

The Official Town of Dunn Newsletter

Fall 1991

Board Proposes 5% Levy Increase

The proposed 1992 budget for the town of Dunn asks for a 5 percent increase to the tax levy. If residents adopt the levy, which will be voted on November 26 at 7:30 p.m. in the town hall, homeowners will be paying \$1.49 per \$1000 assessed value of their home to the town. In 1990, before the revaluation of the town when assessment ratios were at 88 percent, residents paid \$1.92 per \$1000. This year, with the reassessment completed, homes in Dunn are at 106 percent of the state's equalized value, well within the 10 percent range of 100 percent allowed by the state.

continued on page 7

Budget meeting to adopt levy is set for November 26

A special meeting of the town of Dunn will be held Tuesday, Nov. 26, 1991 at 7:30 p.m. at the Dunn Town Hall, 4156 CTH B, McFarland. The purpose of this meeting is to:

- I. approve the 1991 tax levy;
- II. authorize expenditures of more than \$10,000 for highways;
- III. consider amount to reserve for a building fund for a new town garage and for future development of Dunn Heritage Park.

All voters in the town of Dunn are encouraged to attend this meeting and vote on the issues. This is your opportunity to ask questions about where your tax money is going, and to have a say in spending and setting the levy.

By state law, town residents vote on the town tax levy, and grant permission for the board to make any highway expenditures in excess of \$10,000.

Agendas and announcements for all special town meetings are posted at the following locations: in the window at the town hall; at Christy's Landing, 2952 Waubesa Ave.; and at the Gwik Stop, 1888 Barber Dr.



The Lake Waubesa Conservation Association presented a check for \$20,000 to the town of Dunn in September to help pay attorneys' fees in the fight against the Libby Landfill. Shown are (left to right): Scott Zimmermann, president, and Jan Zimmermann, executive director of the LWCA, and Ed Minihan, town chairperson.

Don't Fall for Property Tax Shell Game

by Edmond P. Minihan, Town Chairperson

Property values across Dane County have been escalating. If you are trying to sell your house, this is good news. If you wish to remain in your home, it should still be good news.

Unfortunately this situation provides the opportunity for many units of government and school districts to enter into an old shell game: "Lo and behold, the tax rate will hold steady or even go down." The fact that property owners will be paying more in taxes is never mentioned.

It is a cynical stance for public officials to take. Do they really think that the public is dumb enough to believe that they are getting a tax break when they see the dollar amount on their tax bill go up? Maybe they are more gullible in other places, but not in the town of Dunn. We have a long tradition of active participation by the residents of our town. Every year you vote to determine the local tax levy when you meet

in assembly at the budget meeting.

The budget is the responsibility of the Dunn Town Board, along with the clerk and treasurer. The levy — the amount of tax money collected — is your responsibility. You determine how much tax money is going to be used for town operations; you have direct control over this part of your tax bill. Unfortunately, it is less than five percent of the bill. But you can participate in determining much of the remainder of that tax bill.

Our system of government, throughout its levels, is accountable to the citizens it represents. Accountability depends on an informed electorate. Beyond attending the annual town budget meeting, the following are some suggestions for making sure you are fully informed about what is going on in terms of your property tax:

1. Subscribe to your local

paper — the paper responsible for covering the events in your school district's community. In Dunn, this is the McFarland, Oregon, and Stoughton papers. It is the best way to be informed about the school district's operations and proposals. Their coverage on these issues is far better than any other source. Remember that the local school district is close to 80 percent of your property tax.

continued on back page

TOWN of DUNN
4156 Hwy. B
McFarland, WI 53558

Bulk Rate
U.S. Postage
PAID
Oregon, WI 53575
Permit No. 78

Air Quality Rules Limit Open Burning

Backyard burning of household wastes is restricted to only "dry combustible rubbish" such as leaves, twigs, untreated and unpainted wood, cardboard and paper, according to the DNR.

- Regulations specifically make it illegal to burn:
 - ✓ garbage,
 - ✓ plastic or rubber products, including plastic-covered food containers
 - ✓ oily substances (including greasy rags),
 - ✓ asphalt,
 - ✓ pesticide or paint containers,
 - ✓ wet rubbish.
- Protecting human health and the environment is the primary concern behind DNR regulations, according to Linda Wiese, DNR air management supervisor.

Burning garbage in your backyard can release toxic heavy metals such as lead, cadmium, chromium, mercury and arsenic into the air. Heavy metals are used in plastics as stabilizers and ultraviolet inhibitors. Some of them cause neurological disorders and some cause cancer.

Even burning leaves, grass and branches produces smoke laden with molds, fungi and other irritants that can make breathing difficult for people with allergies or asthma. A better solution for these materials is to compost them and add them to your yard or garden as fertilizer.

Discarded food scraps, coffee grounds and other wet rubbish can be added to the compost pile, while plastics, metals, glass, and newspaper can be recycled at the town's transfer site. These two solutions can greatly reduce the amount of waste generated by your household.

If you must burn some of your rubbish, be certain it's clean and dry — burning wet rubbish, including wet grass clippings or leaves, is illegal and can create a visibility hazard on nearby roads. The DNR recommends that you burn in the early evening. And be sure your burning site is located downwind of your neighbors.

Burn barrel complaints have increased since the cost of landfilling garbage went up. The town police chief will respond to calls on possible violations of the DNR regulations. If increased enforcement does not abate the problem, the town board will consider a local ordinance with stricter provisions and penalties. Please do what you can to help solve the burn barrel problems. The above information on DNR regulations, along with courtesy and respect for your neighbors, should be all that is necessary.

Parks Chair Wes Licht Retires

Wes Licht, Parks Commission chair and former town board member, retired this past July from the Parks Commission after serving 11 years.

Light along with Cal DeWitt, the only other previous parks chairman in Dunn's history, and a number of others in the late 1970s were drafters of the Dunn Open Space Plan, which has been the basis for Dunn's parks and historical preservation initiatives.

He is one of Dunn's original parks commission members, starting in 1979 when the commission was formed. During his tenure, the parks commission developed a comprehensive parks plan that listed Dunn's parks needs. Says Licht of his beginnings with public service, "I found the open space plan very interesting and exciting. Dunn has several very interesting woods, Indian mounds, wetlands, prairie remnants and I was concerned about maintaining those kinds of things in the town." Those things, he says, along with a desire to aid in the development of neighborhood parks and a community park have kept him on the commission.

Wes credits the active role the park commission has taken to ideas provided by Cal DeWitt, who he says "gave direction to me and the other members" of the first parks commission. "We have been fortunate to have many strong members on our parks commission. And it has always been extremely pleasurable for me to go to the meetings because the other people are interested in



the same goals."

During Wes's tenure the parks commission wrote a bike tour booklet, began a recycling program before recycling came into vogue, held annual Arbor Day family gatherings, conducted

roadside clean-ups and generally emphasized the importance of parks and Dunn's heritage.

"Many of our goals have been to help educate people that the most valuable part of Dunn is its natural resources and that there is a great value in open space, wetlands and roadsides," Wes said.

