

VILLAGE OF PORT EDWARDS

SPRING 2020 NEWSLETTER

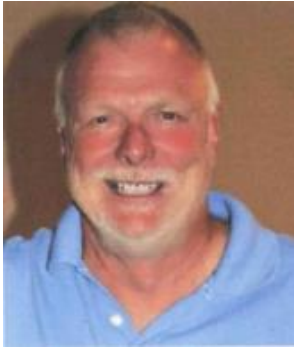
Spring Election – April 7, 2020

On Tuesday, April 7, 2020 the residents of the Village of Port Edwards will be selecting three Village Trustees and a Municipal Judge. Also on the ballot will be the presidential preference vote, offices of Wisconsin Supreme Court Justice, District 4 Court of Appeals Judge, Wood County Circuit Court Judge Branch 1, County Supervisor and School Board Member, along with a State and a County referendum.

Voting will take place at the **Fire Station** from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Please get out and vote on Tuesday, April 7, 2020.

Please remember to bring your photo ID.

John Bingham, Dana W. Duncan and Erik D. Saylor will be running for re-election as Village Trustees. Patrick J. McGrath will be running for re-election as Municipal Judge.



John Bingham



Dana W. Duncan



Erik D. Saylor



Patrick J. McGrath

Unsolicited Voter Registration Forms and Absentee Ballot Request

2020 is a Presidential Election year, which means you may receive voter registration and absentee ballot request forms via USPS. **These mailings are not from our office**, even though they may appear to be. They are sent by special interest groups and the prefilled voter information is often inaccurate. To ensure you are properly registered or to apply for an absentee ballot, please visit myvote.wi.gov or contact the Clerk's office at 715-887-3513 or email diane.tremmel@port-edwards.org.

SPRING HYDRANT FLUSHING

Spring hydrant flushing will take place **June 9th & 10th**.

Please be aware that there may be some dirty water.



FROM THE VILLAGE PRESIDENT

Spring is just around the corner according to the weather forecasters. I just hope it is not a long corner. The only sign I know of for sure that Spring is "just around the corner," is when the Blackhawks baseball and softball teams begin practice. They have begun practice and Spring is near.

I would like to tell all of you that Lt. Charles "Chuck" Lamb is officially retiring on March 1st from the Port Edwards Police Department. Lt. Lamb began his law enforcement career with the Town of Rome Police Department in May of 1991. After a 14 year career with Rome Police Department, he was hired by the Port Edwards Police Department in February 2005.

Lt. Lamb served as the police department lead investigator in criminal and misdemeanor cases. He was very effective in bringing these cases to the courts for prosecution. Lt. Lamb also had compassion for the victims of the crimes he investigated. I know personally of this, as victims on occasion would stop in and tell me so. And then there were the countless children who would ask if "Officer Chuck" was working. And when you told them no, they would inevitably ask when he would be in the squad car. Personally, I am going to miss my friend and colleague. "Chuck" always had a smile and a handshake for whomever he would meet. Ut mi amice care, semper et benedicat tibi Dominus!
(Take care my friend and God bless you always.)

I know the residents will also miss their friend "Officer Chuck." We wish you well "Chuck" and may you, Rachel and daughter Michaela enjoy some much earned family time!

Switching gears, I would like to take this time to give a big THANK YOU to Dept. of Public Works Supervisor Ben Martinson and Staff for the excellent care they gave to our streets this Winter. The streets were tended to immediately after a snowfall and, as a result, were kept in great winter driving condition.

Ben has presented street and alley maintenance plans for this summer to the Village Board. I am sure you will see the work going on this summer as you travel about the Village. Our Interim Administrator, Duane Gau has some of the details on the street and alley projects in his column in this newsletter.

I wish all of you a safe and fun-filled summer season! I hope to see you this Spring at a Blackhawks baseball or softball game.

Joseph H. Zurfluh, Village President

GREETINGS FROM THE PORT EDWARDS POLICE DEPARTMENT!

We would like to congratulate Lt. Chuck Lamb on his retirement! Lt. Lamb served the Village of Port Edwards proudly for 15 years. He previously served with the Town of Rome Police Department for 14 years. His dedication to the profession and to the people that he served was second to none. Although he is retired, he assures me that he will still be seen throughout the Village, walking Bobo (his dog) and welcomes everyone to stop and say, "Hello."

