



Town of Genesee

Spring
2024

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN

Submitted by Sharon L. Leair, Town Chairman

The Town of Genesee has experienced a growing need for services and personnel over the last few years. We are a town of just under 7,300 population, with 2,706 households and 82 miles of road. Over the last twenty (20) years we have accomplished the following to gradually transition to meet the needs of our residents:

1. Partnered with six other communities to provide Fire Protection and EMS Service
2. Established a Department of Public Works with four (4) full-time employees
3. Hired staff necessary to operate a full-time town office
4. Established a contract with the Town of Oconomowoc to share an Administrator
5. Adopted our own zoning code to establish more local control and convenience for our residents in obtaining building and zoning permits, among other services
6. Expanded our park system and programs
7. Built our own salt shed to establish control over burgeoning salt costs
8. Adopted a Comprehensive Land Use Plan
9. Updated/Adopted an Outdoor Recreation Plan

Our Town Hall and Fire Station are paid for. The Fire Station is owned with the Village of Wales. We are currently constructing a new DPW building at Sunset Park to house trucks and park equipment.

Continued on next page...

Newsletter Highlights

Local History

Hazardous Waste Disposal

2024 Elections

Genesee Word Search



With only one bid for plowing received for a number of years, we have taken on more of the responsibility for our town roads. In the last few years, the Town of Genesee has purchased three (3) used plow trucks and we are purchasing two new trucks with our remaining ARPA funds. Being able to do much of the work we previously contracted out assists us in having more control over our costs in the long run.

Our tax rate of \$1.88 per thousand to maintain all of the above is a reflection of the Town Board's effort to provide and improve services while being fiscally responsible.

Like many communities, we are struggling to maintain these services without an increase to our residents. As a Wisconsin Towns Association District Director for 11 counties in SE Wisconsin, I hear the same mantra regarding budget and Fire/EMS challenges at nearly every unit meeting I attend. We are all struggling to meet the needs of our constituents, while dealing with a State imposed levy limit.

Genesee's portion of the Lake Country Fire and Rescue (LCFR) contract for 2024 is \$658,769.00 in operating costs and \$114,790.00 in capital costs. Six partners, including Genesee, are still negotiating with the City of Delafield to agree on an acceptable funding formula into the future. Genesee is midway through a seven-year contract with LCFR and all budgets or changes to the contract formula must be approved by all seven communities.

LCFR competes with surrounding departments for quality employees. Inflation, the rising cost of hiring, fewer volunteers, training, and retaining Fire/EMS personnel has increased beyond the 2 percent plus CPI. We have 8 Fire/EMS personnel covering 80 square miles and 28,000 residents at any given time. Our Chief has had to close one of our fire stations several times over the last year because of lack of personnel. Our fire department responds not only to calls in our seven communities but to calls on State and Federal Highways running through our communities. They also respond to mutual aid calls which can take them out of our area. If we cannot budget what we need to keep essential personnel, we will lose them and have even less coverage. Increased State revenues will help to offset some of these costs but unfortunately not to the extent needed.

We now have to make some vital and perhaps life-saving decisions. How do we cover these increased costs with the least amount of financial burden to our residents? The Town Board will need to discuss the options required to meet the Town's obligations under the LCFR contract and still maintain the services and programs that our Town residents expect. Watch our Town website for meeting notices and your mail for further information as it becomes available.

A LITTLE BIT OF LOCAL HISTORY

THE GENESEE ROLLER MILL- GENESEE VILLAGE

Submitted by Sharon L. Leair, Town Chairman

For 106 years one of the first grist mills to be built in Wisconsin stood on State Highway 59, now Old Village Road south of Genesee Depot, and ground some of the best flour in the country. The mill's flour was so extraordinary that in 1853 a sample won first prize at the Crystal Palace World Exposition, New York. Word is that a barrel of the prize-winning flour sold for \$300 and bread baked from the flour sold for \$100 a loaf in a charity drive. Benjamin Jenkins, one of Genesee's first settlers, began building his mill in 1843. This massive building took him three years to complete. It was a three-story building with three-foot thick walls at the base and was constructed using limestone from the old Remington quarry, later owned by William Johnston, now on the historic register as the William Johnston Lime Kiln on Highway 59. Jenkins used hand hewn oak and walnut timbers as structural supports. Power was furnished by an overshot paddle wheel. The wheel was replaced in 1892 by turbines which powered the mill until it ground its last flour in 1941. After the mill stood empty for a few years, it was purchased from its then owner Willis A. Murphy by History Professor Lee Lawrence, who decided in 1949 to demolish it. Only small remnants of the building can still be seen at the corner of Old Village Road and Old Mill Road.