One of Wes's personal goals has been to see that Dunn develops a community park. He said he told himself that he was going to retire a few years ago, but continued on to see the completion of the purchase of the Dunn Heritage Park.

"I feel at ease giving up my position. I really felt it was time for someone else to lead and bring in new ideas." He adds, "I really feel the commission is in good hands with Elaine's leadership."

Wes teaches the 5th grade at Glendale Elementary School in Madison. He and his wife, Jane, raise horses on their small farm near McFarland.

Thank you, Wes, for providing outstanding leadership in the parks commission and helping us understand our rich natural heritage.

Change Requires Caution

by Steve Greb, Plan Commission Chairperson

During my youth, I spent the summers working on my uncle's farm in west-central Illinois. My uncle, like most farmers, is fiercely independent and is known to be temperamental (to put it mildly) at times. One day, we were repairing a piece of farm machinery; a plastic part had broken. As we were replacing the part, my uncle disgustedly informed me that "on earlier models, this piece was made of metal and would never have broken!" He continued with, "They charged me four dollars for this piece of junk and it probably cost them a nickel to make it." Just as we were about to complete the repair, my uncle's wrench slipped off the nut he was tightening, banging his knuckle.

A small amount of blood appeared on his greasy fist. I watched as the veins in his neck and forehead bulged out. I braced myself as his anger was about to boil over. He slowly turned to me, gritting his teeth, and said "Steve, I've seen a lot of changes in my life and I haven't liked a single God damn one of them!" For some reason, those harsh words stuck with me, even now,

more than twenty years later. I'm not implying that either my or the plan commission's outlook on change or growth is quite as extreme. I do believe that when we are faced with issues related to land use in our town we need to ask ourselves how these changes will directly and indirectly impact the human and natural resources of the township.

Many times, it's difficult to clearly measure what impacts a single land division will have on the town as a whole. Incremental increases in traffic, road wear, and noise and light pollution are hard to quantify. I call this *gradualism* — our inability to perceive small changes around us. The danger in this gradualism is that it's hard for anyone to get excited about the building of one house. It's not a big issue that galvanizes public concern, but collectively a number of these new buildings will quite clearly impact our town.

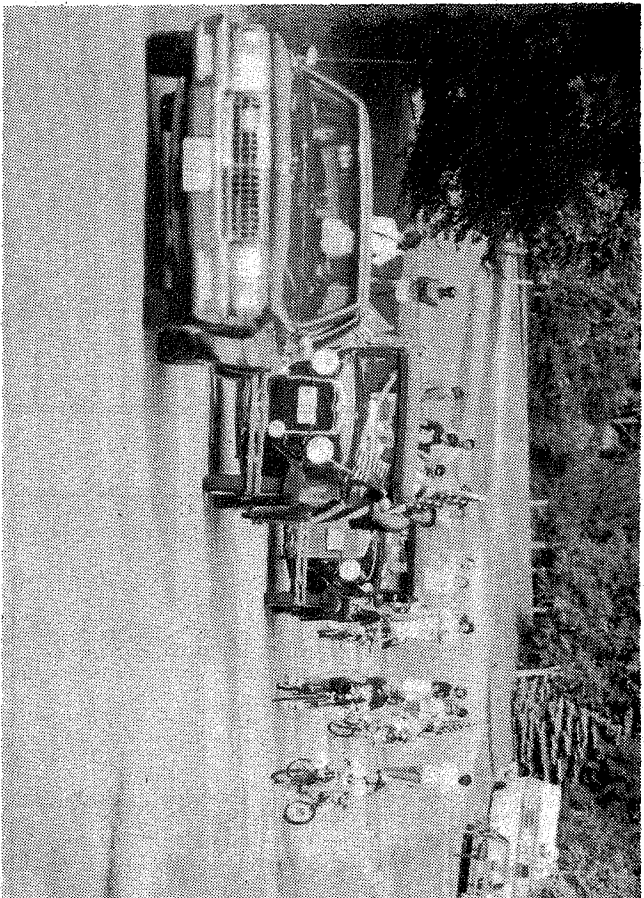
Fortunately, we have a strong land use plan to guide us in making decisions regarding rezoning and land division issues. The plan commission members take each

proposed change in land use quite seriously and try to determine the impacts of the change on the surrounding area and the township as a whole. I know many people perceive planning and land use policies as somewhat "dry" or abstract, but its important for all of us to understand how these policies actually influence our day-to-day lives.

Though many of us may not like the growth coming to our township, the plan commission will strive to minimize the impacts of this growth and work to protect our agricultural and environmental resources. I invite each of you to attend our monthly meeting of the plan commission. We meet the second Monday of each month and the agenda is posted at the town hall.

The Town of Dunn Newsletter
published twice yearly

Editors:
Paul Makt & Pammi Kasper



The Fourth of July was celebrated in style by the Simpson/Waubesa Heights neighborhood, including a children's parade to the park led by Police Chief Bob Berry with lights and siren.

Libby Landfill: Is It Over?

The 10-year battle to stop the siting of a landfill on Libby Road near Lake Waubesa is over — at least for the present.

On November 7, the Waste Facility Siting Board accepted Madison Landfill's arbitration package, but said MLI will have to obtain local zoning approvals in order to build the landfill. This decision still leaves the door open for a landfill to be built on the site, but not until zoning for a landfill is approved. For that to happen, both the town of Blooming Grove and Dane County would have to approve a zoning change from Agricultural-1 to Agricultural-2, plus issue a conditional use permit.

Dane County has been firmly opposed to private landfill ownership in the county and has stated it will not approve zoning for a private landfill on that site, so it is unlikely the Libby Landfill will be built.

Nevertheless Robert Glebs, president of MLI, says he intends to seek the county's approval for the zoning change. At this time, that approval seems improbable.

So far we have won the battle, but as long as zoning is the only string holding back construction of a landfill at that site, Libby remains a sleeping monster that may someday once again haunt the town.

Cooperation Beat the Libby Landfill

by Ed Minihan, Local Negotiating Committee Member

Despite all the attention the media paid to our victory over the Libby Landfill, they missed the real story. The real story is *who* won the battle. Over the past decade, nine town budget meetings have authorized the legal costs of this battle. Nearly \$100,000 of our town tax dollars have been expended on this fight (not the \$200,000 reported in the news). We were able to enlist the aid of the Wisconsin Alumni Research Foundation to pick up nearly half of the legal costs. To their credit, the residents of the Waubesa Beach area have put up their own money, some of it from the savings of retirees. Their \$20,000+ contribution and nearly \$35,000 from the late Julia Boghoffs brings the expenditure of our side to nearly a quarter of a million dollars.

To put the town costs in perspective, the landfill effort cost as much as it does to resurface one and one-half miles of road. It is an excellent investment in the future we are creating for the following generations.

