

# TOWN OF ST. JOSEPH

St. Croix County, Wisconsin



Spring 2014



## ***St. Joseph Town Newsletter is back!!***

**We heard you!!** According to the recent Town survey, published information is the best way to be informed about what's happening in our town. With all the important, current issues facing the Town of St. Joseph now and in the future, we think reviving the Town newsletter will be an excellent way to inform our residents of issues facing us all.

Budgetary shortfalls in Public Works (snowplowing & road maintenance) need to be addressed. Creation of a Bike and Pedestrian Trail system needs to be addressed. The construction of the Bridge, potential changes in our traffic patterns, commercial/industrial/agriculture/residential zones, additional housing developments, storm/wastewater issues or challenges, ground water protection, and population growth are additional issues that our residents need to be aware and informed of.

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

### **Town Board News**

As a result of the election in April, we welcome one new board member & one returning board member. 1st Supervisor, Tom Spaniol was elected for a 2nd term and Richard Thompson was elected to fill the 3rd Supervisor position, retiring Brian Gullickson. We say goodbye and thank you to Supervisor Gullickson who has served the town for the past 4 years.



- ◆ You are reminded that 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 the bulletin boards of Houlton Elementary School and the Burkhardt Coop. Many persons also request these notices via e-mail. Would you like your name added to the e-mail list? Sign up directly on the Town website or just drop an email to: [email@townofstjoseph.com](mailto:email@townofstjoseph.com). The annual budget meeting is normally the 2nd week of November. These are meetings of YOU, the electors and 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!!!***



### **Town Survey Results**

Last fall, the survey was mailed out to 1,696 St. Joseph residents. 936 residents completed the survey and mailed it back to the University of Wisconsin-River Falls survey department. The margin of error for the survey was +/- 2.6% with 95% confidence.

The survey results prompted a number of take-aways and listed below are the six items that were highlighted:

1. Residents liked the town's rural character
2. Concern about the loss of rural character and/or open space associated with features of being rural
3. Reluctance to support tax increases
4. Residents are cautious about business development
5. Town services were rated as good or excellent
6. Improved internet access is an issue in the town

*Complete survey results can be viewed on the Town Website.*

### **Encroachment on the Town Road Right of Ways**



*We ask that you refrain from encroaching on the town road right of ways. Most right of ways, measure 66ft wide or approximately 33 feet from the center line in each direction. It is important that you do not plant, farm, cultivate, landscape, or build structures in the right of way or use it for any kind of storage of any materials.*

*The integrity of our highways/ROW's is at stake when these activities continue to occur resulting in damage that requires maintenance and repair at the Towns' and ultimately the taxpayer's expense.*

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## St. Croix River Crossing — New Bridge News

Major work on the Wisconsin side has begun (Mid-March) and will continue through July. The posted Highway 35 detour redirects traffic to County Roads V & E and will be in effect during this work. Currently, hours of operation run twenty-four hours, five days a week. During the summer months, hours of operation will be completed during the hours of 7:00 am to 7:30 pm. Residents should expect to see earth moving equipment during the summer months as well.

### Activities in Town of St. Joseph relating to the River Crossing Project:

#### Growth Management Studies

- **Growth Management Advisory Team** - member (Dan Gavin) Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) monies provide financial support for the development of various studies, plans, tools and activities to help address the needs of local governments to improve their abilities to manage growth

#### Comprehensive Plan Update

- Application for MOU monies to assist in updating of the Town's Comprehensive Plan

#### Economic Impact Study

- County-wide study with focused St. Joseph specific review

#### Natural Resources Inventory Scoping Project

- Application for MOU monies to determine town-wide on-site inventory of natural resources

#### Bike & Trail Plan and Development

- County-wide activity with St. Joseph specific review and study
- St. Joseph Plan currently being written which will be incorporated into County-wide plan
- **St. Croix Bike & Pedestrian Trail Coalition** - member (Tom Spaniol)