TOWN HALL RENTAL

Did you know that our Town Hall Meeting room can be rented by Town Residents?

For \$150 rental fee and separate \$150 security deposit The Town Hall Meeting Room and Kitchen (for warming only) is available for rent. Capacity for the meeting room is 125 people for parties, showers, dinners, etc.



THE LIFE OF A BALLOT

1 GETTING ON THE BALLOT



Candidates qualify through the nomination and primary processes

2 CHECKING THE BALLOT

County clerks submit their ballot templates to the Commission for review.



3 A BALLOT IS BORN

Approved ballots go to print.



5 ABSENTEE VOTING

Municipal clerks send absentee ballots to voters who request them. Voters vote them and mail or otherwise return them to the clerk's office.



4 BALLOTS GO LOCAL

Ballots are delivered to counties who distribute them to the municipalities.

8

BALLOTS ARE COUNTED

All ballots received by 8pm on Election Day are counted. This may take a while in large municipalities, so unofficial results based on ballot count for large elections may not be posted until the following day.



6 IN-PERSON ABSENTEE VOTING

Beginning 14 days before the election, voters may go to the municipal clerk's office to request, vote, and submit their absentee ballots.



ELECTION DAY!

On Election Day, ballots are requested and voted in person by registered voters. Clerks begin to count absentee ballots.

SECURED & VERIFIED

Once counted, voted ballots are secured by the municipal clerk's office and submitted to the county for another round of verification before storing them for the amount of time required by state statute.



2024 ELECTIONS

Hello Voters!

This year will be a big year for elections, we have 3 elections happening. For the traditional voter who enjoys the excitement of Election Day, polls will be open from 7:00 am to 8:00 pm at the Genesee Town Hall on Election Day. Our election workers will be happy to assist you.

Not up for Election Day? Request an absentee ballot online at www.myvote.wi.gov prior to each Election Deadline for requesting absentees by mail. Or at the beginning of the year request to be signed up for Calendar Year (which means you sign up once a year and will have every ballot sent to you for each election that calendar year). Please be sure to allow at least a week for mailing time so the ballot is returned on or before Election Day. If you do not want to mail it back and would rather drop it off, you can only return your own ballot in person to the Clerk or Deputy Clerk. We will start mailing out absentee ballot requests on the first day we are allowed (see dates below for each election) for anyone who already has a request on file, we will mail out any new requests daily.

Voters can also vote in-person via absentee ballot at the Genesee Town Hall starting the 2 weeks prior to Election Day (see dates below for each election). In person absentee is a very quick and efficient way to cast your ballot. There is no voting or registering the Monday before an election.

Registration is quick and easy at myvote.wi.gov

AVOID THE LINES, DON'T WAIT TO REGISTER ON ELECTION DAY

If you are a new voter to the Town of Genesee, you will need to register before you can vote. If you can register before Election Day, it will make your voting day go faster. You must have been a resident of the Town of Genesee for at least 28 days. If you have not lived here for 28 days you may vote at your previous address. Last day to register in person to vote prior to the Election Day is always the Friday before Election Day.

If you have any questions contact Town Clerk Treasurer Meri Majeskie, 262-968-3656 or email merim@towngenesee.wi.gov

April 2, 2024 Spring & Presidential Preference

- March 19th: In person absentee voting begins @ Town Hall ends March 29th.
- March 28th: Deadline for Regular and overseas electors to request absentee ballots by mail
- March 29th: Last day to register to vote prior to Election Day
- Monday April 1st: No Voting/Registering

August 13, 2024- Partisan Primary

- July 30th: In person absentee voting begins @ Town Hall ends August 9th.
- August 8th: Deadline for regular and overseas electors to request absentee ballots by mail
- August 9th: Last day to register to vote prior to Election Day
- Monday August 12th: No Voting/Registering



