

**BROOKLYN VILLAGE NEWS**  
**January 15, 2010**

Clerk's Office - 455-4201  
Fax - 455-1385  
PO Box 189 102 N Rutland Ave  
Email: vbrook@verizon.net

Police Department - 455-2131  
Fax - 455-1799  
Email: Brooklynpd@charter.net

Public Works Dept. - 455-1842  
Fax - 455-1501  
102 Windy Lane  
Email: brooklynpw@verizon.net

Municipal Court - 455-1168  
Email: brooklynjudge@charter.net

Village Board - Nadine Walsten, President  
Economic Development – Cheryl Parrish, Chair  
Finance – Tim Belter, Chair  
Ordinance – Tim Belter, Chair

Personnel – Helen Mc Cord, Chair  
Planning/Zoning – Nadine Walsten, Chair  
Public Works – Mark Bruner, Chair  
Recreation – Janeen Podgorski, Chair  
Safety – Nadine Walsten, Chair

**REMINDER**

The first installment of 2009 property taxes must be paid by  
January 31<sup>st</sup>.

The Clerk's office will be open on the 30<sup>th</sup> from 8am – noon for  
tax collection purposes.

Dog and cat licenses must be purchased by January 31<sup>st</sup>.

Village Ordinance states that all animals must be licensed.

Fees remain unchanged for 2010 – see inside for more details



**VILLAGE OF BROOKLYN  
JANUARY 11, 2010**

The Village Board meeting was called to order by President Nadine Walsten on January 11, 2010, at 6:35 p.m. in the lower level of the Brooklyn Community Building. Trustees present: Todd Klahn, Helen McCord, Tim Belter, and Wendy Layton. Trustee Irwin-Vitela arrived at 7:49 pm. Others present: Carol Strause, Clerk, Public Works Director, Bob Anderson, Police Chief Harry Barger, David Natzke, Chelsea Leachman, Steven Lust, Dean Swensen, Michael Christopher, Traci Schaefer.

There were no public comments/questions offered.

Trustee Klahn moved, second Layton, carried to approve the minutes of 12/14/09 as written. Trustee Bruner abstained as he was absent for the first part of the 12/14 meeting.

Chelsea Leachman, Director of the **Oregon Youth Center**, presented the Board with information on the center. At budget time, the Village's contribution of \$3800 was questioned. Programs are for 5-8<sup>th</sup> grades of the Oregon School District. Leachman reported she is implementing a healthy eating regimen free of charge for after school snacks. January schedule was presented. Funding comes from the Villages of Oregon and Brooklyn and Towns of Oregon, Dunn, and Rutland. There are currently 16 youth registered from the Village. The YWCA is the fiscal agent and handles the finances, payroll, and administration. There is no affiliation with the local school district. There is one other staff member, who is partially funded through a Federal program, working full time at the center. Summertime could see a mobile program using the Village area for programs. Brooklyn's recreation program would like to target the 11-14 age group for a summer program and Chelsea may be able to help coordinate this program for summer.

President Walsten stated the 2010 Census is up and running. **Complete count committee** would be educating and encouraging all residents to return their census forms. Walsten will meet with Clerk Strause to determine what may be needed to assist the local program. Community volunteers may be needed.

Clerk Strause reported on the candidates that have filed **nomination papers** by Jan 5, 2010 for the three trustee positions. Ballot drawing was held on Friday, Jan 8 with names to be listed on the April 6<sup>th</sup> ballot as follows: 1- Steven Lust, 2-Mark Bruner, 3-Dean Van Den Eng. **Tax collection** through 12/31/09 amounted to 41.4% for Dane County and 39% for Green County for a total of \$877,662.86 collected. Tax settlement this week to the State, Dane and Green Counties, Oregon School District, and MATC will be in the amount of \$621,511.63.

