



Town of Oregon

NEWSLETTER

Spring 2007

TOWN OF OREGON OFFICIALS

Chairperson Gerald Jensen
Supervisors Wayne Ace
 Phil Van Kampen
 Pen Beasley
 Darryl Weber
Clerk Denise Arnold
Deputy Clerk Jennifer Hanson
Treasurer Rhonda LaFlash
Assessor Andrew Blomstrom
Constable Gary Wackett
Joint Municipal Judge. Daniel Floeter
Road Patrolmen Ron Outhouse
 Harlan Heller
Snow Removal Romaine Ace
 Ross Elsing
TORC Attendants Ralph Maher
 Ken West
 Sam Ace
Rep to Brooklyn
Fire & EMS Mark O'Brien
Rep to Belleville
Fire & EMS Sam Stuessy
Rep to Oregon
Fire & EMS Phil Van Kampen
Building Inspector Bill Glenn
Plan Commission Darryl Weber, Chr.
 Andy Blomstrom
 Lloyd Klahn
 Dave Hagemann
 Brian Duffin
 Sharon
 Christensen
 Paul Morrison
Park Committee Steve Root, Chr.
 Janine Jensen
 Robert Johnson
 Raandi Schmidt
 Mark Brylski
Cable Committee Chuck Forster, Chr.
 Charles Stearns
 Pen Beasley
 Thomas
 Wiedenbeck
 Andy Blomstrom
Webmaster Mark Hanson

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING AND SPECIAL TOWN BOARD MEETING

Oregon Town Hall
1138 Union Rd.
Tuesday, March 27, 2007
6:00 p.m.

The **Town of Oregon Comprehensive Plan** will guide the future growth and development in the Town of Oregon. The comprehensive plan contains the nine required elements required by Wisconsin State Statute 66.1001 including:

- Issues & Opportunities Element
- Housing Element
- Transportation Element
- Utilities & Community Facilities Element
- Agricultural, Natural, & Cultural Resources Element
- Economic Development Element
- Intergovernmental Cooperation Element
- Land Use Element
- Implementation Element

For additional information, please contact: Denise Arnold, Town of Oregon Clerk, 608-835-3200.

The plan is available for review at the following locations:

- Town of Oregon Town Hall – 1138 Union Rd., Oregon, WI 53575
- Oregon Public Library – 256 Brook St., Oregon, WI 53575

Spring Election Tuesday, April 3, 2007 Polls Open 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

The polling location for the Town of Oregon is the Oregon Town Hall, 1138 Union Road. If you have not yet registered to vote in the Town of Oregon please do so before the day of election. Those registering on Election Day must also be able to provide proof of residency. Absentee ballots are now available for voters who are unable to vote on Election Day. A request for absentee ballot must be made in writing. Applications for Voter Registration (EB-131) and Absentee Ballots (EB-121) are available at the Wisconsin State Elections website, <http://elections.state.wi.us> under Forms & Publications, then Election Board Forms. Contact the Clerk's office at 835-3200 with any questions.

OFFICIAL BALLOT
FOR NONPARTISAN OFFICE
 APRIL 3, 2007

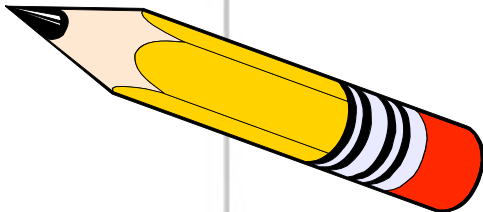
S58

NOTICE TO ELECTORS: THIS BALLOT MAY BE INVALID UNLESS INITIALED BY 2 ELECTION INSPECTORS. IF CAST AS AN ABSENTEE BALLOT, THE BALLOT MUST BEAR THE INITIALS OF THE MUNICIPAL CLERK OR DEPUTY CLERK.
 To vote for the candidate of your choice, complete the arrow \leftarrow to the RIGHT of the candidate's name. To vote for a person whose name does not appear on the ballot, write the person's name on the line provided and complete the arrow \leftarrow .

