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Happy Holidays!

We hope this newsletter finds you happy and healthy as we welcome in the New Year. In the last year and a half, we welcomed two new Board Supervisors and a Deputy Clerk/Treasurer to our dedicated Town team. These new additions have brought new perspectives and ideas to the table.



This past year, our projects were: the reconstruction of Balsam Road, the replacement of the aging ball field dugouts, and the continued efforts of our Highway Department to keep our roads safe for travel.

Looking forward to 2026, the planned improvements are: reconstruction of the southern portion of Lowes Creek Road, cosmetic updates to the Community Center, and the replacement of floor drains in the Highway Department shop.

From all of us to all of you, Happy Holidays!

Elections Q & A

With another busy election year right around the corner, here are the answers to the most common questions received in the clerk's office:

<u>Am I registered to vote?</u> Visit <u>myvote.wi.gov</u> to verify your registration or contact your municipal clerk.

How do I register to vote? In Wisconsin, you can register at the clerk's office any time throughout the year, excluding the three days prior to an election; register by mail any time except the 20 days prior to an election; register on Election Day, as well as at myvote.wi.gov if your driver's license matches your current address. Other than the online option, you will need to provide valid proof of residence to complete your registration. Examples of proof of residence are, but not limited to: a driver's license, a utility bill, a bank statement, or a vehicle registration. The document must contain your name and current address. Registration forms are available on myvote.wi.gov and on the town webpage.

How do I request an absentee ballot? Absentee voting can be accomplished in two different ways. The first method is to receive an absentee ballot by mail. Requests are accepted by mail, email, or through myvote.wi.gov if you are registered. Forms are available on our webpage. As soon as ballots are available, the clerk will mail a ballot to anyone with a valid request on file, up until 5 pm the Thursday prior to an election. Please request an absentee ballot only if you intend to vote on it; absentee voting is our largest election expense, and we want to be fiscally responsible with the Town's tax dollars.

<u>Can I vote in person ahead of Election Day?</u> In-person absentee voting will be held in the two weeks leading up to an election and will end at 5 pm on the Friday before the election. Check the Town website for available hours and options.

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2026 Election Dates

February 17—spring primary (if needed)
April 7—Spring Election
August 11—Fall Primary
November 3—Fall Election



Election Q & A continued

Is the election equipment secure? Many voters inquire about the security of the current election equipment. Whether you vote on the touchscreen or on a paper ballot, neither piece of equipment is connected to the internet, eliminating any chance of interference. Both pieces of equipment are tested for accuracy twice prior to each election and are randomly audited post-election. The touch

screen creates and prints a paper ballot for you to verify and insert into the tabulator when you are finished. Should we need to conduct a recount, all the ballots are on paper and can be verified.

The newly implemented Badger Books (electronic poll books) are also never connected to the internet. Encrypted registered voter data is downloaded from WisVote onto the clerk's computer, then transferred via flash drive to the Badgerbook server machine. Post-election, the voter participation data is downloaded to the same flash drive and then uploaded from the clerk's computer to the WisVote system.

<u>Do I need a photo ID?</u> A photo ID is always required to receive a ballot on Election Day or during In-Person Absentee voting. Drivers' Licenses and passports are the most commonly used. More information is available at bringit.wi.gov or by contacting your municipal clerk.

What is the difference between WisVote and MyVote as referred to in this newsletter?

WisVote is the statewide voter registration database, only available to authorized users. Multi-factor authentication is required to log in.

MyVote is the statewide website for voters to view their voting history, register to vote, request an absentee ballot, find their polling place, and find their clerk's contact information and hours. You are encouraged to visit myvote.wi.gov or contact your clerk with any questions.

Exceptions to every rule: Indefinitely confined, military, and permanently overseas voters have additional guidelines and exceptions. Please reach out with any questions if you are one of these voters.

CAUTION!—Voter Registration and Absentee Ballot Requests from Third-Party Vendors—CAUTION!

Voter registration drives and absentee ballot requests from special interest groups will increase this year. Although some of the mailings will appear to be originating from the Town of Pleasant Valley, the Town is not affiliated with any of the organizations. While most organizations are legitimate, this is also an area of opportunity for identity theft. Be aware that voter registration requires personal information such as your date of birth and driver's license number. Always read the fine print and be aware that some of the mailings do not provide you with all the information you need to properly register to vote or request an absentee ballot. Voter registrations require Proof of Residency, and absentee requests require Photo ID.

The safest means to register to vote or to request an absentee ballot include the following:

- -Online at myvote.wi.gov
- -Contact your Municipal Clerk for the proper forms to be emailed or mailed to you. (office@pleasantvalleywi.gov or 715-878-4645)
- -In-person at your Municipal Clerk's Office: Check website or call 715-878-4645 for hours.
- -In-person at your assigned polling location on Election Day 7am-8pm.

