

Town Talk



Winter 2022

Town of Onalaska, WI N5589 Commerce Rd., Onalaska, WI www.townofonalaska.org (608) 783-4958 (608) 779-9605 Fax

What's Included?

Town Roadways	1
Dog License/Renewals	1
Shelter Rental	1
Taxes	2
Elections	2
Office Hours	2
Onalaska Fire Dept	3
Dates to Remember	4
Town Contacts	4

Town Roadways

Drainage Ditches

cannot be filled in with leaves, grass clippings, rock, dirt and/or sod.

Sprinkler heads and flower gardens **MUST NOT be within the Road Right-of-Way.**

Due to necessary maintenance of town roads (especially snow plowing) decorative mail

posts, flower boxes or other items placed on the road right-of-way may be damaged. **The Town is not liable for damages done to these items,** including sprinkler heads or the **grass edge along the road.** The right-of-way on most roads is 66 feet wide (33 feet from the centerline).

Parking is disallowed on town cul de sacs beginning November 1 through April 1.

Shelter Rentals for 2023

Reservations can be made Beginning January 4, 2023. Contracts are available at the Town Hall. Deposit, payment and signed contract are required to reserve your date.

****Dates fill up quickly, please book early****



Thank you to all volunteers throughout OUR community!!! Your service and dedication make The Town of Onalaska a chosen place to LIVE, WORK, and PLAY!



Dog Licenses and Renewals

All dogs residing in the Town must be licensed by **5 months** of age.

A dog license is effective from January 1-December 31. **As per State Statute all licenses expire December 31 of the issued year.**

The fee is \$12 for a spayed or neutered dog and \$23 for an unaltered dog. **A current rabies certificate is required.**

If a dog is not licensed by April 1

a late fee of \$25 is added and you must go to the La Crosse County Clerk's Office to license your dog.

We encourage you to obtain the license via mail or the town drop box. Please include: **1) copy of rabies certificate 2) self-addressed stamped envelope 3) phone number** so you may be contacted if we have questions. The tag will be returned to you by mail in the envelope you provided. *If no*

envelope is provided, you must pick up the tags at the Town Hall.

The Town dog ordinance can be viewed on the town website under Chapter 8: Animals. You can also view La Crosse County (Chapter 11) and State ordinances (Chapters 173 & 951) regarding animals at their respective websites.

The Town does NOT require cat licenses.

2022 Tax Bills



Make checks or money orders payable to **Town of Onalaska**. **Cash payments are NOT accepted**. **Separate checks** are required for property tax, dog license and personal property tax, if applicable.

With any payment, please attach a copy of your bill and keep a copy for your records.

IMPORTANT: Mail your payment or use the Town drop box at the entrance of the parking lot (black box, Town of Onalaska is printed on the front of the box). **Please pay close attention to special charges on your tax bill and include them with your payment.**

Tax payments are accepted at the Town Hall, N5589 Commerce Road during regular business hours.

Real estate tax payment options: If you are paying in two installments you **must** send your July

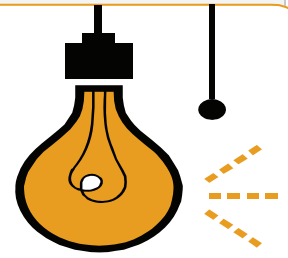
(second) payment to: La Crosse County Treasurer, 212 6th St. N. La Crosse, WI 54601.

The Town CANNOT accept tax payments after January 31, 2023.

Refunds

No refunds will be issued the day of payment and no refunds are given under the amount of \$10. All refunds are subject to a \$10 processing fee.

Personal property Tax bills must be paid in full by January 31, 2023.



Office Hours

*Monday -Thursday
8:00 a.m.- 4:30 pm

*Friday
8:00 a.m.- NOON

*Closed for lunch from
12:30 p.m.-1:00 p.m.