The real story of the landfill effort has yet to be told. In an era where cynicism on the part of government toward citizens and on the part of citizens toward government is the dominant quality of the relationship, our experience demonstrates the great potential of cooperative effort. This has been an instance where serious work and sacrifice on the part of the area residents, a neighboring town, a village, the county, state representatives, and the citizens of the Town of Dunn accomplished what could not have been done by any of us alone. When the citizenry participates, our system of government can work wonders.

EPA to Hold Meeting on Superfund Site Dec. 4

Chuck Wilk of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency will be at the town hall Dec. 4 at 7 p.m. to update residents on test results and explain the next steps the EPA will be taking with the clean-up of the City Disposal Superfund Site.

Located about ¾ mile south of Schneider Drive on the west side of Sand Hill Road, the City Disposal site was a dumping ground for industrial wastes, much of it in liquid form. The dump was closed in the mid 1970s and is currently owned by Waste Management of Wisconsin.

Last year, at a similar informational meeting, the EPA said more testing was needed to understand the groundwater flow in the area because test wells indicated high concentrations of volatile organic compounds (VOCs), which are generally harmful. The testing was completed this past summer and a draft Remedial Investigation Report has been written that describes the conditions at the site. This report is expected to be approved and finalized by the EPA in early December and may be available for the informational meeting.

Commenting on the report, Wilk said an Endangerment Assessment has been completed and the EPA has found that "people are not presently in danger". He added, though, that without doing some action at the site, neighboring private wells might become contaminated. Wilk also said the test results from this summer have changed the way the EPA thinks the clean-up should be approached.

Following EPA approval of the Remedial Investigation Report, Wilk said a feasibility study outlining the EPA's clean-up options will be prepared. He expects this to be completed during the winter. From this, the EPA will write their proposed clean-up plan, which indicates the preferred method the agency wishes to use.

Once this proposed plan is issued, he said, another public meeting will be held and residents will have 30 days to comment on the plan.

Wilk was unable to provide firm dates for the completion of these steps or a time for the clean-up to begin.

Elaine Andrews to Head Parks Commission

Elaine Andrews has been appointed the new chairperson of the parks commission. Elaine has served on the commission since 1982, when she was appointed to complete another member's term. She was reappointed for a full term in 1986. Elaine brings an



educational background and natural resources management skills to the parks commission. She has worked as a high school science teacher in Chicago, Detroit and Milwaukee; written environmental education materials for the Sea Grant Institute; and worked as a naturalist for parks in Michigan and Wisconsin.

Since 1979, she has been employed by the University of

Wisconsin Cooperative Extension System as an environmental education specialist. She provides educational opportunities and materials on environmental issues for adult audiences around the state. As an Extension professional, she also participates in several task forces and advisory committees. She has served the Department of Public Instruction as a member of their Environmental Education Committee, the School Hazardous Waste Task Force, and as a Title I grants reviewer. She is also a member of Senator Kohl's Environmental Advisory Committee.

Elaine works on the national level as a director for the North American Association of Environmental Education and she is a member of the United States Department of Agriculture's Cooperative Extension Environmental Education Committee.

Elaine is married, with two children. Her husband, Chris Honeyman, is a mediator with the Wisconsin Employment Relations Commission. She enjoys gardening, hiking, and travel as hobbies. Congratulations on this new appointment, Elaine.

Read Your Tax Bill To Be Sure You Get Your Lottery Credit

by Dorothy Berkan,
Town Treasurer

"Can I afford to live in my home?"
"If taxes keep going up, I'll have to sell."
"When are you going to send out my 'Christmas Greeting'?"
"How much are property taxes going up? My assessment really jumped."

This is the time of year these questions are heard everywhere, and from everyone. And I don't have any answers!

All I can do, as your treasurer, is to tell you to look at your tax statement very carefully when you receive it — whether you own real estate or personal property. **Really read it!**

The first thing everyone looks for is the bottom line — what will I have to pay? Several things contribute to that bottom line. Each taxing jurisdiction — state, county, municipality, school district, vocational and technical school district — add their levies to make the total gross property tax due. Each is telling you that, according to the budget they have adopted, they need a definite amount from you in order to function for the next year.

The next item to notice is a credit that will reduce your tax. The state school credit is applied against your total property tax, and reduces the total you owe. Last year's bill included both school and general tax credits — this year, the general tax credit, which was 72 cents per thousand last year, has been removed.

And now the new feature — **LOTTERY TAX CREDIT!** This will apply to residential and agricultural property with improvements.

But wait! The lottery tax credit will only apply if:

1. You own the property.
2. It is your primary residence or principle dwelling.
3. You sign the statement verifying that no. 1 and 2 above are true.

Your mortgage company has probably received information regarding the lottery credit already. They will send you a form to sign so that they can pay the correct amount. Be sure that no. 1 and 2 above apply before you sign and return the form.

Now, financial news that everybody knows: interest rates are going down. Interest rates earned on any funds not presently being used will also be dropping, for the town as well as for you personally.

Community Mill Rate Comparisons

	1990 Actual	1991 Proposed	Percent Assessment Ratio
Town of Oregon	2.77	3.04	95.6
Village of Oregon	5.62	6.13	92.7
Blooming Grove	1.09	2.32	91
Dunkirk	1.99	1.68	87.7
Rutland	3.82	3.82	84.28
Pleasant Springs	1.34	1.91	97
McFarland	6.95	6.95	93
Stoughton	6.39	6.84	89.6
Fitchburg	4.50	4.72	87
Town of Cottage Grove	2.40	NA	NA
Windsor	1.98	2.22	85
Dunn	1.92	1.49	106

Understanding Revaluation and Your Tax Rate

by Roz Gausman, Town Clerk

The revaluation and 1991 Board of Review were completed this fall somewhat behind schedule. The assessment ratio prior to the revaluation was 88 percent. The final assessment ratio as equalized by the Department of Revenue ended up at 106 percent. The assessor's figures were about 6% high (well within the 10 percent state requirement). While the town as a whole was at 88 percent before the revaluation, different classes of property making up that figure varied greatly due to property sales within each classification. For example, lake property classification was assessed at a much lower percentage, in comparison to fair market value, and agricultural property was assessed too high due to recent drops in the value of farmland.

The last revaluation of the town was in 1985. In 1986, a change in state legislation required municipalities to assess property within 10 percent of full market value (100 percent) at least once in a four-year period. It was that legislation and the growing variation between classes of property that resulted in our 1991 revaluation. The town valuation increased by \$51,714,100 or 35.6 percent.

Notices of property values, including the dates of the Open Book Sessions and the Board of Review were mailed to every property owner. The assessors met with approximately 200 property owners during their three-day Open Book Session. Out of a total of 2,689 parcels (1,939 with improvements) in the town of Dunn, there were 65 appeals (3 percent) before the Board of Review. The assessor said this is fewer than the average for a revaluation.

During this process a frequent question asked is, "How

will the revaluation affect my taxes?" The answer to that question depends on many factors. If your property is in a classification where the market has been "hot", like lake property, your assessment increased more than average because value is based on what the public is willing to pay for lake property. Also, if you are in a school district or other taxing district having a substantial budget increase (such as a new school), that will impact your tax rate just as in any other year.

