

Town of Eileen Quarterly Newsletter January 2016



"A Great Place to Live and Work"

*Happy New Year!!!!!! We hope that you were able to enjoy the holidays with family and friends! We wish you nothing but the best this 2016!

*Winter has finally arrived and we have numerous residents utilizing the snowplowing service our town offers. Please send any comments regarding the service to the clerk's email address of crystalmattson@ymail.com. All comments will be passed on to the town board. With winter being here, there have also been some hazards with residents placing their garbage cans too far out into the roadways. Please be mindful of traffic and keep your garbage cans as close to the curb as can be.

***As stated in previous newsletters this is a REMINDER TO ALL RESIDENTS: IT IS ILLEGAL TO PUSH OR BLOW SNOW ONTO TOWN ROADS OR HIGHWAYS. VIOLATORS WILL BE REPORTED TO THE LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT.**

*We do not have much to report regarding the negotiations of the city of Ashland regarding our fire/ambulance contract. Again, our present contract is valid until December 31st, 2016. Our town attorney, Craig Haukaas, has been helping the 5 towns negotiate this contract. The 5 towns have drafted their letter to the city and are still in negotiation.

*This will be a big year for elections with the first election on February 16th, 2016. It will be advertised in the paper as well but please know that our polling place has changed. We will be holding all further voting at the Bayfield County Experimental Station located on State Farm Road. The clerk's office is housed within the Experimental Station so to leave a message for her, please call 715-682-1184. The following Photo ID rules were included in a previous newsletter but since we have an upcoming election they have been included once again.

New WI Voter Photo ID Rules – Major Changes

Most voters already have one of the types of photo ID required to vote.

Election Day

On Election Day, voters must show one of the following photo IDs before they can cast a ballot:

- Wisconsin Driver License
- Wisconsin State ID Card
- Military ID Card issued by the U.S. Uniformed Services
- U.S. Passport Book or Card
- * These IDs are still valid if expired after the date of the most recent general election which was November 4, 2014.

The following forms of photo ID are also acceptable:

- A Certificate of Naturalization, within two years of issuance
- Driver License Receipt issued by the WI DOT, within 45 days of issuance
- ID issued by a federally recognized Wisconsin Indian Tribe
- A photo ID issued by a Wisconsin accredited university or college, or technical college along with an enrollment verification document. Valid for two years from date of issuance. (Please contact your local clerk, the Wisconsin Government Accountability Board or your college or university for specifications)

* An acceptable photo ID is not required to include a current address.

If you do not have a valid Wisconsin Driver License or State ID you can receive a free State ID from your local DMV if you specifically request a free ID for voting purposes. If you do not have a birth certificate, the DMV can help with that, too. Please contact your local DVM for more information.

Absentee Voting

During in-person absentee voting, voters must present photo ID just like on Election Day.

In-person absentee voting can begin the third Monday before the election, and must end at 5 p.m. or the close of business, whichever is later, the Friday before the election. In-person absentee voting hours in the [town/village/city] of [name] are X a.m. to X p.m.

When voters request an absentee ballot by mail, they must include a photocopy of their photo ID with the request, or the ballot cannot be mailed. However, voters who are “indefinitely confined” because of age, illness, infirmity or disability and voters in care facilities do not need a photo ID. Instead, the absentee witness verifies the voter’s identity. Active members of the U.S. Armed Services who are away from home are also exempt from the photo ID requirement. Please contact your local clerk’s office for more information.

For specific questions on how the new Voter ID law affects you please contact my office at *[Specific Clerk contact information]*.

Voters are also encouraged to visit the Wisconsin Government Accountability’s Photo ID website, www.bringit.wisconsin.gov for information about the new law.

*Currently, the town is in the process of rezoning the Bayfield County Experimental Station to municipal as it is currently agricultural. The comprehensive planning team is a key part in this process. We will hopefully have this all finalized in the next month or two. There are 2 other owners of the surrounding lots that we are working with to complete all final details and the separation of utilities.

*Remember that for your convenience you are able to get forms, see meeting agendas and minutes, etc at our website: www.townofeileen.org.

Please feel free to contact any of the members:

Chair Person Marty Milanowski-715-746-2484

Supervisor Tony Johanik-715-746-2507

Supervisor Skip Radosevich-715-682-6514

Treasurer Carol Pufall-715-682-9168

Clerk Crystal Mattson-715-470-3691 (email- crystalmattson@ymail.com)