Additional information is on our website.

The above information is a summary; please visit the listed webpages or contact your municipal clerk for complete information. Election laws are subject to changes by our state government at any time throughout the year

2025 Tax Bills - Payable in 2026

- Tax bills will be mailed in early December.
- First payment must be postmarked by January 31 and received by February 6 (USPS delivery only).

 NOTE: USPS is not required to postmark your payment the date they take it into their custody. Plan ahead!
- To avoid late mail delivery, a locked drop box is located at the Town Hall for your convenience. Due Date: Jan 31.
- First payment is payable to: Town of Pleasant Valley, S10414 Cty Rd HHI, Eleva, WI 54738
- Make sure to include the payment stub from the tax bill so the correct property is credited.
- One check can be written for multiple properties.
- Receipts will ONLY be mailed to you if you enclose a self-addressed stamped envelope with your payment.

Use this link https://ascent.co.eau-claire.wi.us/LandRecords to:

- •View and print your tax bill online after the mill rates are submitted in early December.
- •Check to see if your personal or escrow payment has been received and print a receipt for your records.
- Print your receipt for tax purposes
- Hint: When using the property search feature—Only use the fields with the municipality name and your last name.

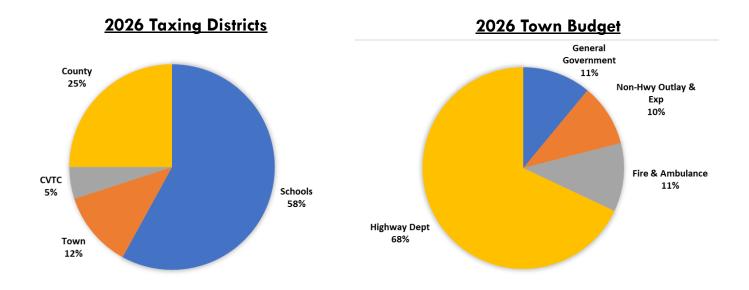
Public Tax Collections

December 29th 9am-4pm January 28th 9am-4pm at the Town Hall in Cleghorn.

A receipt will be printed for you upon request during these public collection times.

*dates subject to cancellation

How are Property Taxes Distributed?



Online Tax Payments

We now have the option for you to pay your property taxes online with a credit card. Either scan the QR code or visit www.pleasantvalleywi.gov and click on "Access Digital Services". You will be asked for your name, address, parcel number(s), bill number(s) and payment amount. Note: you will be charged a 2.9% + \$.30 fee for this service.



Generator Fundraising Continues

The Community Center in Cleghorn is designated as a shelter in Eau Claire County should there be residents displaced by a widespread disaster. At this time, the Town is working with Pleasant Valley Fire Fighters to secure the funds needed to install a generator to serve the building. With the addition of a generator, the Community Center will have running water, a functioning septic system, full kitchen usage, heat, and air conditioning during a power outage. The fire department would continue to be able to fill trucks as needed, as well as have full operation of the garage doors should be able to be opened in case they need to exit for an emergency.

To date, we have raised almost \$50,000 of the required \$150,000 with the generosity of residents, businesses, and grant awards. Please help support the following businesses and clubs who have donated to this important project: Flint Hills, PAC Basic, Green Energy, Friends of the Fair, 4H -Livestock, Frandsen Bank and Trust, Cleghorn Lions Club, Lowes Creek Tree Farm, Eau Claire Energy Cooperative, Blue Collar Farms, American Express, Johnson Litho, and Nelson Excavating.

If you are interested in donating to this project, please send your donation to The Town of Pleasant Valley.

Upcoming 2026-2027 Property Revaluation

The Town is in the beginning stages of a revaluation, as required by the State of WI. This process typically takes a couple of years to complete. Additional information will be provided in future newsletters regarding the timeline, required property visits, and how your revaluation may or may not affect your taxes.



Looking for Seasonal Employment?



Seasonal employee(s) beginning in the spring of 2026

*An employee to mow the park, ballfield, town hall, and shop building lawns. Qualified employee must be at least 16 years of age, self-motivated, and able to operate a zero turn mower, push mower, blower, trimmer and other small lawn maintenance equipment. Approximately 20 hours per week.

*An employee to mow the Hadleyville Cemetery on Cty Rd HH. Qualified employee must be at least 16 years of age, self-motivated, and will need to provide their own lawn care equipment and fuel. Approximately 2-3 hours/week.

Volunteer position available

 * The Town is seeking a person interested in maintaining the Memory Garden located on the south side of the park.