#### Highway 64 Stormwater-Wastewater Coalition - member (Dan Thompson)

#### River Crossing Committee - Kevin Adkins, Chair

#### Parks, Trails, & Recreation Committee - Mark Vanasse, Chair

#### Coordinator for River Crossing & MOU related activities - Susan Hoyt

### Highway 35 Detour Map



For additional updates, the River Crossing project can be contacted at the following:  
Phone: 1-855-Go-Croix  
Email: [stcroixcrossing.dot@state.mn.us](mailto:stcroixcrossing.dot@state.mn.us)  
Facebook: [www.facebook.com/saintcroixsingmndot](http://www.facebook.com/saintcroixsingmndot)

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## St. Joseph Fire Rescue News

- ◆ Burning Permits can be obtained from the Town Clerk or Firefighters. The permit is a "Perpetual Permit" however and it requires calling County Dispatch, whose number is on the Permit
- ◆ Please be safe when burning brush.
- ◆ We are always accepting applications for membership for both the Fire Department and the First Responders.
- ◆ The annual Fireman's Fundraiser held on April 25th at the Valley House was another successful effort by the St. Joseph Fire and EMS members!
- ◆ **St. Joseph Fire Department celebrates it's 50th Anniversary this year!!**



◆ Laurie & Doug DeRosier, have graciously arranged the donation of a 2010 Ford Escape to the Town for use by our department.

Chief: Ron Burton 715-549-6129  
1st Asst. Chief/1st Responder: Tom Carlson 715-247-5035  
1st Captain: Cale Dahm (612) 709-2390  
2nd Captain: Charles Barrette 715-549-5990  
3rd Captain/1st Responder: Tyler Willquist (715) 808-1692  
EMS Chief: Tim O'Brien (715) 497-6896  
Asst EMS Chief: Jeff Amundson (651) 269-6573

## Internet Service Update



Last fall, Northwest Communications reported that construction was done along CR I to CR E then west to 52<sup>nd</sup> Street continuing south to Rolling Hills and River Road and then continuing west on River Road ending at the south end of 37<sup>th</sup> Street. They were able to bury approx. 30 service drops before the ground froze and have started connecting residents as of last week.

They plan to continue main line construction continuing west of 37<sup>th</sup> ending at STH 35 as well as doing all stub roads off the existing route. Another area will be Rolling Hills Lane and continuing NW on CR E and Highland View. NWC will also be on 132<sup>nd</sup> Ave east of CR I, Awatukee Trail as well as the other stub roads on the West side of Bass Lake. Drawing a line starting on the NW corner of Bass Lake and continuing SW to the intersection of River Road and STH 35 constitutes the portion of the Township NWC should have service to by the end of Fall. Next year they will begin work on the NE section of the Township.

NWC has over 40 drops on a list to begin when weather permits. Any interested residents along the route should stop in and apply for service (\$50 application fee plus \$1 per foot from the road to the house). Amery office: 715-268-7877 or [info@nwcomm.net](mailto:info@nwcomm.net)



## Town of St. Joseph Fall Festival Saturday, September 13th 2014

- ◆ Mark your calendars for a great day of connecting with your neighbors and fellow residents.
- ◆ Open House for the Fire Hall addition.
- ◆ Fire department demonstrations, games, food, sales of homemade goods and produce, historical displays, wagon rides, tractor displays and much more.

## 2014 Citizen of the Year Award

Marie Colbeth was named Citizen of the Year. Chair Gavin presented the award to her and highlighted her work and dedication to the town after the incident with the former Town Clerk. Marie thanked the town for the award and gave a thoughtful acceptance speech!

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## **Financial Update:**



At the time of this update, the Finance Committee had not yet received the 2013 Audit for review so the update contains no specific financial information from the past year. What is known in general, however, is that it remains challenging for the Town of St. Joseph to maintain town infrastructure while revenue sources continue to dwindle. A long term solution should be a topic of discussion for the town in the coming weeks.