Walsten gave an update on the **drainage resolution effort for Hwy 14/92 area**. An email from DOT reports that Montgomery Assoc was previously retained by DOT to do a watershed study and determine drainage problems of the entire area. Temporary monitoring wells were installed. A study will be put together after data has been collected.

Consent agenda: Motion by Trustee Bruner, second Layton, carried to approve the **consent agenda** and pay bills for the month totaling \$678,562.54.

**NEW BUSINESS**-Letter of Intent to join **Dane County interoperable emergency communications radio system** was to be returned by Jan 15 but now has been extended to Feb 1<sup>st</sup>. New system would allow all radios throughout the county to communicate with each other; however, it turns out that the proposal that has been put forth by the county executive has met with a lot of resistance. Only two communities have signed Letters of Intent: Village of Shorewood and City of Fitchburg. City of Madison opposes the system along with all Dane County townships and all other communities that have not yet signed on. Negotiations are centering on splitting the cost of a new system. Dane County Cities and Village's Association will be meeting on Wed at 5:30 in Stoughton and will be putting together their proposal to go to the Dane County Executive hoping to negotiate a settlement more equitable than is currently proposed. The Resolution proposed by DCCVA would give the Village President the authority to sign a proposal if the DCCVA is successful in negotiating a contract. Walsten

read the Resolution. Chief Barger recommended doing nothing at this time as there is not enough information. Costs for the project are proposed to be split between the 61 communities in the County. If there is no response by the deadline, the County will assume the Village does not wish to proceed to construct an interoperable radio system. Trustee Klahn moved, second Belter, carried that the Village 1) send a letter stating the Village is interested but the proposed cost of maintenance and overall cost is too high for our Village; we will not move forward until we have adequate information as we are interested in the concept but not the structure of the proposal and 2) the local Emergency Response Team (Fire Chief Mortensen, Police Chief Barger, Evelyn Hall, EMS Director, Public Works Director Bob Anderson, and Nadine Walsten, Village President) should meet to discuss the issue, gather more information and make a recommendation to the Board.

REPORTS-Public Works: Strand Engineering will be here on Thurs to review the punch list at the WWTP with some items yet to be completed on the construction project. Trustee Klahn moved, second Bruner, carried to approve C.D.Smith's change order #2 for a deduct of \$3445. The total construction project is now at \$3,768,239.

Planning and Zoning will meet on the fourth Monday of this month. Ordinance Committee will be meeting later this month.

Safety Committee: Trustee Layton moved, second Klahn, carried to approve Chief Barger joining Wisconsin Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force and Dane County Narcotics and Gang Task Force. Trustee McCord, second Klahn, carried to approve Chief Barger joining Dane County Incident Management Team and Dane County Emergency Preparedness Council. Trustee McCord moved, second Klahn, carried to approve the Permanent Part Time Police Officer job description. Trustee McCord moved, second Bruner, carried to approve the Police Secretary I job description. Secretary Hardy has reviewed the job description and also approves of the wording. Chief Barger handed out the monthly statistics report. Barger is working on officer performance evaluations and an equipment inventory system. Dane County is not satisfied with the current records management system, New World. Some departments in the county are already withdrawing from the New World system. Current hiring process is proceeding for a permanent part time officer. The new parking ticket identifies local ordinances with proper wording and court date. A news release will go on the Village's website announcing Chief Barger joining the WI Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force.

Fire/EMS met on 12/16. The next meeting will be in April. Town of Brooklyn voted not to participate in the emergency trailer that was on display last fall. Personnel: no report. EDC-President Walsten moved, second Belter, carried to approve the appointment of Jared Holthe, D.C., to the committee. Recreation:-Committee is looking for members. Two movies are left to show in Feb and March. Get Fit Brooklyn, started last Thurs night and was very successful with a good turn out. Committee will be meeting this Wed night. Bluegrass Committee has been meeting and finalizing the band line up. Additional members are needed. July 4<sup>th</sup>, recycling, and website committees did not meet.

