

# OMRO TOWN CRIER

Vol 4, Issue 4, April 2023

## TOWN OF OMRO 175<sup>th</sup> CELEBRATION

Come join the celebration of the Town of Omro's 175<sup>th</sup> Anniversary on September 16, 2023, from 1:00 P.M. until 5:00 P.M. There will be a variety of family friendly activities such as kids games, music, historical displays, a children's entertainer, along with food and beverages that kids eat free.

Please RSVP by April 30. You can call 920-685-2111 or email [clerk@townofomro.gov](mailto:clerk@townofomro.gov), the Clerk's office or you can use the QR code to complete a form online.

<https://forms.gle/bQyqAcj86ewYmaCU6>



People have been making donations through the Town Clerk in order to defray the amount the Town Board will have to find in the budget for this celebration.

In advance you might enjoy reading some of the history of the Town by purchasing the book

FROM BACK YONDER TO TODAY FORWARD

TOWN OF OMRO HISTORY

1848-2017

which is available at the Town Hall. It was put together by the Town of Omro Historical Group.

## SPRING ELECTION RESULTS

Here are the results from the Tuesday, April 4, 2023, non-partisan election.

State Supreme Court: Janet Protasiewicz 343 Daniel Kelly 490

Winnebago County Circuit Court Judge Branch 2: Scott C. Woldt 482 LaKeisha D. Haase 315

Winnebago County Circuit Court Judge Branch 6: Daniel Bissett 642

Omro Town Board Chairperson: Brian Noe 620

Omro Town Board Supervisor: Mark Krings 570 Steve Disterhaft 429

(Candidates are listed in the order shown on ballots)

Referendum Question 1: Yes 563 No 237

Referendum Question 2: Yes 585 No 214

Referendum Question 3: Yes 721 No 98

Omro School District: Joanie Beem 486 Tom Jackson 534

Winneconne School District: Earl T. Peterson 1 Jaci Stelzner 2

Winneconne School District referendum: Yes 1 No 1

Algoma Sanitary: Sue Drexler 266

Total number of votes cast was 838 of which 96 were absentee.

To see the Clerk's posting of results on the Town website you can use this link:

[spring\\_election\\_2023\\_results.pdf \(townofomro.us\)](https://www.townofomro.us/spring_election_2023_results.pdf)

## **OPEN BOOK/BOARD OF REVIEW**

The date for the Open Book session has been set for May 16, 2023, from 9:00 A.M. until 11:00 A.M. Participation is by phone or e-mail. Face to face is by appointment only. Contact the clerk for information on contacting the assessor, [clerk@townofomro.gov](mailto:clerk@townofomro.gov), 920-685-2111.

Open Book was intended to enable property owners who had doubts about their assessment to look at the assessment rolls to find comparable properties to compare assessments and to discuss that information with the assessor. If the property owner was not satisfied, then they might want to attend the Board of Review to make a case for adjustment of their assessment.

The Board of Review is scheduled on May 24, 2023, from 6:00 P.M. to 8:00 P.M., at the Town Hall. The Board of Review is a quasi-judicial hearing before a panel of Board members and an appointee where a property owner can present testimony as to why their assessment should be changed. Appointments are required and can be made through the clerk as indicated in the previous paragraph.

## **REFUSE AND RECYLCING ETIQUET**

There continues to be a problem with separating recyclables from trash at the Town of Omro center for Refuse and Recycling on Wendt Road. All bins to the right are for recycling only. Bins to the left are for trash. There are blue barrels at the top for recycling aluminum cans from pop and beer. Those are turned in for cash to be used for equipment in the parks. Attendant Jeff Meyers would like users of the center to check out the rules on the County website: [Home | Solid Waste | Winnebago County \(winnebagocountysolidwaste.com\)](http://winnebagocountysolidwaste.com) This should help in understanding what should be recycled and what should be trash.

Property owners who pay for commercial pick-up might want to consider that light materials in their trash containers may blow unto neighbors' property when the truck spills the containers on windy days.

## **APRIL 17, 2023, TOWN BOARD MEETING**

There was no public comment.

The Board took the following actions:

- Received the audit report from KerberRose. Information can be found in the Report booklet from the Annual Meeting or requested from the Clerk.

- Moved monies around within the budget to reflect ARPA income and setting a contingency.

