



Village of Port Edwards

Spring 2023 Newsletter



Spring Election – April 4, 2023

On Tuesday, April 4, 2023 the residents of the Village of Port Edwards will be selecting three Village Trustees and a Village President. Voting will take place at the **Fire Station** from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. **PLEASE REMEMBER TO HAVE YOUR PHOTO ID WITH YOU!**

There are seven candidates for Village Trustee; therefore, this race will be included on the ballot at the **Primary Election to be held on Tuesday, February 21, 2023**, in order to bring the number down to six candidates to be placed on the Spring Election ballot.

Meet the Village Trustee Candidates:

DUSTIN LEASE

Hello everyone; I am happy to have the opportunity to introduce myself once again to those who may not know me! I am Dustin Lease, and I hope to earn your vote for the Village Board this election cycle. Let me start with a little about myself to provide you with some insight into who you would be voting for - I am currently a paramedic/firefighter with the City of Wisconsin Rapids Fire Department, which has provided me the honor of serving the Port Edwards community via ambulance requests over the last several years. Before working as a paramedic, I served in the United States Marine Corps, having fought in Operation Iraqi Freedom and numerous other assignments. Serving during wartime and spending a life dedicated to public service is something I am proud of and hold in high regard, but nothing can compare to the duty and respect I hold for my wife and our combined six children (yes, 6).



My dedication and want to serve others have provided me with the fulfillment of a lifetime. My experience juggling a large family's budget provides me with a unique set of skills and knowledge to help bring to the Village Board, where I am looking to represent families like my own. Watching my children grow and thrive in such a community-centered environment is a blessing I do not take for granted. I am honored and grateful for the support shown to me, and I look forward to serving the community in this new capacity should you decide to vote for me.

JENNIFER L. MOORE



Hello fellow Port Edwards village residents! I'm Jennifer Moore. Some of you may know me as a long-time employee at the Port Edwards School District. I started in the district almost fourteen years ago as an English teacher with a certification in School Health Education as well. After earning my Masters' degree in School Counseling, I moved into the role of School Counselor at the middle and high school. I live with my other half, Max Ayres, a special education teacher and coach at PESD.

I am originally from a small town in northern Wisconsin. For me, coming to Port Edwards after completing my undergraduate studies at UW-La Crosse was an easy choice. I was looking for another tight-knit community where neighbors help neighbors, parents watch out for each other's kids, and everyone knows the police chief by his first name. I have found all of that in this community, which has truly become my home.

My interest in becoming a Village Trustee comes from a desire to continue to do my part to support the community of Port Edwards. I recognize local government has a significant impact on residents' lives. While I do not have direct experience as a Village Trustee, working within a school district through federal and state budget changes, a referendum, and a pandemic has provided quite the education in budgeting, funding, and policy building.

As a School Counselor, I spend quite a bit of time mediating. I believe that individuals with differing views can and should work together through logical and respectful dialogue in order to come up with plans and solutions. One of my strengths is the ability to listen to people and understand all sides of an argument in order to propose logical and actionable ideas with some middle ground that everyone can agree to.

Thank you for taking the time to read my submission to the Village Newsletter!

MEGAN DUELLMAN

Hello, my name is Megan Duellman, and I am excited to be a candidate in the upcoming Spring 2023 primary, and hopefully election! First, thank you to the residents I spoke with while seeking nomination for this election. Talking with you was a wonderful experience, and I'm again humbled that you took the time to provide your nomination. To those of you I haven't met yet; I am incredibly ready, excited, and qualified to serve on the Board of Trustees, and I hope to earn your confidence through this introduction.

I graduated from UW-Stout with a B.S. in Professional Communication and Emerging Media with a concentration in Technical Documentation. I have held jobs in both the private and public sectors, but I currently work remotely for UW-Milwaukee's Information Technology team.