## **St. Joseph Town Comprehensive Plan to be Updated**

The Town of St. Joseph Comprehensive Plan was approved in 2006. As a result of the development of the new St. Croix River crossing, the Town of St. Joseph will experience significant growth, and potentially, a change in character. Planning in advance of these changes is an important component for realizing long term goals as a community. The goals as stated in the Plan include:

- ◆ Enhance and maintain the rural quality of the Town while providing opportunities to grow and develop into a unique and desirable pace to live, learn, work and recreate.
- ◆ Maintain and enhance the natural landscape by encouraging special considerations for places of natural significance in the Town
- ◆ Encourage unique and innovative development that supports and enhances the Town's vision
- ◆ Protect groundwater supplies and surface water to assure high quality water for all residents
- ◆ Support strong, ongoing working relationships between the Town and surrounding municipalities, the county, and other jurisdictions in matters related to planning and the provision of public services
- ◆ Promote community input, information sharing, and collaboration
- ◆ Create a village center that preserves and enhances the small-town, quaint atmosphere the Town values

As part of the mitigation monies available for the new bridge, MOU requests have been prepared for the Town in areas of economic impact, trails and pedestrian paths, comprehensive plan revision, natural resources study and a resource person — all of which will benefit the Town and involve Pan Commission activity to some extent.

To help accomplish these goals and the goal of wisely managing surface and ground water, a natural resources inventory (NRI) of the town will be completed. The NRI will provide accurate information on natural community types, location and quality of site, and allow for development in the future while at the same time, conserving the natural areas and rural character that are essence of the Town. The NRI will help the town manage the growth of potential residential, retail and/or commercial development within the Town. Specific and designated commercial/light industrial zones can help manage the growth in an orderly fashion. Preservation of the rural feel of the Town will be accomplished through management of residential growth. The NIR can identify appropriate areas for future parks and open spaces.

The Town will hire or contract for project staff and consultant services to assist in revising the plan and developing and implementing ordinances to further the plan and growth. Susan Hoyt has been approved for this position. Susan has 30 years of experience in planning and city management.

## **River Crossing Committee News**

The Committee continues to study the MOU for the St. Croix River Crossing to determine how best to apply those documents and the moneys designated for the Town of St. Joseph in them to achieve maximum benefit for the town. Depending on the issue under discussion, the Committee makes recommendations either directly to the Town Board or works in collaboration with the Plan Commission and the newly formed Park and Recreation Committee. The Committee welcomes members from the community and would like to encourage citizens to take part in the ongoing discussions. Meetings are generally the first Monday of the month.



Members of the River Crossing Committee: Chair, Kevin Adkins, Mark Vanasse, Carolyn Barrette, Theresa Johnson, Susan Farrington, Joan Gerhan, Laura DeRosier, Richard Thompson, and Dan Thompson



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## Plan Commission News

The **Planning Commission** works with the Town Board and committees, Town engineers, St Croix County, and other entities to develop plans for the future. The Plan Commission also reviews or rewrites ordinances as requested or necessary, reviews minor and major subdivision maps and proposals for compliance with the comprehensive plan and the subdivision ordinance, reviews county special exceptions, as well as other county requests as needed.

### Activities of the Plan Commission during 2013:

- ◆ Heard and forwarded to the Town Board & County: three variances and three special exception requests
- ◆ Reviewed two minor subdivisions — and is now working on a major subdivision — **Orchards of St Croix**
- ◆ Heard three speakers discuss opting out of county zoning. **Plan Commission members determined that remaining with County Zoning would be in the Town's best interest!**
- ◆ Reviewed & assessed results of the Town Survey
- ◆ Finished the Outdoor Recreation Plan (ORP) — forwarding it to the Town Board/County as well as reviewing and amending the fee schedule
- ◆ Approved Engine Braking ordinance and related Citation ordinance amendment