Finance: Trustee Belter reported on collateral coverage in Dec at \$1.1 million with current coverage at \$1.6 million to cover tax collections. Belter requested a wish list of wants and needs be put together to update the five year capital projects plan. Hwy 92 debt will be paid off in 2012 freeing up \$78,410 debt. It is possible that other projects then could be done. Committee will be working on a bidding policy and will present a draft to the Board next month

President requested a motion to convene to closed session. Trustee Bruner asked why the personnel issue is being revisited. Walsten stated she expects the Board to discuss and handle the issue in the same way it was handled with the previous clerk and that has not happened. At the 12/14 meeting, the Village's attorney told the Board they could not deliberate or discuss the issue and needed to come to an agreement. Walsten stated Board members are unfamiliar with the document she put together and a number of things need to be discussed and resolved. The article in the Oregon newspaper has brought up new information that needs to be revisited. The article was dated before the Personnel Committee had met to draft an action plan thereby suggesting the Committee is not impartial. Walsten stated the Board has a right to finish the discussion on this discipline matter and to protect itself. This closed session is an opportunity for the Board to actually finish what it didn't do on 12/10 and 12/14<sup>th</sup>. Attorney Christopher stated the Board has three options: 1) stay in open session,

2)convene to closed session, 3) have a closed meeting and have Bob participate at times or anyone else the Board chooses.

Trustee Irwin-Vitela arrived at 7:49 pm. At 7:55 pm, Trustee Klahn moved, second Layton, to convene to closed session pursuant to Wis Stats 19.85 (1)(b) considering discipline of Robert M. Anderson. Voting as follows: AYE: Klahn, Walsten, Layton, Belter, Irwin-Vitela. NAY: McCord, Bruner. Motion carried. Board will reconvene to open session at approximately 9:20 pm..

At 11:20 pm, Trustee Irwin-Vitela moved, second Layton, carried to reconvene to open session.

There was no motion to reconsider from the 12-14-09 meeting: 1) verbal reprimand for Robert Anderson; 2)Personnel Committee to create action plan for Robert Anderson.

Trustee Klahn moved, second Irwin-Vitela, unanimously carried for a substitute motion to create an Ad Hoc Personnel Committee comprising of Trustees Klahn, Layton, and McCord to develop and supervise a more detailed action plan for Robert Anderson.

Trustee Bruner moved, second Layton, carried to adjourn at 11:30 pm

Carol A. Strause,  
MMC, WCMC, CMTW

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**Get Fit Brooklyn, part of the Recreation Committee of Brooklyn, is now offering Winter Fitness Classes taught by a Certified Personal Trainer. Classes will be taught at the Brooklyn Community Building. Classes are once a week for 6 weeks for \$30.00. They have already started but there is still time to sign up. The cost for a “drop-in” is \$5.00 per class (cash only and exact change please).If interested, please fill out and send in the registration form that is available at the Clerk’s office or on our website. If you have any questions, please contact Steve or Tari Lust at 455-1326.**

**Hope to see you there!**

**President's Letter**  
**January, 2010**  
**Nadine S. Walsten**

I have been thinking long and hard how to write this letter. Unfortunately, because this is the first month we are eliminating mailed copies unless requested (because of high postage costs) I'm concerned this will reach fewer residents than usual. Because the gossip and rumors have been flying for the past several weeks, I believe you deserve a brief summary of what has happened. In addition, on 12/31/09, a headline article appeared in the Oregon Observer titled the "Feud in Brooklyn Boils Over," which reported on the employee performance issues raised in a document I had compiled for the Board as well as the complaints made about me at the December 14 Board meeting. This negative publicity, after five years of Board and committee effort to lift up our image as part of our economic development plan, is especially unfortunate.

I would like to apologize to the Village residents for this public situation. I am very distressed the way this unfolded. It has been embarrassing to everyone who is involved in Village government and who live here and I am deeply sorry for that.

