



LIBERTY GROVE ROCKS

Featured Business

Yacht Works, Inc.
10967 Hwy 42
Sister Bay, WI 54234
(920) 854-2124
www.yachtworks.net

Important Dates

Jan. 12- Tech Committee at 7pm.
Jan. 17 – Town Board meeting
Jan 25 – mining safety class-pre-registration required.
Jan. 31 – 1st half real estate tax due



NEW YEAR - NEW BEGINNINGS

If you are one who makes a New Year's resolution, let me suggest one that will be meaningful to you as well as someone else. Many people need help in many different ways but are afraid to reach out. Try reaching out to them. Helping others is incredibly rewarding.

FROM YOUR TOWN CHAIRMAN

After a telephone conference call with Town Attorney Jack Bruce and Gary Rosenbeck of McMahon Associates engineering firm the Board decided to cancel our third meeting with the Sister Bay Village Board regarding Waste Water Treatment Plant ownership. The Board wishes to further refine its position and clarify our goals based upon a proposal from the Village and our previous discussions. The plant serves our Utility Dist. #1 with sewer and water and the entire Town with holding tank and mound system waste water processing. Over the life of the plant the Town has invested over two million in capital improvements as part of its desire to have a safe and efficient way to handle waste water for our community. Future meetings will be posted on the Town Web Site.

The IT Committee is collecting letters of support for the WPS Grant Application that has Door County Broad Band and Liberty Grove cooperating in the grant application. The monies from a grant would be used to further extend coverage within Liberty Grove via wireless service from DCBB. Parties wishing to support the efforts are encouraged to write letters of support and send to the Town Office via regular mail or email. Further information is available through the Town Office. David Studebaker is the chairman of our IT Committee which generating support letters.

Mike Koles, the Executive Director of the Wisconsin Towns Association, writing in the recent newsletter explained the impact on Towns of the recently passed tax reform package. Tax exemption for municipal bonds has been maintained. That tax exemption allows municipal bonds to be sold at lower interest rates. Towns can stretch taxpayer dollars and continue to build critical infrastructure.

The ability to refinance these bonds while maintaining the exemption was eliminated. As a result if a town wishes to refinance a bond at a lower rate those bonds lose the tax exemption.

The deductibility of state and local property taxes has been capped at \$10,000. If one previously itemized their returns the cap was \$12,000. Mr Koles speculates that local governments will face more anger toward the property tax. "For local governments, the dark side is losing more property taxing authority without commensurate revenue increase via other tools."

The Town Board and Finance Committee will be addressing these implications as we begin planning the 2019 budget. Our two major bonds will be paid in full during 2018 which will have a direct effect on the tax levy in the years to come.

From your Town Board:



Ordinance approval – The Town Board approved Ordinance 1-18 which amended 5-17, Broadband Forward which encourages expansion of broadband services and helps companies that may be looking for grant money for this service. The Town also has a tower ordinance in place for those wanting to place a tower on their property.

Town valuation – After the open book process the town's valuation has increased by roughly \$4,600,000.00. This does help the town when forming budgets and determining the amount that we are allowed to levy.

Committee meetings – Both Parks and Hwy didn't meet in January but will hold meetings in Feb. Watch the town calendar on the web site for dates and times.

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There will be a primary on Feb. 20, 2018 for county representation in Ward 3 plus Supreme Court Justice. Wards 1 & 2 will be voting strictly for Supreme Court Justice. Ward 3 will also be voting for county representation. We do have ward maps available at the polling place if you don't know what ward you are in. Polls open at 7:00am and close at 8:00pm. Please have your photo ID when you come to vote.

INTERNET SERVICE IN LIBERTY GROVE

David Studebaker and the Tech Committee have been working towards a grant that will assist in getting better connections in our area. The final steps are being taken to establish a public-private alliance with Door County Broadband to apply for grant money in January. Thank you to all the people who wrote letters of support for this project. We are hopeful that although there are several internet providers in the area, the State will realize the difficulty that our rural community has getting adequate internet service. Because of natural blocks like bluffs and trees signals often drop. In this day and age where people are able to work from their computers a stronger and more reliable signal could mean more permanent residents in our area. As this granting process proceeds we will keep you updated. In the meantime, keep your fingers crossed.

Computers available at the Town Hall

We would like to remind everyone that if you or someone you know would like to use a computer other than at the Library we have two available at the hall to use whenever the hall is open. There is no time limit on them. Printers are not available. Stop by the office and let them know you would like to use one. The doors are open from 8:30am until 4:00pm Monday thru Friday.

Process for building a home or placing an accessory building on your property

Many people call the office asking what the process is for adding structures to their property. Generally speaking, the County deals with correct placement of structures on properties including well and septic and the Town deals with the actual construction of dwellings and accessory structures. The Town is under County Zoning so the first step is to go to the County Land Services department at 421 Nebraska St., Sturgeon Bay. Their phone number is 888-743-1844, ext. 2323. Once all permits are approved, then you would come to the Town office to secure a building permit. Our building inspector is here on Thursday mornings from 8:30am to 10:00am. Appointments for other times are also possible. Call him at 920-421-1926.



REMEMBER

A delicious and nutritious lunch is provided by

*The Senior Resource Center
At the*

Liberty Grove Town Hall

Monday, Wednesday and Friday

Every week, except on Holidays.

*Come and have lunch with us and play
bingo on Wednesdays!*

*Call **888-743-1844 X2542
24 hrs before the first time you come.*

***Note: Previous newsletters had an
incorrect phone number*

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!!!

For the past few years Liberty Grove along with the Village of Sister Bay has sponsored a document shredding and electronic and appliance recycling event for its residents. This year the dates are **June 23rd** and **September 15th**. Bring your items to 11161 Old Stage Rd. from 9:00am to 1:00pm. Because of the success of the document shredding we have to limit it to 5 banker boxes per address. There is no charge to shred.

Free:

Towers, laptops, keyboards and mouse
Cell phones
Servers
Wire and cabling
Copiers, printers, fax machines
Phone systems
DVD or VCR
Stereo's or CD players
Rechargeable batteries
Household appliances, big or small
Anything metal

For a fee:

Monitors	\$10
TV	\$15
TV over 30"	\$30
Console TV	\$30
Freon units	\$5

(This list may not be all inclusive.)

Registering to Vote

The process is easy. Stop by the Town Hall with either your driver's license that has your correct address on it or a utility bill that shows the resident address. You can also register on line at www.myvote.wi.gov



If you aren't supposed to eat at night, why is there a light in the frig?

Just a reminder to give the snow plow drivers plenty of room when you meet them on the road. The driver will let the office know if a mailbox has been hit by accident but snow coming off the wing of the plow is not the fault of the driver. The roads in Liberty Grove are some of the best cared for roads in Door County. Please give them the room they need to do the job correctly.