



Grant Town Hall
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Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54494
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Town Website:
townofgrant-portage.wi.gov

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715-325-3827 or 715-213-1717
chair@townofgrant-portage.wi.gov

Scott Provost, Supervisor
715-213-0283
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Stefanie Schlapa, Clerk
715-213-7370
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Greg Hakala, Treasurer
715-697-3901
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Jodi Lomma, PC Chair
plancommission@townofgrant-portage.wi.gov

Zoning Administrator
715-421-9200
9011zoning@gmail.com

Emergency Services 911
Ambulance
United Emergency Medical
Services **715-423-7777**

Fire Departments
Grand Rapids **715-424-1815**
Plainfield **715-335-4253**

Severe Weather Alerts
Portage Co. Community Alert
Register:
www.co.portage.wi.us
or call the Sheriff's Dept.
715-346-1400

Spring/Summer 2026

Dear Town Board,

The 2027 revaluation* is underway. While at this point much of the work has been in the office (for example, developing land schedules and classification). We will be working in the field and visiting properties later this summer and into the fall. We would like to be as unobtrusive as possible while collecting the most accurate information we can. In 2027 we will complete a market study, extend new values, do a final field review, send notices, and then prepare for the Board of Review.

Sincerely,

Claude Riglemon
Riglemon Appraisal Service

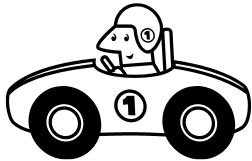
*Revaluation = is a complete and thorough reassessment of every parcel in the taxing district. The goal is to replace outdated or inequitable assessment rolls with updated values that align with today's market conditions

Monthly Board Meetings

2nd Wednesday each month
6:00 pm

Transfer Station Hours

	<u>Wednesday</u>	<u>Saturday</u>
Jun – Aug	11am – 7pm	9am – 5pm
Sep - Oct	11am – 5pm	9am – 5pm
Nov - Mar	11am – 4pm	9am – 4pm
Apr - May	11am – 5pm	9am – 5pm



Roads, roads, roads...

by Sharon Schwab, Chair

What's going on with State Highway 54? Nearly 13 miles between 26th Street North in Biron and County Highway B in Plover are receiving concrete joint, curb and gutter replacements, storm sewer adjustments, pedestrian curb ramp upgrades, and asphalt shoulder and median resurfacing. The project began April 14 and is expected to be completed by August 31. The project will occur with live traffic but with single lane closures throughout its duration.

I am sad to report that the Town of Grant was not a recipient of a Local Roads Improvement Program (LRIP) grant during this 2-year grant cycle. We applied under both the Transportation Improvement Program (TRI) – Discretionary, which is a 50% cost-share and the TRI-Supplemental, which is up to a 90% cost-share. The following roads were considered: Mertz Subdivision (82nd, 85th, 86th, Arbor, Cedar, and Spruce; Elm Street (90th – 100th), and Lake Road (just east of 85th – 90th).

Unfortunately, we are reluctant to spend much of our highway construction budget due to pending decisions regarding the two lawsuits filed by former Supervisor Grys-Luecht. These suits, filed in late 2023 and 2024, continue to result in legal fees and since our construction budget is our biggest line item from which to draw, that's where we go. To date, the individual T. Grant and Horton Insurance payments per lawsuit) as of May 2026 have been:

Case No. 23-CV-300: Insurance Paid \$118,388 with \$80,000 left in reserves. No cost to taxpayers.

Case No. 24-CV-30703: Insurance paid \$10,000. Cost to taxpayers (2024-2026): \$87,737.46.

2026 costs: \$3,234.30 [Note: These costs do not include associated costs from our town attorney, only costs from our insurance appointed lawyer]

With the possibility of additional costs to taxpayers our Public Works is concentrating on road maintenance rather than contracted road construction. This includes pothole filling, joint & crack-sealing, cold mix distribution on small sections of hard-surfaced roads, adding road base to unsurfaced roads, grading, mowing, brushing/chipping, etc. If you have concerns or complaints, please let me or Supervisor Steltenpohl know.

Portable Recycling Bins Now Available!

by Amanda Haffele, Portage County Solid Waste Director

The Portage County Solid Waste Department can help make your summer party hosting recycling-friendly! The Dept. offers 50 portable event recycling bins available for community use. They're simple to set up, help guests recycle correctly, and make cleanup faster and more efficient. These bins work especially well at graduation parties, family gatherings, and other celebrations where people come together.

If you're interested in borrowing one or fifty, call the Portage County Solid Waste Department at (715) 343-6297 at least 48 hours in advance. A refundable deposit is required. Bags are included if borrowing five bins or fewer. If you need more than that, there will be a charge, but you are welcome to use your own bags.

As always, if you have any questions give us a call at (715) 343-6297, visit us online at

<https://www.co.portage.wi.gov/396/Solid-Waste>, or join our Facebook community @PortageCountyRecycles.

What Type of Recyclable Are You?

1. How do you handle chaos?

- A. I flatten the situation and move on.
- B. I stay cool and levelheaded under pressure.
- C. I cling to whoever seems responsible.
- D. I quietly sit in a corner until someone deals with it.

