lake Management Plans**

Both Lake Management Plans, for Bass Lake and Perch Lake, have been completed and have been adopted into the Comprehensive Plan by the Town Board upon recommendation from the Parks, Trails, and Recreation Committee. The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources has accepted and approved these plans in mid-January. It is stated in their approval letter that the plans, “meets the criteria of NR 191.45 and 191.42 and thus has been approved by the Wisconsin DNR.” The approval letter goes on to state that, “Management activities identified in the plan are considered eligible for grant funding under Chapter NR 190, NR 191, and NR 198, subject to the application requirements of those grant programs.” (See the Perch Lake and Bass Lake Plans discussion in this newsletter)

■ **Loop Trail**

The Parks, Trails, and Recreation Committee is continuing to work with the Wisconsin Department of Transportation, Town residents, and other stakeholders to give their input for the development of the Loop Trail and connections to other communities or places of interest, such as Hudson, Somerset, or the Willow River State Park. We were notified by the Department of Transportation that we were unsuccessful in achieving a Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) grant that we had applied for. We believe that a timing issue with the completion of the new river crossing and Loop Trail negatively affected our application although it scored very high in many of the other areas. We will reapply once the timing issues are resolved and another opportunity exists for this type of grant, which will probably be in two years.

■ **Road Maintenance/Snowplowing**

Snowplowing this year has been rather unusual. Although we haven't been hit with a lot of snow, we *have* been affected by many icy road conditions. We have had to spend three times the usual amount on sand/salt. We listened to residents and moved quickly to resolve icy road conditions. Our contractors responded with exceptional speed to rectify the icy roads once they were notified of the problem area(s). A big “*Thank You*” goes out to Schmitt Excavating and Tuma Excavating for their quick response to this snow season's issues.

The Public Works Committee is continuing to work on many issues, including Pacer ratings, sign reflectivity and replacement, invasive species, Right-of-Way incursions, and road projects for this summer. We were unsuccessful in receiving a Town Road Discretionary Improvement Program (TRID) grant for which we applied. Therefore, our road project for this past year could not be completed. There are many additional town roads that are in dire need of repair — which the Town is currently unable to fund. We are exploring all options for funding; but, quite frankly, there aren't many options available to us. Later in this Newsletter, we will talk more in-depth about the Town's financial situation.

■ **Safety Committee**

The Safety Committee and the Fire Department recommended the purchase of a new Fire truck. The Town Board, after careful consideration and input from the Finance Committee and an outside Financial Consultant, moved forward with this acquisition. We were able to secure a loan at 1.77%. The truck that is being replaced is over 27 years old and continues to have mechanical issues.

By now many of you have noticed the reconfiguration of the Clerk's office and repair of the pergola located outside the main entrance door. A new Clerk's window has been installed and the pergola has been reinforced.

■ **The Orchards of St. Croix**

Our newest development, The Orchards of St. Croix, a Hartman Homes development, continues to sell lots and construct homes in this development.

■ **Property Acquisition**

The Town continues to look for property to acquire within the Town. Mitigation monies are available to the Town to purchase property for low impact recreation and/or preservation of natural beauty. We cannot use the funds for baseball or soccer fields; but we can use it for parks, trails, a farmer's market, a community garden, natural area set aside, or a rest stop area along the Town's proposed Bike and Pedestrian Trail system. If anyone has any property they would like to sell or know of a particular parcel that would be nice for the Town to acquire and seems like a good fit, just give the Town a call.



*You can see this continues to a very busy time. Although many activities have been completed or nearing completion, others are just beginning. I continue to ask for your patience and understanding as all of us strive to do the best we possibly can for the Town.*



# Dog Licensing

2017 St. Croix County Dog License Application				PAYMENT DUE BY MARCH 31	
Owner's Name		Phone #		Penalty will apply if payment is late Make checks payable to: TOWN OF ST. JOSEPH 1337 Cty Rd V, Hudson WI 54015	
Address					
Date Paid	Cash/Check	Dog #1	Dog #2	Dog #3	Dog#4
Dog Name					
Color					
Breed					
Male	\$20.00				
Neutered Male	\$10.00				
Female	\$20.00				
Spayed Female	\$10.00				
Rabies Vaccine Mfg #					
Date Given:					
Date Exp.					
Office use: tag number if assigned					
<p><b>Reminder:</b> Before a dog license may be issued, evidence that each dog is currently immunized against rabies is required. (Wis. Stat. 174.07). Vaccination certificates may be obtained from your veterinarian. Please include a copy of the certificate with your dog license application.</p>					