Because of the snowstorm of 12/10/09, the Special Board meeting to discuss what the Board wanted to do, if anything, about the issues in the performance document was cancelled. This meeting was rescheduled to occur at the end of the 12/14/09 Board meeting. Unfortunately, the Village Attorney was unavailable and a substitute attorney attended. At the employee's request, the performance issues were presented and challenged in open session. In the closed session that followed, the Board was not permitted to discuss the performance document, only to decide on a plan without deliberation. On 1/11/10, however, the Board was able to have a discussion in closed session on the issues and because the newspaper article brought new issues to the situation, the original motions were revisited.

When I wrote the document, I was upset because one of the allegations, among others, brought to me was a family member had been awarded a bid without the Board's knowledge. Anyone who knows me, knows that in 2004, I promised there would be a Village Board whose integrity would be above question; that any trustee, employee, committee member or others representing the Village of Brooklyn who dishonors the integrity or the character of the Board or our Village, will hear my disapproval. I won't avoid controversy when our conduct violates the public trust. Because I did not wait until I could read my writing more objectively, my statements reflected how frustrated I was, and I take responsibility for my lack of restraint. My prose should have been less inflammatory, but I stand by the concerns raised in that document. One of the statements made in the Observer is that my motivation is "personal" (hence a "feud."). That implies I would rather "get even" than "get angry." As a psych nurse for 30 years, I have processed conflict directly between myself and patients, addicts, felons, coworkers, supervisors, family and friends as a valued part of my personal and professional life. I initiate communication when there are tensions unless communication is not possible. As a retired administrator with a budget of \$630,000, a staff of 6 and responsibility for a clinical program at University Hospitals for 13 years, employee issues to me are straight forward performance. My expectations for middle management performance, however, includes judgment, integrity, character, competence, leadership, loyalty to the organization, and professional conduct in addition to the ability to perform the required daily tasks.

So what do we have? After the 1/11/10 Board meeting, the verbal warning for not informing the Board a bid is being awarded to a company where a relative works, stands. There is a modified Ad Hoc Personnel Committee made up of McCord, Layton and Klahn who will be completing and supervising the action plan.

What have we learned? The temptation to take sides when conflict arises is very hard to resist, and however sweet revenge may be, it only creates more division and prevents the ability to solve problems. "Getting even" guarantees things will get worse. The needs of the Village are great, our residents are hurt by our sewer and tax rates, our Village is on economic life support, and to turn these problems around, there must be teamwork on all levels. May we appeal to "our better natures" and recommit to a positive course of human interaction.

## NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release  
January 11, 2010

For More Information Contact:  
Bill Cosh 608/266-1221

### **BROOKLYN POLICE DEPARTMENT JOINS THE WISCONSIN INTERNET CRIMES AGAINST CHILDREN TASK FORCE**

**BROOKLYN**– The Brooklyn Police Department has joined the Wisconsin Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC) Task Force.

“We are pleased to have you as a member of the Wisconsin ICAC Task Force and pledge our full support to you as we work together to make Wisconsin safer for our children,” said Wisconsin Attorney General J.B. Van Hollen.

As part of this affiliation, the Brooklyn Police Department is eligible for:

- Reimbursement to help fund ICAC related expenses, including computer hardware and software;
- Notification of and priority for sought-after ICAC related training, offered both nationally and in Wisconsin;
- Investigative assistance from highly trained ICAC investigators and forensic computer analysts throughout the state;
- Access to the national ICAC email group;
- Recognition on both the Brooklyn Police Department’s website, and on the Wisconsin Department of Justice website;

“The Brooklyn Police Department is pleased to be a partner in helping to abate crimes against our youth via the Internet. We stand ready to help educate our public and enforce applicable laws to protect our youth,” said Chief James Barger.

To learn more about the ICAC Task Force program at the Brooklyn Police Department, contact Chief James Barger at (608) 455-2131.