GENESEE WORD SEARCH

Find and circle the words



- Lions Club
- Lunt Fontanne
- Ten Chimneys
- Mercantile Bean
- Cornerstone
- Genesee Depot
- In Cahoots
- Town Park
- Sallys Sweet Shoppe

UPCOMING EVENTS

- March 19, 2024- In person Absentee voting for Spring Election starts at the Genesee Town Hall
- April 1, 2024- Both Town Park & Sunset Park will re-open
- April 2, 2024- **PRESIDENTIAL PREFERENCE PRIMARY & SPRING ELECTION** 7am-8pm
- April 16, 2024- Annual Meeting
- May 4, 2024- Brush Drop off from 8am to 11am in Town Hall parking lot. Brush and branches no more than 4 inches in diameter. Four (4) feet in length or less. Tied in bundles no heavier than 70 pounds.
- May 13-17, 2024 from 8am to 4:30pm and Saturday May 18 from 9am to Noon. - Soccer sign up
- May 27, 2024- Town Hall Closed (Memorial Day)
- July 4, 2024- Town Hall Closed (4th of July)
- June 27, 2024- Absentee ballots will be mailed out
- July 30, 2024 - In person absentee starts at the Genesee Town Hall for the Partisan Primary
- August 13, 2024- **PARTISAN PRIMARY ELECTION** 7am to 8pm
- September 2, 2024- Town Hall Closed (Labor Day)

What is Household Hazardous Waste?

Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) includes any household product that is flammable, corrosive, toxic, or explosive under certain conditions. Products considered HHW contain hazardous ingredients that make them a potential danger to people, animals and the environment.

This is a program funded by Waukesha County, its Cities, Towns, and Villages, and DATCP. In partnership with Veolia Environmental Services.

Free Product Exchange Program

Since the majority of items are brought to the facility in their original containers, and in reusable condition, these items are made available to the community at the Free Product Exchange Program.

- Drop off or take usable materials – such as cleaning and automotive products, new/usable paints/stains, lawn/garden and other HHW products at NO CHARGE.
- Materials available vary. Completion of a Liability Waiver and Release Form is required.
- The Product Exchange program is available at Menomonee Falls, Muskego, and Waukesha locations.

Contact Us



waukeshacounty.gov/recycling

Email: recycling@waukeshacounty.gov

Phone: 262-896-8300

Proper Disposal is Important!

It could be dangerous to dispose of hazardous waste in the trash, on the ground, down storm drains, or in sewers and septic systems.

Proper disposal is easy. Simply drop off items at a Household Hazardous Waste Collection site. Waukesha County has three ongoing collection locations to serve residents. Materials can only be dropped off during operating hours.

Ongoing Collection Sites

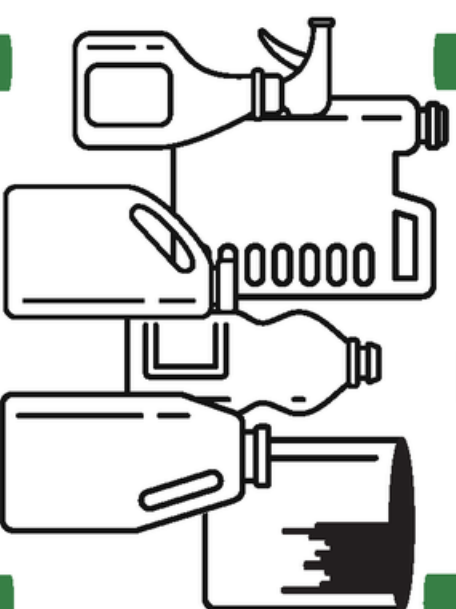
Menomonee Falls	Muskego	Waukesha
W124N9451 Boundary Road Veolia Environmental Services	W124 S10391 S. 124 Street North of Emerald Park Landfill	1500 N. University Drive Near the water tower
Hours January - December Mon & Wed: 11am - 6pm Sat: 8am - 2pm	Hours February - November 1st & 3rd Saturdays: 8am - noon	Hours March - November 2nd & 4th Saturdays: 8am - noon

