



OCTOBER 2019

Board Chair Update

As of July 31, 2019, I resigned as Town Board Chair due to no longer a resident of the Town. It has been my privilege to represent the Town of Union for over 22 years. I have always kept the best interest of the Town when making decisions. Thank you for your support and assistance in these efforts. I am leaving the Town with very capable board members and board chair. I will always consider the Town of Union my hometown. Debbie Flynn-Smith

New Board Chair

August 1, 2019 I was appointed to the Chair position by the Town of Union Board to fill Deb Flynn-Smith's term.

Mona Mathews was appointed by the board to fill my supervisor term.

The Town of Union is a great place to live!! I grew up on Crescent Ave with much of my family in Union or Shawtown. I have three beautiful children, my oldest, Jenna is engaged to be married next April, my daughter Josie will graduate from Memorial next year and my son Jase is a freshman at Elk Mound HS. They keep me busy and I am proud to be their Mom. As a resident of the Town I am so amazed at the beautiful area in which I live. The nature, agricultural farmland, Town Parks and scenic views of the Chippewa River along with the friendly welcoming residents make our Town a great place to call home. I've had the privilege of farm life and understand the challenges our farmers face every day. I appreciate the smell of a fresh cut field and know the value of the weatherman's forecast. I look forward to this new position and embrace any challenges before me. As Chair I will continue attending meetings for Eau Claire County Planning & Development, EC County Zoning Steering Committee, WI Towns Assoc., Township Fire Board as well as Chairing monthly Town meetings and The Comprehensive Plan Commission. I also sit on the Visit Eau Claire Board, Town of Union Park Commission and have enjoyed working the elections for the past 10 years.

Jennifer Meyer

Town Board Chair

New Supervisor

I have called the Town of Union home for most of my life and am looking forward to serving on the board. As I start to serve on the board, I wanted to share a little about my background serving on other boards, where I work and about me personally. I hope to get to know more of you in the future.

I have served on the Chippewa Valley Technical College (CVTC) District Board since 2007 and have been the chairperson four of those years. Since joining the CVTC board, I have been very active in the statewide Wisconsin Technical College District Boards Association and served as secretary/treasurer, vice president, and president and received the board member of the year award twice.

In my work life, I am a Program Manager for MetaStar which is a quality improvement organization with 45 years of experience working alongside the health care system to improve the quality of health care for all patients. MetaStar works with communities, providers, and insurers to transform care with a vision of optimal health for all. MetaStar is Madison based and I work out of my home in the Town of Union and travel to the home office a couple times a month.

On a personal note, I am married to my husband Bob and have an adult son, James, who lives in Madison. My hobbies include bicycling and quilting. On summer evenings and weekends, you may see me riding the roads in the Town of Union on a blue bike and yellow helmet. I think the Town of Union is one of the most beautiful places to see on bicycle and yes, I like pedaling up the hills.

As I begin serving on the town board, I know I have a lot to learn about the inner workings of the Town. I look forward to serving the citizens of the Town of Union.

Mona Flynn Mathews

Town Board Supervisor

Comprehensive Planning Commission:

The Comprehensive Plan is an outline for planning & development in The Town of Union to maintain rural character and preserve prime farmland by protecting, encouraging and promoting agricultural land use while protecting the rights of property owners to develop their land in a manner consistent with the rural nature of the Town. The Comprehensive Planning Commission meets the first Thursday of the month to review application of Conditional Use Permits, Certified Survey Maps, rezones and occasional variances and offers their recommendations to the Town Board. These are open meetings & agendas are posted for review. We are looking for new members to join.

Park Commission:

The Park Commission has been busy! We welcome Kathy Alf to the Commission and thank Judy Bechard for her service as Park Commission Secretary. We meet monthly to discuss park updates and continue working on our long-range vision plan. Trail maintenance work in the Conservancy is progressing and our rough-cut signs are up on Crescent Ave. The Conservancy's Park Trail Head InterpreTuff sign is in place at the trail head off the large parking lot. This sign has complete map of the trail system through the park and specifies what is and isn't allowed. Please note this public hunting land. Check with the local DNR for hunting dates.

Sept. 29, 2019 with rain in the forecast and many hungry mosquitoes we enjoyed a hike overlooking the Lower Chippewa River along the forested bluff top with staff from Landmark Conservancy to celebrate **Wisconsin Land Trust Days**. The history and the ecology of the Lower Chippewa River and the unique perched sand dune formations make this forest special and beautiful for site seeing and hiking. Town of Union Conservancy is located on White Pine Dr next to the Union Transfer Station.

A special thank you to the Pleasant Hill Go-Getters 4-H club for their dedicated annual spring/fall Sherman Park Clean Up community service. The club plants flowers, rakes, and mows to help keep Sherman Creek Park clean for its visitors.

Both parks have a curfew of 9:00pm and if you carry in, you must carry out. Please keep OUR parks clean.

Roads

Eau Claire County Highway Dept is contracted by the Town of Union for general maintenance and plowing on Town of Union roads. It is easy to assume all roads within the town are maintained by the town, however all County roads, within the Town, are maintained by the County... such as E, C, EE, ET, etc. County Road issues can be addressed directly to EC CTY HWY Dept @ (715)839-2952.

The Town maintains the safety and clear view of the road right of way by clearing trees or brush. The ROW is 33' from the centerline of the road to your property. Please be mindful of this when planting trees on your property. Call Town Supervisor, Jeff Whyte, if you have any brush/trees that needs clearing in your ROW.