Why do I love Port Edwards? Port is a special place; the people here are kind and welcoming, and the natural beauty is astounding. Port Edwards has a rich history, fun-filled events for the whole family, outstanding parks, a school district dedicated to our children, police and fire departments that keep us safe, and a public works department that keeps everything in order. I want to be your next Village Trustee because I want to preserve this tradition for future generations through servitude.

I discovered my love for community service in high school through volunteering with my church. Through many mission trips, I realized my potential and deep-felt desire to positively impact communities and people. I continue to volunteer for UW-Milwaukee through student and family events. Additionally, I serve on various committees and recently received nomination from my peers to co-chair the University's Non-Instructional Academic Staff Subcommittee.

Locally, I am an active member of the Wisconsin Rapids Sunrise Rotary Club. Furthermore, I was nominated by my peers to serve as our club's Sergeant at Arms and President Elect. I volunteer teaching First Grade Religious Education at Sacred Heart and St. Alexander. Additionally, I have volunteered as a scorekeeper for YMCA Rookie Basketball and admissions for Nekoosa's Giant Pumpkin Fest.

Understanding conflict and differing perspectives is a professional development priority for me in our changing world and community. I have completed formal emotional intelligence (EQ) training, conflict management training, and attend the annual Women Leaders Conference. I continue to grow as a leader and facilitator and constantly deepen my ability to listen and help others as a result.

I hold close to my heart the concept of surviving, thriving, and flourishing. Surviving is when things are tough, but you get by. Thriving is when you are doing well, but you still face challenges. Flourishing is existing to your fullest potential.

My goal as your Trustee will always be to help our village and the members of our community flourish through any obstacle or challenge. Given a chance, I promise to treat every community member with dignity and respect, listen to our residents' voices and concerns, and lead with my heart. I promise to never shy away from tough conversations, hold space for opinions to be heard, and work to find a compromise. I promise to care for you AND work with you.

I stand Port Proud. Thank you for allowing me to introduce myself to you, and I look forward to the bright days ahead.

JOSEPH H. ZURFLUH

The main reason I am running for a position on the Board of Trustees, is to be involved in the transition of the Detached Agreement of the Nepco Lake Properties on the Village east side. The Detached Agreement was an agreement of the Village and the Nepco Lake Developers in 2013. This agreement was for a 10 year period and will end on December 31st of this year.

I have a unique perspective on the matter as both a police officer, (Chief of Police in 2013), and will be ending my third term as, (Village Board President) in April of this year. I have a keen interest in this matter, as there are unique challenges that I feel I can contribute and help with as the Agreement ends. The matter is moving along well at this stage under the leadership of Village Administrator Ray Bossert.



In closing, I would ask for your support and vote for a position on the Village Board. I have enjoyed serving as your Village President these past six years, and I would like to end my Village career with a term on the Village Board of Trustees. Have a prosperous and safe 2023!

BETSY A. MANCL

My name is Betsy Mancl, I am currently serving my second term serving as Village Trustee and once again I am asking for your **vote on April 4th**. My dedication to the village can be seen in the very low number of meetings I have missed, my active participation in the meetings that I attend and the high amount of community events and functions my family and I have attended. I have been on the board for 4 years, which gives me an experience and knowledge base about the board process and work we must do.



When I first ran for trustee I said, *“I have decided to run as Village Trustee because I have a commitment to this community and want to contribute to reaching the village’s potential”*, and I have never wavered on that statement. I have brought new ideas to the table, advocated, and supported ideas brought forward by others that could positively impact our village. I have supported hiring quality employees to keep our village safe and moving in the right direction. We are making headway on the DMI property, we are continuing to update and take care of our infrastructure, we are adding new amenities, like the Scentrail Community Bark Park to our inventory with more exciting things on the horizon thanks to the Legacy Grant we received. The growth and development that is happening in the downtown area is exciting, rejuvenating and is breathing life into our

business district. An idea I brought to the table was to create a village Facebook page, so we can communicate quickly and effectively to the village residents! I have advocated for a crossing path on Highway 54 for walkers/ bikers to be able to connect the bike trail to or from Port Road safely, which I would like to see come to fruition. We need to continue to invest in our public works, public safety departments and our office staff to give them the tools they need to be able to provide the quality services that our residents deserve.

