



LIBERTY GROVE ROCKS

Featured Business

Tannenbaum Holiday Shop
11054 Hwy 42
Sister Bay, WI 54234
phone: (920) 854-5004

Visit their web site:

www.tannenbaumholidayshop.com

Important Dates

July 10 – Highway Committee meeting
July 11 – Parks & Property meeting
July 12 – Plan Commission meeting
July 13 – Tech Committee meeting
July 29 – Open Book
July 22-23-LG Historical Society
Antique Tractor Show



SUMMER IS HERE. PLEASE PAY ATTENTION TO THE ROAD!

Visitors are taking in all the beauty of the area while driving. Please stay alert to avoid unnecessary traffic accidents this summer season.

FROM YOUR TOWN CHAIRMAN

The Board has approved the recommendation of the Technology Committee to fund second Wireless Tower in conjunction with Door County Broadband. The tower will be located in the Gills Rock area and service one of five areas identified several years ago as underserved by the availability of broadband internet service in Liberty Grove. The Town's investment in the first tower, located at the Town owned gravel pit, has begun to be returned by Door County Broadband. The arrangement has the Town investing in the cost of tower construction with the payback based upon new users or increased traffic. The return on the investment in the first tower has occurred quicker than anticipated. The Town's investment in the towers is \$14,000 for each tower and is paid back per the agreement with Door County Broadband.

A research project, at no expense to Liberty Grove, conducted by UW Whitewater indicated that extended stays by visitors and seasonal home owners, with access to broadband service, produced a significant increase in spending within the Town and would help the economic health of the Town. A copy of the research document is available at the Town Office.

Supervisor Goss will be attending the Finance Committee meetings of the Village of Sister Bay. She will be attending as a resident of Liberty Grove as well as representing the Board. The Town has vested interests in the Sister Bay/Liberty Grove Library as well as the Fire Department. In both cases the Town provides approximately two thirds of the funding. Both the Village and Town have pending lawsuits regarding the ownership issue of the Wastewater Treatment Plant where we also have a considerable investment and potential future investments in capital improvements in the operation of the facility.

The Board has requested Administrator Kalms to contact Wisconsin Department of Transportation to arrange a meeting to discuss possible solutions to the speed of traffic and parking on the highway at the top of the Ellison Bay hill. The DOT has been studying traffic conditions at the location.

An application has been filed with the DOT for the location of the Welcome to Liberty Grove Sign on Highway 42 just South of Sister Bay. Signs have been located on the entrance to Liberty Grove on Highway 57 and also on Highway 42 welcoming people to Gills Rock. Another welcome sign is planned for Ellison Bay.

A sub-committee of the Parks and Property was approved to conduct no more than three meetings to study possible improvements to Wills Park and the Ellison Bay Marina. The meetings will be posted and are open to the public.

Paul Bokelmann has been appointed to the Liberty Grove Plan Commission. He will fill the vacancy that was created with Peter Sauer moving from the Town.

From your Town Board:



Alcohol and operator licenses – The Board approved the applications for alcohol and operator licenses at the June 21st meeting. All were approved. There were no new applications for this licensing season.

Associated Appraisal Consultants – they will be holding Open Book on July 29th from 11am to 1pm at the Town Hall. This is an opportunity for residents to discuss their current assessed values. This needs to happen before assessed values are set for the upcoming tax season. Call 800-721-4157 to make an appointment.

Road Work. Paving will be starting in August for the following roads: S. Sand Bay Ln, Northern Door Rd, Beechwood East and West, Little Sister Hill Rd and Timberline from Hwy 42 to Wisconsin Bay Rd. If your road was one of them watch for signs on your road prior to the process beginning.

Recusal policy – in a 4-1 vote on June 21st the Board decided not to create a recusal policy, with Mulliken voting nay.

Signs for parks and cemeteries – the Board approved the expenditure of \$7,540 to purchase signs for all town parks and cemeteries that are similar in design to the new entrance signs in the town.