JUDICIAL	
JUSTICE OF THE SUPREME COURT Vote for 1	
LINDA M. CLIFFORD \leftarrow	
ANNETTE K. ZIEGLER \leftarrow	
Write-in \leftarrow	
COURT OF APPEALS JUDGE-District 4 Vote for 1	
PAUL LUNDSTEN \leftarrow	
Write-in \leftarrow	
CIRCUIT COURT JUDGE Branch 5 Vote for 1	
DIANE NICKS \leftarrow	
Write-in \leftarrow	
MULTI-JURISDICTIONAL JUDGE	
MUNICIPAL JUDGE for the Town & Village of Oregon Vote for 1	
BETH L. COX \leftarrow	
DANIEL M. FLOETER \leftarrow	
Write-in \leftarrow	
MUNICIPAL	
TOWN BOARD CHAIRPERSON Vote for 1	
DARRYL WEBER \leftarrow	
Write-in \leftarrow	
TOWN BOARD SUPERVISOR Vote for not more than 2	
CHRIS JOHNSON \leftarrow	
WAYNE ACE \leftarrow	
PHIL VAN KAMPEN \leftarrow	
SHEILA SPEAR \leftarrow	
Write-in \leftarrow	
Write-in \leftarrow	
TOWN TREASURER Vote for 1	
RHONDA LaFLASH \leftarrow	
Write-in \leftarrow	
TOWN ASSESSOR Vote for 1	
ANDREW BLOMSTROM \leftarrow	
Write-in \leftarrow	
CONSTABLE Vote for 1	
GARY WACKETT \leftarrow	
BOB CHROSTOWSKI \leftarrow	
Write-in \leftarrow	

SCHOOL DISTRICT	
OREGON SCHOOL DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER Area No. 1 Vote for not more than 2	
LYNDA FARRAR \leftarrow	
GUY TRGO \leftarrow	
Write-in \leftarrow	
Write-in \leftarrow	

SAMPLE



OFFICIAL BALLOT
 for
 NONPARTISAN OFFICE
 APRIL 3, 2007
 for

Ballot issued by _____

(Initials of Inspectors) _____

Absent Elector's Ballot issued by _____

(Initials of Municipal Clerk or Deputy Clerk) _____

Certification of Elector Assistance
 I certify that this ballot was marked by me for an elector who is authorized under the law to have assistance, upon request, and as directed by the elector.

(Signature of assisting individual) _____

CANDIDATES

CHAIRPERSON



Darryl Weber

TREASURER

**NO PHOTO
AVAILABLE**

Rhonda LaFlash

ASSESSOR



Andy Blomstrom

SUPERVISOR

(Vote for not more than two)



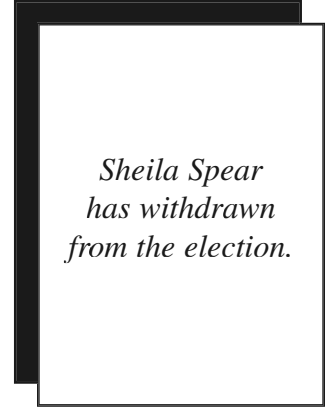
Chris Johnson



Wayne Ace



Phil Van Kampen



*Sheila Spear
has withdrawn
from the election.*

Sheila Spear

CONSTABLE



Gary Wackett



Bob Chrostowski

OREGON AREA FIRE/EMS DISTRICT

by Phil Van Kampen

The relationship between the Towns and the Village of Oregon has improved greatly over the last year in regards to District operations. I feel we now have a group of Commissioners committed to working together: The Village has withdrawn its notice to withdraw from the District. Village Trustee Steve Staton and I have proposed a change to the Bylaws that, I believe, will further improve Town/Village cooperation.