Keeping those factors in mind, the tax rate is arrived at in the following way. Every year, state legislators, county boards, school boards, special districts (such as sanitary districts), and the electors at the town budget meeting adopt a tax levy to pay for services provided by each of those units of government. The total of those tax levies (less any state tax credit applied) is apportioned across the total assessed value in each taxing district. A tax dollar amount (mill rate) per \$1,000 of assessed value is levied on each taxable property. This ensures that every property owner pays a fair share of the cost of government services.

The actual mill rate cannot be figured until all the tax levies are approved. That usually is accomplished by the first or second week of December.

Because every year is a new year, if you missed the 1991 Board of Review and disagree with the value placed on your property, you have the right to appeal in 1992. If you call the town hall and ask to be notified of the date the Board of Review will meet next year, you will be sent a note with the date of the Open Book Session and Board of Review meeting.

1992

1992 BUDGET ACCT. NO.	1992 BUDGET ACCOUNT DESCRIPTION
300	REVENUES:
303	TAXES:
304	GENERAL PROPERTY TAX
305	MOBILE HOME - BAYVIEW
306	MOBILE HOME - OTHER
309	CONSERVATION LANDS
310	OMITTED PROPERTY TAX
	TOTAL TAX

315	INTERGOVERNMENTAL:
318	SHARED TAXES-STATE
319	RECYCLING GRANT
320	PARK GRANT
321	STATE - ROAD AID
322	COUNTY AID - ROAD/BRIDGE
326	FIRE DEPT. DUES
327	PAYMENT MUNICIPAL SERVICE
328	FEDERAL EMERGENCY GRANT
330	TOTAL INTERGOVERNMENT

335	REGULATION & COMPLIA
337	LIQUOR, MALT LICENSES
338	OPERATORS LICENSE
339	BUSINESS OR OCCUPATION
340	CIGARETTE LICENSE
342	COIN MACHINE - OTHER
344	MOBILE HOME PARK FEE
345	DOG LICENSES - TOWN SHAL
346	PERMITS - BUILDING
349	LAND DIVISION FEES
354	COURT PENALTIES & FINES
360	TOTAL REGULATION & COMPI

365	PUBLIC CHARGES:
368	STREET MAINTENANCE
377	LAND SALES
381	TOTAL PUBLIC CHARGES

383	OTHER REVENUE:
382	STREET ASSESSMENTS
385	DONATION - LIBBY ATTNY F
387	INTEREST - GENERAL FUND
389	INTEREST - SPECIAL ASSES
390	SALE USED EQUIPMENT
391	LANDFILL SALVAGE
392	LANDFILL STICKERS
393	LANDFILL COUPONS
394	LAND RENT OTHER
395	CABLE TV FRANCHISE FEES
396	PROCEEDS LONG TERM DEEB
397	MISCELLANEOUS
398	TOTAL OTHER REVENUE
399	GRAND TOTAL REVENUE

401	EXPENDITURES
451	GENERAL GOVERNMENT
456	TOWN BOARD - SALARIES
458	TOWN BOARD - EXPENSES
462	ELECTION WORKERS SALARI
463	ELECTION EXPENSES
465	PLAN COMMISSION - CLERI
466	PLAN COMMISSION EXPEN
469	ENGINEERING FEES
470	JUSTICE SALARY
471	JUSTICE EXPENSES
472	COURT CLERK - WAGES
472	CLERK SALARY
474	CLERK EXPENSES
479	OTHER CLERICAL SALARIE
480	ASSESSOR CONTRACT
482	ASSESSORS EXPENSES
484	TREASURER - SALARY
486	TREASURER EXPENSES
490	ATTORNEY FEES
491	EDUCATION & TRAINING
498	INDEPENDENT AUDIT
500	DATA PROCESSING
505	TOWN NEWSLETTER
506	OFFICE SUPPLIES & EXPEN
507	DUES & PUBLICATIONS
508	TOWN HALL MAINTENANC

Town of Dunn Proposed Budget

1990 ACTUAL	1991 BUDGETED	EST. YR END	1992 PROPOSED

268,109	279,396	279,396	293,366
16,967	16,000	18,800	20,000
1,090	1,000	937	1,000
4,644	4,000	4,260	4,000
2,418	0	2,688	1,800
293,228	300,396	306,081	320,166

196,593	210,000	210,525	200,567
6,573	6,500	6,565	11,250
19,040	37,372	36,200	0
56,907	63,230	63,230	69,553
0	0	0	2,250
6,985	6,900	7,017	7,000
980	980	914	900
0	0	0	10,000
287,078	324,982	324,451	301,520

2,630	2,600	2,600	2,600
1,000	900	900	900
100	100	100	100
50	50	40	40
150	150	145	150
442	442	442	442
701	300	600	750
16,913	12,000	15,000	15,000
189	100	100	100
8,221	6,000	4,100	5,000
30,396	22,642	24,027	25,082

0	0	0	0
14,313	0	0	0
14,313	0	0	0

1,331	1,330	1,634	1,331
0	0	40,000	6,000
36,666	23,000	34,500	25,000
1,642	905	1,205	800
75	0	1,550	1,500
1,810	2,000	2,000	0
5,511	4,700	6,000	6,000
7,952	8,500	8,500	11,000
129	120	100	1,100
7,503	7,000	8,087	8,000
57,675	28,000	26,652	66,000
1,333	0	1,251	0
121,627	75,555	131,479	126,731
746,642	723,575	786,038	773,499

7,000	7,000	7,000	7,000
0	0	10	100
995	1,000	800	2,000
227	150	100	500
1,866	1,000	1,000	750
951	500	200	500
956	2,000	2,000	2,000
1,200	1,200	1,200	1,200
78	100	100	100
0	0	1,000	1,200
12,000	15,000	15,000	15,000
154	150	200	250
32,433	34,000	34,000	37,000
12,342	26,546	26,550	7,560
80	100	200	200
5,000	6,500	6,500	6,500
286	300	300	300
25,330	30,000	70,000	25,000
1,574	2,000	2,000	2,500
2,800	2,900	3,110	3,500
482	2,100	8,000	500
2,608	2,500	2,500	2,700
2,871	3,500	4,000	3,000
1,746	1,800	1,800	550
5,771	8,000	8,000	11,000

1992 BUDGET ACCT. NO.	1992 BUDGET DESCRIPTION	1990 ACTUAL	1991 BUDGETED	EST. YR END	1992 PROPOSED
-----------------------	-------------------------	-------------	---------------	-------------	---------------