Holiday Closures

Christmas
December 23, 2022
December 26, 2022

New Year's
December 30, 2022
January 2, 2023,

Spring Holiday
April 7, 2023

Memorial Day
May 29, 2023

Independence Day
Tuesday, July 4,
2023

Labor Day
September 4, 2023

Thanksgiving
November 23, 2023
November 24, 2023

Christmas
December 25, 2023
December 26, 2023

2023 Elections



February 21

Spring Primary if
needed

April 4

Spring Election

To **Register to vote**,
or to **Request an
Absentee Ballot**
visit the website:

www.myvote.wi.gov

Remember: If your
address or name has
changed since you
last voted, you must
re-register to vote.

Polling location

Town Hall, N5589
Commerce Rd.

Voting Hours

7:00 a.m. to 8:00
p.m.

Town Official Races:

The following
positions/candidates
are up for election
on April 4th, 2023:

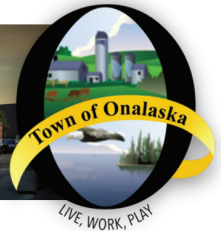
Chairperson Stan
Hauser, **Supervisor 1**
Jerry Monti and
Supervisor 2 Sandy
Thompson.

If you are interested
in seeking a board
seat the first day to
circulate nomination

papers is Dec. 1,
2022.

Candidacy
declarations,
nomination papers
and campaign
registration papers
must be filed no later
than 5 p.m. on
Tuesday, January 3,
2023 in the Town
Clerk's office. If you
have questions,
please call Mary at
the Clerk's office at
(608) 783-4958.





GET TO KNOW US

The Onalaska Fire Department (OFD) is a combination department with 17 full-time and 15 part-time members proudly serving our community since 1894. We provide fire suppression, Emergency Medical Services (EMS), Fire Prevention, Technical Rescue, and Community Risk Reduction Programs to the citizens we serve.

Our current staffing includes:

- Full-time: Fire Chief, Assistant Chief, 3 Lieutenants, and 12 Firefighter / EMTs
- Part-time: 1 Admin Assistant, 2 Community Risk Reduction Specialist (CRRS), and 12 Firefighter/ EMT, EMR
- 3 new full-time Firefighter / EMT positions will be added in January of 2023.

2023 CHANGES FOR SERVICE

Many of you may not know that for over 30 years, the City of Onalaska Fire Department (OFD) has been responding to fire and emergency calls within various portions of the Town of Onalaska. As of January 1, 2023, the City of Onalaska Fire Department is excited to be covering the entire Town of Onalaska for fire services and all but Brice Prairie for emergency services.

What does this mean for you? The recent growth in the OFD has made it possible to adequately staff our station to cover multiple calls with improved response times in the Town. This allows us to respond to the Town with the high level of professional service that we are known for.

A little about us: The OFD is currently licensed by the State of Wisconsin as an EMT-B non-transport agency. As we strive to provide the highest level of services to our customers we continually work to upgrade our equipment to the benefit of those we serve. Recently, the OFD has upgraded our AEDs to Zoll cardiac monitors/defibrillators, consistent with those used by Tri-State ambulance. We are also eagerly awaiting the delivery of two new Lucas CPR assist devices. In addition to these important devices, the OFD also carries advanced-level EMT medications to administer consistent with our licensing. To learn even more please visit www.cityofonalaska.com/fire



Picture of Engine 1 drafting from 3000-gallon water Tender 1 during a non-hydrant training scenario.



"The goal of the expanded agreement between the City and Town is to ensure a consistent and timely response within the fire district. Both communities have a commitment to provide the appropriate resources to be successful". Mayor Kim Smith

Important Safety Tips:

1. "Smoke Detectors Save Lives." Install one on every level of your home and in every sleeping area.
2. Carbon Monoxide (CO) is the silent killer. Make sure you have a CO detector in your home.
3. Remember to test all detectors monthly and change your batteries at least once a year.
4. Plan and practice your fire escape plan with your family. For more safety information and kids' activities, visit NFPA.org and click on the public education tab
5. Fire Department access: make sure your fire numbers are visible from the road. Keep your driveway clear from debris, snow, and ice. Also, remember to trim any tree branches to allow 13' 6" vertical clearance to drive a fire truck under.

CONTACT US

- 415 Main Street
Onalaska, WI 54650
Emergency: "911"
(P) (608) 781-9546
(F) (608) 781-9514
tgudie@onalaskawi.gov

What is Mutual Aid and MABAS?