One Time Collection Events

Brookfield	DeLafield	Mukwonago	Oconomowoc
City Public Works Yard 19700 Riverview Dr.	City Dept. of Public Works 111 Main St.	Village Public Works Garage 630 Hwy NN	City Public Works Garage 630 S. Worthington St.
1st Saturday in June 8am - noon	3rd Saturday in June 8am - noon	3rd Saturday in May 8am - noon	2nd Saturday in September 8am - noon

More information available at:
www.waukeshacounty.gov/hazardouswaste

WAUKESHA COUNTY Household Hazardous Waste Disposal Information



Open to any Waukesha County Resident

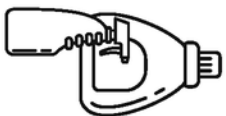
A driver license or I.D. is required for proof of residency.



waukeshacounty.gov/recycling

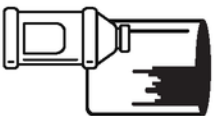
Accepted Items

All items labeled as danger, flammable, combustible, poison, toxic, or solvent based are accepted. Keep products in original, labeled containers.



Household Products

Cleaners and aerosols (solvent based), pest control poisons, thermometers and thermostats containing mercury, glue (solvent based), furniture and metal polish, lamp oil, mothballs



Paint & Building Products

Oil-based paint, stain, varnish, thinners, strippers, adhesives, roofing cements, tar and sealers, driveway sealer (solvent based), joint compound, oil-based paint, rust remover, shellac, turpentine, wood preservative



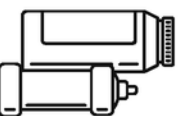
Outdoor Products

Pesticides, herbicides, fertilizers with pesticides, fungicide, insect spray, pool and hot tub chemicals, stump remover, weed killers



Garage & Auto Products

Gasoline and other fuels, gasoline/oil mixtures, acetone, cleaners, solvents, battery acid, car wax (solvent based), fuel additives, fiberglass epoxy, parts cleaner, road flares



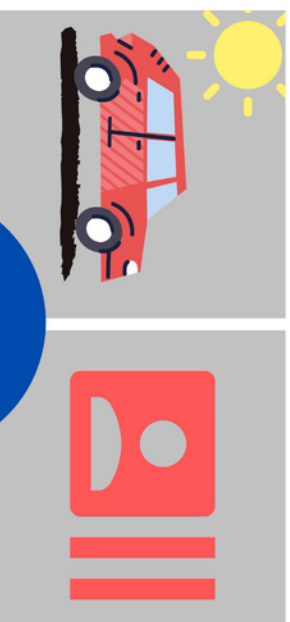
Miscellaneous

Kerosene, lighter fluid, pepper spray, artist and hobby paint, photographic chemicals

More information available at:

www.waukeshacounty.gov/productdisposal

Drop Off Procedures



PUT ITEMS IN TRUNK ONLY!

HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE DROP OFF

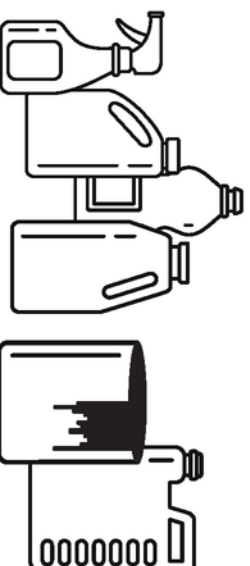
1. STAY IN YOUR CAR.

2. SHOW YOUR ID THROUGH THE CAR WINDOW.

3. ITEMS MUST BE EASILY REACHED IN THE TRUNK OF YOUR VEHICLE.

4. ITEMS MUST BE IN A BOX OR CONTAINER. YOU WILL NOT GET YOUR CONTAINER BACK.

- Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) disposal is expensive and should always be the last resort. Try to use all of the product first.
- Facility operators reserve the right to refuse any substance that cannot be disposed.



