

TOWN HALL

MEET THE BOARD & STAFF

Jeff Amend, Chairman
Shelly Hiemstra, Supervisor
Scott Zacharias, Supervisor
Cindy Sheskey, Clerk
Pearl Schicker, Treasurer

MAILING ADDRESS

W12605 Sheldon Rd.
Brandon WI 53919
Phone: (920) 291-7743

We're on the web!

www.townofmetomen.com

April 4, 2017 election for all school boards, your local town board and other county/state races.

Call Cindy Sheskey for absentee ballot (920) 291-7743

TOWN HALL RENTAL

You can rent YOUR town hall for your events. Chairs, tables, coffee maker, refrigerator supplied in a nice kitchen area with large serving counter. Hall serves capacity of 70. Wheelchair accessible. Rental fee is \$50.00 for town residents plus security deposit. Contracts and details are in the town hall entry on the bulletin board or See our website.

PUBLIC POSTING NOTICES

Updated Wisconsin Statutes 985.02 (2)(a): public notices will be posted in the town hall entrance and on our website. (Example- Meeting agenda, minutes, meeting date changes, annual budget and other notices). No longer will you see posting in the 3 posting boxes located throughout the township.

OPEN BOOK & BOARD OF REVIEW

Open Book is scheduled for May 6, 2017 from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. at the Town Hall, and Board of Review is scheduled for May 23, 2017 from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. at the Town Hall.



Are you the Parent of a 10–16 year old? Check out www.myparenthetical.com - a free UW Extension sponsored online community for parents of kids ages 10–16. It's a parenting website, blog and social network all in one place.

Healthy Fond du Lac County 2020, www.livingwellfdl.org provides up to date health and wellness related information from Fond du Lac County health care experts. The site features important topics on weight management, dental care, mental health and alcohol abuse. A calendar of upcoming health and wellness-related events is featured for county residents to participate in.

FUN LINK updated every month: <http://fonddulac.uwex.edu/did-you-know/>

Check out UW-EXTENSION website for more valuable information: <http://fonddulac.uwex.edu/>



TOWN OF METOMEN
W12605 Sheldon Road
Brandon, WI 54971

2017 NEWSLETTER



2017 ANNUAL MEETING DATE

2017 Annual Meeting will be held on April 18, 2017 at 7 PM at the Town Hall. The board is looking forward to meeting you there.

TOWN OF METOMEN HISTORY

1856

The first railroad in the town of Metomen was established, running through Reeds Corners between Brandon and Ripon. An early history of the county (1880 History), describes the event:

The efforts of this township and others in this locality were successful in securing railroad connections, and the Milwaukee & Horicon Railroad was built through this township in 1856. It passes northwesterly, from Section 36 to Section 3, in its course through Metomen. The road is now owned by the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railway Company. It was built by a construction company, who did not meet all their obligations, which caused some difficulties. Near Reeds Corners, the tracklayers were forcibly prevented from putting down the rails, by the unpaid workmen who had graded the road-bed. Civil and military aid was invoked and the rails were laid amid much excitement. The scene of the encounter is still known as the "battle ground." During the building of the railroad much freight had accumulated at Waupun, and some was sent over the line before the regular running of trains.

Way-bill No. 1 and first freight receipt were dated Tuesday, October 14, 1856. The goods were consigned to G. Perkins & Co., who were merchants, then located in the Walker House. The senior member of that firm is now County Judge of Fond du Lac County. Regular freight trains did not run until the 19th of October, 1856. The first regular passenger train which left Milwaukee for Brandon, and returned on schedule time, came into Brandon with flying colors about noon on Saturday, October 18, 1856. The event was an occasion of special rejoicing; Charles Larrabee, of Horicon, was the leading orator of the day; a public dinner and free drinks made it a memorable day. H. W. Gregory was the first station agent at Brandon. The express and railroad agent at the present time is W. S. Randall.



COMMUNITY

UPDATES FROM THE BRANDON-FAIRWATER FIRE DEPARTMENT

Over the past year we got a new rescue/pumper, a 3-year project with the help of all the townships and villages in our coverage area. We are very proud of it and if you would ever like to see the new pumper or visit one of the stations please feel free to contact myself or one of our great firefighters.

On May the 27th around 5 P.M. the village of Brandon was hit by a tornado. As the night went on we witnessed first-hand what it means by neighbor helping neighbor. You should take a lot of pride with your Metomen employees as they were one of the first on scene to help. Then they helped Brandon village employees clean up brush for the next few days.

Our summer months were filled with training and a few fund raisers. We will be trying something new this spring in Fairwater---**holding a steak fry at The Hall in Fairwater. Watch for this date.**

I am pleased to announce that we have 4 firefighters who recently passed their entry level schooling and are now ready and trained to go into a burning building if needed. We also have one more firefighter who is training through his entry level schooling and hopefully ready to go by the end of April.