### Bridge related activities of the Plan Commission:

- ◆ Heard Jay Tappen, WCWHPC, discuss "Place Making and Planning"
- ◆ MOU requests prepared for Town in areas of economic impact, trails and pedestrian paths, comprehensive plan revision, natural resources study
- ◆ Resource person - Susan Hoyt



The Town Plan Commission usually meets once a month on the 2nd Wednesday. Plan Commission is responsible for work that goes into making ordinance changes, comprehensive plan changes and much more. In addition the Plan Commission hears all zoning and subdivision matters that come before the Board. The Plan Commission's input and responsibilities for the town are far reaching and vitally important. **Please Feel free to attend one of the Plan Commission meetings.**

Members of the Plan Commission are: Chair, Carolyn Barrette, Steven Belanz, Lloyd Dahlke, Lauri Derosier, Rick Kemper, Chris Matter, and Supervisor, Joy Packard.

Thank you to Patrick O'Meara on his retirement from the Plan Commission and Susan Heuser for their years of dedicated work and service to the Plan Commission.

**NOTICE: Two Plan Commission positions expire in 2014 and two alternate positions are open and available for appointment at the May, 2014 Town Board meeting. Qualifications: Persons interested should be Town residents interested in government at the local level. Must be willing to listen, read materials, and look at facts in decision making processes. Attend one or two meetings per month, plus additional training opportunities as available. Most important — care about your town.**

Call Carolyn Barrette, Plan Commission Chair at 715-549-6235, for further information or speak to a Planning Commission member, Town Board Member, apply to the Town Office, or e-mail [clerk@townofstjoseph.com](mailto:clerk@townofstjoseph.com) or [plan@townofstjoseph.com](mailto:plan@townofstjoseph.com)

## Annual Meeting Update *The annual meeting was held on Tuesday, April 15, 2014 at the St. Joseph Town Hall.*

- ◆ 2013 minutes were presented and approved at the meeting.
- ◆ Two Town Supervisors took the Oath of Office.
- ◆ Citizen of the Year announced.
- ◆ Reports submitted and/or read at the annual meeting for the following areas: Town, Finance, Roads/Public Works, Plan Commission, Fire Department, EMS 1<sup>st</sup> Responders, Parks, Cemetery and the River Crossing Committee. Highlights from the committees are included in this newsletter or you can view the 2014 Annual Town Meeting packet of materials on the town's website.
- ◆ Motion made and passed to authorize the board to acquire and/or sell real estate. Another motion was made to change from an appointed Clerk/Treasurer to an elected Clerk/Treasurer. That motion failed.
- ◆ Four comments were made from residents that highlighted the town's need to make road repairs and those comments also stressed the need to find a way to finance those projects.
- ◆ One resident indicated the need for more information posted in the newspapers to help residents know what is going on in the town.
- ◆ Another resident asked to have assistance in handling a noise issue created by a neighbor shooting off multiple rounds from a rifle on Sunday afternoons.
- ◆ Finally, a resident thanked Ron Burton for the work that he does.



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## Public Works Committee News

Back in July 2013, the **Public Works Committee** was re-established by the Town Board to aid the Town Board with recommendations and input from capable and experienced residents regarding public works issues. Many issues are discussed concerning snowplowing, road maintenance and rehabilitation, roadside invasive species control, required sign inventory and reflectivity standards, changing traffic patterns, road restrictions posting, and long term funding needs for Public Works.



Last July the Public Works Committee worked with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to apply for Federal Grants for repairs to our roads as a result of the June 2013 storms. The Town was awarded over \$13,000 in assistance for road repairs.

This past winter we, contracted with Tuma Excavating for **snowplowing** for the Westerly 1/3 of the Town and Schmitt and Sons for the Easterly 2/3rds of the Town. This has been the most challenging winter in over a decade or two. There were 50 consecutive days with daily temperature lows below zero and almost 21% more snow than average. Additionally, there were many more snow events and Mother Nature didn't help because there was virtually no snow melt until late March. This created the "perfect storm" for an expensive snowplowing year. There were higher snow plow banks and resultant higher drifts, due to the wind. This necessitated the use of larger snow removal equipment, graders and front loaders, which again drove up the cost. The result was a snowplowing expense of over twice the budgeted amount.

