



DECEMBER, 2005

TOWN OF SAUKVILLE

Chairman's Message . . .

... From Jim Kadow

Hello Neighbor!

It is my sincere wish that you are enjoying a wonderful holiday season and the coming year brings all good things to you and your loved ones.

During the last 18 months as your Town Chairman I have learned a great deal about how government works.

Visiting with local officials in neighboring towns and attending meetings with State, County and regional officials has deepened my commitment to maintaining the Town's integrity and identity as a valued community worthy of our protection.

In an effort to know how best to protect the Town borders I have become a student of Land Use Planning. I have found that a well thought out official Land Use Map is an excellent tool to guide land use decisions and to attempt to protect the borders of the Town from annexation.

The 2010 Land Use Plan adopted in 1998 needs to be revisited soon to make it a useful tool for the next twenty to thirty years. You are invited to be a part of this process at a public participation session on the 2035 Comprehensive Plan to be held at Town Hall before the January Town Board meeting. Look for details of this opportunity and the related Open House inside this newsletter. I strongly encourage every Town property owner to attend this meeting or at the least submit their thoughts in writing to Town Hall as your contribution to this effort.

You may have heard that the Village of Saukville has exercised its right under law to freeze all zoning within 1 1/2 miles of the Village limits for two years. The Town and Village now have a joint zoning committee that meets about once a month to review the Village's future plans for this Town land. Bill Niehaus, Mike Wollmer and I are the three Town members of this committee called JETZCO. By our participation we hope to keep Town's plan for this land also under consideration. Currently all State laws concerning annexation of land are heavily weighed in favor of urban areas. I hope that our participation gains the Town maximum leverage in what is already an unfair fight.

The JETZCO committee also hears requests to lift the zoning freeze on selected Town parcels upon landowner request. This process begins with a conversation with our Zoning Administrator, Debra Walls.

The Town has adopted changes to the Zoning Ordinance to increase the number of horses that can be kept in agricultural zoning districts. Please see inside for more details.

The 2006 Town Budget has been approved. The Town tax rate will be about \$1.39 per thousand. This is a bit less than last year. There is a graph inside showing the percentage of your tax dollar supporting your Town government. You will see the Town portion is a small portion of

TOWN HALL OPEN

Weekdays - 9 am to noon

Plan Commission Meeting:
2nd Tuesday of month 7 pm.

Town Board Meeting:
3rd Tuesday of month 7 pm.

Spring Primary Election

February 21, 2006

General Election

April 4, 2006

Partisan Primary

Sept. 12, 2006

General Election

November 7, 2006

Recycling Center:

Saturdays 8 a.m.-11:30 a.m.

Feds 'Help America Vote Act' Mandates Changes in Voter Registration

A recent change in Federal election law may have an impact on your experience at the polls this spring.

The law, called the Help America Vote Act or HAVA, requires all residents to re-register before they vote in 2006 elections. The law passed in 2002 after uncertainties following the 2000 presidential elections. HAVA is scheduled for implementation in 2006.

Town Relies on County Lists

The Town of Saukville is one of a number of towns and villages that depend on the Ozaukee County Clerk's office to prepare and maintain voter poll lists.

Historically many townships did not maintain a voter poll list, relying instead on local election officials who knew just about everyone who lived in the community. In recent elections the Town has required voters to register but did not collect all the identifying information that is now required by the new law.

Identification Required

Residents who voted in past Town elections will need to update their registration by filling out a new registration and showing proper documentation before they vote.

To get a head start on this process the Town election officials have asked voters to fill out the new registration form at the last two elections.

If you voted in the Town recently you may remember that you were given the opportunity to stop at a table and fill out a yellow form the last time you came to the polls.

If you filled out the registra-

tion form when you voted in either the Presidential Election in November of 2004 or in the Spring Elections in 2005 then you do not need to fill out the form again to vote in 2006.

The yellow form asks for the last four digits of your social security number or your driver's license number or a checkmark in the box that indicated you do not have a driver's license or social security number.

The form also asks voters to confirm their address and confirm that they are U.S. citizens and eligible to vote.

Completed forms have been entered into the Statewide Voter Registration System or SVRS. If you are not yet on the SVRS list then you will need to fill out one of the forms before you vote next Spring.