2. What's your ideal weekend?

- A. Getting organized, maybe color code a closet.
- B. Chilling out at the lake or campground.
- C. Hanging out with friends.
- D. Staying inside, reading a book.

3. What's your communication style?

- A. Direct and straightforward.
- B. Light and uplifting.
- C. Flexible, depends on who I'm talking to.
- D. Reserved, but I stick around a long time.

4. How would your friends describe you?

- A. Dependable and sturdy.
- B. Shiny and optimistic.
- C. Adaptable and stretchy.
- D. Reliable and loyal.

5. Your go-to workout is?

- A. Kick Boxing.
- B. Cardio.
- C. Yoga.
- D. Lifting weights.

6. Pick a food item.

- A. Cereal
- B. Sparkling water
- C. Toast
- D. Soup

Results

Mostly A's: You're a Cardboard Box!

You're reliable, practical, and everyone depends on you. When things get a little rough, you reshape, regroup, and continue performing. **Recycling Tip:** Flatten before recycling.

Mostly B's: You're an Aluminum Can!

You're bright, bubbly, and endlessly recyclable. You bring energy wherever you go. **Recycling Tip:** Don't flatten your cans.

Mostly C's: You're Plastic Film and Bags!

You're flexible, clingy in an endearing way, and always stretching yourself, but you require special handling. **Recycling Tip:** Remember plastic films and bags are only recyclable if dropped off at a grocery or big box store.

Mostly D's: You're a Steel Can!

You're strong, steadfast, and a little mysterious. You don't bend easily, but you're a classic for a reason. **Recycling Tip:** Labels can stay on!

ATTENTION: Employment opportunities

Snowplow Operator

\$20/hr. (CDL required)

Plan Commission Secretary

\$18/hr.

For more information regarding these and other part-time positions in the Town of Grant, contact clerk@townofgrant-portage.wi.gov

STAY INFORMED – You can subscribe to notifications for News, Agendas, and Minutes on the Town website (<https://townofgrant-portage.wi.gov/>). Scroll down the home page to the spot for inserting a subscription request. Please be informed that we recently learned that according to the State Attorney General your email address is subject to Open Records and may be requested by someone other than a town official.

Do you have any concerns or complaints? In the bottom right of the Home page there's an orange rectangle asking if you have a request. Click on it and tell us all about it. Your message will be received by our clerk, responded to by her or forwarded to another town officer that can assist. Thank you!

Clerk Alert!

by Stephanie Schlapa, Clerk

Thank you for participating in the Spring Election! We had 554 voters cast ballots in this year's election.

A special thank you goes out to our dedicated poll workers, whose hard work helps make each election day run smoothly and successfully.

We are looking forward to two more elections this year:

- **Partisan Primary – Tuesday, August 11, 2026**
- **General Election – Tuesday, November 3, 2026**

If you are not yet registered to vote, please visit myvote.wi.gov. You can also request an absentee ballot for a single election or for all elections during the calendar year.

In-person absentee voting will continue to be available on Saturday prior to each Tuesday election. This option is intended as a final opportunity to vote for those unable to make it to the polls on Election Day. If you know ahead of time that you will be unavailable on a Tuesday, absentee voting is a convenient and secure option. Absentee ballots can be returned via mail, or we offer a locked black Dropbox for your convenience at the town hall.

Thank you for your attention, and I hope you have a wonderful summer

Plan Commission Report

by Jodi Lomma, Chair

Zoning Ordinance

On February 11, 2026 the Town Board approved the latest revision to the Zoning Ordinance, which had been in progress for several years. This was a refresh of the entire ordinance to bring it up to date in terms of legislation and language, since the last amendment was in 2016. You can find a copy of the Ordinance on the website under Government=>Ordinances, Policies and Resolutions. There is also a paper copy at the Town Hall. The Town of Grant has had a Zoning Ordinance for 61 years! The Town Board adopted its first Zoning and Building Ordinance on April 17, 1965, after it was presented at the Annual Meeting on April 13, 1965. The Portage County Board of Supervisors approved the adoption in their meeting on April 20, 1965. The chair of the Zoning Committee at that time was Martin Kirchkaefer.

Zoning for Data Centers

The Plan Commission has been working with Land Use Specialists from UW-Extension to research how to address Data Centers through our Zoning Ordinance. Over the last three months, the Plan Commissioners have been researching zoning techniques that are being used by other Wisconsin communities to see what would be best suited for the Town of Grant. The next step will be to apply what we have learned to the Town of Grant Zoning Ordinance and then hold a public meeting to obtain resident feedback before making a recommendation to the Town Board. Please watch for notices on the public hearing as we would like to hear your input. The Plan Commission is responsible for ensuring that zoning and other land use projects align with the long-term community goals as defined in the Comprehensive Plan. We also want to maintain local government control over decisions related to Data Centers.

Money News!

by Greg Hakala, Treasurer

Over the past three years we have completed two major cost-saving projects that reduced our expenses and will continue to save us money every year. The **Solar Panels** on the Town Hall are saving on electricity costs and the **Compactor** at the Transfer Station is saving on solid waste hauling fees. We appreciate these “money savings” each month.