ASSESSOR'S REPORT

by Andy Blomstrom, Assessor

Our new assessing software is working well. We will be only be making some minor changes for 2007 one of which will be the value of and swamp and waste land. Our open book will be the first part of June. Anyone who is putting land or has put land recently in the CPR program, please check at open book to see you are getting ag use value on the land. After the close of the open book meeting, the assessor by law can no longer make changes in the assessment roll for that year. So if you have any question, be sure to attend the open book meetings to meet with me.

CONSTABLE'S REPORT

by Gary Wackett, Town Constable

The following is the 2006 Annual Report of the Town Constable. 4542 Patrol miles and 291 Patrol Hours were logged, 38 written reports were prepared and 10 Citations were issued (see breakdown). Numerous verbal and written warnings were given. 147 park and 6 vacation checks were made. As with each year the parks were priority and kept me busy. There was in increase in activity between 7-9 p.m., which resulted in an increase in citations being issued for park ordinance violations.

In addition I assisted the Dane County Drug Task Force with the removal of an approximate 10-12 thousand dollar street value of cultured marijuana from area farmer's fields that unknown person(s) had planted within the farmers crops.

With mandated state and federal schooling being required, I have NIMS certification and became certified as required by the state as a humane officer for handling animal complaints.

I hope 2007 stays on pace as past years, but I expect calls will increase with the new dawn to dusk park hours being adopted and population continues to grow within the area.

Written Reports:

Damage to Property	3
Assist Brooklyn PD	2
Assist Oregon PD	3
Assist Oregon EMS	1
Assist Oregon Fire	1
Assist Dane Co. Sheriff	11
Animal	7
Citation Issued	5
Fireworks	2
Unsecured Property	1

Citations Issued:

Alcoholic Beverage in a Town Park	2
Underage Drinking	4
Operating Unauthorized Motor Vehicle on Park Property	3
Dog at Large	1

Total Fine Amount before Court: \$1144.80

BUILDING PERMITS AND INSPECTION

The Town of Oregon contracts with Bill Glenn for a building inspector. Bill's office hours are Tuesday and Thursday from 11:00 a.m. to 12:00 a.m. at the Town Hall or call him at 698-7495. Inspections need to be scheduled directly with Bill. A reminder that Dane County also requires building permits and has zoning requirements, we suggest that you call Dane County Zoning at 266-4266 with questions regarding their regulations.

Building Permits Issued for 2006

82 Total Permits Issued

7 New Home Permits Issued; average cost of \$254,000

FOOD PANTRY DONATIONS

The town hall will gladly accept donations year round for the Oregon/Brooklyn Food Pantry. The Food Pantry is located at the corner of Union and Lincoln Road, #8 Hefty Warehouse. It is open only the fourth Thursday of the month, please contact Joyce Larson at 222-3399 for more information.

2007 ROAD BIDS

Asphalt prices have gone up 33% since last year. We are currently advertising for road bids and will see how far our dollars will go. We hope to do several roads this year. Road patrol is working on filling in the potholes.

NOXIOUS/INVASIVE WEEDS

The Canadian Thistle, Leafy Spurge and Field Bindweed (commonly known as Creeping Jenny) are all considered Noxious Weeds and according to WI Stat. 66.0407 must be cut or destroyed to prevent them from going to seed or spreading to adjoining properties. Please make sure that you control these weeds if they exist on your property. Please visit the DNR web site for any additional information <http://dnr.wi.gov>.

TOWN BOARD MEETING TIMES

The Town Board holds their regular monthly meeting on the first Tuesday of the month. Meetings begin at 7:00 p.m. at the Oregon Town Hall (1138 Union Road). Agendas are posted at the Town Hall, Village of Oregon, TORC and published in the Oregon Observer. All agendas can also be viewed at the Town's website <http://www.town.oregon.wi.us>.

TOWN OF OREGON RECYCLING CENTER (TORC) NEWS

The Town of Oregon contracts with Waste Management to haul garbage and recyclables away from the TORC. If you have questions regarding recyclable materials, contact Waste Management at 273-2500. For information regarding the disposal of hazardous materials, please visit the Dane County Clean Sweep website at <http://www.danecountycleansweep.com> or contact them at 294-5366. A reminder that garbage punch cards are available at both the TORC and Town Hall, however car stickers to gain access to the TORC are only available at the Town Hall.

