

## PRIMARY ELECTION RESULTS

On Tuesday, February 21, 2023, there was a primary election for positions on the State Supreme Court. Results are shown here in order of their placement on the ballot: 156 Janet Protasiewicz 175 Daniel Kelly 8 Everett Mitchell 70 Jennifer Doro. Protasiewicz and Kelly will be on the ballot in the April 4 general election.

There will be races for County judge and Town of Omro officers on the April 4 ballot.

Of the 409 votes cast in the primary, 60 were absentee ballots. 94 absentee ballots had been requested and 64 were returned. One was late (and not counted) and three others were rejected because the correct information was not provided on the return envelope.

At the end of the day there were 1,742 voters registered which gives about a 23% turnout, not bad for a primary. Expectations announced on local news were 10 to 15%.

Absentee ballots for the April 4 election can still be requested. March 14 should be the date absentee ballots are mailed to those who have appropriate requests on file.

Readers can use this link to get voting information from the Town of Omro web site: [Election Information \(townofomro.us\)](https://www.townofomro.us/election).

The Town's web site has not yet been updated for absentee voting arrangements but this editor hopes to have that link in the next newsletter.

Readers can use this link to reach the State web site that allows you to see what is on the ballot, to request absentee ballots and to track those ballots: [Vote Absentee By Mail \(wi.gov\)](https://www.wisconsin.gov/elections)

## FEBRUARY 27, 2023, TOWN BOARD MEETING

The "audience" for this meeting included four people, one of whom had an item on the agenda and two of which were representing "press".

There was no public comment.

The Board took the following actions:

Discussed what needs to happen if the Town is going to sell a portion of a cemetery to the person who owns neighboring property. Board members wondered if there were cemetery governing bodies who had a say in such a decision. Who should "guarantee" that there are no used plots in the area to be transferred? They wanted assurance that the Town would not bear expenses in the transfer. They decided that, if the right questions are answered, the electors would be asked to discuss and approve the sale during the April 18 Annual Meeting.

Discussed a proposal by the Algoma Sanitary District to use a billboard along highway 41 to promote the sale of vacant lots within the Towns of Algoma and Omro. The Board passed a motion to officially decline participation. But they did express the opinion that they would not interfere if other entities wanted to pursue that action at their own costs.

Approved a request to partially fill wetlands in Lots 108 through 111 in Sandhill Farms if the DNR approves and there is appropriate drainage easements and if the Town Engineer signs off.

Approved suggested changes in the Omro/Rushford Fire Department insurance coverage.

Announced that the Town Chair is pursuing efforts to change how Industrial Development Bond funding is allocated. It seems that new interpretation of the rules

would preclude towns from ever qualifying for their usage. Last year the Town was able to get those funds to develop a highway 21 corridor study which is yielding recommendations for further progress.

Accepted recommendations from the Plan Commission regarding that study.

They repealed and recreated ordinances 01-0520 and 02-0520 which regulate the make-up of the Board of Review, the appointment of members and alternates.

Appointed Tom Tuschl as a replacement for the Clerk and deferred appointment of alternates until candidates were contacted.

Set March 31 as the date for the annual road survey with April 7 as the alternate depending on the County Road Supervisor's availability.

Approved the request for an additional light pole on a private road pending the submission of an appropriate application.

#### Reports:

The Clerk, Dana Woods, announced that the audit process has begun and that she had hopes results would be ready at the Annual Meeting. The same firm as last audit is being used.

Town Chair, Brian Noe, reported that he had submitted material to the DNR which confirms the Town's progress in controlling drainage in the highly populated north east corner of the Town. The Town is required to do this in what is known as an MS4 Permit. The Town has stayed ahead of requirements as development has proceeded over the last decade and a half. It seems the DNR was impressed with the summary.

## **SUBMISSIONS FOR THE NEWSLETTER**

This is Issue 2B of Volume 4 of the free on-line newsletter devoted to things in the Town of Omro.

Previous issues can be found on the Town of Omro website: [Town Newsletter](http://TownNewsletter(townofomro.gov))

If this editor does not know of an event it won't be included in the newsletter. Please share your thoughts for additional articles or questions. Reader contributions (ideas, not money) will be appreciated and can be sent to [NewsLetter@townofomro.gov](mailto:NewsLetter@townofomro.gov) as can requests to be included in the mailing list.

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The editor is Tom Tuschl.