+++++

Here is the Liberty Grove Ordinance on Noxious Weeds & Invasive Species adopted in 2016:

Town of Liberty Grove Ordinance

Ordinance 7-16

An Ordinance Regulating Noxious Weeds and Invasive Species

The Town Board of the Town of Liberty Grove, Door County, Wisconsin, does ordain as follows:

1. Authority. This Ordinance is adopted pursuant to authority granted in Wis. Stats. 66.0407 and Wis. Stats. 60.22(3).

2. Purpose. This Ordinance codifies the requirement for property owners to destroy noxious and invasive weeds upon their property in the Town of Liberty Grove and provides the Town enforcement authority to require such action.

3. Definition of Noxious Weed and Invasive Species. In addition to those weeds defined by Wis. Stats 66.0407, as amended, the town specifically includes the following which are defined as noxious weeds: Phragmites, Wild Parsnip, Common & Cut Leaf Teasle, and Japanese Knot Weed.

4. Enforcement. The Town Board or its designees shall enforce this ordinance.

If any person fails to comply with the provisions of Wis. Stats 66.0407, as amended and as adopted by the Town of Liberty Grove, the town may, after five (5) days written notice to the owner, cause the premises to be mowed and/or sprayed and shall report the cost thereof to the town clerk. This cost shall be entered on the tax roll as a special charge for services under Wis. Stats 66.0627.

5. Penalties. Any person owning, occupying or controlling land in the Town of Liberty Grove who fails to destroy all noxious weeds as required herein shall forfeit not less than \$50 nor more than \$200. Each day that a violation exists is considered a separate violation. In addition, the court may impose upon each person violating the section an assessment for court costs and all costs and fees, including reasonable attorney fees, incurred by the Town in enforcement of this section.

6. Implementation

This ordinance shall become effective upon passage and posting according to law.

Adopted at a regular meeting of the Liberty Grove Town Board on the 5th day of October, 2016.

Door County Invasive Species
now has a Facebook page. If you
are interested in following them
use the link below and "like"
them.

<https://www.facebook.com/dcist>

DOOR COUNTY PROPERTY TAX RATES ARE SOME OF THE LOWEST IN THE STATE

In a recent article in the Peninsula Pulse it was stated that Door County has some of the lowest real estate tax rates in the State of Wisconsin with Liberty Grove leading the pack in the municipalities in the County with the lowest overall tax rate. The overall rate does include county, school and tech college taxes included.

REVISED CEMETERY ORDINANCE

The Town cemeteries are administered by an ordinance. In that ordinance it states that no artificial flowers may be placed on cemetery lots except between the Friday before Memorial Day to the Tuesday following Memorial Day. After that they must be removed. A revised ordinance will come before the Parks & Property Committee on July 11th that will also eliminate placement of objects on and around markers. The reason for the change is the maintenance of the cemeteries and the ability to effectively mow around grave markers. If you would like to attend the meeting you are welcome to do so. They meet at the Liberty Grove Town Hall at 9:00am.

Finance meetings starting soon

The yearly task of forming a budget will more than likely start the end of July. (watch the town calendar at www.libertygrove.org) The public is welcome to attend these working sessions. With the State's levy limits it is always difficult to meet the needs of the town. We are allowed only to levy the amount of money we levied the year before with a formula that takes into consideration the town's debt. In 2018 we will

make our last loan payments so in calculating our 2019 budget we will not be able to include any debt amounts. That will mean that unless we consider a levy override our spending for all town maintenance services will decrease by about \$645,000. In the future we may need to ask for an override to maintain the level of service we are providing. This in no way means that taxes will go up simply because of the override. More information will be coming to you by way of informational meetings in 2018. They will be held several times a day, both day and night. We hope you will attend these informational meetings, understand the town's budgetary needs and come to an informed conclusion.

Janet Johnson



*Laughter is great
medicine*

*Maintaining a healthy level of
insanity in retirement.*

*Next time you go out to eat, with a
serious face, order a diet water.*

Mowing the roads – Calls are starting to come in asking why we have to mow the sides of the roads while wild flowers are growing. The short answer is safety. Tall grass and flowers along the edge of the road hide animals that may run out in front of cars. We mow usually once in late spring and once in the fall.

FROM THE FRONT LINES:

*'All we have to decide is what to do
with the time that is given to us.' –
Gandalf the Grey*