



Town of Vienna Web Site Address: www.vienna-wis.com

March, 2022

February Primary Spring Election Results

This election was held for Lodi Area School District only. A total of 51 town residents are registered to vote in this election and a total of 12 electors voted, each selecting 2 candidates for April. The results were: **Scott Bilse 4; Julie McKiernan 11 Heather Baron 2 and William Wipperfurth 6**

A special thanks to our Chief Inspectors who helped make this a successful election. If anyone is interested in becoming an election inspector, please contact the office.

April 5th Election Information

The Spring Election will be held statewide on Tuesday, April 5th. Polls will be open from 7:00AM to 8:00PM. Races on the ballot include local Incumbent Town Supervisor III, Gary Endres. Town Board Supervisor IV seat is also up for election. Resident Tim Hoege filed candidacy papers and will be running for Town Supervisor IV. Sample ballots will be posted at the Town Hall and on the Town website in March. Anyone who has requested an Absentee Ballot will receive these in the mail by March 18th as we have to mail them out no later than March 15th. In-Person voting will be available in the Town Clerk's Office starting on Tuesday, March 22nd and go through Friday, April 1st, between the hours of 9AM to 3PM. Recently, **the use of Drop Boxes for ballots have been banned for use.** Although we have a secured one located in the lobby, we will not be able to use ours for dropped off ballots. You will now be required to mail them or drop them off in the office only. Remember, you can request to have the ballot mailed to you by filling an absentee request. Absentee and registration forms are available online at MyVote.wi.gov, an easy to use website. They can also be obtained on our website or in the front vestibule at the town hall.

Pushing Snow on the Road

Wisconsin Statute 346.94(5) prohibits anyone from placing or causing to be placed upon a highway any foreign substance which is or may be injurious to any vehicle. This prohibits anyone from plowing, shoveling, or blowing snow onto a road. The penalty for violating this statute is \$50 for each offense. Additionally, section 86.022 makes it a misdemeanor punishable by fine to place any obstruction in a road ditch which will impede drainage. As such, individuals should not be filling ditches with compacted snow. Municipalities may request that the sheriff's department cite individuals for these violations of state law.

Building Permits

It is that time of year when new construction, remodeling or possibly adding an additional sunroom or family room onto your home begins. Building permit application forms can be located in our town hall vestibule at any time, day or night and also on Town's website. Any structural change to the existing property does require a building permit from the town and depending on where your property is located, either Dane County or Village of Deforest. Our building inspector, Kelly Green, can be reached at 608-697-7771 if you have any questions regarding this matter.

Spring is Almost Here!

A reminder to move your clocks ahead one hour on Sunday, March 13th for Daylight Savings Time. Also, this time of year places hardship on the roads. Seasonal weight limits will be imposed during the spring thaw. These weight limits are necessary to protect highways. During the thaw period road beds are weak due to excess moisture. A weaker road bed means the pavement is more easily damaged. The spring thaw always presents challenges so please be respectful of the posted weight limits.

Town of Vienna Board Meeting scheduled for February 7, 2022 was cancelled and agenda items were moved to February 21, 2022 Meeting.

**Town of Vienna Board Minutes
February 21, 2022**

The regular meeting was called to order on Monday, February 21, 2022 at 7:00pm by Chair Jerry Marx. Supervisors Steve Ruegsegger, Gary Endres and Clerk Kathy Clark were present. Also, Deputy Sheriff Jodi Schneider and Resident Charles Linde were present. Supervisors Ron Rupp and Sherri Meinholz were excused.

Pledge of Allegiance was recited

Public Comment: None

Approval of Minutes: Motion by Ruegsegger, second by Endres to approve the minutes for the January 17, 2022 town board meeting. Motion carried (3-0).

Update from Dane County Deputy Sheriff Jodi Schneider: Deputy Schneider handed out a report of "calls for service" for the months of November and December, 2021 and January, 2022 in the Town. Schneider explained that car thefts and home invasions are still very active. A program called 9:00 PM Routine is a short list of nightly checks around the house to protect homeowners from an invasion or car theft. Dane County Cards are available for residents to place on the refrigerator or calendar as a reminder of this routine.

Operator's License: Two Operators license applications were submitted by BP All Stop for review. Motion by Endres, second by Ruegsegger to approve the operator license application for Jacob Clark. Motion carried (3-0). Motion by Endres, second by Ruegsegger to approve the operator license application for Dylan Walter. Motion carried (3-0)

Town Supervisor Report: Supervisor Ruegsegger meeting with the DeForest Area Senior Center was held Tuesday, February 8th. The Senior Center is now open to the public. Supervisor Rupp meeting with the Dane-Vienna Fire Department is scheduled for February 28th. Supervisor Meinholz meeting with Waunakee EMS was held Thursday, February 10th. Supervisor Endres meeting with Waunakee Fire Department is scheduled for Monday, February 28th.

