



Farmington Town Hall Newsletter

Issue 31 www.farmingtonwi.com

Spring-Summer 2024

Farmington Town News:

Town Board meetings are held every **third Monday @ 6:30pm** at the Town Hall located at the corner of State Road 54 and County Road Q. Agendas are posted in the *Waupaca County Post*, on our website www.farmingtonwi.com and at the town hall.

TUESDAY, April 16, 2024 - Annual Town meeting of Electors...at 6:30pm.

Agenda items are the audit and financial report along with any other business that may legally come before the Board. **A regular Town Board meeting will follow.**

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WisDOT is planning **Hwy 54** road work sometime during **2025** from Portage Cty line to Foxfire.

They are also planning on road improvements to State Hwy 10 from Portage Cty line to Apple Tree Ln just west of Cty Rd A to begin in the spring of 2026.

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The Town currently oversees three cemeteries: **Barton, Salem and Sheridan.** Sites are available for purchase at \$500.00 which includes Perpetual Care. Anyone interested can contact the Cemetery Secretary, Kathy Kasza at the Town Hall (715-258-2779). You can also go on our website www.farmingtonwi.com to view the Town updated Cemetery Ordinance with Rules and Regulations.

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2nd half taxes are due July 31st & sent to the **Waupaca County Treasurer**
811 Harding St
Waupaca, WI 54981

Open Book/Board of Review

Each year residents are given the opportunity to meet at the Town Hall with the assessor during **Open Book** to discuss their current property assessments. If you choose after that meeting to appear before the **Board of Review** to contest your assessment, you will need to submit the necessary objection form in advance and receive an assigned appearance time from the Town Clerk,. The burden of proof lies with the property holder to provide their case for change in assessment. **Open Book and Board of Review are held at the Town Hall. Specific dates are published in the *Waupaca***

County Post and on the Town website www.farmingtonwi.com

Jeremy Kurtzweil is our Town Assessor and can be reached at 715-486-9019 or artemis1@charter.net.

Town E-Recycling Day will **NOT** be held this year. It was voted to hold it during odd years, being held on **TUESDAY, APRIL 22, 2025., THANK YOU.**

Operator licenses for bartenders are valid July 1st thru June 30th of the following year and renewable for \$20.00 Any person not already holding a license in the Town of Farmington will need to have proof of completion of the **Responsible Beverage Service Course** when making application, Please contact Kathy Kasza, Town Clerk at 715-258-2779 or stop at the Town Hall.

King Road Update.....

At their February 19,2024 meeting, the Town Board approved the bid from American Asphalt for work to begin after school end and should end before school starts weather permitting. King Road will be **OPEN to LOCAL TRAFFIC ONLY.**

ATV/UTV Travel Routes are approved for all Town roads. These are NOT trails marked on public or private property. They are on the roadway portion of a road. Also, **GOLF CARTS ARE NOT ALLOWED**, only licensed ATVs/UTVs. Drivers must follow all State of Wisconsin ATV/UTV regulations.



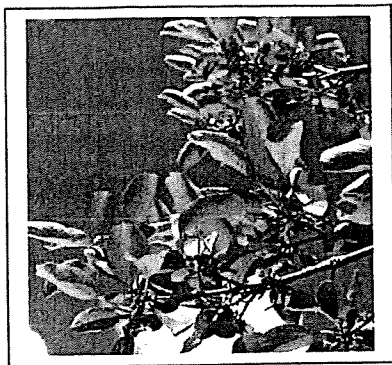
**TOWN OF FARMINGTON
WAUPACA COUNTY, WISCONSIN
STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE
BUDGET AND ACTUAL – GENERAL FUND
YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2023
(WITH COMPARATIVE ACTUAL AMOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2022)**