Avoid the Lines

In order to avoid confusion and lines at the polls Town residents are invited to visit the Town Hall and present a Wisconsin driver's license or a state ID card to register in advance of the next election.

Those who register at Town Hall will not be required to register again at the polls the day of the election.

If you would like to check to see if you are already re-registered before you come to the polls on election day you can call or write Town Clerk Walter Clarke.

There will be a table setup where Town residents can register to vote will be set up at Town Hall on Saturday January 14th, 2006 during the hours the recycling center is open, 8:00 to 11:30 a.m. Town residents can visited the display of Compre-

hensive Plan 2035 materials and register to vote on the same Saturday morning.

The registration forms can also be filled out and submitted any time the Town Hall is open.

All voters will be given the opportunity to register at the polls before the Spring election but some residents may chose to register early to avoid lines on Election Day.

New Voting Machine

Another part of the Help America Vote Act requires that voting machines be available at each polling place to enable disabled voters to cast their votes without assistance.

The Town may be required to purchase one of these new voting machines before the next election cycle. The new machine is expected to cost the Town about \$5000.

Election Worker Training

The HAVA also requires election workers to take several hours of training to work at the polls. This training is centered on guaranteeing the right to fair and error-free elections.

Catch Voter Fraud

One goal of the SVRS list is to make voter fraud easier to track and prosecute. The SVRS lists can be cross-checked against Department of Correction information and State death records to catch illegal votes.

For more information on Wisconsin's voter registration system and election procedures, contact the State Elections Board at 1-866-VOTEWIS (1-866-868-3947).

Big Thank you to Former Town Chairman Marvin Hoffmann

Many thanks to Marvin Hoffmann, former Town Chairman for saving Town taxpayers \$800 recently.

Hoffmann was able to satisfy State regulators by confirming in writing that an old underground oil tank on Town Hall property had been properly removed. In doing so Hoffmann saved the Town from the expense of hiring an outside firm to find the tank.

Town Hall Once a School

If you have ever attended a meeting at Town Hall you may have noticed the chalkboards and drinking fountains still in place from the 1950's through the 1990's when the building housed elementary students.

The Town Hall was purchased in 1990 from the Saukville/Port Washington school district after the district closed Lakeland Elementary School.

At the time it was built Lakeland School had an underground

oil storage tank to fuel the boiler that heated the building.

Where is the Oil Tank?

The State of Wisconsin now regulates underground oil tanks. Recently State regulators asked Town Clerk Clarke to certify that the oil storage tank had been removed and that it was no longer a threat to the environment.

Moraine Environmental Service has the equipment and know-how to determine if the tank was still in the ground. The company estimated it would cost the Town about \$800 to use ground borings and electronic 'sniffing' technology to locate the tank.

Hoffmann recalled a discussion concerning the oil tank that took place around the time the old school was purchased. By researching the minutes of the meetings he was able to confirm that the tank was removed from the ground in the

fall of 1990.

Hoffmann also found a record that Leroy Schere, the Town Building Inspector at the time, had observed the tank removal and noted that the tank was sound and not leaking oil into the surrounding ground.

Hoffmann's word was enough to satisfy the State Bureau of Petroleum Products and Tanks in Madison saving the Town the expense of looking for the tank.

Church Rents Space

Now the Town Hall building is heated with LP gas. The Town uses two former classrooms rooms in the back of the building for office and meeting space. The Town rents the former auditorium and old school kitchen to a church. The remaining former classroom is used as a meeting room by local Cub Scout, Girl Scout and 4-H Clubs for their monthly meetings.

All Invited to Public Meeting To Follow Town Hall Open House In January

Mark your calendar !

Saturday, January 14th from 8:00 a.m. until 11:30 a.m. the Town Hall will be open to provide an opportunity for residents to view exhibits and a display of information collected by various government agencies as a part of planning efforts for the Town's 2035 Comprehensive Plan. A representative from Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission, Ozaukee County and Town officials will be on hand to answer your questions about the displays. You will have an opportunity to submit your written comments concerning your ideas concerning how the Township should look in 2035.

Early drafts of the new FEMA flood plain maps will also be on display.

