

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 3, 2018 is the next election for all school boards, Markesan School Referendum and other county/state races.

Call Pam Ferch for absentee ballot
(920) 960-2535

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 AT TOWN HALL

Open Book is scheduled for April 12, 2018 from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m., and Board of Review is scheduled for April 24, 2018 from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m.

TOWNSHIP UPDATES continued...

NEW TOWN APPRAISER

The Town Board is sad to announce that our Township Assessor Dorothy Soda resigned effective September 1, 2017. Dorothy will be greatly missed in the Town of Metomen. Since taking over, she has done an exceptional job for us. We wish all the best to Dorothy in the future. We hired Borree Appraisal, from Kaukauna, a very well established company that serves not only us now, but many neighboring Townships.

BUILDING PERMITS

We have slightly changed the process that will be used to issue building permits. All permit applications will be started through the Town Chairman, Jeff Amend, and then moved to the building inspector. Contact Jeff or look on our website for contact information along with application paperwork.

TOWN HALL

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. The hall serves a capacity of 70 and is 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.

TOWN OF METOMEN
W12605 Sheldon Road
Brandon, WI 54971

2018 NEWSLETTER



Newsletter designed by Christy Ross

2018 ANNUAL MEETING DATE

2018 Annual Meeting will be held on April 17, 2018 at 7 PM at the Town Hall. Your Town Board is looking forward to seeing you there.

TOWN OF METOMEN HISTORY

From Brandon Times 1869:

available at <https://www.brandonlibrary.net/brandontimes>

The first settlement in this town was made in the spring of 1844. The first land entered was by C.D. Higley, in the later part of May of that year, and about the same time Col. Mansfield "Squatted" on the farm on which he now lives, but did not enter it in the land office, which was in Green Bay until the following August. Soon after Messrs. Hicks, Dart and Robbins commenced improvements in the Town and J.A. Eggleston and family settled on the farm on which they now live. The following spring and summer settlers flocked in very fast, and in less than a year all the valuable lands were taken up. The first birth in town was that of Franklin French, son of S.H. and Phoebe French, who was born in Mr. Carter's house on the farm where he now lives, October 26, 1845. The first death was that of Frederick Nay, son of Col. Nay in 1846, and Almon Osborn was elected chairman of the Board of Supervisors. The first religious meeting held was at the house of Daniel Eggleston in the spring of 1845. Frank Bowman, who lived in Section 3 just across the line in Alto, but owned the five- "40's" lying directly opposite in this town, was the person who christened the town, he proposed the name Metomen, which is derived from the Winnebago "Metomenee" which in English signifies "corn" or "corn ground" and was adopted by the settlers.

The greatest disadvantage which the settlers labored under was that of having to transport the produce of their farms so great a distance to find a market for it. Milwaukee, at that time, being the only point where they could disperse it. We have heard it related of unfortunate parties who were delayed on the road, or failed to get a good price for their wheat in Milwaukee, that they had to pay out all the money they received and borrow more, to enable them to get back home. But the railroad has revolutionized all this, and the inhabitants of any part of the town can now reach a market in two hours' time.

Another drawback was the absence of moneyed men, there being but few if any that came into town with barely enough to enter their lands and build their own shanty, and who trusted to the returns from their farms for their substance, and wherewithal to pay their taxes. Some obligated to borrow funds to do this, and had to pay as high as twenty-five percent interest per annum.

The first post office in town was established near where Fairwater now stands and was called Grand River. But the name was changed to Mansfield and then to Fairwater, which name it now retains. James Carter was the first postmaster. An office called Luzerene was established in an early day near the present site of Brandon, but when that village was formed the office was removed to the village and the name was changed to Brandon. There is also an office at Reeds Corners call Metomen—which was established in 1848.

COMMUNITY

UPDATES FROM THE BRANDON PUBLIC LIBRARY

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, if we don't have what you're looking for, we can "borrow" from any of the 29 other libraries in the Winnefox System, or even acquire from outside the system (state or nation-wide). We have a fax machine, color printer/copier/scanner, a 3D printer, Wifi (available 24/7) or stop in to use one of our 11 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.