	BUDGET 2023	ACTUAL 2023	VARIANCE FINAL BUDGET	ACTUAL 2022
REVENUE				
TAXES	\$ 733,836	\$ 804,594	\$ 70,758	\$ 776,850
INTERGOVERNMENTAL	355,237	556,728	201,491	554,513
LICENSES & PERMITS	28,600	37,160	8,560	55,401
FINES, FORFEITURES & PENALTIES	100	64	(36)	344
PUBLIC CHARGES FOR SERVICES	2,400	378,395	375,995	3,184
INTERGOVERNMENTAL CHARGES FOR SERVICES	2,500	2,816	316	1,789
MISCELLANEOUS	51,000	96,052	45,052	53,401
TOTAL REVENUE	1,173,673	1,875,809	702,136	1,445,482
EXPENDITURES				
GENERAL GOVERNMENT	\$ 247,252	\$ 254,523	\$ (7,271)	\$ 248,251
PUBLIC SAFETY	189,559	190,788	(1,229)	209,008
PUBLIC WORKS	505,095	905,236	(400,141)	430,549
HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES	11,000	13,549	(2,549)	10,300
CULTURE, RECREATION & EDUCATION	70,175	68,536	1,639	62,641
CONSERVATION & DEVELOPMENT	229,563	251,345	(21,782)	251,835
CAPITAL OUTLAY	123,092	80,431	42,661	7,857
OTHER FINANCING USES	-	-	-	-
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	1,375,736	1,764,408	(388,672)	1,220,531
REVENUES OVER(UNDER) EXPENDITURES		111,401		224,951
FUND BALANCE - JANUARY 1		1,102,093		872,122
NONSPENDABLE - DECEMBER 31		2,881		10,534
COMMITTED FUND BALANCE (LANDFILL) - DECEMBER 31		312,000		312,000
COMMITTED FUND BALANCE (WATER PATROL) - DECEMBER 31		92,764		44,642
UNASSIGNED FUND BALANCE - DECEMBER 31		805,849		734,917
FUND BALANCE - DECEMBER 31		\$1,213,494		\$1,102,093

The financial year ending December 31, 2023, saw an increase in remaining funds due to several factors:

- The collection of room taxes on the rental properties within the town resulted in an additional \$48,122 added to the reserve for future water patrol expenses. The Town retains 30% of the taxes collected and the Waupaca Area Convention & Visitor's Bureau (WCVB) receives 70% to invest in tourism projects and community program grants.
- The milder winter resulted in lower snowplowing costs.
- The Town did not reconstruct any roads, which allowed funds to be carried forward for future projects.
- First year of curbside refuse/recycling program costs & revenue was recorded based on actuals.
- Capital outlay for improvements (telephone & security system upgrades) to town hall and additional election equipment.
- Final distribution (\$202,063) of American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) towards providing broadband internet access within limit access areas of the Town.

Information provided by Kathy Kasza, Town Clerk/Treasurer



BUCKTHORN.....Yank it? Topple it? Residents have asked what to do with this aggressive invader, which threatens the natural health of wetlands and uplands. Common buckthorn has glossy green leaves with noticeable leaf veins. It flowers in the spring & produces berries that ripen in late summer. **Why hard to get rid of?** Buckthorn berries drop to the ground and the seeds they contain can sprout, creating a dense stand. Seeds can also survive for years in the soil. Birds eat the berries and scatter the seeds widely. This is one of the major causes of their infestation in woods, prairies and other wild areas. Their root system in dense,

so it can be hard to remove at all. **Can I pull it out?** For plants up to 3/8in. in diameter, it can be pulled out by hand. Greater than, suggest a hand tool like the Root Talon. **Can I kill with herbicides?** In spring, spray leaves of young plants with a herbicide that has at least 20% glyphosate. Glyphosate kills all plants and must be used properly, so follow directions carefully for safe use. **Kill without chemicals?** Yes – one method is to cut it down to a stump 6in. or shorter & place a tin can or black plastic bag over it. It can take a year or two for stump to die. **How to dispose of once removed?** Because it's a noxious weed, best to keep it on your property and let it naturally decompose. Transporting could result in seeds being spread.