A public meeting will be held on January 17th beginning at 6:30 p.m. for Town residents to discuss the planning process and hear what their neighbors think about how the Town should look in the future.

In addition, a table will be manned by election officials during the open house to allow residents to re-register to vote prior to the 2006 elections. Those who choose to re-register before Election Day will not have to brave the registration line when they come to cast their vote.

If you would like to send comments to the Town about the 2035 plan you may email the Town at tsauk@execpc.com with your comments or send your thoughts in a letter addressed to 3762 Lakeland Road, 53080.

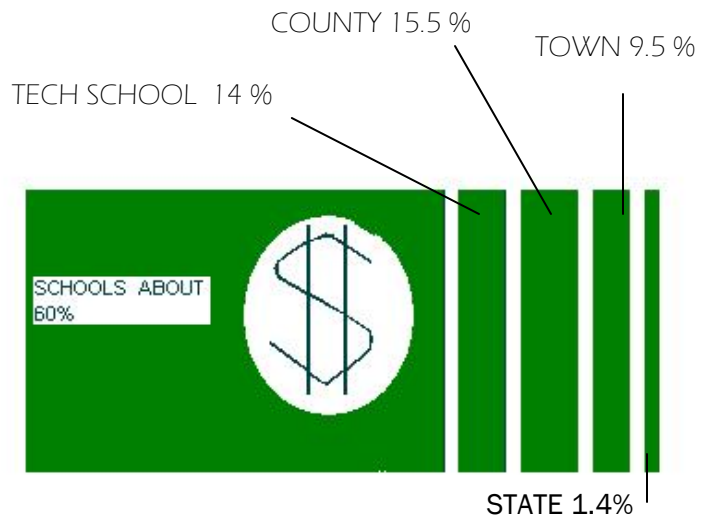
your total property tax bill.

2006 is an election year in Wisconsin. The Help America Vote Act and how it may affect you at the polls is briefly explained in the newsletter. If you have any questions about this new law you should talk with Walter Clarke, your Town Clerk, who is the Town official charged with running all our elections.

Please contact the Town Hall staff with any questions, concerns or suggestions. You may phone the Town Hall, leave a voice mail message, email us, or attend a Town meeting.

Every Town Board and Plan Commission meeting has a time on the agenda for comments from the floor. Or, just come to observe and meet your neighbors. Town government is democracy in its purest form and your participation is always welcome.

How Your 2005 Property Tax Dollar Is Split



2005 property tax bills will be mailed soon. The amount owed is based on a formula that takes the assessed value of your property and improvements divided by 1000 and multiplies that value by the tax levy rate for each taxing jurisdiction.

The Town of Saukville is served by two school districts. You are taxed by only one of those districts based upon where your property is located in the Township. Generally the Port Washington/Saukville School District serves the south-east parts of the Town. Northern Ozaukee School District serves the rest of the township. Each school district sets its own levy based on how much money it needs to operate for the year.

This year the levy rate for Port Washington/Saukville schools is \$14.20 per thousand. The rate for Northern Ozaukee schools is \$14.72 per thousand.

Your property tax payment is divided among several different layers of government. In addition to the school districts and the technical school district, the county, state and town all take a portion of their funding from the property tax levy.

To provide Town services and maintain the roads the Town Saukville collects about \$1.39 per thousand.

Town Treasurer Kay Danielson accepts property tax payments at the Town Hall. [Port Washington State Bank -Saukville](#) also accepts payments and is able to return any overpayment directly to you immediately. If you pay your taxes at the Town Hall you must wait until checks are approved at Town Board before any overpayment is returned to you.

Where ever you decide to pay your taxes you will need to bring your tax bill along with your payment. If you plan to purchase your dog license for the year when you pay your tax bill, **do not put the dog license and the tax payment on the same check.**

Receipts for tax payments are mailed from Town Hall if you include a stamped self-addressed envelope with your payment.

How to determine number of equine livestock allowed in Agricultural Zoning Districts

At its November meeting the Town Board adopted changes to the Town of Saukville Zoning Ordinance that affect the number of **new equine livestock** allowed in the Town. **The rules do not affect property owners who already have equine livestock before December 1st, 2005.** Anyone who had any horses, ponies, donkeys, mules or any other kind of equine livestock prior to December 1st, 2005 is allowed to continue to have that livestock on their property.