509	TOWN HALL MAINTENANCE - WAGES	0	0	600	1,000
510	PROPERTY AND LIABILITY INS.	15,843	16,000	16,556	18,000
512	EMPLOYEES BOND	400	500	500	500
518	LEGAL PUBLICATIONS	1,221	1,300	1,000	1,300
519	TAXES REFUNDED	736	0	0	0
520	SOCIAL SECURITY EXPENSE	11,469	12,000	13,100	15,000
524	RETIREMENT EXPENSE	14,615	16,000	16,000	17,000
525	HEALTH INSURANCE	5,576	6,000	7,600	8,500
540	CEMETERY EXPENSE	547	435	435	425
541	CEMETERY - WAGES	300	301	301	400
542	MISCELLANEOUS	557	500	500	500
550	TOTAL GENERAL GOVERNMENT	170,014	201,382	252,162	193,535

551	PARKS & ACTIVITY:				
552	PARK COMMISSION - CLERICAL	107	50	50	100
553	PARKS ACTIVITY - WAGES	2,418	3,000	3,200	7,920
555	PARKS EXPENSE	8,951	7,500	7,500	5,550
570	TOTAL PARKS & ACTIVITY	11,376	10,550	10,750	13,570

601	PUBLIC SAFETY:				
604	POLICE CHIEF SALARY	4,322	4,200	4,200	5,500
605	POLICE - CLERICAL	843	1,000	600	800
606	POLICE EXPENSES	1,874	9,500	8,000	2,000
616	FIRE PROTECTION - MCFARLAND	32,663	25,000	33,100	35,500
617	EMS - MCFARLAND	21,888	24,000	21,900	22,000
618	FIRE PROTECTION - OREGON	41,058	23,000	23,000	33,450
619	EMS - OREGON	19,575	19,600	20,000	20,000
620	FIRE PROTECTION - STOUGHTON	19,304	21,000	30,000	31,000
621	EMS - STOUGHTON	551	3,300	3,316	4,000
622	HAZMAT MUTUAL AID	0	115	98	115
630	BUILDING INSPECTOR SALARY	6,117	7,500	7,000	7,500
631	BUILDING INSPECTION EXPENSE	1,363	1,500	1,000	1,500
650	TOTAL PUBLIC SAFETY	149,558	139,715	152,214	163,365

651	HEALTH & SOCIAL SERVICES:				
664	SENIOR CITIZENS - MCFARLAND	500	500	500	1,000
665	SENIOR CITIZENS - OREGON	11,644	13,000	13,000	15,368
666	SENIOR CITIZENS - STOUGHTON	4,560	4,500	4,500	4,500
690	TOTAL HEALTH & SOCIAL SERVICES	16,704	18,000	18,000	20,868

701	PUBLIC WORKS:				
706	HWY DEPT SALARIES	63,026	66,000	66,000	73,250
715	MACHINERY & EQUIPMENT OPERATION	6,375	8,000	8,000	8,000
716	MACHINERY & EQUIP REPAIR & MAINT.	8,548	10,000	10,000	10,000
718	GARAGE EXPENSE	5,393	11,500	11,500	11,500
724	STREET REPAIR & MAINTENANCE	54,372	85,000	80,000	79,500
726	BRIDGES & CULVERTS	223	300	4,000	6,000
730	SNOW & ICE CONTROL	10,794	13,000	13,000	13,000
734	TRAFFIC CONTROL - SIGNS	3,226	2,500	2,500	2,000
736	STREET LIGHTING	7,025	8,000	3,000	8,000
740	TREE & BRUSH CONTROL	206	200	100	200
742	LANDFILL - WAGES	13,779	14,200	14,200	14,900
746	LANDFILL EXPENSES	51,469	2,000	2,000	2,000
2	RECYCLING - EXPENSES	0	4,000	4,000	2,500
3	SOLID WASTE DISPOSAL - EXPENSES	0	9,000	6,000	10,000
750	TOTAL PUBLIC WORKS	224,441	233,700	229,300	240,850

761	DEBT SERVICE:				
764	PRINCIPAL SHORT TERM DEBT	16,125	25,725	16,125	28,585
768	INTEREST SHORT TERM DEBT	5,315	11,065	3,593	7,165
780	TOTAL DEBT SERVICE	21,440	36,790	19,718	35,750

801	CAPITAL EXPENDITURES:				
804	STORM SEWER PROJECTS	839	25,000	0	25,000
806	SURFACE & RESURFACE ROADS	35,330	35,000	25,397	60,000
807	OFFICE EQUIPMENT	0	2,600	3,872	10,500
808	EQUIPMENT	58,279	28,000	26,652	66,000
812	LAND PURCHASES	52,644	0	7,400	0
840	TOTAL CAPITAL EXPENDITURES	147,092	90,600	63,321	161,500

900	GRAND TOTAL EXPENDITURES	740,625	730,737	745,465	829,438
901	GRAND TOTAL REVENUES	746,642	723,575	786,038	773,499
902	RECEIPTS OVER(UNDER) EXPENDITURES	6,026	(7,162)	40,573	(55,939)
903	CURRENT AVAILABLE FUNDS APPLIED	84	33,834	22,029	55,939
904	TAX LEVY REQUIRED	*****	*****	*****	*****
	EST. YEAR END UNAPPROPRIATED FUNDS	199,908	239,226	239,226	180,662
	LONG TERM DEBT LIABILITY \$117,550				

On the Road Again with Jim

by Jim Manson, Highway Foreman

The town road crew had a busier summer than usual this year. We had Lally Road and part of Dunnwood Way ground up and new blacktop put down for a total of a half mile. Then we shouldered those roads and a few other problem spots.

We used more than 500 tons of patch material to fix the roads that were seal coated. This year we seal coated about 12 miles of roads. That's the most seal coating we've ever done since I started working for the town in 1966.

Next year, we hope to seal coat at least another 10 miles of roads. Which roads we end up doing depends a lot on how things look in the spring and how the bids come in, but we are considering doing everything in Spartan Hills subdivision, Colladay Point, Barber Drive, Labrador Road, and part of Schneider Drive.

In the first part of July, we had a wind storm that did a lot of tree damage. We spent a month cleaning up and hauling brush to be burned, regrading washed-out shoulders, and hauling away the brush residents stacked up by the road. We still have some spots to finish cleaning up, mostly in places we can't get to until the ground is frozen.

We ran into some manpower problems in the spring. All the road patching needed to be done because of the usual spring breakup and all the preparatory work had to be done on the roads that

were going to be sealcoated, while at the same time all the grass in all the town parks took off on its spring growth spurt. We are recommending that some of the park mowing be contracted out next year to eliminate this problem.

Another problem that the road crew runs into frequently is that of cars, boats and trailers left in the road right-of-way when snow plowing starts. This past winter, we tangled with a couple of boat trailers — and the trailers didn't win — that were buried under the snow where we couldn't see them. Once the snow flies, we can't remember where everything was last time we were able to see it!

We're asking for a new truck in the budget, to be used with our existing plows, salter, and wings, to replace the '71 Ford. That poor old truck is 20 now, and that's the longest we've ever had a truck last for as long as I've been here.

After a week and a half of heavy rains this fall, it turned cold about a month too early. Winter must not be far behind! Drive carefully this winter and remember that the county roads are plowed more often and salted more thoroughly during a storm, so they are usually easier driving. Center and shoulder lines can make the road easier to see during a snowstorm, too.