Unfortunately it doesn't end there. The unusually cold weather caused the frost to go deeper into the ground beneath the roads and more cracks are developing in the roadbeds. This means that it will take longer for the frost to leave the ground and much more time for potholes to develop and water to penetrate below the asphalt undermining the roadbed. Our road maintenance budget for crack sealing, seal-coating, and grading will be impacted as well — not to mention the accelerated degradation of the roads in need of rehabilitation and the shortening of their lifecycle. The roads are posted with weight restrictions at this time to protect our investment in them while this thaw is taking place.

All in all, these events will have a financial impact of about 15% to our budget.

Additionally, the Public Works Committee worked with Stantec, the Town's Engineering firm, to develop a six year **Road Maintenance Plan**. They have evaluated each road and determined the maintenance needs and timetable for maintenance for each road, or segment of each road. Now the town has a comprehensive Road Maintenance Plan we can follow to properly manage our roads. Additionally, with Stantec, the Committee has created a Sign Inventory and Reflectivity Plan which was required by State and Federal Law to be completed by June 2014.

The members of the Public Works Committee are Chair, Bob Marty, Mike Long, Mark Simpson, Theresa Johnson and Supervisor Tom Spaniol.

## Parks, Trails, and Recreation Committee News

In early 2014 the **Parks, Trails, and Recreation Committee** was established to provide 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. Our Charter reads, *"To provide the citizens of the Town of St Joseph with a park system for the conservation, preservation, and enjoyment of the natural environment and the recreational facilities provided, following the Town of St. Joseph's Outdoor Recreation Plan and the Town of St. Joseph's Comprehensive Plan."*



With the coming of the new bridge crossing from Stillwater a bicycle and pedestrian trail from Minnesota, crossing the old Stillwater Lift Bridge, looping in Wisconsin, and returning across the new bridge back to Minnesota will be built. This is called the "**LOOP TRAIL**". A video animation of this can be found at <http://www.dot.state.mn.us/metro/projects/stcroix/visualanim.html>.

Many of the surrounding communities, Somerset, Hudson, New Richmond, etc., would like to connect to this trail. They cannot do so without the connection in the Town of St. Joseph. The **St. Croix Bike and Pedestrian Coalition** has been formed including these bordering communities, as well as other biking groups and organizations, whose mission is *"to support St. Croix County and local municipalities in the development of a multi-use pedestrian/bike trail system and road accommodations network throughout the county that connects the St. Croix River Crossing Loop Trail, creates safe commuting and recreational opportunities, encourages healthy life styles, and promotes tourism and commerce in the greater St. Croix County area."*

Cont...

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## ***Parks, Trails, and Recreation Committee News cont...***

The Town of St. Joseph has been granted \$30,000.00 to create a **Town of St. Joseph Bike and Pedestrian Trail Plan** to design a trail system within the Town. This plan and design will not increase your tax dollars because it has come from a designated source called the St. Croix Crossing Mitigation Package, Growth Management Mitigation Items, Local Government Planning/Zoning Support Memorandum Of Understanding(MOU). Additionally, this plan will also be incorporated into, and as a part of, the County-wide plan which will hopefully be updated in the near future.

The economic impact of bicycling to Wisconsin is estimated at \$938 million dollars annually, which is almost as large as Deer Hunting in this state. The average bicyclist spends roughly \$25-\$35 dollars per day while on bike trips. It is anticipated that thousands of bicyclists and pedestrians will use this LOOP TRAIL each year. Connecting the Willow River State Park and Homestead County Park to the St. Croix Scenic Riverway with this bike and pedestrian trail will be a significant amenity for the Town and us, its' residents.