These rules will apply whenever a property changes ownership or when equine livestock are kept on a property that did not have equine livestock prior to December 1st, 2005.

The following is a summary of the regulations related to equine livestock and private stables in agricultural zoning districts:

- Private stables and hobby farms are limited to agricultural zoning districts (A-1, A-2, A-3, A-4 and A-5). This is not changed by the new rules.
- If you are in an **A-1** (min. 20 ac.), **A-2**(min. 35 ac.) or **A-3**(min. 35 ac.) district, a hobby farm or private stable is a **permitted use**. This means that you may keep equine livestock on your property without a permit from the Town. You are still required to have proper manure storage for your animals. Town residents should apply to Jeff Bell, at the Ozaukee County Department of Planning, Recourses and Land Management to obtain a manure storage permit.
- The system to determine how many head of equine livestock shall be allowed on A-1, A-2 or A-3 districts is based on the acreage and suitability of your land. The first five acres allows three head of equine livestock. For each additional head of equine livestock 1 ½ acres of land is required.
- If you are in an **A-4** (min. 10 ac) or **A-5** (min. 5 ac) district a private stable or hobby farm requires a **conditional use permit**. This permit, granted by the Town Board, establishes the number of equine livestock allowed on the property subject to conditions as set forth in the permit. Contact your Town Hall for information about the conditional use application process. A fee is charged for the permitting process.
- **If you already have equine livestock on your A-4 or A-5 property, you do not need to get a conditional use permit.** However, you may choose to apply for the conditional use permit. Conditional use permits, once granted, become a part of the property record. In the event you put your property up for sale, the conditional use allows you to pass along the right to keep a certain number of equine livestock on a property under those conditions as part of the sale. The conditional use process may allow a maximum of three head of equine livestock on the first five acres. For each additional head of equine livestock a minimum of 1 ½ acres of additional acreage is required.

Before these ordinance changes were made by the Town Board a town property owner could have only one horse on a five acre parcel. Each additional horse required an additional four acres of land. The changes put the Town regulations more in line with the rules in comparable communities in Wisconsin.

These changes do not effect Public or Commercial Stables. Public stables may only be placed on parcels with 35 acres or more land. Public or Commercial stables always require a conditional use permit.

The Town limits the size of stables and other accessory buildings, including stables and indoor riding arenas, to less than 2500 square feet in A-4 and A-5 districts. A site plan review and zoning permit are required before beginning any new construction including stables.

For more information on these or any other provisions of the Zoning Ordinance please contact the Zoning Administrator or the Town Building Inspector.

Town of Saukville
3762 Lakeland Drive
Saukville, WI 53080

PRSR - STD
U.S. Postage Paid
Grafton, WI
Permit # 11

**DOG LICENSES ARE REQUIRED FOR ALL
DOGS MORE THAN FIVE MONTHS OLD ON
JAN. 1ST,**

or five months of age within the license year. A \$5.00 late fee will be charged if you fail to obtain a license prior to April 1ST or within 30 days of acquiring ownership of a licensable dog. State law requires that dogs over five months of age be vaccinated against rabies. Please contact the Town Hall for a form and mail it along with the proper fee and a self-addressed stamped business-sized envelope to Saukville Town Hall. (Only one such envelope is required for tax receipt and dog license.) If this is a new dog, or if the old certificate has expired, include a copy of the "Certificate of Rabies Vaccination" from your veterinarian

Neutered Males or Spayed Females -- \$5.00
Males or Females -- \$10.00

Website:
[Http://town.saukville.wi.us](http://town.saukville.wi.us)
email us at:
tsauk@exccpc.com

Phone: 262-675-9217
Fax: 262-675-0604

Chairman: Jim Kadow
Supervisors: Bill Niehaus
& Mike Wollmer
Clerk: Walter H. Clarke
Treasurer: Kay Danielson
Zoning Administrator: Debra Walls
Constable: Mark Dickmann
Building Inspector/Zoning Enforcement
Frank Mayer & Son: 262-692-9280