Officer Brandon Abbott started with the police department in September 2019 and comes to us with a 20-year law enforcement background. Please make sure to welcome him to our Port Edwards family.

With Spring right around the corner, we would like to remind everyone to make sure that you are following the village ordinances. The Police Department will be working with the Public Works Department to try to "clean up" our community and will be issuing warnings and citations if compliance is not gained. If you have questions about the ordinances, you can find them on the village website, or you may call or stop by the police department to discuss.



Some of the ordinances that have been problematic are:

10.06 JUNK, CERTAIN VEHICLES AND FIREWOOD

- (3) STORAGE OF INOPERABLE VEHICLES, ETC.
 - (a) **Restricted.** No person shall accumulate, store or allow any disassembled, inoperable, junked or wrecked motor vehicles, truck bodies, tractors or trailers in the open upon any public or private property in the Village for a period exceeding 10 days.
- (4) STORAGE OF UNLICENSED VEHICLES, ETC.
 - (a) **Restricted.** No person shall accumulate, store or allow any unlicensed motor vehicle, truck body, tractor or trailer in the open upon any public or private property in the Village for a period exceeding 10 days.

11.02 GARBAGE AND REFUSE COLLECTION.

- (2) COLLECTION TIME AND DAYS. Except as provided in sub. (5) below, garbage and refuse shall be placed in approved containers or bundles and placed at the curb or roadside by 7:00 A.M. on the scheduled day. **After collection, containers shall be removed from the curb or roadside within 12 hours.** No pickup shall be made on legal holidays, but shall be made the previous or following workday

*** (note pickup times have changed, so placing the containers at the curb or roadside the evening prior will be allowed) *** (the containers should be at the curb or roadside by **6:00 A.M.** on the scheduled day) ***

I would also like to thank everyone who has welcomed me in my new role as Chief of Police. I am very excited about the future of the Police Department and for the future of our great Village!

Scott Drew
Chief of Police



NOTES FROM THE FIRE CHIEF'S DESK

It's that time of the year again. I know this has been a long, hard winter and, with the amount of snow that we received this year, that we all can't wait for spring to arrive. We would like to say thank you to the residents who adopted a Fire Hydrant. We didn't need any of them "thank God" but if we did this would've helped us a lot.

Here are some dates for upcoming events at the station. Our members are trying to be proactive and do more public safety work with our neighbors. Please stop down and meet our members and say "Hi."

Saturday May 2nd from 9:00 am - 2:30 pm Kids Safety Fair& Bike

Rodeo at the Fire Station- This will be run in conjunction with the Port Edwards Police Department and the Law Enforcement Club from the High School. We will be having demonstrations going on during this time. Please stop down and join us.



Saturday May 16th from 9:00 am - 3:00 pm Village wide garage sale, we will be hosting an Open House and Brat Fry fundraiser- Stop down to enjoy some food and say "Hello."

Friday June 19th from 5:00 pm – 11:30 pm Port Edwards Street Dance featuring the band, Road Trip- This will be held at the station and is our biggest fundraiser. There will be food, drink and door prizes. If you see one of our Firefighters remember to ask them about our raffle tickets. Please stop down and support your local Fire Department.

Remember to control your campfires and make sure they are out cold before leaving them unattended. If you burn brush, make sure to get a permit. In the village you can only burn in nonresidential areas between the hours of 6pm and midnight. No burning is allowed on Sundays or holidays. Below is the portion of the village ordinance pertaining to open burning:



[5.14 OPEN BURNING REGULATED.