Not Accepted Items

For more information on how to dispose of household products and items properly, visit www.waukeshacounty.gov/productdisposal

Electronic Waste

Batteries, computers, monitors, televisions, appliances, microwaves, office machines, phones

Household Products

Cleaners (water based)*, disinfectants*, fire extinguishers, smoke detectors, asbestos containing material, cooking oil

Paint & Building Products

Latex paint, glaze*, spackle*, putty*, grout*, caulk*, building materials

Outdoor Products

Propane tanks, compressed gas cylinders, marine flares, fertilizer (with no weed killer)*

Garage & Auto Products

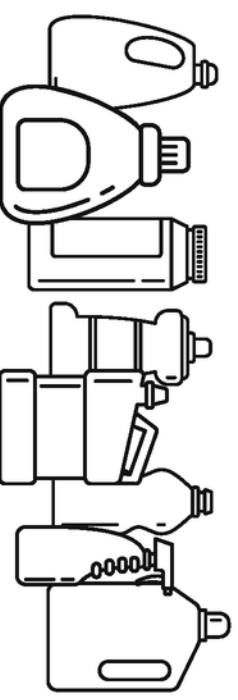
Motor oil, oil filters, tires, antifreeze, auto batteries, brake fluid, transmission fluid, windshield washer fluid

Miscellaneous

Medication, medical waste, sharps, needles, ammunition

*Items can be placed in trash

Empty containers that contained HHW can be placed in the trash



MESSAGE FROM DPW SUPERINTENDENT

The 2024 season will be an eventful one in Genesee. The construction of the new DPW facility will be wrapped up by early summer. We will have some time moving and getting settled in. That does not mean road maintenance stops. The focus this year will be road patching. We now have the manpower and equipment to do sizable road patches. Residents will see less of the old cold patch thrown in potholes, and more cutting and removing old asphalt and repaving them. This makes for a smoother longer lasting repair. We will start on collector roads where the asphalt has broken up along the edges, and areas with multiple potholes. We'll continue clearing roadside rights of way and intersections of brush and vegetation. Low hanging branches will be trimmed and trees growing in the ditch will be removed. Street signs with faded letters will be replaced. Metal welcome signs are to be installed at Town borders. Guard rail and culvert installations will take place where they are needed. The first roadside mowing will take place in early summer.

We understand a lot of grass was ripped up from plowing because the ground was not frozen. We will make a point to clean up the excess sod pieces, but we do not have time to repair all the grass on the roadside. It will be done on a case by case basis. If you have questions or concerns about anything including road repairs, right of way issues, utility issues, plowing issues, or anything relating to the parks, contact DPW. If a tree falls in the road contact DPW 24 hours a day 7 days a week at 262-888-2805.

Thanks, Mike Berg. DPW Superintendent.

BRUSH DROP OFF

In the Genesee Town Hall Parking lot on May 4, 2024 from 8am to 11am

- Brush and branches no more than 4 inches in diameter
- Four feet in length or less
- Tied in bundles no heavier than 70 pounds
- No Black Walnuts
- Yard waste must be in compostable paper bags

SUPERVISOR BUCK HOUSTON RETIRING

Walter Buck Houston was elected to the Genesee Town Board in April of 2012. He is retiring after 12 years of service to the Town and will not be on the ballot this April. During that time Buck served as a member of the Plan Commission, Park Board and as a liaison to the Public Works Department. We appreciate Buck's time and contributions on behalf of the residents of Genesee and wish him all the best in his retirement from public office.

DOG LICENSES

If you haven't purchased your dog license for the 2024 year don't forget to do so by April 1st 2024 to avoid a \$5 late fee charge. A copy of your dog's current rabies vaccination is also required for renewal. Copies of the dog license application are available at the Town Hall. If you mail it in please include a return envelope with a stamp to send back tag and receipt.



EMAILING LIST

On the Town of Genesee website (towngenesee.wi.gov) you can sign up for an email list where we send out monthly newsletters with upcoming meetings and other updates. When you go to website on the top of the webpage you will see a red bar with different tabs, you will want to click on the “mailing list” tab. You will then fill in the information and click sign up. In order to finish the sign up process you will receive an email where you will then click to confirm your sign up.

CBS 58 HOMETOWNS GENESEE DEPOT SEGMENT

CBS Channel 58 featured Genesee Depot in their October “Hometowns” segment. They interviewed several business owners, visited Ten Chimneys and interviewed our Chairman. See our website for the link to the video interviews from this episode.



Where did the time go?



VILLAGE CLOCK SHOP

HAS MOVED!

