

PROPERTY TAXES

When you receive a letter from the Town's Assessor detailing your property assessment for this year, if you disagree with it there are two critical steps you can take. The first is to attend the Open Book session usually held in the Town Hall for a good part of a day. There you can review the "book" of assessments and compare to your neighbors and have a discussion with the assessor. The assessor may agree with your arguments at that point and adjust the assessment. If the resolution is not to your liking or you find there is no resolution the next step is to attend the Board of Adjustment meeting to make your case in front of a four-person panel, three of whom are Town Board members and one appointed by the Board. This will require you to arrange an appointment with the Town Clerk in advance of the meeting of the Board of Adjustment. The clerk can be reached through the Town Hall's phone, 920-685-2111, or by email at clerk@townofomro.us. The date of the Open Book has not yet been decided. That will be determined by when the assessor has finished creating the assessment "book". The Board of Adjustment opened a meeting on May 18, 2020, and then adjourned it to October 5, 2020, a Monday. That is the date for which you would expect an appointment.

OMRO RUSHFORD FIRE DEPARTMENT FUND RAISER

Currently the Omro Rushford Fire Department is planning a street dance in the City of Omro on Saturday, June 10th. Please watch other media for the impact of CDC guidelines on whether or not this dance actually happens on that date or at all.

VOTING

Since the spring primary elections, the manner of voting has become much discussed. Many proposals have been brought forward by the state elections board but no definitive new actions have been adopted. Voters may want to refer to <https://myvote.wi.gov> in order to follow changes and suggestions. That site can be used to request absentee ballots for both the August primaries and the November Presidential election. Since there were significant issues with mail-in ballots in the spring election you may want to consider acting early.

If enough candidates turn in nomination papers there will be another primary election on August 11, 2020, from 7:00 A.M. to 7:00 P.M. It might be possible that election authorities will send out APPLICATIONS for mail-in ballots to each registered voter. The fall elections are scheduled for November 3, 2020, with the same hours.

ANNUAL MEETING

The Annual Meeting was not held but has been moved to July 21st at 7:00 P.M.

BOARD ACTIONS

At the May 18 meeting, during the public input agenda item, a resident called for the Board to place on the next agenda a discussion of increasing the Board from a three-member board to five members, adoption of an ethics code, and removal of the current Town's Attorney. In addition, there was a challenge to the way closed sessions are posted.

The Board of Supervisors reaffirmed their approval a CSM at the corner of Highway 21 and Sandpit Road bounded on the north by Lacrosse Drive for Eric Wagner working to correct a clerical error in posting the previous month. There was nothing new about this action.

The zoning for that parcel was before the Winnebago County Board on the recommendation to approve by the County Planning & Zoning Committee. The County Board approved a change to

B-3 zoning. It would appear that property with a proposed use of public storage will be back before the Town, either Plan commission or Board, in June.

A couple inquired about the potential for enforcement against noise pollution in their neighborhood. The Board promised consideration but were not entirely hopeful there is a satisfactory solution.

The September Board meeting was rescheduled from the normal third Monday of the month to September 14.

RECYCLING

In the first issue this editor talked about carbon monoxide detectors that have reached the end of their service life. At the suggestion of the fire chief, the Kidde web site was accessed but the answer to the FAQ on disposal was not wholly helpful so an inquiry was initiated. Kidde's response was that they would, indeed, take the detectors back at no charge but that the end user would stand the cost of mailing them. It would take a separate submission of particulars about the device and then an authorization to return would be provided.

NEWSLETTER DISTRIBUTION

This is the fourth issue of the on-line newsletter devoted to things in the Town of Omro. The distribution list has increased slightly to 18 people, three of which are from outside of the Town of Omro. Since the distribution list is also meant to double as a way of sending out messages to a large group of Town residents in short notice it would be nice to have a long list of contacts. This means it is up to readers to share this with friends and neighbors and to urge them to add their names to the distribution list. If the distribution list does not grow it may be deemed not worth writing the newsletter after a few more issues.

Reader contributions will be appreciated. Questions or thoughts for additional articles are also welcome.

Submissions can be sent to newsletter@townofomro.us as can requests to be included in the mailing list.