PLAN COMMISSION

The Plan Commission meets the last Tuesday of the month at 6:30 p.m. at the Town Hall. The Commission hears zoning and re-zoning requests, land division requests and amendments to the Dane County zoning ordinances. The Plan Commission acts in an advisory capacity to the Town Board.

The Plan Commission has recently completed the new Town Comprehensive Land Use Plan. The plan should be approved by the Town Board this spring. The Plan Commission will now begin working on Conservation Subdivisions and updating the Ordinances. The Plan Commission has put in long hours and countless meetings in completing the new comprehensive use plan. Thank you for your dedication to the Town of Oregon. CD copies of the Comprehensive Land Use plan are available at the clerk's office.

TOWN PARKS

PLEASE NOTE: All Park Hours have changed to Sunrise to Sunset.

The Park Committee meets the last Monday of the month at 6:30 p.m. at the Town Hall. The 2007 park clean-up date will be set at the March 26th meeting. If you have any questions regarding parks, please contact the Park Committee Chairperson, Steve Root at 835-9204.

The Town of Oregon would like to thank all the Eagle Scouts for the wonderful work done in the Town parks.

TAX LOAN PROGRAM

Senate Bill (SB) 14, co-authored by Rep. Brett Davis (R-Oregon) and Sen. Jon Erpenbach (D-Middleton), creates a voluntary loan program to help pay the unexpected increase as a result of the error and was approved unanimously by both houses March 13.

Under this bill, the Department of Revenue (DOR) will make payments to the Town of Oregon, which will use the payments to make interest-free loans to persons who own property in the township and who paid more property taxes than they should have as a result of DOR's error. The maximum loan amount would be equal to the erroneous increase in the person's taxes. The loan amount would be repaid to the state during the following year's property tax cycle.

Once SB 14 is signed by the Governor, Town of Oregon taxpayers have until June 15, 2007 to apply for a loan through the township. The loan amount will show up as a special charge on next year's property taxes, as those taxes will be lower to make up for the error.

The promissory note paperwork to obtain a check for the overpayment of taxes due to the DOR error is now available at the Oregon Town Hall, 1138 Union Road. A check will be available within 7-10 business days after signing of the note. If you have questions, please contact the clerk's office at 835-3200.

JERRY JENSEN RETIREMENT

By Ruth Klahn

Jerry began his chairmanship under sad circumstances when Dallas Christensen became injured. He ran and was elected the April following Dallas' accident.

He has been a steady rock in the politics of local government. He has made his decisions with balance for the land owner and residents wishes. (Yes, sometimes they do conflict.) His job is to make sure the laws and policies of the town are followed. He has been effective because of his knowledge of government

as treasurer and interest in government from a young age. (His father was treasurer for a long time.)

I would like to thank him for his service on behalf of the residents of the Town of Oregon. He has dedicated many hours in this service at a local level, recognizing that local government as a township is grass roots and the closest to the people. I know because I spent many hours at some of the same meetings. He also spent many hours at meeting and reviewing potential decisions at the county and state level, knowing that many decisions also affect how things

are done at the local level.

He was always supportive of all the paper work involved with the office, lending a hand when he could.

I would also like to thank Janine for sharing him with the town. Maybe they can now spend more time at their get-away on Lake Camelot.

Jerry had some big shoes to fill from previous leaders of our Town and has done an admirable job in his dedication and leadership. I know he will be missed—yet called upon in the future.

Good Luck and Thanks—Jerry!!



A town resident recently asked me if I was counting the days until my term was done. Frankly, there has been so much to do lately that I have not had time to think about the end of my tenure. We have been busy with completing the comprehensive land use plan, planning to update the subdivision ordinance, deciding on road work for 2007, holding discussions with Village of Oregon officials on various zoning issues, dealing with a fifteen-inch snow fall, and testifying before State Assembly and Senate committees on a loan program to mitigate the effects of the DOR forty-seven million dollar equalization error.