This year marks the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the founding of the Wisconsin Department of Justice Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force. “In the past decade, Wisconsin’s ICAC Task Force and Affiliate Agencies have arrested 678 suspects, executed 939 search warrants, and rescued countless numbers of children throughout the state,” said Van Hollen.

According to Van Hollen, there are over 22,304 internet protocol addresses in Wisconsin containing and offering to distribute known images of child pornography. One in seven children are asked online to engage in sexual activities, sexual talk, or provide personal sexual information.

Van Hollen has placed a priority on law enforcement’s proactive response to the growing problem of internet crimes against children. To that end, Van Hollen has directed a 67% increase in the number of special agents assigned to the Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force within the Division of Criminal Investigation.

In addition to expanding investigative capacity internally, Van Hollen and the Department of Justice have continued to add additional local affiliates to the Wisconsin ICAC Task Force. The number of local law enforcement partners to the Department of Justice’s ICAC Task Force has quadrupled to 114 since Attorney General Van Hollen took office. You can access a list of affiliates at <http://www.doj.state.wi.us/dci/icac/afflist.asp>.

For more information on how your community can become an affiliate of the Wisconsin ICAC Task Force contact Kris Midthun at (715) 839-3831, [midthunkm@doj.state.wi.us](mailto:midthunkm@doj.state.wi.us).

## NOTES FROM PUBLIC WORKS

### Snow Removal

All sidewalks must be cleared of snow within 24 hours of snowfall ending. Snow **may not** be put into the street.

“The owner or user of each mailbox shall, within twenty-four (24) hours after the end of each snowfall, remove all snow and ice which has fallen or accumulated in front of said mailbox, and shall remove the snow and ice away from the curb or area in front of the mailbox, a minimum of fifteen (15) feet on each side of said mailbox.”

*Also, please clear snow from around fire hydrants and water meter readers.*

The last Christmas tree pickup will be on Friday, January 22<sup>nd</sup>. After that date, you must dispose of them yourself.

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## POLICE DEPARTMENT

Activity for December

Theft	5
Traffic Incidents	5
Attempt to locate	2
Assists	5
Disturbance	1
Fraud/ID theft	1
Open Records	2
Parking violations	26
Ordinance violation	3
Parking complaint	1
Suspicious person	1
Suspicious vehicle	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>53</b>



## VILLAGE CLERK'S OFFICE

The first installment of 2009 Property taxes must be paid by Jan. 31<sup>st</sup>. The Clerk's office will be open on the 30<sup>th</sup> from 8am - noon for tax collection purposes. You can mail your payment, but it **MUST** have a postmark of no later than 2/1/10 due to the 31<sup>st</sup> falling on a Sunday.

**\* \* \* REMINDER \* \* \***

Dog and cat licenses must be purchased by January 31<sup>st</sup>. If you have not previously registered your pet (age 6 mo. or older) with the Village, please provide a copy of a current rabies certificate. Also, if your pet was re-vaccinated during 2009, please provide a new certificate. The fee is as follows:

Neutered/Spayed dog - \$12

Unaltered dog - \$17

Cats - \$5

Village Ordinance states that all animals must be licensed. Only 3 dogs/cats are allowed per residence.

## WATER SAVING TIPS OF THE MONTH



- \*Turn off the water while brushing your teeth and save 25 gallons per month.
- \*Know where your master water shut-off valve is located. This could save water and prevent damage to your home.
- \*When doing laundry, match the water level to the size of the load.

**RECREATION COMMITTEE**

**FREE**

**COMMUNITY MOVIE**

Sat. February 6<sup>th</sup> – 7 pm

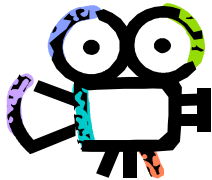
Community Building Gym  
(102 N. Rutland Ave.)

Bring a blanket, bean bag, lawn chair  
(with a blanket to put under your chair  
to preserve the floor) to sit on.

Refreshments will be sold.