I know that people like to burn off grasslands and yard waste as the weather gets nice. BE SURE TO take a few minutes to check the safety of your burning situation: wind conditions, humidity levels, and the dryness of the surrounding area. If you are ever in any doubt about burning, please call me or one of our fine officers to take a look and maybe we can share some safety advice on whether or not you should be burning.

Thank you for your support, I wish everyone a safe 2017.

Mark A. Horvath, Chief
Brandon-Fairwater Fire Department
272 S. Woodward St. PO Box 1
Brandon, WI 53919
Non-Emergency Phone: 920-517-1790
Email: brandonfairwaterfd@hotmail.com



UPDATES FROM THE BRANDON PUBLIC LIBRARY

With the help of volunteers, we started a new program - We have our upstairs room open for kids from 3:30 pm - 5:00 pm Monday - Thursday (during the school-year). This will give kids who want to socialize and hang out a place to go, AND let kids and adults who are looking for peace and quiet use the library resources on the main level.

We continue to build our collection of materials to house all the newest releases. The library is a great place to pick up books, magazines, DVDs, books on tape for all ages or learn how to use our digital catalog for eBooks. Our Library is a part of the Winnefox Library System, so although we may not have everything, we can get what you need. We have a fax machine, color printer/copier/scanner, a 3D printer, Wifi (available 24/7) or stop in to use one of our 10 public computers.

Throughout the year, we hold workshops/classes, movie nights, LEGO Club, Preschool Story Time, Book Club, Author Signings, and an ever growing Summer Reading Program.

Stop in anytime—the world is at your fingertips at the library...just ask.

Christy Ross, Director
Brandon Public Library
117 E. Main St. PO BOX 208
Brandon, WI 53919
Phone: 920-346-2350
Email: ross@brandonlibrary.net



TOWNSHIP UPDATES

RECYCLING AND GARBAGE SURVEY

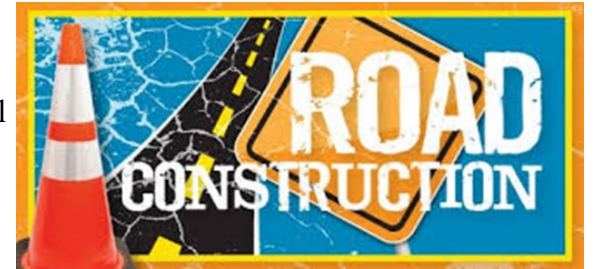
Because of the small turnout at last year's Annual Meeting, the Town Board decided to send out a survey on what the township thought of curbside garbage collection. The survey results we received were (67-yes/96-no). We will not pursue township-wide curbside pickup contracts at this time and will continue with the recycling collection at the town hall with regular hours of:

2nd and 4th Monday of each month 5-7pm

1st and 3rd Saturday of each month 9-11am

TOWN ROAD WORK

In following our 5 year road maintenance plan: The Township will be repairing Sheldon Road from Radio Road to Cty E this year. We will grind out road, add a 6 inch lift and repave the entire stretch of roadway. We will also be doing the same to Radio road from Hwy 44 north until we run out of repair budget for the year. Approx. ½ mile.



LIVESTOCK AND DOG LICENSES ORDINANCES UPDATED

This past winter the board met with Township farm operators and revised our out-dated Livestock ordinances. These ordinances were put into effect to give the township advance notice of big farm operations moving into our township had to be in compliance with town regulations. On advice from our township attorney we updated it with the input of the local farmers and township lawyers to keep us in compliance.

We also updated our town ordinance for dog kennel licenses. If you have more than 5 dogs in our township, you are required to get a kennel license with town board approval by attending a monthly board meeting. (The old ordinance required zoning board approval at a special meeting funded by the taxpayer request). We have also updated the application used to request the license. Anyone in township wanting to operate a kennel should contact Township Chairman Jeff Amend. Dog licenses (less than 5 dogs) are still paid with your property taxes to the town treasurer.

DITCH MOWING

Starting late in 2016 town board has decided to try mowing ditches more often to try and control the spread of noxious weeds. The board feels the extra added expense will be worth the end pay off of controlling the weeds. We will be looking into rental of equipment to trim ditch banks closer and more efficiently. Your feedback on improvement is always welcome.



MY PROPERTY TAXES ARE LOWER THIS YEAR??? HOW DOES THIS HAPPEN?

The most effective reason is the Assessed Value Subject to Taxes increased from \$60,196,335.00 to \$63,108,473.62. There was also a slight decrease in each school's tax levy and a slight increase in the Major State Aid that is applied to the tax calculation.