Town Clerk's Report: Clark informed the board that Chair Marx joined her at the Village of DeForest board meeting last week. Both were given an opportunity to present reasons for water service to be granted. Clark handed out packets that reflected landowners paid over \$400,000 to have the water extended to Vienna Development in 2003. Vienna is asking that this be honored or grandfathered for future development without the threat of annexation. The Board went into closed session to discuss. The Village has requested more information to work on a possible boundary agreement. Also, the Wisconsin Elections Commission sent out field Auditors to assess polling locations on Tuesday, February 15th and Vienna was one of them. The Auditor took pictures of our polling set up, the signage and handicap accessibility, including parking. A report will be sent with their findings. Johnson and Block will begin the Town of Vienna year-end review on March 1st.

Review and authorize payments of current town and utility bills, wages and expenses: Two Vouchers for the month were presented for approval. Motion by Ruegsegger, second by Endres to approve the February 7, 2022 town bills as stated in the amount of \$74,017.82; Payroll \$17,808.07; Town Bills \$29,801.82; Utility 1 \$15,046.57 and Utility 2 \$11,361.36. Motion carried (3-0) Motion by Ruegsegger, second by Endres to approve the February 21, 2022 town bills as stated in the amount of \$1,447,726.68 (includes tax settlements with County and School Districts) Payroll \$5,477.93; Town Bills \$1,447,123.66; Utility 1 \$460.96 and Utility 2 \$142.06. Motion carried (3-0)

Adjourn: Motion by Ruegsegger, second by Endres to adjourn. Motion carried (3-0). Meeting adjourned at 7:45 PM.

Prepared by: Kathleen Clark, Town Clerk

Note: These draft minutes are subject to approval at the March 7, 2022 Town Board Meeting

Annual Town Board Meeting

The 173rd Annual Meeting of the Town of Vienna Electors will be held Tuesday April 19, 2022 at 6:30 PM at the Vienna Town Hall. This annual meeting is an opportunity to hear reports on how each department is doing as well as review the annual financials for the town. Electors are encouraged to attend and participate. The regular board meeting will be held immediately following the Annual Meeting.

April 2022 Election Referendum

The Town Board of Vienna is looking to convert the Treasurer's office from an elected position to an appointed position. This change would take effect in April, 2023 when the current term of the Treasurer ends. To accomplish this, the board took the first step by adopting Ordinance 12-2021, to place a referendum on the April ballot for electors to vote on (see below). To understand this decision, included are reasons why towns switch to having an appointed clerk or treasurer versus elected.

Appointed Positions:

1. Do not have to be town residents.
2. Have their qualifications, job descriptions, and wages/benefits set by the town board as they are essentially town employees hired by the board.
3. Cannot be removed by the board during their term of office, unless there is "cause" for removal (misconduct in office or neglect of duties). This means there would need to be a hearing and other due process protections afforded before someone could be removed from office. That said, once his or her term expires, the town board can simply choose not to re-appoint a clerk or treasurer without having to establish cause.
4. Can be appointed for a term not to exceed 3 years at one time. Can be appointed for a shorter term such as six months or one year or whatever the board deems appropriate. The board may also re-appoint the person for successive terms, if desired.

Elected Positions:

1. Do have to be town residents.
2. Are answerable to the electorate and cannot be required by the board to hold specific qualifications or obtain training (unless required by state law-such as election training for clerks). Cannot be required by the board to keep set hours at the town hall or be required to work a certain number of hours per week.
3. Can be recalled from office like other elected officials. Can also be removed from office by a majority vote of the board, but only if the reason for removal is continued physical inability to perform the duties of the office or gross neglect of duty, s. 17.13(2m), Wis. Stat.
4. Are elected for two year terms at the spring election in odd-numbered years

ORDINANCE No. 12-2021

The Town Board of the Town of Vienna, Dane County, Wisconsin, does hereby ordain as follows:

That, pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 60.30 (1e)(a), the office of the Town Treasurer shall be filled by appointment of a majority of the members-elect of the town board.

The term of office for the appointed position shall be set by the town board, but may not exceed 3 years per § 60.30 (1e)(c). The town board may re-appoint the officer for additional terms. However, removal by the town board during a given term of office may only be for "cause" as defined under § 17.001 and required by § 60.30(1e)(f).

This ordinance is subject to approval by the town electors in a referendum, which is hereby called by the Town Board to be held on April 5, 2022. **The referendum question shall be:**

"Shall the person holding the office of Town Treasurer in the Town of Vienna be appointed by the Town Board"

Vienna Town Board Meeting Agenda
Monday, March 7, 2022

The Vienna Town Board will meet on Monday, March 7, 2022 at 7:00PM at the Town Hall, located at 7161 County Highway I, DeForest, WI. The agenda for this meeting includes the following items:

Call the Town Board meeting to order

Recite the Pledge of Allegiance

Public comment

Approve or amend the minutes of the February 21, 2022 Town Board meeting

Discussion and possible action on WIBU Road Reconstruction

Operator's License

Town Supervisor Reports

Town Clerk's Report

Next Meeting with Treasurer

Review and authorize payments of current town and utility bills, wages and expenses

Adjourn