We have made great progress, but the work cannot stop now!

You may have noticed that I am also running for Village President (please see that write up as well!). This election cycle is when I would normally run again as trustee, it just happens to coincide with the election of Village President. I took the risk of running for both because of my ability and desire to continue to serve our village. To be clear, I can only hold one position. If an appointment would be needed, it should be from the other candidates that are running as trustee, as I only see that being fair as they were bold in stepping up and willing to be a part of this process.

No matter the outcome, it has been an honor of a lifetime to be able to serve the people of the village of Port Edwards. With your help, I hope that I will be able to continue to serve the Village of Port Edwards in a genuine and professional way.

WENDY M. KESTER

We moved to Port Edwards when I was in third grade and a graduate of JEHS. Port Edwards is a great community to grow up in! There are many fond memories of all the village had and still offers. I have moved back to Port Edwards as an adult and have been a member of the community once again since 2000. My previous work experience with the Chamber of Commerce provides background knowledge of community growth and promotion. Participating in the Community Leadership program thru the Chamber of Commerce has inspired me to make a difference and be a leader in the community I live. A quote that I live by... Be the change you want to see in the world ~ Mahatma Gandhi. To that end, my goals as a Village Trustee are to encourage village participation in meetings, bring objective insights and decision making in the management of the Village needs and growth.



TIARA GRUNDEN

It has been my pleasure to serve the Village of Port Edwards for the past 6 years. Today I am asking for your continued support and your vote as I am running for re-election. In my 22 years living in Port Edwards I am continually amazed at how wonderful it has been to raise our family here. I am so thankful that our kids have had such an idyllic village and community to grow up in. Preserving the beauty and culture of this village drives me to want to continue to serve on the Village Board. The combined experience of my non-profit board work and the 6 years of working on our Village Board has helped me develop a sound skill set that can be a continued asset to our village. My mission as a trustee is to maintain a sound financial base; to maintain our infrastructure in a responsible manner; to maintain and build upon our existing parks and recreational options; and to continue to provide quality police and fire services.



I was elected to the board during a rather volatile time. We had an uphill battle over the first few years as we worked to re-establish solid leadership. After a time of costly turnover in the administrator office we finally have that role filled with an experienced well established leader. With this stabilization the board has been able to move out of crisis management mode and get back to oversight, strategic planning, and implementation.

The Village Board sets policies, approves and provides oversight of the budget, and oversees the activities of the village. I navigate my trustee responsibilities with a commitment to sound fiscal principles. The bottom line ... discerning when and how to spend tax dollars in a way that will bring a solid return and ultimately save the village money. I am committed to facing the challenges with an open mind and a commitment to ethical and transparent decision making process.

Please feel free to call (715-323-4078), email (tiaragrunden@icloud.com), or engage with me when you see me around the village. Interactions with you and hearing varying perspectives helps me to better serve our village. Additionally, opportunities to meet new people and friends is one of the pleasures of being a village trustee.

Meet the Village President Candidates:

ERIK D. SAYLOR

Hello Port Edwards, My name is [Erik Saylor](#) and I am asking for your vote to represent you as the Village President in the upcoming April 2023 election. I have been an elected trustee on the Village Board since 2015. I do not hold any personal agendas and my intentions are solely to represent the residents and be a good steward of public tax dollars because of my commitment to our Village.

My family moved to Port Edwards in 1979 and I have lived the majority of my life, except for my time away for the service, in the Village. After graduating from John Edwards High School, I enlisted in the US Navy working in the Information Technology field where I spent over 20 years on Active and Reserve Duties. Also spending 12 months on a deployment in the Middle East supporting the Global War on Terrorism in 2007-2008.

As far as my education, I have a Bachelor's of Science degree in Computer Science from Lakeland University. Currently, I am the Director of Technology for the Nekoosa School District supporting all technology needs for 1500 students and staff across the entire, five building campus. The district technology department's annual budget is over one million dollars which I manage by myself and make the proper decisions on what to spend the taxpayers' money on for the students and staff to be successful.