Please notify the Town Hall if you notice any other "noxious weeds" surrounding your lot that are in the town right-of-way. As per WI Stats 66.0407, refer to "noxious weed" as Canada thistle, leafy spurge, field bindweed, plus any weed designated by DNR rule. The Town will have a certified County Hwy worker spray. **Thank you**

PLEASE check your plant growth around your **fire number** that would interfere with the number being visible. You are responsible for removal of any overgrown branches/weeds that would cover the numbers. Fire numbers are required by aw (WI Stats 59.54(4)(a)(b) Public Protection & Safety) If a post has been damaged, contact the Town Hall 715-258-2779.

IMPORTANT ELECTION DATES 2024:

Tuesday, August 13, 2024 – Partisan Primary

- 6/7/2024 – Clerk to mail absentee ballots for requests on file.
- 7/16/2024 – Last day to acquire residence for August 13th election.
- 7/24/2024 – Last day to register by mail/internet to vote at August 13th election. After this date, only in the clerk's office or at the polls.
- .7/30/2024 – First day In-Person absentee voting at Town Hall.
- 8/9/2024 – Last day In-Person absentee voting at Town Hall.
- 8/13/2024 – Election Day (7:00am – 8:00pm) Town Hall

Tuesday, November 5, 2024 – General Election

- 9/19/2024 – Clerk to mail absentee ballots for requests on file.
- 10/8/2024 – Last day to acquire residence for November 5th election.
- 10/16/2024 – Last day to register by mail/internet to vote at November 5th election. After this date only in the clerk's office or at the polls.
- 10/22/2024 – First day In-Person absentee voting at Town Hall.
- 11/1/2024 – Last day In-Person absentee voting at Town Hall.
- 11/5/2024 – Election Day (7:00am – 8:00pm) Town Hall

Solid Waste & Recycling Program Updates - 2024

Provided by Allison Birr, Recycling Coordinator

www.waupacacountyrecycling.com

715-258-6240



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Waupaca County Solid Waste & Recycling

- **Curbside Recycling:** With curbside pickup, you may wonder what is accepted in your recycling cart, please see the attached Waupaca County Curbside Guidelines. Remember, Recycling must remain *loose* inside the cart, please don't bag it. If you're not sure if an item is recyclable and you don't have time to check, "When in doubt, throw it out!" The Waupaca Regional Recycling & Compost Center is still open and available for the Town of Farmington residents to use if you have excess garbage or recycling. It's also available for yard waste, brush, used oil, tires, and scrap metal disposal (fees may apply). The hours are Monday 12 p.m.-5 p.m., Friday 7 a.m.-3 p.m. (April-November), and Saturday 7 a.m.-2 p.m.
- **Used Cooking Oil Recycling at Waupaca County PTF:** The Waupaca County Processing & Transfer Facility (PTF) has partnered with Blue Honey Bio-Fuels to collect used cooking oil. If you are planning to host any fish fry's over the summer, save that used cooking oil and bring it to the Waupaca County PTF for no cost! *Please limit the amounts to 20 gallons at a time* The PTF is located at E4981 Swan Road, Manawa. Open Mon - Fri 7 a.m.-3 p.m., Sat 7 a.m.-11 a.m. (Mar - Nov), 3rd Sat 7 a.m.-11 a.m. (Dec - Feb). The PTF brochure is available online at www.waupacacountyrecycling.com
- **Compost Bins for Sale:** Now through April 12th, purchase our favorite compost bin for a reduced rate at the Waupaca County Solid Waste Department, 811 Harding Street, Waupaca. The *Home Composter*™ bin capacity is 128 gallons and comes with a locking lid, dual access doors, and a 'How To' handbook. Cost: \$60.00 includes tax (save \$5). We will also offer a Kitchen Katcher Compost Pail for \$20.00 each (save \$5). The Kitchen Katcher is a stainless steel pail that works great to collect up to a gallon of food scraps for compost and, as a bonus, it's dishwasher safe! *If you order both, you'll save \$15!* Pick up your bin during Earth Week, April 22nd-26th. Call 715-258-6240 with any questions.
- **May Tire Round-Up:** During the first two weeks of May, residents can dispose of tires for a reduced rate at the Waupaca County PTF. Tires without a rim will cost \$5.00 each, regularly \$7.00. Tires with a rim will cost \$10.00 each, regularly \$14.00. Loads of 5 or more car tires will be weighed to determine charge based on \$300/ton, regularly \$320/ton. For hours of the facility visit www.waupacacountyrecycling.com
- **Household Hazardous Waste:** The Household Hazardous Waste program begins May 1st and runs through October at the Waupaca County PTF and is by **APPOINTMENT ONLY**. Call 715-258-6249 for an appointment to dispose of items such as old gas, paint thinner, varnish, oil paints, pesticides, and other poisonous or flammable substances.
- **Outdoor Burning:** Spring is wildfire season. In Wisconsin, most fires occur in April and May, after the snow is gone and before plants have greened up. Burning permits are required Jan. 1- May 31st. Permits can be obtained online at www.dnr.wi.gov (search keyword 'burn permit'), or by calling 1-888-WIS-BURN. Burning of garbage, furniture, treated wood, construction debris, etc. is **illegal** and carries a hefty fine. Residential households can burn only leaves, brush, clean untreated wood and small amounts of confidential papers. Although burning permits are required through May 31st, the above burning restrictions apply year-round.