- (1) PROHIBITED BURNING. It shall be unlawful to burn leaves and trash of any kind.
- (2) RECREATIONAL BURNING. Open recreational burning is permitted in a fire pit; a minimum 3-sided enclosure; or a gas, electric or charcoal kettle, subject to the following:
 - (a) The fire is monitored by a responsible person until the fire is extinguished or burns out.
 - (b) The fire is not lit on windy days or when atmospheric conditions will endanger the public health or safety.
 - (c) The fire is located off the public right of way and in excess of 30 feet from the residence of another.
 - (d) The fire is not used for the covert burning of plastic, rubber, garbage or other offensive materials.
- (3) BURNING BY PERMIT. Burning permits for burning brush in nonresidential areas may be issued by the Fire Chief. Burning permits for residential areas may be approved by the Village Board.
- (4) LIABILITY. Any person open burning, whether permitted or not, which results in a response by the Village Fire Department shall be billed for the cost of such response.

We are looking for new members who would like to serve the community as a firefighter or first responder. It is a commitment, but it is well worth it. If you are interested, please stop down and let's talk.

Chief, Patrick Arendt

FROM THE INTERIM ADMINISTRATOR

Let me introduce myself: I am Duane Gau and have been your Interim Administrator since the latter part of September 2019. I have been working in Port Edwards for two days a week. Starting February 2020, I am in Port Edwards for three days a week (Tuesday - Wednesday - Thursday). I commute those days from the Wausau area. I have over thirty years of experience serving Wisconsin local governments, which includes training newly elected officials in budget, finance, and local governmental operations. I have experience in cooperative agreements; boundary agreements; TID creation/administration; human resources management; public works/utilities and municipal finance. I was Village Administrator for the Village of De Forest,

served as interim administrator and Clerk/Treasure for the Villages of Mount Horeb, Holmen, Maine, Brokaw, Town of Texas, City of Durand, Abbotsford, Stanley and interim Public Works/Utilities Director for Ripon Wisconsin.

You are welcome to visit with me anytime at the Village Hall on my days in Port Edwards (Tuesday - Wednesday - Thursday). Give me a call at (715) 887 3511 before you come to make sure I am available.

As to Village business: The Village President stated that our Public Work Superintendent has scheduled two alley projects, whereby 2-inch water main will be replaced with new 6-inch mains for this summer construction season. The alley segments are between Lavigne Avenue and Washington Avenue and Washington Avenue and Adams Avenue, running from 1st Street to 2nd Street. You may have already seen surveyors on site getting ready to have plans designed. The plan in this project is to have little interruption in water service and grade changes to match all driveways off the alleys. Before construction begins, the property owners affected by this project will be contacted.

Hope to see you around town, stop by.

Monarch News

As I write this article, I'm hearing reports that the monarchs are beginning to leave their overwintering sites in Mexico. Hopefully, we will begin seeing the monarchs back in Port Edwards in early June. Thanks to all the village residents who have planted milkweed and nectar flowers to make the monarchs happy! Thanks also to those of you who have raised and released monarchs in the past. If you would like to raise monarchs but don't know how to get started, just contact me and I can give you lots of information.



Our Village Monarch Park looked beautiful last summer! Thanks to Mert Scheffler, Judy Miller and others who spent time in the gardens weeding and planting. The gardens are a lot of work and we would certainly appreciate the help of anyone who would like to get involved. Thanks to Robb Sigler and the Nekoosa Port Edwards State Bank, the underground sprinkling system was a real boost to making the gardens successful. The Memorial Board is up and ready for name plaques that can be purchased in honor or in memory of loved ones, including

pets. There is an order form attached to this newsletter.

Last May, the fourth graders and their teachers, Mrs. Bogdan and Mr. Martin, planted roughly 96 bulbs that they got from Mrs. Doran's class. They planted them in groupings of 3 and 4 in the bed closest to the alley and 3rd Street. So, be watching for the blooms this spring.

We are hoping to be able to get some sort of a gazebo constructed at the park this summer. We are accepting donations to make this happen. We received a very generous donation from a former resident of the village who now lives in a different state. You may donate at the Nekoosa Port Edwards State Bank at any time. We have an account set up there.

The annual Port Fun Fest/Monarch Festival will be held this year on August 7th and 8th. It takes many volunteers to run the Monarch Tent. If you are willing to help on Saturday the 8th, let me know and I can certainly find you a job!

Kathy McGrath ~ 715-887-3448 ~
mcgfam@charter.net

Thank you Donald and Bonnie Derezinski
for providing the electricity for the Village
Christmas decorations. Your generosity is greatly
appreciated!