Police Chief's Report

by Chief Bob Berry

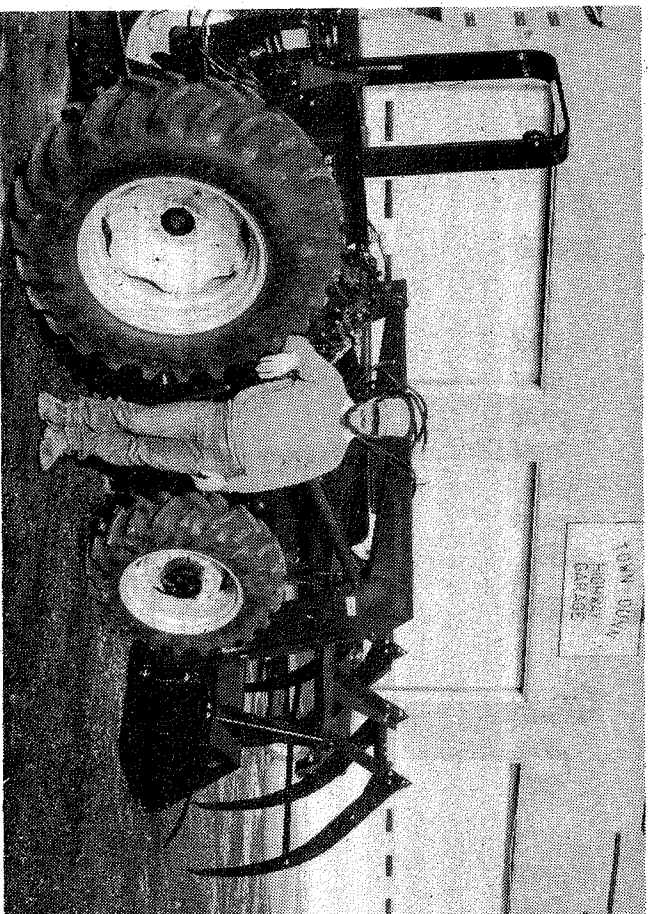
In previous newsletters, I have spoken about residences not being properly marked and difficult to find in emergency situations. Please take a little time to check the outside of your residence to assure that emergency vehicles can identify your house so your family can get emergency care, if needed, as soon as possible. We need to be able to read your house numbers; if they're obstructed or not there, it takes much more time to assess the situation and sometime this may be critical to you and yours. Fire numbers are available from the county land regulation department for a very small fee. Contact them if you need new numbers.

The recent winter-like weather has only been around for a few weeks, but the town has already received complaints of people plowing and shoveling their snow onto the street. This creates a traffic hazard and can cause vehicles to lose control when they

strike the frozen snow and ice. The town has an ordinance prohibiting moving snow onto the road.

The town has purchased two new police radios to aid communications with the road crew and with the Dane County Sheriff's 911 dispatcher. The old radios were 15 years old and they didn't have all the channels now being used. Also, replacement parts were getting to be extremely difficult to find.

In this fall's budget request, I am asking to hire one of the Dane County Sheriff's Deputies while I am on vacation and on a very limited basis in special circumstances. I feel we need additional night and weekend coverage. If you need the services of your police department, please contact the town hall. We wish everyone a safe, happy and healthy 1992.



The town's new tractor was delivered September 5, and its been out grading shoulders already this fall. It also has grapple hooks for picking up brush from along the roadsides — it all has to be hauled up to the transfer site for burning. The old mower will also fit on it for roadside mowing. The old tractor is still around, although it's getting pretty shaky. It's going to have the backhoe left on it now and be used for that and as a loader.

Business Office Update

by Roz Gausman, Town Clerk

This has been an unusual year in the clerk's office. Normal business has been interrupted by several projects, including the revaluation of property, grant applications for park projects, recycling grants and a federal disaster grant for costs related to cleaning up after the July 7th storm, and reports to be filed on the remediation of contaminated soil from an underground fuel storage tank at the town garage.

For the revaluation, the office staff had to schedule appointments and send out more than 300 certified letters. On the brighter side, we were successful in raising more than \$60,000 in revenues from grant applications.

We started reorganizing and updating the filing system, but that was put on hold during the extra projects mentioned above. The old filing system was using space-consuming legal-size files. We hope to complete that project after the busy tax season.

We are planning a facelift for the offices and entryway at the town hall. We will keep the wallpaper and friendly country look of the office, but we are

replacing the thread-bare carpet, which was installed in the mid '70s. A service window with a work counter will be installed this winter to help preserve the new carpeting by eliminating the constant stream of muddy or salty boots that come through the office. The service window will also help reduce the draft problem resulting from the office door opening right next to the outside door. Our goal in these changes is to better serve the residents and still maintain the friendly, community-office atmosphere of the business office.

Dog owners must license pets

Dog owners are reminded that it is unlawful for a person in the town of Dunn to own, harbor or keep any dog without complying with Dunn Ordinance 79-1. This ordinance requires all dogs five months of age and older to be licensed. Dog licenses are available at the town hall Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Dog License Fees Likely to Rise

The state and county have increased the portion of the dog license fees that must be remitted to them, so the town's fees will be increasing, too. The town treasurer will be recommending that the fees be increased to \$4.50 for neutered or spayed dogs, \$9.00 for unneutered or unspayed dogs, \$38.00 for a kennel license to include 12 dogs, and \$3.75 for each additional dog in a kennel.

5% Increase in Levy Proposed in 1992

public charges and miscellaneous charge -- will remain about the same. This means a slight increase in the levy.

As is the case every year, leftover carry-over funds are being used to balance the budget and keep the levy as close to last year's as possible. The town likes to have about \$100,000 as carry-over funds. By the end of 1991 this is expected to increase to \$239,000. About \$56,000 of this will be used along with the levy to balance the budget. Another \$50,000 of it is proposed to be used to start a sinking fund for construction of a new town garage on an acre of land immediately east of the town hall and \$5,000 is proposed to begin a sinking fund for the development of Dunn Heritage Park, the town's first community park. This will leave about \$118,000 as carry-over money to cover the town's expenses until the 1992 intergovernmental money comes in.

Income Details

If the budget is approved as shown on pages 4 and 5, \$293,366 will come from town residents as the levy. In addition to the levy, \$26,800 of income is expected as mobile home taxes, conservation land taxes and omitted taxes. In 1992, 40 percent of the income or \$301,520 is expected from intergovernmental sources. This includes state shared taxes, a recycling grant, road aids and, for the first time, \$10,000 in the form of a federal emergency grant. The emergency grant is for costs incurred during last July's wind storm.

About 3 percent of the town's income (\$25,082) comes from regulation and compliance fees such as liquor and dog licenses and court fines.

The remaining 16 percent of the income comes from "other charges" such as transfer site permits, donations, interest income and land rent. Donations include shared money from Dane County for attorney's fees in the Libby Landfill fight. Transfer site garbage passes are expected to raise an additional \$2,500 in 1992 because the town board will be proposing increasing the fee per bag of garbage to \$1 to help meet garbage collection costs.