Recently, our Town-wide survey indicated that about 66% of our residents believe a paved bike and pedestrian trail is "Somewhat" to "Very Important". Based on the survey and the opportunity that now exists, the Parks, Trails, and Recreation Committee is working very hard on this issue with Stantec, the Town's Engineering firm. We anticipate completion of the **Town of St. Joseph Bike and Pedestrian Trail Plan** later in the year. Please watch for Open Houses and Public Hearings on this issue in the near future. We appreciate and need your input. Additionally, it must be noted that it is the Town's desire to **construct** bike and pedestrian trails within the Town with additional grant monies from both Federal and State/DNR funds allocated for this purpose.

The members of the Parks, Trails, and Recreation Committee are Chair, Mark Vanasse, Janet Lindstrom, Nina Boonacker, Kevin Moelter, and Supervisor Tom Spaniol.

## ***New Ag Zoning Districts/Comprehensive Revision to the Zoning Ordinance***

### ***Background:***

On October 1, 2013, the St. Croix County Board of Supervisors adopted Ordinance 826(2013) which repeals the current Exclusive Agricultural and Agricultural-II zoning districts and enacts the new AG-1\* & AG-2\*\* Districts. These changes are required to implement the St. Croix County Farmland Preservation Plan and Comprehensive Plan and for County ag producers to remain eligible for farmland preservation tax credits.

The County considers this change a "comprehensive revision" of Chapter 17 Zoning due to the substantial changes to the existing Agricultural (exclusive ag) and AG II districts to create the new AG-1 and AG-2 districts and the need for extensive changes to the corresponding town zoning maps. Under Wisconsin Statutes, during a comprehensive revision of a county zoning ordinance, towns may decide to remain under County zoning or adopt their own zoning, subject to County Board approval. A one-year timeframe was provided during which the towns must take action to adopt county zoning or adopt their own zoning. The one-year timeframe for this comprehensive revision was from October 1, 2013 through September 30, 2014. If a town takes no action to readopt County zoning or adopt their own zoning during the one-year timeframe, the town would have no zoning and would be considered an unzoned town as of October 1st, 2014.

During the one-year timeframe, the county has/will administer the existing zoning ordinance in all towns currently under county zoning. During this year, a town can take action to either adopt the new County zoning or to adopt their own zoning. Readopting or adopting county zoning will involve updating the town's zoning map and adopting county zoning ordinance language by resolution. Once the new town map/ordinance is adopted by a town, it will be referred to the County Community Development Committee and then to the County Board of Supervisors for adoption. Once the County Board adopts a town zoning map, the new zoning will be in effect in that town and county staff will begin to administer the new zoning districts/ordinance.

*cont.....*



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## ***New Ag Zoning Districts/Comprehensive Revision to the Zoning Ordinance*** cont...

### ***Important considerations:***

- ◆ The Town's new/revised zoning map **must be consistent** with the Town's comprehensive plan as well as the County's Farmland Preservation Plan and the County Comprehensive Plan.
- ◆ Plan Commissions must make recommendations prior to Town action. ***St. Joseph Plan Commission will hold it's regularly schedule meeting on May 7, 2014. Kevin Grabau & Pam Quinn from the St. Croix County Community Development Department will attend to help St. Joseph get on track with approving the resolution to be under county zoning and work on our revised zoning map. This meeting, as are all Plan Commission meetings, is open to all residents and residents are encouraged to attend.***
- ◆ Because the town zoning map must be updated and readopted, the comprehensive revision also offers the opportunity for a town and the county to correct or change the zoning designation of specific properties. For instance an ag residential site with a commercial land use could be zoned commercial. Towns should refer to their Future Land Use Map, found within the Town's Comprehensive Plan (St. Joseph Comprehensive Plan can be viewed on our website), when considering these situations.
- ◆ Towns deciding to adopt county zoning that currently have the Agricultural (exclusive ag) and/or Ag II districts in place on parcels in their towns, must meet with county staff to discuss how these properties will be zoned. The properties do not have to be zoned into the new AG-1 or AG-2 districts. They can be placed in either of those or in the Rural Residential/Ag Residential district or others depending on the use. St. Joseph is among several towns in the county that meet this criteria.