Spring Cleanup

The Village takes pride in being a very clean community. Residents expect the Village government to enforce the rules when it comes to garbage, clutter, and vehicles.

Please remember:

- Garbage, appliances, clutter, etc. is not permitted to be left in public view.
- Campers, boats, etc. must be parked and stored **BEHIND** or **ALONG SIDE** of houses. They are not allowed to be parked in front of the house or on the street other than for actual loading or unloading.
- **DOG FECES IS NOT YARD WASTE.** Raking dog feces into grass piles for the village crew to pick up will not be tolerated. Residents doing so will be referred to the Police Department.

Leaf, Grass and Brush Pickup

As the winter ends and we start to get outside again, please remember the following:

On a weekly basis, the crew will pick up grass that is **properly** placed. Typically grass pickup is on Mondays and Tuesdays.

PLEASE NOTE: Brush will be picked up on the same week as recycling.

Please be conscientious when placing waste at the curb. Be sure no foreign objects, such as stones, metal, etc. are mixed in with the waste. One piece of metal can completely ruin a \$300 set of chipper blades. Repairing equipment takes time and money and results in delays in picking up waste so **PLEASE BE CAREFUL.**

- **All brush and grass must be placed on the boulevard area behind the curb.**
- Grass and leaves must be placed separate from brush.
- Brush must be stacked neatly with the cut end facing the street.
- Roots must be removed and placed separately from the branches.

The Village generates many tons of compostable material each year. If you need compost or wood chips, please contact the Municipal Building to arrange delivery of the material. Delivery is free to Village residents.

Shelter Reservations

Reservations for the Ripple Creek Park outside shelter and Edwards-Alexander Memorial Park enclosed and outside shelters can be made by calling the Municipal Building at 715-887-3512.

Current prices for using the Enclosed Shelter are:

- Resident fee without kitchen \$100.00
- Resident fee with kitchen \$125.00
- Non-resident fee without kitchen \$125.00
- Non-resident fee with kitchen \$150.00

A \$25.00 refund will be issued if the building is left clean.

Residents can reserve the outside shelters free of charge while non-residents are charged \$35.00.

Garbage and Recycling

Please remember to place your weekly garbage and bi-weekly recyclables out for curbside pickup by **6:00 AM** each day of pickup. Also remember that the day for pickup is Wednesday. Garbage & Recyclables must fit in the bin with the lid closed.

Please note that pizza boxes are not recyclable. If you experience less than satisfactory service or if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to give us a call at the Municipal Building, 715-887-3512.



Street Lights

The Village makes every effort to ensure that all the street lights in town are working but we need your help. Please let us know anytime you notice a street light that is not working or not working properly. If you have internet access, you can also report street light outages directly to Alliant Energy. Go to alliantenergy.com and at the top of the page select *Customer Service*; then *Storm and Outage Center*. Then select *Report an Electric Outage* and fill in the required information. It's quick and easy, but if you prefer, don't hesitate to call the office 715-887-3512.

THANK YOU FOR FLAG DONATIONS

The flags flew brightly in the Village last year thanks to donations from our wonderful residents. Our recent contributors are:

Pat Tyler

Lois Cantin (In Memory of Cousin John Swenson)

Dave & Karen Thiel



The flag project is funded entirely from private donations and the flags require replacement every one to two years, so we are in need of donations again this year to keep our flags flying bright and proud.

Your donations are greatly appreciated!!

Port Edwards Water Utility Rates

The Public Service Commission requires that water rates be published semi-annually. The following rates took effect on September 5, 2018:

Quarterly Service Charge:

5/8" meter - \$ 15.22	3" meter - \$205.62
1" meter - \$ 38.10	4" meter - \$338.87
1 1/2" meter - \$ 76.15	6" meter - \$643.50
2" meter - \$106.63	

Quarterly Service Charge for Sprinkling Meter:

5/8" meter - \$ 5.40
1" meter - \$ 10.50
1 1/2" meter - \$ 21.00
2" meter - \$ 28.00

Plus Volume Charge:

