

## Town of Eileen Quarterly Newsletter

December, 2014

“A Great Place to Live and Work”

Your property tax bills are enclosed with this newsletter.

Winter like weather has come early this year requiring snow plowing of our roads and our 38 contracted driveways. Unfortunately, some town residents and/or their private snowplow contractors have again begun pushing snow across our town roads from the driveways. You may recall in last year's December Newsletter and again in this year's March Newsletter, we addressed this issue. The Town Board has instructed our clerk to send out postcards to these offending residents advising them to cease this practice or risk further action. We have been assured by the Bayfield County Sheriff's Department that if the town alerts them of a potential violation of WI Statute 86.022, they will investigate the situation. We again request your voluntary compliance with this statute.

The Town Board has added a part time intermittent employee to plow driveways. His name is Bob Meyerson from the Washburn area. He has a CDL and eventually will also be trained on operating our big plow trucks.

The wedging and two inch overlay has been completed on 5400 feet of Colby Road. The shouldering was done by Bayfield County. The total project cost was \$135,000. The increased levy beginning last year allowed the Board to borrow \$100,000 to pay for most of this project and the balance came out of the highway line item in the budget. We have provided documentation to the state and we expect \$27,732.75 in matching funds for partial reimbursement to the town by the end of this year.

Unfortunately, the overlay and chip sealing on a paved portion of West Woodland did not occur this year as planned. Northwoods Paving ran out of good weather. This work will now occur next year. The straightening of the far western end of Woodland Road also was not completed due to the early snow. But the large culvert end near Gilles Road was replaced with some major hillside and ditch excavation. About 70% of this project's cost will be reimbursed by the county and the state.

This has been a long year with frequent equipment repairs. The brusher tractor was repaired late fall and most of the town roads right of ways were cut with some exceptions. The good news is all repairs and rebuilds have now been completed and our equipment is ready for winter plowing. Thanks to Tony Johanik, Joe Warren, and Randy Herrin for their repair work.

You have probably heard about a new hog farm being proposed for the Franzel Road at Curry Road area. As of this date, there have been no building permits issued by the county and the town has not received information regarding the extent of the

anticipated facility. Since this may be a concentrated animal feeding operation (CAFO), a workshop sponsored by the UW Extension was held at the Northern Great Lakes Visitors Center on December 4. Currently, the concept of a CAFO is being studied by our Comprehensive Planning Team which will report their findings and recommendations to the Town Board. They will meet next on January 27, 2015, 6:30 PM, at the Town Garage.

The town caucus will meet on Thursday, January 8, 2015, 7 PM, at the town garage to receive nominations for all the elected positions of the town in the April election. Vacancies will need to be filled in the town chair position, one supervisor position, and in the town clerk position. Please consider running for the elected positions of our town. If you have any questions regarding these elected positions, please contact the town chair, a supervisor, or the town clerk.

The fire/ambulance contracts with the City of Ashland are expiring at the end of 2015 with the option to extend them for one additional year. The chairs of the 5 towns currently contracting with the city have met with the city officials on two occasions thus far and hopefully will soon start negotiating a new contract. The town chairs have also met with a private ambulance carrier and another entity to explore other options.

Our address has changed on the Town of Eileen website from [Town of Eileen.com](http://TownofEileen.com) to [Town of Eileen.org](http://TownofEileen.org). Our new webmaster is Keith Holm from Washburn. The Town Board signed a two-year contract for his services. Please contact a supervisor or the clerk if you would like to see more information on the website.

We have some new advertisers in this edition of the newsletter. We again ask that you consider using these businesses whenever possible.

The town supervisors, clerk, and treasurer wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy and Prosperous New Year. Thanks for your continuing support of the Town of Eileen.