Due to licensing restrictions, we  
cannot advertise the name of the  
movie. To find out what's playing,  
please call

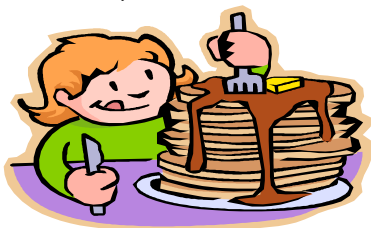
455-4201 ext. 44



**OREGON AREA  
SENIOR CENTER  
219 PARK ST**

**PANCAKE BREAKFAST  
AND BAKE SALE**

**SUNDAY, JANUARY 24<sup>TH</sup>  
7 AM - NOON  
ADULTS - \$5 CHILDREN - \$2**



**VOLUNTEERS  
NEEDED**

The Brooklyn Fire and EMS  
Departments are in desperate  
need of Firefighters, EMT's and  
Drivers. Training is provided and  
a stipend is paid for runs.

Sleeping quarters at the station  
have been completed so if you  
know of anyone who lives in the  
country who may be interested,  
please pass this information on  
to them.

For Fire/Driver information,  
contact Phil Mortensen at 455-  
3621. EMS - contact Evelyn Hall  
at 455-1555.



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**NOTICE**

With the heavy amount of snow this past  
month, many structures may have failed  
from the weight load. If you are aware of  
any property that has had buildings  
damaged, please contact our assessor,  
Jacobson Appraisals, immediately at  
(877) 223-8122.

If the damage occurred prior to January 1<sup>st</sup>  
the assessment would be reviewed for the  
2010 assessment year. If the damage  
happened after January 1<sup>st</sup> the property will  
be reviewed for the 2011 assessment year.



No Parking on Village Streets from  
1 am – 7 am. until April 15th



Brooklyn Cub Scouts Pack 352

### 27<sup>th</sup> Annual Chili Dinner

February 7, 2010

11am - 2pm

Brooklyn Community Building

Yes, its time once again for the annual  
**Chili Dinner.**

This is our 2<sup>nd</sup> fundraiser for the year, and to  
make it a success we are counting on you  
to help support your Local Scouts.

Each ticket sells for \$5, and allows one person to  
come to the Chili Dinner on Sunday, February  
7<sup>th</sup>, 2010. The Dinner is **all you can eat** and  
includes; several varieties of chili, salad,  
crackers, milk or coffee and a variety of  
delicious homemade deserts. Soda is available  
for \$0.50 per can.

Notice that there is a **coupon for free bread  
sticks at Pizza Hut** on the back of the ticket.

In addition we will be selling a Super-Bowl of  
Chili. Cost and tickets for this will be at the  
door. If you purchase a ticket for this, the cost of  
the ticket (\$5.00) will go towards the cost of the  
Super-Bowl. Expectations are for people to take  
it home for Super Bowl supper later in the day.

**The Cub Scouts of Pack 353  
Thank You.**

**There will be a Primary  
Election on  
Tuesday, February 16<sup>th</sup>**

**Polls will be open from  
7 am – 8 pm**

**Brooklyn Community  
Building  
102 N. Rutland Ave.**

**If you have not  
previously registered to  
vote, please bring proof  
of residency and identity.**

### Friends of Oregon/Brooklyn Food Pantry

Contact person: Joyce Larson

Phone/e-mail: 222-3399

[joylars1@aol.com](mailto:joylars1@aol.com)

**Location:** Hefty Warehouse, corner  
of Union & Lincoln, Oregon

**\*\*The pantry is open from 3-6:00pm  
on the following dates:**

January 28	May 27
February 25	June 24
March 25	July 29
April 29	August 26

### RECYCLING BAGS



If you have still not received your  
complimentary recycling tote bag  
from the Village, we still have some  
left. The bags are great for grocery  
shopping and everyday use. Keep it in  
your vehicle and save a paper or  
plastic bag next time you shop! Limit 1  
per household please.