Are you looking how to get involved? The Library has just started a Friends Group. This is a non-profit, volunteer group of citizens who recognize that our public library is a vital community resource. Their purpose is to expand the partnership between the library and the community through advocacy, promoting life-long learning, providing funding for special library needs and encouraging gifts to the library. The mission of the Friends is to support the library staff and activities, to enhance its ability to provide access to materials and resources, promote literacy, and improve the overall quality of community life. There are no dues, just a commitment to support the Library in various ways. Brochures containing more information and how to join are available at the Library.

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
Find us on Facebook: "Brandon Library"

UPDATES FROM THE BRANDON-FAIRWATER FIRE DEPARTMENT

I am proud to announce it has been a safe year for the department. With that said, I would also like to mention that since September 1, we have responded to over 3 dozen calls in the area. On average, we typically do that many calls in one year. The increased number of calls is contributed to mutual aid. We respond to other department's need as well as receiving aid from area departments, with some help coming from as far away as Beaver Dam. I believe this is the future of fire fighting in smaller departments. We, as a department, rely heavily on mutual aid, as well as them relying on us.

Our department continues to train and study to stay ready. We recently had one of our firefighters pass entry level training, which makes him qualified to go into a burning structure, if the need arises. We also have two of our firefighters pass the written part of State Certified Firefighter 2 and they are waiting to take the State Practical Exam in May. This training is one step shy of what a full time firefighter would have to go through.

To continue our training, we are in the process of building a training tower in Brandon near the sewer plant. This is being paid for 100% by fundraising and donations. As we did last year, we will be holding a Steak Fry on May 5th at The Hall in Fairwater. Along with the steak fry, we will also be doing other fundraisers throughout the year to help complete the project. Please watch our Facebook page for more information. As always, we appreciate your support.

I wish everyone a safe 2018.
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

TOWNSHIP UPDATES



RECYCLING

Because of the increasing costs in recycling, the Board has chosen to have an on-premise attendant at the recycling dumpsters only two of the four open days. Dumpsters will remain open for your convenience 24-7 but at this time an attendant will only be there to help you unload the 2nd Monday and 4th Saturday of the month. IMPORTANT: YOU MUST EMPTY all your plastic bags into the containers to maintain the convenience of 24/7 availability.

TOWN ROAD WORK

In following our 5 year road maintenance plan. Our township will be repairing Radio Road from the railroad tracks north to the new blacktop, this year. We will grind out road, and repave the entire stretch of road. Cracking filling will also be done on the town roads, as needed.

DITCH MOWING



The Town Board has decided to keep mowing ditches more often to try and control the spread of noxious weeds. The Board feels the extra added expense is our best weed control management at this time. We looked into rental equipment to trim ditch banks closer and more efficiently, but our rental equipment did not perform as expected. We plan to continue to investigate better options. Your feedback on improvements is always welcome.

PURCHASE OF NEW TOWN TRUCK

You may have seen Randy and crew driving around the township in a new truck. Our old 1992 has given out on us and we replaced it this year after a two year search for a new one. Thank you Randy for finding our replacement vehicle at a huge savings to our township.

LAND AND PROPERTY SALES

When you sell (or purchase) property, the property taxes are prorated for the days that you own the property at the time of the sale (or purchase). The person who owned the property on Jan 1st of the tax year will receive the tax bill.

REAL ESTATE PROPERTY IMPROVEMENTS

Your annual tax bill is divided into land and improvements. Real Estate improvements removed from property must be completely removed and inspected by the Town appraiser before Jan 1st of the tax year to be removed from rolls. Otherwise the improvement will be taxed until the following Jan 1st and then removed from the rolls. — Example: your barn (tax bill "improvement") is tore down on Feb 2, 2018. The barn will remain on the tax roll until Jan 1, 2019. You will pay taxes on your barn for the entire year - 2018.

TAX COLLECTION

We **encourage** you to pay by mail to avoid waiting in line. Payment amounts are included on the payment stubs located at the bottom of your tax bill. Enclose the appropriate payment stubs with your payment. Mail payments to the location listed on the payment stub (note December/January address is DIFFERENT than the July payment address). Please do not enclose the original tax bill. A self-addressed stamped envelope is needed if you want a receipt. — Payments will be accepted in the form of a check, cashier's check or money order. Certify that an escrow check meets or exceeds the tax bill amount and endorse the escrow check. Overpayments will be refunded within 2 weeks of payment. — **WARNING:** If payment is not made by the due dates, the installment option is lost and the total tax is delinquent and subject to interest and penalty. See the reverse side of your property tax bill for a complete explanation.

