



LIBERTY GROVE ROCKS

From The Front Lines

Check the Town of Liberty Grove's web site. If you are a business owner or own a unit that you rent through the Tourism Zone Commission we can list you as a business owner. If you are not already listed send me an email, subject matter should be Janet-web business listing, and include your business name, address, email, phone and I will include it with other businesses in Liberty Grove.

Featured Organization: Door County North

www.doorcountynorth.org

There will be a "Little Library" going in at the Gills Rock Park thanks to Ron Stromen of Wisconsin Bay Rd. The library will house an assortment of books, most intended for young readers. You are encouraged to use the library and bring the book back. You may also want to donate a book or two to the library. These libraries are popping up in a lot of areas and are well received. Please encourage your young readers to stop by the park, take out a book and sit at one of the benches to read.

The finance committee will start the budget process early this year so that more people will be able to attend the budget hearing. Their first meeting will be August 25th at 6:30pm at the Liberty Grove Town Hall. These are open meetings and we welcome anyone who would like to listen to the committee and their deliberations. Watch the calendar at www.libertygrove.org for additional meetings and a public informational meeting in September.



The Town and Village of Sister Bay held another paper shredding and electronics recycling event on Saturday, June 20th. If you live in the Town of Liberty Grove or the Village of Sister Bay you are allowed to bring documents to be shredded or electronics and household appliances to be recycled. There are small fees for anything with a screen or compressor including microwaves. There will be another opportunity to do this on Saturday, September 19th at the Town Hall from 9:00am until 1:00pm. Please follow the directions once you are in the parking lot.

MOWING ON TOWN ROADS

Clearing the road right-of-way for safety reasons in the summer is always a controversial subject in Liberty Grove. We get an equal number of calls from folks who say that they couldn't see the turkey along the side of the road that just ran out in front of their car. Because we mow approximately 105 miles of road (more than any other municipality) we have to abide by the road maintenance policy. The maintenance policy states that we mow the ditches in the spring and fall and cut 10 to 15 feet in from the road. This policy is also subject to other road work done in the town as is the case this year. Because of the early paving projects we did not start our spring cut until mid June. Our maintenance policy says that we cut twice during the year, once in spring and again in the fall. The first cutting often results in the cutting of some wild flowers. Please remember that these are wild flowers that do grow back each year. The mower is actually spreading their seeds and making their growing area larger. Obvious maintained patches around fences and mailboxes will not be mowed.

Cemeteries in Liberty Grove

Liberty Grove owns and maintains 4 different cemeteries. During the 6 month season of May through October many residents visit the sites of family members. We would like to remind everyone of the cemetery policy which states that small plantings are allowed up to 8 inches out from the face of the marker. No bushes or shrubs of any kind are allowed. No artificial flowers are allowed from May 15th to September 15th except for Memorial Day weekend. Those have to be removed by June 1st. Cemetery lots are available for anyone to purchase. Special prices are offered to property owners in Liberty Grove and the Village of Sister Bay. Contact the Town office if you would like to discuss purchasing a cemetery lot in Liberty Grove.

Important dates coming up

August 19th – Board of Review (for appointment call 854-2934 no later than 1:00pm on August 17th)

August 19th-Donation requests from non-profits must be in the office.

August 25 – Finance mtg-budget to be discussed.

Sept. 2 – Town Board mtg

Sept. 7 – Hall closed for Labor Day

Sept. 15- Finance mtg-budget to be discussed.

Sept 19 – Paper shredding and electronic recycling

Sept. 22- Budget informational meetings at 1:00pm and 7:00pm

Ellison Bay sunset



Update on new county zoning Chapter 14-Regulation of Towers

In recent years the State has passed an ordinance regulating communication support structures and related facilities. It is strongly recommended that the county pass a similar ordinance in order to regulate as the state will not be doing that. Door County has drafted what is known as Chapter 14-Regulating Communication Support Structures and Related Facilities and that is now ready to adopt. The county's version has more restrictions in it than the state ordinance does. There was a public hearing on the matter on August 6th which Bud Kalms attended. He reported that there was no testimony given in favor of the ordinance and several people were there to speak against the ordinance as it is written. The current ordinance as it is written would put a burden on local companies wishing to provide internet service only. Their towers are much smaller than a tower that provides both internet and cell phone service. The town has contacted the larger companies that already provide some service to Liberty Grove such as Frontier and Charter and they are unwilling to expand their service or do the necessary upgrades to provide internet to everyone in the town. There are small internet providers that are willing to install small towers throughout the area that will give connection to just about every household but they will be held back because of this new ordinance. A survey and report done by Dr. Kashian provided statistics that show more internet service in our area will ensure strong property values and help visitors stay longer which translates to more dollars to our businesses and sales tax to the state. This survey was recently reported in the Wall Street Journal. Liberty Grove strongly suggests that you contact our town representatives on the county RPC (Resource Planning Committee) and voice your objection to this ordinance as it is written. Contact Don Sitte at 920-839-2557 or 8480 E. Ridgeview Dr., Baileys Harbor, WI 54202 or David Lienau, 920-854-5627 or P.O.Box 823, Sister Bay, WI 54234. A copy of the draft ordinance, Chapter 14, can be found on our town web site, www.libertygrove.org, under ordinances on the left side. It is in two parts labeled County Ord. Chapt. 14 part 1 and part 2.

FROM THE CHAIRMAN'S DESK

An article in the August issue of the Wisconsin Towns Association publication by Senior Legal Counsel Attorney Carol Nawrocki explains the legalities of a closed session.

On occasion the Town Board will meet in closed session to discuss the limited subjects allowed under section 19.85 of the Wisconsin Statute's. Proper notice must be given of the closed session and the reason(s) for the session. A laundry list of possible reasons is not a satisfactory posting. The Board determines who else may be asked to meet with them. It is possible to meet in an unanticipated closed session, providing the subject is on the agenda and meets the statutory exemptions. A meeting must be convened in open session and a motion must be made to go into closed session. The chair must announce in open session the business to be discussed. A majority vote is required to convene into closed session.

Minutes should be taken of the closed session. Exact details of the discussion is not necessary or advisable if confidentiality is deemed to be protected. Unless bargaining or competitive reasons require the closed session the board should vote in open session. If no other items are on the agenda following a closed session it is possible to simply adjourn from closed session without returning to open session. If items remain on the open session agenda following the closed session the notice of the meeting must include that the board will meet in open session immediately following the closed session.