First 25,000 cubic feet used each quarter - \$1.31 per 100 cubic feet
Next 375,000 cubic feet used each quarter - \$1.17 per 100 cubic feet
Over 400,000 cubic feet used each quarter - \$0.87 per 100 cubic feet

Billing: Bills for water service are rendered quarterly and become due upon issuance following the period for which service is rendered. A late payment charge of 3 percent but not less than 50 cents will be added to bills not paid within 20 days of issuance. This one-time 3 percent late payment charge will be applied to any unpaid balance for the current billing period's usage. This late payment charge is applicable to all customers. The utility customer may be given a written notice that the bill is overdue no sooner than 20 days after the bill is issued, and, unless payment or satisfactory arrangement for payment is made within the next ten days, service may be disconnected pursuant to Chapter PSC 185, WI Admin. Code.

Wastewater Rate Increase

Rates increased on January 1, 2020. Please note that you will see this increase on the April 1, 2020 billing.

Sewer charges per quarter are:

Flat Rate \$23.80
\$9.11 per 100 cubic feet

Community Calendar Items

- April 1** **Parking Restrictions** no longer in effect; parking on streets allowed
- April 7** **Spring Election & Presidential Preference, Vote** at the Fire Station, 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.
- April 10** **Village Offices Closed for Good Friday**
- April 11** **Lions Club Easter Egg Hunt**, Edwards Alexander Shelter, 10:30 a.m.
- April 14** **Village Board Meeting**, Marshall Buehler Center, 7:00 p.m.
- May 2** **Kids Safety Fair & Bike Rodeo** at the Fire Station, 9:00 a.m.- 2:30 p.m.
- May 12** **Village Board Meeting**, Marshall Buehler Center, 7:00 p.m.
- May 16** **Village Wide Rummage Sale**, 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
- May 16** **St. Alexander's Brat Fry**, 1251 4th St – during garage sales
- May 16** **Fire Station Open House & Brat Fry**, 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
- May 25** **Village Offices Closed for Memorial Day**
- June 9** **Village Board Meeting**, Marshall Buehler Center, 7:00 p.m.
- June 9** **Spring Hydrant Flushing** (Be aware for dirty water)
- June 10** **Spring Hydrant Flushing** (Be aware for dirty water)
- June 15** **Sprinkling Restrictions** go into effect
- June 19** **Port Edwards Fire Department Street Dance**, food will be served starting at 5:00 p.m. and music will be from 7:30 p.m. to 11:30 p.m.
- June 22** **Port Edwards Education Foundation Blackhawk Scramble**
- July 3** **Village Offices Closed for July 4th Holiday**
- July 6** **Village Offices Closed for July 4th Holiday**
- Aug 7** **Port Edwards Community Fun Fest – Car Cruise**, Edwards Alexander Park
- Aug 8** **Port Edwards Community Fun Fest**, Edwards Alexander Park
- Aug 11** **Partisan Primary Election, Vote** at the Fire Station, 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.



Does your organization or church have an event you would like publicized? Submit it for the next Village newsletter by stopping at the Municipal Building or calling 715-887-3513 for more information.

MONARCH VILLAGE PARK MEMORIAL PLAQUES

Remember your loved ones with a 2" x 3" memorial plaque to be placed on our new Monarch Village Memorial Sign. All plaques will be engraved by Awards-n-More and orders must be made through Friends of the Monarch. In order to make each plaque distinguishable, we request that each one be designated to only one person or one pet. The cost of each plaque is \$30.00 and must be paid prior to the order being placed. Please tear off order form at the line and return with cash or a check made out to "Friends of the Monarch".

Please submit the completed order sheet by mail or drop off at the Nekoosa Port Edwards State Bank. The mailing address is as follows:

Mert Scheffler
PO Box 36
Port Edwards, WI 54469

Verse: In Loving Memory In Memory Of Never Forgotten
 (Circle One)

Name to be shown on plaque: _____

Please Print

Dates: _____ (Example, date of birth – date of death)
(Please Print)

By: _____ (donator(s) name(s))
(Please Print)

PET MEMORIAL

Verse: Your paws left prints on my/our hearts forever (please circle one, my or our)

Pet's Name _____

By: _____ (donator(s) name(s))

Any Questions: Please contact Mert at 715-887-3285