Mutual Aid: The county Fire Chiefs have a mutual aid agreement that is used by all departments throughout the year. This agreement allows any Fire Department to request single or multiple resources such as an engine, water tender, truck, or any other piece of equipment from a neighboring department without charging a fee.

MABAS: The Mutual Aid Box Alarm System or MABAS, is a system that allows each Fire Department to pre-plan response cards for a specific type of incident and location. La Crosse County's MABAS division is 134. Each year the area Chiefs review, update, and approve the cards for Div. 134. Once all the cards are signed they get forwarded on to our 911 Emergency Dispatch Center (EDC). Example: the OFD is dispatched to a confirmed house fire in the Town of Onalaska. OFD would request that the EDC activates a specific card for this type of call and location. The dispatcher pulls the card and pages out all of the resources at one time. This system allows the Officer in charge to focus on the incident once he or she arrives at the location knowing additional resources are on the way.

Apparatus at Station 1 includes:

2 ladder trucks, 2 Engines (pumpers), 2 Rescues, 2 Chief's cars, 3000-gallon water Tender, Wildland Brush Truck, Polaris Ranger, and a rescue boat.

Follow us on
Facebook



Visit us online: www.cityofonalaska.com/fire

2023 At a Glance

List below is for planning assistance only. It is an overview and is not inclusive of all 2023 events. Dates subject to change.

Town Meeting Schedule

First Tuesday of each month **Storm Water Utility** 7 p.m.
 Monday preceding the second Tuesday **Plan Commission** 7 p.m.
 Second Tuesday of each month **Town Board** 6:00 p.m.
 Third Monday **Shoreline Committee** 7 p.m.
 Third Tuesday of each month **Park Committee** 7 p.m.
 Fourth Wednesday **Refuse and Recycle Committee** as needed
Ordinance Committee meets as needed

January 2023

- 2nd and 3rd Town Offices Closed
- 3rd First day to reserve Park Shelters for 2023 season
- 3rd Last day to submit nomination papers to run for Town Board
- Christmas Tree Drop off 9th -13th (see Recycler flyer for details)
- 31st Personal Property tax payments due
- 31st Real-estate Property tax payments due

February 2023

- 21st Spring Primary Election Day

March 2023

- 16th Yard waste site opens for the season (weather permitting)
- Curb side chipping begins (weather permitting)
- 31st Last day to renew dog license at the Town Hall

April 2023

- 4th Spring Election
- 7th Town Offices Closed (Good Friday)
- 15th Park Shelters Open for the Season
- 18th Annual Meeting of Electors

May 2023

- 29th Town Offices Closed

June 2023

- Open Book date to be determined
- Board of Review date to be determined

July 2023

- 4th Town Offices closed
- 31st Second Half property tax due to La Crosse County

August 2023

September 2023

- 4th Town Offices Closed

October 2023

- 15th Park Shelters Close for the Season
- Yard Waste site closed on Thursdays

November 2023

- Last month for curbside chipping (weather permitting)
- 2024 dog licenses become available at the Town Hall
- 11th last day Yard Waste drop site is open for the season
- 23rd and 24th Town Offices Closed

December 2023

- 25th and 26th Town Offices closed
- 31st All 2023 Dog licenses expire

TOWN CONTACTS

Chairperson Stan Hauser 790-2800
stan.hauser@townofonalaska.org

Supervisor I Jerry Monti 781-2544
jerry.monti@townofonalaska.org

Supervisor II Sandy Thompson 783-2569
sandy.thompson@townofonalaska.org

Supervisor III Frank Fogel 781-1870
frank.fogel@townofonalaska.org

Supervisor IV Dave Balduzzi 780-7447
dave.balduzzi@townofonalaska.org

Administrator/Clerk-Treasurer
 Mary Rinehart 783-4958 ext. 201
mary.rinehart@townofonalaska.org

Assessor Patrick Hart 608-372-2964
Packers@centurytel.net

Building Insp. Jim Webb 608-780-4672
Jimwebb1224@Gmail.com