Understanding VA: Non-Service Connected Pension

If you're a Veteran who served on active duty under honorable conditions you might be eligible for VA Pension. For Veterans who qualify, VA pension is a needs based benefit which pays a monthly benefit.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE?

You may be eligible if:

- You were discharged from service under other than dishonorable conditions, **AND**
- You served 90 days or more of active duty with at least 1 day during a period of war time*, **AND**
- Your countable income is below the amount listed in the chart below, **AND**
- You meet the net worth limitations, **AND**
- You are age 65 or older, **OR**, you have a permanent and total non-service connected disability, **OR**, you are patient in a nursing home, **OR** you are receiving Social Security disability benefits.

*Veterans who entered active duty after September 7, 1980, must also serve at least 24 months of active duty service. If the total length of service is less than 24 months, the Veteran must have completed their entire tour of active duty.

HOW MUCH DOES VA PAY?

This benefit is income and asset tested by VA. This means the VA must confirm your total net worth is under \$138,489, and your income for VA purposes is under the Maximum Annual Pension Rate (MAPR). The VA calculates your annual pension payment by first determining, for your particular circumstances, the MAPR – an annual payment amount set by Congress. There are three MAPR categories known as Basic, Housebound, and Aid and Attendance. For example, if you are a Veteran with no dependents, the Basic MAPR is \$14,753, the Housebound MAPR is \$18,029, and the Aid and Attendance MAPR is \$24,610. As you might have guessed, the MAPR categories correspond to your medical condition and level of care required. For Basic think completely independent, for Aid and Attendance think skilled nursing care, and Housebound falls in the middle. Next, VA determines your countable income. VA determines countable income by subtracting from your total income, received in a particular 12-month period, the amount of those exclusions provided by law*. VA then subtracts your countable income from the MAPR; the difference is your annual pension entitlement. VA divides this amount by 12 and rounds down to the nearest dollar, this is the approximate amount of your monthly pension payment.

*VA deducts certain expenses paid by you, e.g., unreimbursed medical expenses, from your annual household income, which will decrease your countable income and increase your monthly pension payment. A complete list of these exclusions is provided in section 3.272 of title 38, Code of Federal Regulations. These regulations are available at the Government Printing Offices website.