### ***Important Milestones/Deadlines:***

1. After the May 7th meeting of the Plan Commission, Plan Commission will need to present proposed zoning map changes to the residents of St. Joseph and the Town Board must pass a resolution adopting county zoning and the proposed town zoning map by July 2014. Towns may amend its zoning map — for free — based on the Farmland Preservation Area Map and the town's future land use map (refer to: [www.co.saint-croix.wi.us/Departments/Community Development/Planning & Land Information/Farmland Preservation Plan Project](http://www.co.saint-croix.wi.us/Departments/Community%20Development/Planning%20&%20Land%20Information/Farmland%20Preservation%20Plan%20Project) — only those properties highlighted in "green" in the Farmland Preservation Area Map are eligible for the Ag Districts). *See below for new ordinance language Ag-1 & AG-2, Rural Residential.*
2. County Community Development committee will hold a public hearing on the proposed zoning map(s) and make a recommendation to the County Board of Supervisors no later than August/September 2014.
3. County Board will take action on the town's resolution and proposed zoning map in September (no later than Oct 1, 2014).
4. Once approved by the County Board, the new zoning will be in effect and will replace existing zoning.

### ***Based on the certified Farmland Preservation Plan and the county's Comprehensive Plan, the proposed districts are designed to:***

- ◆ Allow for increased flexibility of land uses to supplement and add value to the existing farm, as well as provide goods and services to support the existing local agricultural community
- ◆ Continue to invest in the existing fabric and agricultural infrastructure of the county and region
- ◆ Maintain state certification in order for farmers to continue to collect tax credits.
- ◆ Allow for division of lots based on density vs. large minimum lots sizes.

***See next page for brief definitions of AG-1, AG-2, & Rural Residential***

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## \*AG-1

1. The purpose of the AG-1 (agricultural-1) zoning district is to conserve and protect open land uses, foster orderly growth in rural areas and prevent urban agricultural land use conflicts.

AG-1 provides a wide range of traditional agricultural and agricultural accessory uses at various scales and accommodates, as permitted uses, all activities typically associated with the primary production and harvesting of crops, livestock, animal products or plant materials, recognizing that such uses may involve noise, dust, odor, use of heavy equipment and chemicals and long hours of operation. (Refer to Chapter 17.14 AG-1 AGRICULTURAL DISTRICT of the St. Croix County Ordinances for comprehensive details)

2. Lands to be included in the AG-1 District: This District is generally intended to apply to productive farm operation lands, including lands that have historically exhibited good crop yields or are capable of such yields; lands which have been demonstrated to be productive for dairying, livestock raising and grazing; or other lands that are integral parts of such farm operations; land used of the production of specialty crops such as sod, fruits and vegetables; lands which are capable of productive use through economically feasible improvements such as irrigation; and lands consisting of undeveloped natural resource and open space areas.



## \*\*AG-2

1. The purpose of the AG-2 (agricultural-2) zoning district is to protect and preserve agricultural land and its associated uses within a town. AG-2 Provides a wide range of agricultural, agricultural accessory and agriculture-related uses, at various scales of operation while providing for the minimum lot area necessary to accommodate such uses. The AG-2 District accommodates uses which are commercial or industrial in nature; are associated with agricultural production; require a rural location due to extensive land area needs or proximity to agricultural resources and which do not require urban services. In appearance and operation, the permitted uses in the AG02 District are often indistinguishable from an active farm operation. Conditional uses in this District are clearly commercial or industrial in nature and may involve facilities or processes that require a remote location distant from incompatible uses, proximity to agricultural products or suppliers and/or access to utility services or major transportation infrastructure.