Now we are in the process of “money making”! No, not a printing press in the Treasurer’s basement, but by having all our Annual Receipts from the State and County deposited in The State of **Wisconsin Local Government Investment Pool (LGIP)** rather than the current Portage County Money Market Account. Recently, Chair Schwab and I were speaking to a board member from the Town of Plover at a Wisconsin Towns Association Unit meeting. He mentioned that they were earning a nice interest rate on their LGIP Account. This conversation spurred me to investigate...

The LGIP was established by the State of Wisconsin to give local governments the opportunity to combine their cash to make short-term investments equal to those afforded to the State and large local governments. The funds in the LGIP are combined with the cash balances of the State. What this boils down to is that higher interest rates are paid because of the large amount of money in the combined fund. The LGIP invests in what are considered safe funds such as US Treasuries, Bank CD’s and Asset Backed Securities.

I looked at some historical monthly numbers comparing what interest rate was paid by the LGIP versus our Money Market Account. In all cases the LGIP earned rate was significantly higher. The most recent data is April 2026. The interest paid by the LGIP was 3.69% and our Money Market was 2.13%. This is a typical difference.

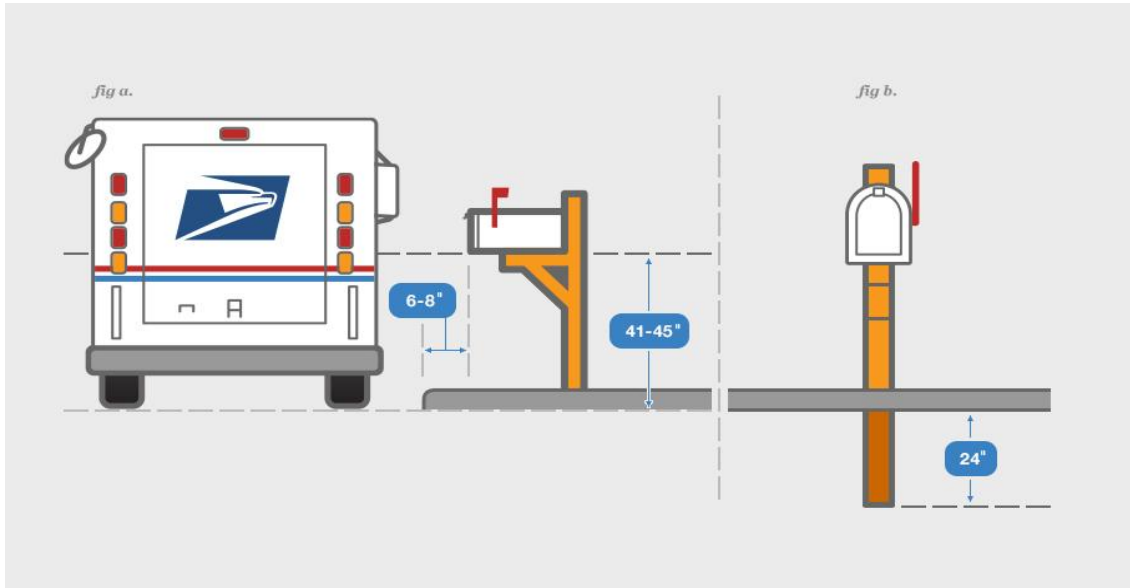
The Town of Grant receives around \$3 ¼ million dollars annually from the State and County. Much of this is property tax money that the County sends us, but then we must turn around and pay out to the local school districts and technical school. So, it comes into our money market and then goes back out through our checking account. However, there is a lag of several weeks between when we receive the money and when we pay it out. We earn interest over those several weeks and a million or two dollars earns a lot of interest. My estimate is that we will earn over \$4,000 more in interest annually at the current interest rates!

The Town recently obtained a Case backhoe. We decided to go with a 3-year lease of just under \$28,000/year with the option to purchase at the end of the lease for \$1. We did this rather than taking out a loan. Our JCB backhoe was more than 30 years old and had some major repairs pending. We were able to sell the machine on Government Surplus for \$8,350 and will use this towards our lease payment. We also purchased a chipper for \$17,000. Our public works crew has been making extensive use of both pieces of equipment, especially after the March ice storm.

*Remember that when you register or renew your vehicle with WisDOT’s Department of Motor Vehicles you list PORTAGE County, not WOOD Co. as the place in which the vehicle resides. When we write in Wisconsin Rapids and the 54494-zip code an agent or salesperson may not know that you live in Portage County. This is important for the revenue that goes into the **Registration Fee Trust**.*

Where to Place the Mailbox

- Position your mailbox 41" to 45" from the road surface to the bottom of the mailbox or point of mail entry.
- Place your mailbox 6" to 8" back from the curb. If you do not have a raised curb, contact your local postmaster for guidance.
- Put your house or apartment number on the mailbox.
- If your mailbox is on a different street from your house or apartment, put your full street address on the box.



Town of Grant

*9011 County Road WW
Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54494*

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