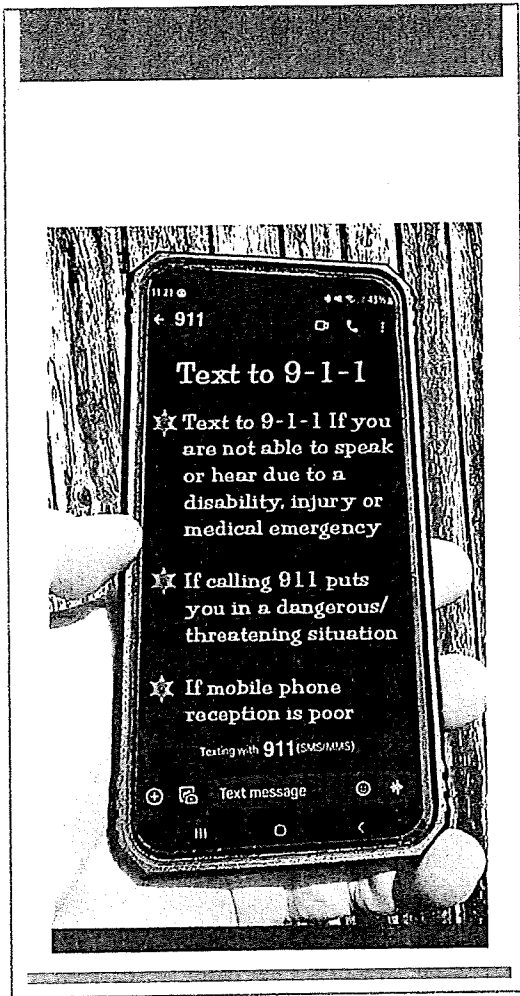
Note: To determine your eligibility, check eBenefits, contact VA Eligibility Center at 1-888-768-2132, or contact our office at 715-258-6475.

Understanding these and other VA Benefits can seem daunting, but the Waupaca County Veterans Service Office can help. If you could use a little help navigating the VA Benefit system please schedule an appointment today!

Jesse P. Cuff
Waupaca County Veterans Service Officer
Courthouse, 811 Harding Street
Waupaca, WI 54981
715-258-6475
www.facebook.com/WaupacaVeteransOffice
Hours: Monday – Friday 8a-4p

Source / for more information:

<http://benefits.va.gov/BENEFITS/factsheets/limitedincome/livepension.pdf>
<http://www.benefits.va.gov/pension/>
<http://www.benefits.va.gov/PENSION/wartimeperiod.asp>
http://www.benefits.va.gov/pension/current_rates_veteran_pen.asp



911: Call if you can, Text if you can't
Voice calls to 911 are still the best and fastest way to contact 911.

Waupaca County Sheriff's Office is pleased to announce we have begun accepting Text to 911 service for Waupaca County. Citizens can now send a text to 911 in an emergency. Text to 911 should only be used in an emergency situation, when placing a call is not possible. For instance, if the called is deaf, hard-of-hearing, speech impaired or when speaking out loud would put the caller in danger.

If there is an emergency and you are unable to make a call, remember these steps:

- **Don't text and drive**
- In the first text message send the location and type of emergency.
- Text in simple words – send a short text message without abbreviations or slang
- Be prepared to answer questions and follow instruction from the 911 call taker.

Don't abuse 911 – Text to 911 is ONLY for emergencies:

- It is a crime to text or call 911 with a false report. Prank-texters can be located

Text to 911 service may still have challenges:

- A text or data plan is required to place a text to 911.
- If you do not receive a text response from 911 to confirm it has been received, try to contact 911 another way.
- Text to 911 services are **not** available everywhere in Wisconsin or the US.
- Text to 911 cannot include more than one person. Do not send your emergency text to anyone other than 911.
- Text to 911 is only available in English. If you require services in another language, call 911 to be connected with a translator service.
- **Voice calls to 911 are still the best and fastest way to contact 911.**