**2017 dog tags and licenses are available for purchase. State Law requires all dogs be licensed annually.**

There are three ways to purchase a dog tag:

- In person (Office hours Tuesday and Wednesday 8 AM – 3 PM & Thursday 1-6 PM)
- Mail in the dog license application and payment to: 1337 County Road V; Hudson, WI; 54016
- Leave the application and payment in the black mailbox located by the town hall's entry door

**Current Fee Amounts:** \$10 if the dog is Spayed or Neutered; \$20 if the dog is not Spayed or Neutered.

Starting April 1, the amount due per dog doubles. The additional \$10 or \$20 is considered the late fee for paying after March 31st. Dog owners must show proof of a rabies vaccination. Please notify the Town if you no longer have your dog. If you have any questions, feel free to contact the clerk's office at 715-549-6235 or send an e-mail to: [clerk@townofstjoseph.com](mailto:clerk@townofstjoseph.com).



Calvin (right) and Hobbes (left)

In an effort to save costs, Dog License Forms will no longer be included with your Property Tax Statement. For your convenience, we have included a form in this newsletter. Please clip below or, alternatively, you can stop into the Clerk's office, or forms can be found under the "Forms & Permit" Section of the Town Website.

**Dog Owners Be Warned: Fees are your responsibility**

No one wants to lose their pet. Fortunately, the Town of St. Joseph contracts with an animal control officer to assist lost animals. When a lost animal is reported or located, the animal control officer tries to identify the owner's information (for DOGS, this is most easily done through the current year's dog tag or microchip). When an owner cannot be located or contacted, the animal is dropped off at Woodbury Animal Humane Society.

ALL charges for a lost animal are billed back to the owner. This includes a base \$100 reclaiming fee, the animal control officer's time, mileage and all Animal Humane Society fees.

2017 Dog Licenses are now available for purchase — STATE LAW requires that all dogs be licensed and have updated rabies vaccinations. It also helps ensure that is your dog can get home quicker.

# Town of St. Joseph

1337 County Road V  
Hudson, WI 54016

## Can you help?

The Town keeps an ongoing list of persons interested in serving on our committees and Plan Commission. Contact the town clerk if interested. Committee contacts are also listed on the town website

### Quick Reference Listing

Chairperson	Thomas Spaniol	chair@townofstjoseph.com 715-222-6235	Olson Sanitation	715-247-3440
1st Supervisor	Steve Bohl	supervisor1@townofstjoseph.com	Waste Management	715-425-8397
2nd Supervisor	Mike Long	supervisor2@townofstjoseph.com	Diggers Hotline—CALL BEFORE YOU DIG	800-242-8511
3rd Supervisor	Laurie DeRosier	supervisor3@townofstjoseph.com	Midwest Gas	715-247-5279
4th Supervisor	Joy Packard	supervisor4@townofstjoseph.com 651-308-1912	St. Croix Electric	800-924-3407
Animal Control	Kathi Pelnar	715-386-7789	Xcel Energy	800-895-4999
Assessor	Mark T. Garlick	715-287-3376	TOWN HALL:	
Zoning Administrator	Jay Kimble	651-775-6996	Clerk/Treasurer — Nicole Stewart	
Building Inspector/ Building Permits	All-Croix Insp.	715-377-2152	Deputy Clerk — Nicole Henning	
County Treasurer		715-386-4645	clerk@townofstjoseph.com	
County Zoning		715-386-4680	715-549-6235, Fax 715-549-6249	
			Office Hours are generally:	
			Tuesday & Wednesday, 8:00 AM - 3:00 PM	
			Thursday, 1:00 - 6:00 PM	

The town e-mails agendas of upcoming meetings. If you want to be included, send a note to: [emailtownofstjoseph.com](mailto:emailtownofstjoseph.com).  
For information and a link to the ordinances go to: [www.townofstjoseph.com](http://www.townofstjoseph.com)

The Town Board has approved the publication of this newsletter. We appreciate your comments and feedback on this issue.  
Please contact Joy Packard, 4th Supervisor ([supervisor4@townofstjoseph.com](mailto:supervisor4@townofstjoseph.com)) if you have comments.

*Design and Photography (unless noted): Mary Beth Arthaud-Coughlin*