Dedication to the Village and giving back has always been important to me which is why I hold the rank of Captain on the Port Edwards Fire Department where I have been a member for the last 20 years. I also enjoy and have been coaching my two boys in youth baseball, basketball and football for the last five years.

If elected as the Village President, I hope to make local government as transparent as possible and cut out the closed door games and gossip. It is not fair to the residents to be left out of the know when it comes to how your tax dollars are being spent. Some of the things that I would like to focus on are:

- We need to prioritize spending with putting your tax dollars to work by making our streets, infrastructure and economic development at the top of the list. The intent is to get back to some of the basics while still allowing the Village to grow.
- I'd like to have resident open discussions scheduled so we can develop a list of goals that you would like to see the direction of the Village move towards. Then, us as the Board will be able to figure out how to achieve those goals. It takes a Village and I want all of you to be a part of it.
- Looking for a better website solution so that agendas, minutes and recorded monthly meetings can be posted for everybody to see in a timely manner. The Village website should be a one stop shop for anything Village related that is easily navigable to find what you are looking for.
- We also need to look for ways to set our beautiful Village apart from other municipalities like properly marketing ourselves for people interested in starting a business or moving here.

Since getting on the Village Board in 2015, it has been a goal of mine to not lavishly spend our tax dollars to just spend money. I have said it on countless occasions that I'd like to go to Disney World every year but if I can't afford it, I can't go. This is how I intend to run the Villages finances, if we do not have the money budgeted then we can't spend it. If you were to watch the published meetings on YouTube or read any of the meeting minutes, you will see I have voted "no" to many of the frivolous motions. But, I am excited to look to

the future to see how we can secure more grants and federal funding to continue the improvements throughout our Village. I want to continue to make Port Edwards a place for families to grow and afford to live.

With your vote, I am looking forward to the future because the work does not stop. I want to continue to improve and redevelop our closed mill site, work with the Nepco Lake residents as they transition to the Village, and to move forward with all of the planned Public Works projects. I hope to carry on, your trust in me, as your Village President, as we look to the bright future of this great community.

BETSY A. MANCL

My name is **Betsy Mancl** and I humbly ask for your vote to become the next **Village President of Port Edwards.**

I have decided to run as Village President because I have the dedication, work ethic and drive that the position deserves. I have the leadership style and temperament to be able to lead our village board. I will encourage our board to seek out educational and professional development opportunities, so we can all bring our best to the table. I stay calm during stressful situations, I am respectful to everyone I work with, and come with an open mind to every situation. I don't feel that digging your heels in and not being open to new ideas is in our village's best interest. Listening to each other and to our residents is key. Transparency and accountability are imperative in local government. I believe voting and voicing our stance on issues is the best way to be transparent, that way voters can hold us accountable for our actions or inactions. I will



continue to vote as president, instead of only voting when a tie needs to be broken, for that exact reason. I want to lead our village board from the front and be an example on how local leaders should engage with the community they represent. That is why I make a conscious effort to be involved in our community and attend events whenever possible. I make myself available to residents in person, by phone, email or by social media. I have also been proactive and have talked with NEPCO lake residents, as they will be transitioning to the village next year.

I feel a priority should be to have conversations about the budget throughout the year, not just during "budget time". I will encourage committee chairpersons to have purposeful conversations on budget items early and often. That way we have more opportunity to make better decisions and have more time to think about sustainable, common-sense solutions without having to cut services to our residents. This way we are not under the pressure of a deadline, where we might feel compelled to make a quick decision because we are running out of time. I am a big advocate in applying for grants and federal funding, as it gives us opportunities to improve our village or do projects, so we can utilize our tax dollars in more appropriate ways.