TO: S43W31423 HIGHWAY 83
GENESEE DEPOT, WI 53127

Please contact me for an appointment:
414.458.0550 or 203.655.2100 cell/text
info@villageclockmaker.com

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262-968-3324

Robert “Smoke” Williams, Jr.
robert@ssautomotive.pro

W305S4990 Hwy. 83
Mukwonago, WI 53149

WALES-GENESEE LIONS CLUB

Meets the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of the Month at 7PM

Located at S42 W31400 HWY 83

“WE SERVE THE COMMUNITY”

More Information Contact
Lion Bonnie 414 840 9844

NEW MEMBERS WELCOME



UH
Union House

LOCATION & HOURS

S42 W31320 Highway 83
Genesee Depot, WI 53127

DIRECTIONS

Tuesday – Saturday: 4PM – Close

PHONE
262.968.4281

Edward Jones



Annemieke van der Werf, AAMS™
Financial Advisor

CA Agency Number 0C24309
1020 Oconomowoc Pkwy Ste C
Oconomowoc, WI 53066
Bus. 262-567-3269 • Mobile 360-391-3054
annemieke.vanderwerf@edwardjones.com
edwardjones.com/annemieke-vanderwerf



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Steve & Patti Williams

Owners

S36 W29657 Wern Way Waukesha, WI 53189

Ph: 262-968-2400 Fax: 262-968-3455

email: hunt@wernvalley.com www.wernvalley.com

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- Concrete patio, sidewalk, garage floors
- Brick, block, stonework • Additions
- Tuckpointing • Masonry restoration

Call 262-968-3375

Thelen Funeral Services, LLC

W309S4840 Commercial Drive
North Prairie, Wisconsin 53153



Timothy A. Thelen

Licensed Funeral Director
Certified Grief Counselor
Certified Crematory Operator
Licensed Insurance Intermediary

thelenfh@gmail.com

262-392-4251



Full service accounting, income tax preparation,
audit assistance, QuickBooks training, payroll
processing and reports, and tax planning services.

Lisa M. Grubb CPA

Certified Public Accountant

P.O. Box 21

Genesee Depot, WI, 53127

Phone (414)640 0227

LisaGrubbCPA@gmail.com

Fax (414)921-9736

JIM GOZDOWIAK
OWNER

Email: jimgee@wi.rr.com

Cell: 414-254-3902

Home Fax: 262-968-2406



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Genesee Depot
Hwy. 59 & 83
262-968-3333
Fax: 262-968-6377

Oconomowoc
Brown St. (N. Hwy. P)
262-567-2699
Fax: 262-567-9865

Genesee Town Hall
S43 W31391 Hwy 83
P.O. Box 242
Genesee Depot, WI 53127-0242

TOWN OF GENESEE MEETINGS

Meetings are held at the Town Hall located at
S43W31391 Hwy 83, Genesee Depot.

Town Board Meetings

2nd Monday of the month at 6pm

Plan Commission Meetings

4th Monday of the month at 6pm

*Deadlines for submissions to be placed on an agenda
can be obtained from the Town of Genesee office.*

Lake Country Fire & Rescue Board Meetings

Dates and times are listed on Town's website under link
to LCFR

Town of Genesee Office Hours

Monday through Friday 8am to 4:30pm

Agendas & Town of Genesee Information

Agendas for all Public meetings and any other
important information can be found on the Town of
Genesee's website - www.towngenesee.wi.gov

PHONE NUMBERS

Town Board Members:

Chairman- Sharon Leair_____ 262-968-3166

Supervisors-

Jim Morris_____ 262-370-3980

Charlie Ross_____ 262-227-3364

Buck Houston_____ 262-968-3590

Rick Braun_____ 414-899-4707

Public Works Department_____ 262-888-2805

Fire Department-

Emergency_____ 911

Lake Country Fire & Rescue Station 42_____ 262-646-6235

Sheriff's Department-

Emergency_____ 911

Non-Emergency_____ 262-446-5070

Post Office_____ 262-968-3186

Town Office_____ 262-968-3656

Town Fax_____ 262-968-3809

County Supervisors-

Robert Kolb_____ 262-490-2495

Peter M. Wolff_____ 262-446-9222

Town Assessor-

Schultz Appraisal_____ 262-392-9828

Clerk Treasurer- Meri Majeskie_____ 262-968-3656

Building Inspector-

Paul Launer_____ 262-825-8820

Office Hours at the Town Office- Mon&Wed 9:30-10:30