2. Examples of uses in the AG-2 District include, but are not limited to agricultural support services, value-added or related business such as implement dealers, veterinary clinics, farm machinery repair shops, agricultural sales facilities, marketing, storage and distribution centers, plant and tree nurseries and facilities for the processing of natural agricultural products or by-products, including fruits, vegetables, silage or animal proteins. Such activities are characterized by: (1) Wholesale or retail sales and outdoor storage/display of agriculture-related equipment, inputs and products; (2) The use of parking areas, outdoor lighting and signage appropriate to the scale of the use; (3) Small, medium or large utilitarian structures, facilities or workshops, appropriate to the scale of the use; (4) Low to moderate traffic volumes; and (5) Notices, odor, dust or other potential nuisances associated with agriculture-related production or processing. (Refer to Chapter 17.145 AG-2 AGRICULTURAL—2 DISTRICT of the St. Croix County Ordinances for comprehensive details)

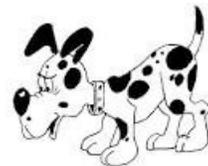
### Rural Residential

To provide areas for large-lot residential homesites, on land that has minimal farming or ranching value, that create country living in a rural atmosphere while preserving the vegetation, significant geological features, wildlife habitat/corridors, views and privacy, and provide an appropriate transition from urban development to agricultural areas. To provide areas for large-lot residential homesites, on land that has minimal farming or ranching value, that create country living in a rural atmosphere while preserving the vegetation, significant geological features, wildlife habitat/corridors, views and privacy.

## Dog Licensing

Licensing 2014 dog tags are available for purchase. All 2013 dog tags expired on 12/31/13. State Law requires all dogs to be licensed annually. There are three ways to purchase a dog tag:

- ◆ **In Person (Office hours Monday 1 p.m.-6 p.m. and Tuesday-Thursday 8 a.m.-1 p.m.)**
- ◆ **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:

\$20 if the dog is Spayed or Neutered Dog  
\$40 if the dog is not Spayed or Neutered.

The current fee amounts reflect the added charge for purchasing your dog tag after March 31st. Prior to March 31st, dog license fees are \$10 for a dog that is spayed or neutered and \$20 for one that is not. Starting April 1st, the amount due per dog doubles. The additional \$10 or \$20 is considered the penalty 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 email to [clerk@townofstjoseph.com](mailto:clerk@townofstjoseph.com)

**Town of St. Joseph**  
1337 County Road V  
Hudson, WI 54016

**NOTE:** In St Croix County, the public can drop off trash items for a \$ fee at the Veolia Transfer Station in Roberts. This includes items like furniture, concrete, mattresses and household garbage. They do not accept hazardous waste or recyclable items like mixed containers, mixed paper, and cardboard. For more information about the drop-off program, contact Veolia Environmental Services at 715.749.1700.

**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.**

## Quick Reference Listing

Chairperson	Dan Gavin	Olson Sanitation	247-3440
1 <sup>st</sup> Supervisor	Thomas Spaniol (612) 747-7700	Waste Management	425-8397
2 <sup>nd</sup> Supervisor	Dan Thompson (651) 428-8881	Diggers Hotline <small>CALL BEFORE YOU DIG!!!</small>	800-242-8511
3 <sup>rd</sup> Supervisor	Richard Thompson (651) 999-9900	Midwest Gas	247-5279
4 <sup>th</sup> Supervisor	Joy Packard 651-308-1912	St Croix Electric	800-924-3407
		Xcel Energy	800-895-4999
Animal Control	Kathi Pelnar 386-7789		
Assessor	Mark T. Garlick 715-287-3376	TOWN HALL: Clerk/Treasurer—Nicole Stewart	
Building Permits	Jay Kimble 651-775-6996	751-549-6235, Fax 715-549-6249	
Building Inspector	All-Croix Insp 377-2152	Office Hours are generally: Monday 1:00—6:00 pm	
County Treasurer	386-4645	Tuesday & Thursday 8:00 am—1:00 pm	
County Zoning	386-4680		

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