Port Edwards is a unique village that provides a small-town atmosphere and close-knit community and I intend to keep it that way. It is palpable with police officers who care about you and your family, a volunteer fire department where the members will leave their families to go and help yours, bulk garbage pickup, lawn debris take away service and a great variety of parks and community events for you and your family to enjoy. We need to continue to take care of our village staff and they need to be recognized for all the hard work they do every day to keep our village running smoothly.

At the end of the day, ***it is your voice and your vote that is important.*** I hope that I have *earned* your **vote on April 4th** to become the next Village President.

FROM THE VILLAGE PRESIDENT

As I write this article, we are experiencing a very mild January 2023. If the month stays as mild as it has been thus far, the weather stations are predicting it will be the warmest January on record. Let's hope the weatherman is right.

Recently I spent some time visiting the new dog park, which is located at Ripple Creek Park. Each time I was in the dog park there was always dog and owner present. It is evident that those that use the park are very appreciative of the facility. It is also evident that the animals are picked up after, assuring a clean and sanitary park for all users.

This will be my last article for the Village Newsletter, as my current and third term of office ends in April. It has been a pleasure serving as your Village President. I have been so fortunate to be able to serve my hometown as both a Village Police Chief and Village President. I want to thank all of our residents for your support in both of these endeavors.

I have been truly blest. I will be seeking however, election to the Village Board as a Trustee. The reason being, to serve on the Board as the Nepco Lake Developers Agreement comes to a close at the end of 2023. I served as Police Chief when the agreement began in 2013 and would like to offer my insight and views as a Village Trustee as it comes to a close.

In closing, I would like to take a moment to say that we have two candidates for the Village President position on the ballot for the April 4th. election. The candidates are Trustee Betsy Mancl and Trustee Erik Saylor. Also, don't forget the Primary election for Village Trustee on February 21st as there are seven candidates running.

Please vote in the February 21st Primary and the April 4th Spring Election.

Again, thank you very much for your support and friendship over the years.

GO BLACKHAWKS!!!

Joseph H. Zurfluh, President
Port Edwards Village Board



SPRING HYDRANT FLUSHING

Spring hydrant flushing will take place **May 16th & 17th**.

Please be aware that there may be some dirty water.



FROM THE DESK OF THE VILLAGE ADMINISTRATOR



Residents of The Village of Port Edwards. Greetings from your Village Administrator, Raymond “Boz” Bossert. All goes well in our Village and I am excited about the challenges ahead. We continue to make progress across all areas in our Village and provide the best services one can expect.

We are weathering thru another Winter season and it has been very interesting. Sporadic snow, very cold weather, but all is well.

Now onto Village Business.... We have approved and are executing our 2023 Budget. All looks good. We will bring in about \$5 Million dollars in 2023 in revenue and this year's

budget we planned to expend about \$3.9 million. The difference is kept in our Reserves and long-term planning accounts. Our expenses were less in 2023 than past years and we are coping like everyone with the + 8% inflation. We will continue to find innovative ways to get the most out of every dollar we have as a Village, Fiscal conservatism is our watchword. Due to our Total assessed value being in the low 60% range, after 17 Years the Village will need to conduct a full re-valuation of all parcels. The State rule is that assessments need to be closer to 95% for the tax base and we need to reach that goal so we can start the lowering of the millage rate for all residents next tax year. You will be receiving some correspondence from the Village and the Assessor explain the process.

We will be taking on some major infrastructure projects this year. We plan to begin the planning for the 2nd street full repair from Ver Bunker to Monroe Ave. We also plan to resurface 3-4 alleys across the Village and some major resurfacing of 2nd street Infront of the High school. Depending on the federal funds that come our way we may increase some other projects in the Village, but more to follow. We will as usual repair about 1000' feet of curb and gutter as well as sidewalks throughout the spring and summer. We continue to improve our parks and we hopefully will have our official ribbon cutting on our New Dog park in early Spring, more to follow. We continue to make progress with DMI and the Old Mill property and hope to unveil some development plans for the site. We continue our dialogue with the NEPCO lake residents planning for the Boundary agreement to end in a few years. Those 200+ residents will return back to the Village in 11 months and we hope to make that a seamless and positive transition.

