



## OMRO TOWN CRIER Vol 4, Issue 9, September 2023

### THE PARTY IS OVER

The Town of Omro celebrated 175 years as a Town on September 16<sup>th</sup>. Early in the day pizza, ice cream and snacks were provided free to attendees. The ice cream was courtesy of the owner of the Well in Winneconne. The pizza was from Pappa John's but paid for by donations. In fact, no taxpayer money was used for any of the celebration! Ice water was provided by the Algoma Sanitary District #1 in bottles that sported the winning celebration design (see top of page). During daylight hours kids could use an inflatable obstacle course, play Corn Hole Toss, and watch a puppet show. Adults (mostly) participated in Chicken Drop Bingo and regular Bingo. During all of this, background music was provided by 4North Acoustic ([4North Acoustic | Facebook](#)), a duo that played pleasant music suitable for background while people were eating and having conversations. At the end of the music Dan Feyen, Wisconsin Senator from District 18 and Michael Schraa, State Representative from the 53<sup>rd</sup> Assembly District, read a proclamation honoring the 175<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Town of Omro. Town Chairman Brian Noe also read a proclamation commending the winning celebration design created by Krista Benesh.

After a little rain, the Spicy Tie Band ([The STB Homepage \(spicytie.com\)](#)) played crowd pleasing rock 'n' roll. They had interesting lighting effects playing on the tent.

Beverages were sold to the benefit of the Omro Rushford Fire Department.

Dana Woods and her committee deserve kudos for their good planning and well staged materials and equipment. Town Chair, Brian Noe, and Dana Woods expressed appreciation of all the donors who made this possible without the use of tax dollars.

### REFUSE AND RECYCLING REVISITED

This editor was impressed by a local TV news item that discussed Brown County's effort to eliminate batteries from their waste. They set up sites and processes where all batteries could be collected, except auto and marine, and disposed of in a way that is safe for the environment. It seems re-chargeable batteries have been the cause of fires at transfer stations and at the solid waste site. Then this editor checked the Winnebago Waste and Recycling web site ([Home | Solid Waste | Winnebago County \(winnebagocountysolidwaste.com\)](#)) to see if they were doing anything like this since Brown, Winnebago and Outagamie Counties share in the final waste disposal. The County is not doing anything special about battery disposal. Perhaps someone should put a bug in the right ears to see if this can be made to happen.

While looking at the site, this editor noticed that rules have changed. For instance, this editor was always careful to take caps off containers so the containers wouldn't "pop" when heavy machinery rolled over them. Now County wants caps on because the sorting equipment being used currently has trouble with separated caps. It might be worth looking at the site in addition to looking at the Town's advice ([Garbage/Recycling \(townofomro.us\)](#)).

## **SEPTEMBER 11, TOWN BOARD MEETING**

Apologies to readers. This editor did not update his personal calendar when the Town Board adopted their calendar and he missed the September 11 meeting. That means he also did not remind any readers that the Board meeting was one week earlier than the usual schedule. The following report comes from listening to a recording of the meeting provided by Clerk Dana Woods.

For public comment Tony Daley rose to thank the Board members for whatever they do to keep the cost of ambulance service low as the contract is currently being discussed.

The Board did the following:

Discussed a grading issue on two properties on the east side of Hayfield Drive between Buttke Lane and Pasture Lane. They were working from a grade plan done by Martensen & Eisele. The plan called for diverting drainage down the middle of one back yard. This was referred to the Town Engineers at Strand Associates who also felt this was not a good plan. In the end, Board members concurred that M & E should be alerted that grade stakes should be set to the original grade plan set by the developers that would run water along the property lines in a straight east to west flow.

Approved a Joint Powers agreement with Winnebago County Sheriff's Department.

Discussed the construction of benches for the parks. Money for that already exists within the parks' budget and work will be done by Mark Krings.

Concurred that initial budget discussions will be held at the end of the October Board meeting (October 16) with a public hearing and electors' meeting at the beginning of the November meeting (November 20). The discussions are open to the public and input is desired.

During announcements the Board did short discussions on the possibility of grants to remove ash trees, the possibility of towns sharing in the interest generated by undistributed Spirit Funds, speed limits on Notre Dame Drive and the possibility that the proposed drainage plan for the Sawyer Creeks watershed had met with "final" disapproval.

## **COMMUNICATIONS ISSUES**

If you tried to contact the Town Hall by email lately and did not get a response, it might be because of a problem with Spectrum's equipment. It might be worth trying again now that things seem to be working properly.

## **SUBMISSIONS FOR THE NEWSLETTER**

This is Issue 9 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://TownNewsletter(townofomro.gov))

If this editor does not know of an event it will not 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.

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

The editor is Tom Tuschl.