Spending Details

General Government

Overall, general government spending is lower this year because the revaluation is complete and we will no longer be paying for the reassessments. Because 1992 is a presidential election year, election costs will rise

again. Salaries for elected officials will remain the same, but the board is proposing an increase for full time clerical and public works employees. Pay increases will be awarded based on performance and on an individual basis. Since the revaluation is complete, the contract with the assessor goes back to a maintenance level, as will data processing costs, which burgeoned last year. Now that the Libby Landfill battle is over, attorney's fees will also be dropping to more traditional levels.

In an effort to weatherize the town hall, the board is proposing replacing the windows and storms and installing a service window to the business office. This has added an additional \$5,000 to the hall's maintenance costs.

Parks

Park maintenance and mowing has been the responsibility of the Public Works Department. This summer the department was short one man for four days of each week, usually at critical times, due to that person taking care of park mowing, which created a backlog of work. So, the town board is proposing hiring an outside firm instead of hiring another employee and purchasing another mower tractor for that employee. From estimates that have been received, the town board believes that subcontracting the park mowing will be a financially better move.

Public Safety

The police department is proposing the addition of another part-time police officer to cover for Chief Berry on some week-ends and late evenings. Because Chief Berry works full time for the McFarland Police Department, he is asking that he have an assistant who can answer late-night calls in his place. This new person is a deputy with the Dane County Sheriff's Department.

For fire protection and emergency medical service, the budget includes the full amounts requested by each of the three districts serving Dunn. The large increase in the Oregon Fire District is the town's share for equipment improvements.

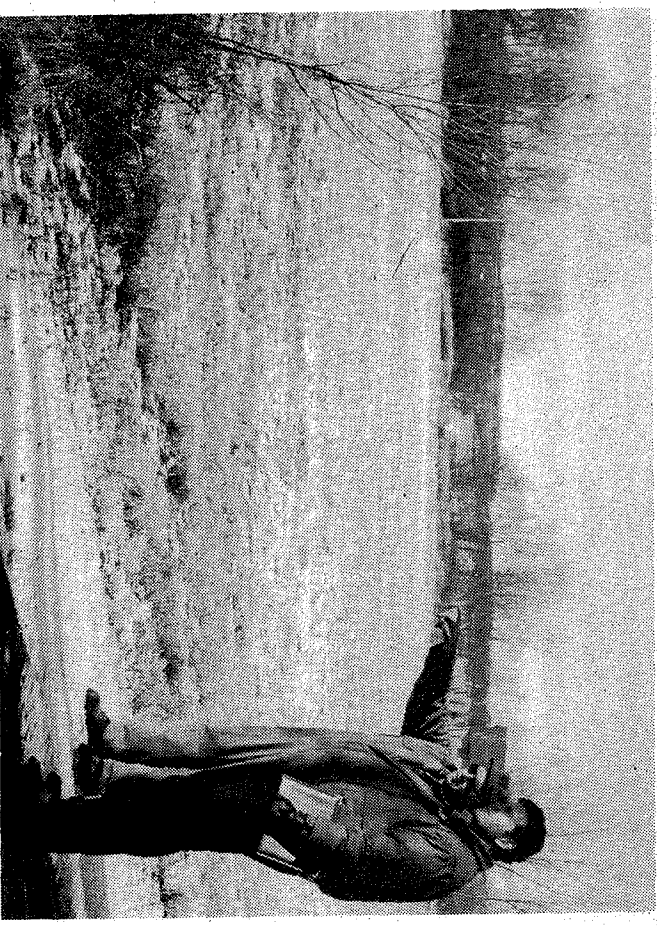
One additional cost that will become a benefit to Dunn residents in the form of reduced fire insurance rates is the installation of five "dry" fire hydrants. Dry hydrants tap lakes or rivers, and must have a water pump hooked to them to function. The cost to town residents will average \$750 per hydrant, which is one-half of

the full installation cost. The remainder will be paid by the DNR. The exact locations are still undetermined.

Health and Social Services

The sums budgeted are the amounts requested by the Stoughton and Oregon senior centers, plus \$1,000 for McFarland Senior Citizen and Volunteer Services Coordinator Programs.

Solid waste expenses are set high because the town is investing purchasing its own refuse dumpsters. This may be an option to renting dumpsters, but the town has yet to determine if owning the dumpster will mean a higher hauling price. Because of the possibility of it being difficult to find a hauler, this expense item may be dropped from the budget.



Highway Foreman Jim Manson points out known waterways at the Dunn Heritage Park to Warren Myer, the engineer hired to do a preliminary survey of the property to determine surface water flow paths. The town board will be asking residents to set aside \$5000 in a sinking fund for the park's development.

Public Works

The proposed garage expenses are up for the second year in a row due to the removal of the old underground fuel tanks and the removal of contaminated soil around one of the tanks. (New aboveground tanks were installed in 1991.) In this line item is \$5,000 toward removal of the contaminated soil. That amount is the maximum dollar amount the town will have to pay, since state funding will cover costs above that amount.

Bridge and culvert repairs are up due to repairs needed on the Dyreson Road bridge over the Yahara River. Dane County has been contracted to paint the bridge. Work on the bridge began in the summer of 1991. Also included are funds to correct a drainage problem on Waubesa Avenue.

Recycling expenses are expected to be lower in 1992 because the town board is proposing to hire an outside firm to haul recyclables. For the past two years, the town has hauled some of the recyclables and collected income, but due to the depressed market for recyclables and the need for manpower in the town it is costing more than it is generating in funds.

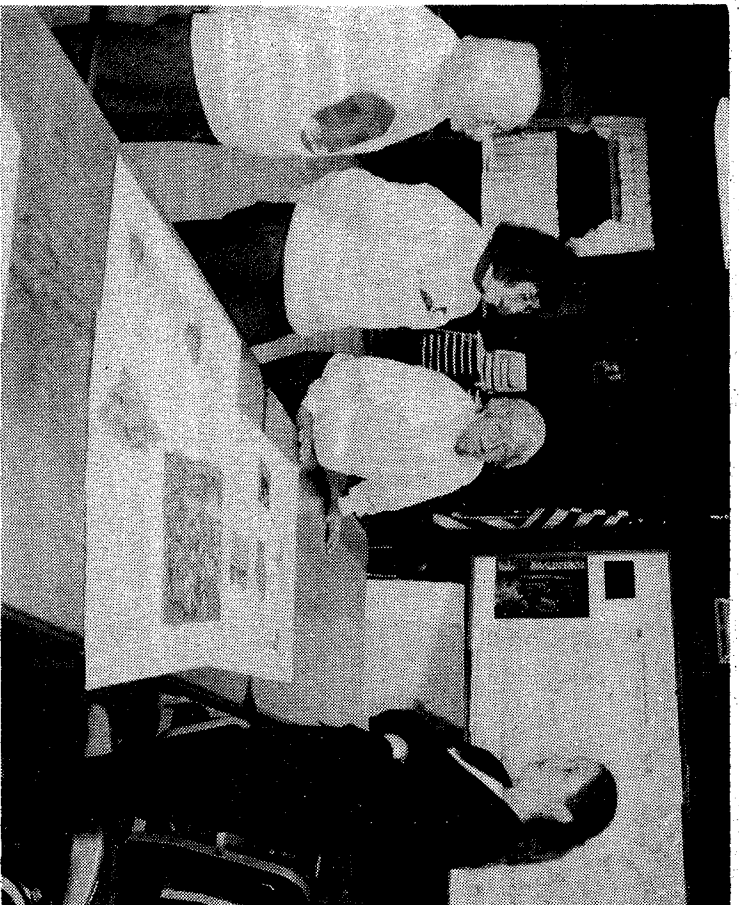
Debt Service

The increase in these figures reflect the new tractor mower the town purchased in 1991.