It continues to be my goal to make this a very **Professional, Ready and Relevant** Village staff. We have numerous challenges ongoing and ahead that we all need to work together to overcome. Our Village services need the right investment to support all our residents and businesses in Port Edwards. We must be good stewards of our tax funds and choose wisely on investments and budgets. The best use of tax funds and service fees are only amplified when we have resident “buy in” on our initiatives and projects. I look forward to working on these issues together moving forward.

I am excited and look forward to the challenges. Let's get to work and stay “PORT PROUD!”

Wastewater Rate Increase

A 2.5% rate increase was implemented effective January 1, 2023. Please note that you will see this increase on the April 1, 2023 billing.

Sewer charges per quarter are: Flat Rate: \$25.26

Volume Charge: \$9.67 per 100 cubic feet

Port Edwards Water Utility Rates

The Public Service Commission requires that water rates be published semi-annually. The following rates have been in effect since September 5, 2018:

Quarterly Service Charge:

Sprinkling Meter:

5/8" meter - \$ 15.22	3" meter - \$205.62
1" meter - \$ 38.10	4" meter - \$338.87
1 ½" meter - \$ 76.15	6" meter - \$643.50
2" meter - \$106.63	

Quarterly Service Charge for

5/8" meter - \$ 5.40
1" meter - \$ 10.50
1 ½" 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.

MONARCH GARDEN



In looking at the snow outside my window, it's hard to believe that spring will soon be springing!

We will be anxiously awaiting the first signs of our "monarch" plants showing signs of new growth and the milkweed popping up through the soil. As you may know, the monarch numbers were greatly decreased last year. Our diligent "monarch egg hunters" had a terrible time trying to find eggs and there weren't enough to even put in the viewing hut.

Quite a change from the previous year! According to a June article in Science Daily, populations are decreasing in some places and increasing in others. This could be due to the extensive use of "Round Up" and like chemicals on fields and yards. Also, cooler spring temperatures cause a lower population in monarchs as they choose a warmer climate and keep moving on until they find one. Findings show that there has been an increase in parasites invading the monarch before migration to Mexico therefore causing them demise before reaching their destination. Along with parasite infection, illegal logging of migration forests is occurring and forest land has been drastically reduced preventing the monarchs from their usual place to colonize.

We sincerely hope that we can do all we can to provide a monarch healthy and friendly environment. Please consider planting milkweed and plants that produce pollen for our nectar-loving friends. If you have weeds, please consider natural ways to remove them other than spraying harmful chemicals. If you have questions, please contact Pat and Kathy McGrath through FB-Friends of the Monarch. The garden doesn't happen on its own, so a special thank you to the McGraths, Leverances, and Judy Miller for all your hard work and expertise. I will be retiring from the bank on April 29th but will still tend to the monarch garden. If you would like to join me, grab a trowel and come down and do some planting and weeding. Thanks to all fellow monarch lovers!

Mert Scheffler

Greetings from the Port Edwards Police Department!

Even though there is still snow on the ground, it will not be long until our village is buzzing with outdoor activities. While navigating our streets and alleyways, please slow down and watch for pedestrians.

For those new to our community, the Port Edwards Police Department offers alert stickers for people who are mentally or physically disabled, deaf or hard of hearing, have dementia or Alzheimer's, or have autism spectrum disorder. These stickers are provided free of charge while supplies last. You may pick up your stickers at the Port Edwards Police Department, Port Edwards Municipal Building or by emailing scott.drew@portedwardswi.gov. We recommend placing an alert sticker at all entry doors, so it is visible for all Emergency Responders.



The Police Department also has "Project Child Safe" gun locks available to anyone who is interested. These gun locks are free of charge and are available at the police department or by emailing the email above.

With tax time upon us, please watch for tax related scams. Use only reputable tax preparers and keep your private information private. Never share your information over the phone, especially if you receive an unsolicited call. If you believe you have been victimized by a scam, you can visit IdentityTheft.gov for guidance, or contact the police department and we can assist you with the situation.