At the beginning of this term, I had three priorities: 1) to replace our thirty-year veteran Clerk, Ruth Klahn, and our long term Deputy Clerk, Karen Everson; 2) to complete the Town's Comprehensive Land Use Plan; and 3) to oversee the property revaluation of the Town. Those priorities have been achieved and it is time to turn the gavel over to newly elected, experienced, and capable leadership. I am confident that the Town is in good hands.

Looking back over the last eight years, I am reminded that we have dealt with challenges, looked for opportunities, and accomplished much. Here are some of those accomplishments:

- Started a process to identify a Vision for the Town.
- Increased the Town Board from three Supervisors to five.
- Codified the Town's ordinance.
- Purchased land and built a road to the town Park and installed playground equipment.
- Negotiated an agreement with the Village of Oregon and Fleming Development to maintain Lincoln Rd.
- Cooperated with the other municipalities in the Oregon Fire and EMS District to build an addition to the fire station.
- Applied for and used state grants to improve various Town roads.
- Improved highway equipment with tandem trucks, better mowers, a skid steer loader, and a backhoe.
- Started the Town's web site and email.
- Hired new employees to replace our retiring road patrolmen.
- Hired new employees to replace our retiring Clerk and Deputy Clerk.
- Completed a market based property revaluation and software upgrade.
- Completed the Town's Comprehensive Land Use Plan based on the Town's Vision.

My tenure began with the participation of many residents in identifying a vision for the Town and concluded with the adoption of the Comprehensive Land Use Plan that draws heavily upon the work of the Vision committees. One of my principles of local government is that residents can represent themselves and should participate in their government. I have always tried to remember to thank those who give so generously of their time to serve on the many committees, boards, and commissions of the Town. Again, thank you for participating in local government in the Town of Oregon.

To my friend who asked if I was counting the days? No, I'm not. I have enjoyed everyday while being involved in local government. There is no better opportunity in local government than to work with, and for, the people of the Town of Oregon. Thanks to everyone who have supported me over the past twenty-six years as Supervisor, Treasurer, and Chairperson. I hope can continue to serve the new Town Board on special projects, if they should so desire.

To the Tax Payers of the Town, Thanks!

Jerry Jensen

OREGON AREA SENIOR CENTER NEWS

The mission of the Oregon Area Senior Center is to provide the support, the services and the opportunities for older adults to remain as independent as possible, in their own homes and in their own communities. The facility located at 219 Park Street is open Monday through Friday from 8:00 AM until 4:00 PM.

The support afforded the seniors encompasses;

- Outreach and Case Management.
- Congregate meals or home-delivered meals five days per week.
- An Adult Day Program offered Monday, Wednesday and Friday.
- Social activities such as cards, bingo and musical programs.
- Educational programs and classes such as Beginning Spanish and Genealogy and a wide array of computer classes in our “state of the art” computer lab.
- Intergenerational activities with local schools.
- A craft and sewing group.
- Transportation to meals and shopping via van and medical appointments via RSVP Driver Escort.
- Health and wellness opportunities such as the weekly blood pressure screening and annual flu inoculations as well as footcare. We’re also looking to offer appointments in Reflexology.
- Day trips are also offered to casinos and dinner theatres.
- Support groups include; Diabetic and Caregiver Support Groups and a Living Well With Chronic Conditions Support Group.
- A well stocked loan closet of durable medical equipment.

All of these different services embrace the purpose of the Senior Center. That purpose is to support the older adult intellectually, physically, socially and emotionally in his or her quest to remain independent in the community.

If you would like more information about the Oregon Area Senior Center, please feel free to stop in or call 835-5801. A monthly newsletter is available as well.

*Town of
Oregon*



**1138 Union Road
Oregon, WI 53575**

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