Capital Expenditures

The Colladay Point wet prairie retention pond to control flooding of homes in that area was delayed in 1991. The project is back on-line for 1992. Prof. Peter Bosscher, who teaches civil engineering at the University of Wisconsin, is providing free engineering for the project through one of his classes. The \$25,000 budgeted is for one-half the expected construction cost. When the preliminary design is finished, the town will apply to the DNR for matching funds.

Also proposed is \$60,000 to resurface a portion of High Street and Morris Park Road and an as-yet-undetermined section of road. Highway Foreman Jim Manson would like to wait until spring to determine which one of a number of deteriorating roads will be in the most need. Under office equipment, the town is proposing an improved voting system and a new computer and laser printer for the town hall.



Design Presented for Cemetery Expansion

With the closing date in sight for purchase of two acres of land to expand and reopen the Dunn Burying Ground, the Cemetery Task Force met on October 30 to hear a presentation by Beth Brockish, a UW Landscape Architecture graduate whose senior thesis is on the expansion and design of the cemetery. Her design provides many options for plots, types of gravestones, plantings and walkways. The committee is meeting in November to discuss these options and develop recommendations for the board. Shown are (left to right): committee members Margaret Lalor, Pam Crapp, and Dorothy Berkan discussing the plans with Beth Brockish.

Be Smart About Your Taxes: Read, Listen and Vote

continued from page 1

erty tax bill.

2. Vote in school board elections after you have read about or talked to the candidates. Vote also in school referendum. You should be informed about the needs and the cost of such proposals. Very few eligible voters participated in the last school referendum, which resulted in a levy increase.

3. Either find out on your own or call on your favorite Madison newspaper to accurately report what the proposed levy amount and the resulting increase or decrease is going to be for MATC and the Intermediate School District's levy. Find out who the representatives of these districts are, and call them if you question their proposed budgets. If you don't know what those proposals are, go back to the notion of insisting on proper coverage of these issues on the part of the news media in Dane County.

4. Participate in county board elections. Read about and/or talk to the candidates and determine who will best represent you. The Madison papers will cover these races, but the local papers will do a better job of tailoring the coverage to local concerns.

5. Many of our town residents are also in a sanitary dis-

trict. There are four districts in the town and some of them levy (there's that word again) or have a combination of levy and charges that exceed what you pay in town taxes. The town board's responsibility is limited to the appointment of the commissioners of each district. If you have concerns, attend your district meetings or have a neighborhood representative do so. Citizen participation has resulted in some major changes in one of the districts, but we could use more citizen involvement. Make sure you let us know if you have concerns about the operation of your sanitary district.

This is not an endorsement of a tax revolt. Revolts are just that — a reaction to things gone too far. The result is too often detrimental to everyone concerned. A better path is that of an informed and active public. Annual budgets and levies must be monitored by the citizens affected by the costs and services of governmental operations. If we participate on an on-going basis, there will be no need for tax revolts. It is up to us to make certain our elected officials are accountable to the people they represent. After all, you are paying the bills. There is no better investment than spending a few hours each year to be an

Community Park Survey Shows Enthusiasm

Dunn's first community park, 28 acres between Tower and Jordan Roads, was officially named Dunn Heritage Park this spring. In June, the parks commission sent out a survey asking all town residents for ideas on developing the park. Out of just over 2,000 surveys sent out, 187 were returned. That's a fantastic response and it shows that town residents want to participate in planning the park. In fact, 59 of the respondents indicated a willingness to donate time to work on the park.

Those interested in keeping up-to-date with the park's development are welcome to attend the parks commission meetings. The first hour of each meeting will be dedicated to the Dunn Heritage

Park. Currently no plan has been finalized, but several preliminary steps are being taken:

1. The town has hired engineer Warren Myer to shoot elevations and determine surface water flow patterns.

2. The parks commission is seeking assistance from Doris Rusch and Scot Stewart, wildlife managers with the DNR, on fish and animal habitat considerations.

3. The commission will be interviewing park planners. They hope to have a preliminary plan developed by next March to be followed by public meetings and a public hearing on the design. If all goes well, they will be applying for grants to assist in the park's development.

Options	DUNN HERITAGE PARK SURVEY RESULTS			
	(most)			(least)
Landscaping	83	29	23	10
Picnic area	54	36	28	16
Gills	26	12	27	29
Prairie/woodland	76	21	30	15
Parking	63	23	20	21
Nature trails	68	30	30	22
Playground equip.	48	25	25	23
Pavilion	74	26	23	17
Soccer field	8	10	10	19
Nature center	27	16	21	25
Softball	19	17	21	12
Additional suggestions:				(responses)
Lake access, canoe, boats, pier, canoe racks				24
Beach or wading pool				21
Native landscaping				16
Volleyball nets (sand)				13
Tennis courts				10
Cross-country ski trails				7
Running and bicycle paths				6
Softball, volleyball, rugby, soccer summer leagues				6
Community building and heritage building				6
Handicap access				5
No boat launch				3
Birchhouses, bike racks				2 each
Shade trees, fishing piers, swimming pool, ice skating rink				1 each
Additional concerns: Pavilion will attract teenagers; should be a place for quiet reflection, bring back to 1820 character; give an explanation of native plant life and history of early settlers; don't make it another family reunion place; develop totally for children; keep as wild as possible; keep nice and simple; recruit help to cut costs; leave as is; mark areas plainly; reduce speed on Mahoney Road; no motorized vehicles; pets allowed.				

informed voter.

The property tax system is in need of a total overhaul. It is a regressive tax to start with and strikes directly at what most of us regard as a major source of stability in our lives — owning our own home. A regressive tax means that if we improve our home, we pay more in taxes. If we simply maintain our home in good condition, we pay more than those who let their houses deteriorate. If you happen to own a type of property that is selling at inflated prices, you pay more. That

last example applied to farm land a few years ago and to lake property this year. For those on fixed incomes, these swings in value, and the tax burden that follows, can hamper their ability to remain in their own home. Property tax reform has been talked about for years. The system is established under state law and administered by state agencies. The key is to make state officials aware of the problems resulting from the current property tax system. Let's work together to bring about a much needed change.