Thank you,

Scott Drew, Chief of Police



NOTES FROM THE FIRE CHIEF'S DESK

100 YEARS!!

That is a long time... The Port Edwards Fire Department was established in 1923, with many people who have served, (and continue to proudly serve) the Village of Port Edwards. We were established during Prohibition, survived the Great Depression, World War II, the Korean War, witnessed the first Moon Landing, the Vietnam War, the birth of the Internet, the Fall of the Berlin Wall, Operation Desert Storm, the Sept. 11th attacks, the invention of the iPhone, and the Covid 19 Pandemic, just to name a few historical events. The Port Edwards Fire Dept. was here through all of it! I cannot begin to calculate the number of lives that have been saved, people who have been helped, property that has been protected, or lives that have been positively affected by the hard work and dedication from every past and present member of the Port Edwards Fire Dept. The only thing I have left to say, is THANK YOU. Thank you for supporting us throughout all these years. It's a wonderful feeling to have support from our community leaders, see people attend our fundraisers, and donate items to us, and smile and wave as we drive by. Below are a couple of our community events. Please stop by, say hello, and consider joining the Fire Dept. Help us continue onward through the next 100 years.

Saturday May 20th from 9:00 - 3:00 Village wide garage sale, we will be hosting an Open House and Brat Fry fund raiser- Stop down to enjoy some food, drinks, and see our equipment.

Friday June 16th from 4:00 – Midnight, 100th Anniversary Port Edwards Street Dance featuring the bands, Genesee Depot and Road Trip- Our annual street dance will be bigger and more fun! This will be held at the station again, and is our biggest fund raiser. Two bands this year, homemade

food, food trucks, drinks, prizes, raffles! Please stop down and support your local Fire Department. We hope to see you all there!

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, a local Emergency Fire Warden, over the phone by calling 1-888-WIS-BURN, or online at <http://dnr.wi.gov> using the keyword "Fire". 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.

As always, we are looking for new members who would like to serve the community as a firefighter or first responder. We're a great group of people with friendly attitudes, who enjoy helping others. We work hard and play harder. If you are interested, please stop down and let's talk.

Chief, Jason Worden

Thank you, Donald and Bonnie Derezinski!!

For providing the electricity for the Village Christmas decorations. Your generosity is greatly appreciated!

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.

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.

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.

Leaf, Grass and Brush Pickup

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

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 at alliantenergy.com. 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:

Dave & Karen Thiel

Kathy Moran

William & Doris Schwantes

Raymond & Gloria Wunrow

Port Edwards Lions



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!!

Community Calendar Items

- Feb 14 Village Board Meeting**, Marshall Buehler Center, 7:00 p.m.
Feb 21 Spring Primary, VOTE at the Fire Station, 7:00 a.m.-8:00 p.m.
March 14 Village Board Meeting, Marshall Buehler Center, 7:00 p.m.
April 1 Parking Restrictions, no longer in effect and parking on the streets is allowed
April 4 Spring Election, VOTE at the Fire Station, 7:00 a.m.-8:00 p.m.
April 7 Village Offices Closed for Good Friday
April 11 Village Board Meeting, Marshall Buehler Center, 7:00 p.m.
May 9 Village Board Meeting, Marshall Buehler Center, 7:00 p.m.
May 16 Hydrant Flushing (Be aware there may be some dirty water)
May 17 Hydrant Flushing (Be aware there may be some dirty water)
May 20 Village Garage Sales
May 20 Open House & Brat Fry, Fire Station, 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.
May 29 Village Offices Closed for Memorial Day
June 13 Village Board Meeting, Marshall Buehler Center, 7:00 p.m.
June 15 Sprinkling Restrictions go into effect
June 16 Port Edwards Fire Dept Street Dance, Fire Station, 4:00 p.m.-Midnight
June 19 Port Edwards Education Foundation Blackhawk Scramble



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.