- Approved initial plans for the Town's 175<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration to be held on September 16 at the Town Hall.

- Selected a design for the celebration logo. The design was not displayed to the attendees, nor was the name of the artist announced. There was talk of asking for a minor change to the design to better represent farm life.

- Accepted an estimate from Garage Force to replace the flooring in the kitchen and bathrooms with an epoxy coating.

- Accepted a proposal from Landscape Solutions by Michael Kirsch to re-do the little garden in front of the Town Hall.

- Appointed Brian Noe as continuing Road Supervisor and for Recycling Coordinator and Mark Krings as Weed Commissioner all for two-year terms.

- Set Board of Review for May 24, 2023, from 6 to 8 P.M. and Open Book from 9 to 11 A.M. on May 16, 2023.

Reports:

The Plan Commission will hold a special meeting on April 26, 2023, that may require a special meeting of the Board of Supervisors.

The Board did go into closed session.

## **ANNUAL MEETING APRIL 18**

The annual meeting of electors was held Tuesday, April 18 at 6:00 P.M.

From voting results reported, there were just over two dozen electors present.

The most discussed item on the agenda was the sale by the Town of property which is currently part of a cemetery located near the intersection of Liberty School Road and Broderick Road.

The discussion was lively but cordial. Eventually three motions were passed:

1. **MOTION** by Al Silverthorn, seconded by Shannon Besaw for the town to pursue the process of selling the land at a cost to the town (legal research needed to be conducted) not to exceed the purchase offer \$8,750 submitted by Christopher and Megan Shea. Not to Exceed amount later amended to \$5,000.  
Motion carried on a 12-10 show of hands with 3 electors abstaining.
2. **MOTION** by Doug Gunz, seconded by John Giddings to NOT allow the town to sell the land until potential buyer contacts the Wisconsin Historical Society and comes back with knowledge from that entity and legal guidance of the proper procedures that need to be followed in order to sell cemetery land.  
Motion carried on a 17-3 show of hands with 5 electors abstaining.
3. **MOTION** by Ellen Sullivan, seconded by Nathan Ross to authorize the town board to sell the property with pricing parameters set forth in the proposal presented by the Shea's at the meeting (referenced below). Authorization to sell is conditional upon the Wisconsin Historical Society giving its OK, the sale abiding by any applicable state statutes, and the probing results confirming no remains are buried in that portion of the property. Pricing parameters presented in the Shea's proposal are:
  - a. Offer is \$8,750 for 1.75 acres of property.
  - b. When purchase is finalized, Shea's will have paid the related expenses listed below and deduct will those expenses from their final purchase payment made to the town. This will result in an estimated final purchase payment of \$2,500 to the town for the 1.75 acres.
    - i. Probing, estimated at \$2,000
    - ii. Certified Survey Map, estimated at \$2,350
    - iii. County Rezoning, estimated at \$350
    - iv. Town CSM fee, at \$250
    - v. Town Rezoning fee, at \$250
    - vi. City of Omro extraterritorial fee, at \$65
    - vii. County CSM review fee, at \$220
    - viii. County Rezoning fee, at \$765

Motion carried on a 22-1 show of hands with 2 electors abstaining.

## **COLOR IN THE TOWN PARKS**

With the wild changes in weather recently one might forget that Spring is indeed here and that the Town's two parks will begin to show colors that change throughout the Spring, Summer, and Fall. Plum trees should be in bloom soon as well as May Flowers and Violets. Some people enjoy the yellow of the dandelions.

Schnyder/Wendt Park is located at the end of Wendt Road (the entrance to the refuse and recycling center) off Highway FF. Except on Saturdays and Thursday evenings a gate about half way down the road requires users to park there and walk into the park to find the trails around the park and the pond.

Priske Park can be accessed from the east cul du sac on Fenceline Lane off Marquart Lane. It has a prairie in front of a wooded area.

Pictures from the parks can be found with this link: [Parks and Recreation Department \(townofomro.us\)](http://townofomro.us)

## **SUBMISSIONS FOR THE NEWSLETTER**

This is Issue 4 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 \(townofomro.gov\)](http://townofomro.gov)

If this editor does not know of an event it will not be included in the enewsletter. 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.

Please share this with friends and encourage them to add their e-mail address to the distribution list.

The editor is Tom Tuschl.