Grass clippings leaves and pine needles can pose a hazard to vehicles if blown into the roadway causing tires to lose traction; thus causing vehicles to have difficulty maintaining control and furthermore are extremely dangerous to motorcycles. Should you blow clippings into the road, please make the time to blow, mow or sweep back them back on your property to keep our roadways safe. Thank you.

Township Fire Station #3

Township Fire Dept. is looking for volunteers, both men and women, who are willing to give back to their community as a firefighter or Emergency Medical Responder. Please visit our website at <https://townshipfire.org> to apply or email

your questions to TFDP108@gmail.com

To obtain a burning permit visit <https://townshipfire.org> or call (715)834-6868

Emergency vehicles need clear driveways

All residents need to be sure your driveway(s) are clear on both sides as well as overhead. Fire trucks and emergency vehicles are very large and need to be able to maneuver your driveway easily and without hitting obstructions such as trees, limbs, brush, etc. Damage to any emergency vehicle may be a very unexpected costly repair for the property owner.

Address Markers

We previously have had reminders in past Criers about the importance of the address markers and their placement at the end of your driveway. The Fire Dept, EMS personnel and ambulance service use these markers to quickly locate the correct address in the event of an emergency. Please keep your address markers upright at the end of your driveway and clear all obstructions nearby so they have a clear view. If your marker becomes broken or missing the replacement fee is \$25... please contact Chris Turner @ (715)829-3737 for a replacement.

Mailboxes

visit usps.com/manage/mailboxes.htm or

Contact Chris Turner for a brochure.

Driveway Permits

Property owners who plan to establish a new driveway or property entrance off a Town road must obtain a permit. Contact Chris Turner @ (715)829-3737.

Contact EC Cty Hwy Dept for a driveway permit off a County Road or State HWY 12 @ (715)839-2952 ext 4

Building Permits

Contact Al Balsinger @ (715)577-9922

Driveway permits must be issued *first* before any new construction builds

Transfer Station

1910 White Pine Dr	Wednesday 1-4
Eau Claire, WI 54703	Saturday 9-4
(715)874-6453	Summer hours to 5pm

The old building has served its time and the new attendant building is in place! Plans are underway to complete by the end of fall. Thank you for your patience. Town of Union garbage bags are available for purchase at the Town Hall, Transfer Station or Holiday Gas Station @ 6123 Truax Lane, EC (off 312) for \$20 for a roll of 10. Plastic and steel recycling is free, and you can help support your local Township Fire Dept & EMS by recycling your aluminum in the designated area or at the Fire Station on Cty HWY E. See the Transfer Station attendant for the Tire Fee schedule.

Music Events

Blue Ox Music Festival: The 2020 Blue Ox Music Festival will be held on June 11th, 12th & 13th at Whispering Pines Campground in the Town of Union. The festival is going on its 6th annual year of bringing the best in Bluegrass and Americana music to the region. A huge thank you to the Town of Union for helping us make the festival a success!
Jim Bishel

Town Hall Rental

Did you know as a Town of Union resident or property owner can rent the Town Hall for your special occasion? Rental rates are \$150.00/day + \$50 deposit. Please contact the Town Clerk to schedule @ (715)874-6123 and obtain an agreement.

Pleasant Hill School Bell

At a Special Town meeting held in November 2010, chaired by Jim Volbrecht, the Town residents approved the purchase of the Pleasant Hill School House Bell from Dave Flynn. Pleasant Hill School was located at the north end of Pleasant Hill Road on County Rd C. According to dates found in the 1993 *West of the Chippewa* history book, the school opened in 1863 and further research from town residents have shared that the last class year was spring of 1961, when country schools were closing and were being incorporated into the city. The bell has been restored and the platform base has been erected awaiting its cherished piece of Town history. **Please join us for a Bell Dedication and open house on Nov. 3, 2019 from 2-4. A short dedication ceremony will begin 3:00**

Election Help Wanted

Election inspectors and Chief Election Inspectors are needed at every election. Working an election is a great way to meet your neighbors while helping in the Town. Inspectors are paid an hourly wage. If interested, please contact the Town Clerk at (715)874-6123

Elected Town Officials

Chairperson Jennifer Meyer
(715)456-5903
Supervisor Paul Travis
(715)456-0564
Supervisor Mona Mathews
(715)577-3908

Supervisor Jeff Bechard
(715)828-0586
Supervisor Jeff Whyte
(715)874-6466

Appointed Treasurer

John McLaughlin
(715)874-6123

Appointed Clerk

Beverly Christopherson
(715)874-6123

Driveway Permits

Chris Turner
(715)829-3737

Building Inspector

Al Balsinger
(715)577-9922

Town Constable

Russ Johnson
(715)839-9991

County Supervisor

Colleen Bates
(715)835-9813

Clerks Hours

Tues & Thurs 5:30 – 9pm
1st & 3rd Sat 8am – 12pm

Email: townofunion@wwt.net

Website: www.townofunionec.com

Park Commission Members:

Fred Belay, Gloria Bloom, Chuck Zabrowski, Marie Vornholt
Jennifer Meyer, Kathy Rowland, Kathy Alf

Comprehensive Planning Commission Members:

Jennifer Meyer, Judy Bechard & Ruth Burr