If you are interested in any of these available positions, please contact Jen Meyer at 715-878-4645 or office@pleasantvalleywi.gov.

Snowplow Driver Appreciation Day—December 1st

Annually, Governor Evers typically declares the first Monday in December Snowplow Driver Appreciation Day. This is early in the snowplow season, and we really should be appreciating them all winter long! Our crew takes great pride in their jobs, monitors weather conditions, and does their very best to keep our roads safe for travel. With 70 miles of road to maintain, it is a delicate balance of salt, sand, timing, and experience. Thank you, Wyatt, Jeff, John, and Darrell!

<u>How can you help them out?</u> Do not plow your snow across the roadway, do not park your vehicles in the roadway, and make sure your garbage cans are in your own driveway, well off the traveled portion of the road. Staying off the roads during a snow or ice event helps them complete the process as efficiently as possible.



Visible Fire Number Signs



For your own safety, please make sure your fire number signs are located near your driveway and are always visible from the roadway. Emergency personnel rely on these signs to expedite emergency services to you and your property. If you have relocated your sign away from the driveway, you may be increasing the response time to an emergency. With heavy snowfall, signs can easily become buried. If your fire number sign has aged and is difficult to read, you can order a new one for \$50. Please contact Jen Meyer, Clerk/Treasurer, at 715-878-4645 or office@pleasantvalleywi.gov

Dog Licenses Required Annually

WI Statute 174.05 states that the owner of any dog five months of age or older shall annually on or before the first day of January, apply for a license from the Town Treasurer.

If you licensed your dog in 2025, in early December, you will receive a large green postcard with your dog's information printed on it reminding you to license your dog in 2026. Current rabies information from your vet must be included with your application. If you did not receive a postcard, but own a dog, you can print an application at www.pleasantvalleywi.gov under forms and permits or contact the town office at (715)878-4645.

ONLINE OPTION

You can apply for dog licenses online. www.pleasantvalleywi.gov and click on "Access Digital Services"

Fines and court costs for keeping an unlicensed dog can approach upwards of \$275.

Upcoming Community Events

Cleghorn Lions Club Bingo

Cash Prizes!
7 pm on the following Tuesdays:
January 27
February 24
March 24
April 28
Doors open at 6:30pm

Pleasant Valley Firefighters Annual Easter Egg Hunt

Saturday, April 4 at 10am Drawing for Kids Bikes! Candy Filled Eggs! All events are held in the Pleasant Valley Community Center and/or Park S10414 Cty Rd HHI

Sarah Nelson Memorial Pancake Breakfast

Sunday February 22nd 8am-Noon Adults \$10 Children \$5 Children under 4-Free

Sponsored by the Eau Claire County 4-H Older Youth

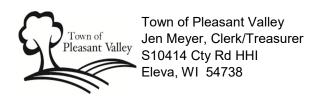
PLEASANT VALLEY CLOVERS 4-H CLUB 21st ANNUAL COOKIE WALK and CRAFT SALE

DECEMBER 6 10 a.m.—12 p.m.

Homemade cookies by the pound and crafts by local vendors

Harvest Fest

Harvest Fest is always the first weekend after Labor Day. 2026 dates:
Sept 11th, 12th and 13th



Town Officials and Meetings

Doug Nelson, Chairman (715)579-1012 Scot Iverson, Supervisor (715)579-3926 Megan Bechel, Supervisor (715)577-8153 Jen Meyer, Clerk/Treasurer Kelsey Ebert, Deputy Clerk/Treaurer Town Office (715)878-4645 or office@pleasantvalleywi.gov Town Shop (715)878-9461

Town Board Meetings are held the 2nd Monday of each month at 7:00pm in the Town Hall and are open to the public.

Burning Permits and regulations: www.townshipfire.org

Fire Department meetings are the 1st and 2nd Mondays of each month at 6:30pm in the fire station.

2026 Annual Meeting

The Annual Town Meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 21st at 7:00 pm in the Town Hall.

Town residents are invited to attend.

All meetings are open to the public.

Facility Rentals

The Community Center and the Park Pavilion/Kitchen are available to rent. Rental rates are reduced for town residents.

Please visit our webpage at <u>pleasantvalleywi.gov</u> or contact Jen Meyer at 715-878-4645 or office@pleasantvalleywi.gov for more information regarding availability and rental rules and regulations.

Visit "Access Digital Services" on our webpage for online rentals and payments.

www.pleasantvalleywi.gov

Visit our website and you will find all valuable information including: calendars, meeting agendas and minutes, facts, notices, forms and permits, frequently asked questions, budget information and more. Online fireworks permits, dog licenses and tax payments can be accessed thru: "Access Digital Services".