

Greenfield News

I will try to catch you up on any news or changes in the Town of Greenfield. I will start with the loss of a longtime member of the Greenfield Town Board, John Geoghegan. John passed away at the age of 100 while still officially a member of our Town Board. John will be not only be missed for his hard work and humor, but his knowledge of our Town roads and their maintenance. John served his Country in World War 2, was wounded and received many honors for his effort. He later was the Sauk County Highway Commissioner and found time in his life to serve as a Board member for Greenfield for over 30 years. I will miss John, not only as a Town Board member but as a very close friend. John had a long, well-lived life. Dennis Brush, a longtime member of our Plan Commission, was named to fill out Mr. Geoghegan's term.

The Greenfield Plan Commission is looking for a volunteer or two to fill vacant positions. If there is anyone interested in helping us on the Plan Commission, please call Terry Turnquist at 608-355-0668. The Plan Commission only meets once a month at our Town Hall. Terry can give you the particulars on what the Plan Commission does, and what would be expected of you.

You probably noticed that we have a new company doing our garbage and recycling. Badgerland Disposal, an LRS company, now takes care of our garbage and recycling needs. So far things seem to have gone well for most folks. The process will be the same as before when it comes to Holiday service. If there is a Holiday during the week, residents may get their garbage/recycling service delayed by one day. So, if the Holiday is on either Monday or Tuesday, we will get our pick-up one day later, on Wednesday. We will see how this company works out, but there are few options at this time.

Our main road project in 2023 will be improving one part of Sleepy Hollow Road. The history of this road gets a little complicated, but the short version is as follows:

A developer petitioned Greenfield to build a subdivision called Sleepy Hollow. This happened sometime in the mid-1970s. The town agreed with the understanding that the developer would construct the roads needed up to town standards as far as width. The part of Sleepy Hollow that turns to the left did have road constructed by the developer, but not the road that breaks off to the right. Sometime in the process, the developer either went bankrupt or just decided not to build the road. However, a problem was created as soon as some people started to buy and build homes on this right part of the subdivision.

It appears that as these legal lots were purchased, the homeowners just made their own roadway to their property. Soon there were homes on many of these lots serviced by what became a long, 4 tenths of a mile driveway, serviced by the occupants of this part of the development. They had to pay for any and all snow plowing and repair of the running water

damage because it was not a town road. Therefore, the residents of that road were in fact paying for the upkeep of all other town roads but were not getting the same taxpayer services for their road. It was a mess, and there were no easy and cheap solutions.

In recent years, Sauk County notified Greenfield that the certified survey of that roadway serving this community was now owned by the County and would be put up for sale for back taxes. Eventually, Greenfield decided to purchase the roadway to protect road access to the homes. We are now in a complicated and expensive process to somehow create a better situation for the residents of this road. We really do not know exactly what the final product will look like, but for now at least the residents are getting their road maintained by Sauk County.

We have hired MSA in Baraboo to do some preliminary work for us and come up with some options. They have started marking with flags and will do roadway borings to determine the roadway base strength. For the people living on this road, PLEASE DO NOT DISTURB THESE STAKES OR FLAGS. Sometime during the spring or early summer of 2023, a determination will need to be made as to best options. There are serious problems because of buried utility lines that are placed where possibly a ditch should have gone. Moving all these utilities is really not an option because of cost. We will see what can be done to make things better. I hope that this answers some of the questions that people have.

Fido needs a License Stop by the Sauk County Humane Society for one stop adopting and/or pick up your tag(s). A Veterinarian Certificate verifying rabies, spayed or neutered, breed, color, and name can be mailed along with \$11 fee or \$6 spayed/neutered made out to Town of Greenfield and mailed to Bob Geenen, Treasurer, E12207 County Road W. Tags along with certificate(s) will be returned by mail.

Upcoming Elections — A Spring Election will be held on Tuesday, April 4. On the ballot will be the following:

- 1 Supreme Court Justice – Vacant
- County Board Supervisor, District #2, incumbent – Terry Spencer
- Baraboo School Board, 3 positions at large, incumbents – Timothy Heilman, Paul Kujak and Gwynne Peterson
- Town of Greenfield Chair, incumbent – Terry Turnquist
- Town of Greenfield Supervisor #1, incumbent – Fred Coller
- Town of Greenfield Treasurer, incumbent – Bob Geenen
- Town of Greenfield Clerk, incumbent – Mary Friesen

The Town of Greenfield will hold a Caucus in January (date to be determined) in lieu of a primary election. A primary election, if needed, will be held on Tuesday, February for any of the County or State offices.