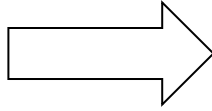


TOWN OF BELVIDERE

Ron Speltz, Chairman
Lee Engfer, Supervisor
Ron Kazmierczak, Supervisor

Deborah Ruff, Clerk
Barbara Brommer, Treasurer
Eric Kleven, Appointed Assessor

TAX TOTALS



It's that time of year again ... the 2020 TAX SEASON!!

TAX BILL & DOG LICENSES:

I will not have office hours at my home. Tax payments and Dog Licenses are **PREFERRED BY MAILING.** Tax receipts will be mailed back, no fee charged.

However, I will have in-person collection of *taxes* and *dog licenses* at the VFW building in Cochrane on the following dates:

Saturday, December 26, 2020 – 8:00 a.m. to Noon

Saturday, January 30, 2021 – 8:00 a.m. to Noon

DOG LICENSES: Dog licenses are due by April 1, 2021. **Licenses will not be issued without proof of rabies vaccination.**

Spayed or Neutered: \$5.00 per license
Not spayed, Not neutered: \$12.00 per license
Late Fee: \$10.00 (after April 1, 2021)

If you are paying the **1st Installment and/or Full Payment,** please make taxes payable to the Town of Belvidere and mail to:

Barbara Brommer, Treasurer
S2376 County Road OO
Buffalo City, WI 54622

Postponed (2nd Installment) payments **due by July 31st** are payable to the Buffalo County Treasurer and mailed to:

Buffalo County Treasurer
P.O. Box 28
Alma, WI 54610

You may also view tax information on the Buffalo County website at: **www.buffalocounty.com**

IMPORTANT NOTES and NOTICES – PAGE 1 of 2:

TOWNSHIP TAX LIST: If you would like one, you can do one of the following to obtain a copy:

- Send a request along with **\$3.00 AND A SELF STAMPED ADDRESSED ENVELOPE.**
- They will be available for pick up at the VFW collection times for a \$3.00 fee.
- You may print yourself from the Town's website at **www.townofbelvidere.com**

OVERPAYMENTS: Tax overpayments in the amount of \$3.00 or less will not be refunded.

Thank you in advance for your kind cooperation. Happy Holidays!

Barbara Brommer, Treasurer (Phone: (608) 248-3053 and Email: **belvideretreasurer@cctcoop.com**)

- **Payments by credit card!** You can access the link on the town website at www.townofbelvidere.com or directly <https://client.pointandpay.net/web/TownofBelvidere>
The fees for using this service: \$1.50 for an e-check; \$3.95 for debit card payment; or 2.39% for credit card payment.
- **BBC & M Recycling Center** will be **CLOSED** on Tuesdays from December through March.
*New Hours: Tuesday 2 PM - 6 PM and Saturday 8 AM - 4 PM **APRIL through NOVEMBER.**
- **The Town Referendum** passed for the Town Clerk & Town Treasurer positions to be appointed effective **APRIL 20, 2021 and no longer elected.** No changes in offices personnel are expected.
The referendum allows these positions to be hired in the future without a residency requirement.

All meetings for conducting business for the Town of Belvidere will be held at the Cochrane VFW, 100 Michaels St. (same location as Voting) on the 2nd Tuesday of each month, unless noticed differently. Meeting agendas will be posted at least 24 hours in advance. Agendas can also be viewed on the Town Website: www.townofbelvidere.com.

TOWN OF BELVIDERE BOARD

TAX BREAKDOWN		TAX MILL RATES	
COUNTY/STATE TAX	\$382,137.00	ALMA SCHOOL	0.011350206
TOWN LEVY	\$77,000.11	C-FC SCHOOL	0.009219215
CVTC LEVY	\$10,563.70		
WWTC LEVY	\$73,605.61	Managed Forest (\$1.75)	\$3,758.19 (2147.53 acres)
ALMA LEVY	\$134,074.55	<u>Managed Forest (\$10.20)</u>	<u>\$20,760.66 (2035.36 acres)</u>
<u>C-FC LEVY</u>	<u>\$490,754.33</u>	TOTAL MFL	\$24,518.85
TOTAL GENERAL	\$1,168,135.30		
		LOTTERY CREDITS	FIRST DOLLAR
SCHOOL LEVY CREDIT.	\$113,024.66	Alma School. . . \$199.91	\$81.57
		C-FC School. . . \$162.38	\$66.26

WHERE YOUR TAX DOLLAR GOES

	2019	2020
County/State	31.9%	32.71%
Town	6.5%	6.59%
Local Schools	54.5%	53.49%
Tech Schools	7.1%	7.21%

Deborah M Ruff, Town Clerk (NEW Phone#: 608-248-1245 and Email: belvidereclerk@cctcoop.com)

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Response to Scenic Valley Ambulance Service

The Town Board has been actively engaged in communication with Scenic Valley Ambulance Service (SVEMS) the past several months in reference to their staffing/on-call shortages they are experiencing, as well as their requests for additional funding from local municipalities. Providing the best level of emergency medical services to the community is, and has been a priority for the Belvidere Town Board. Several years ago, in an effort to increase the level of care and streamline emergency coverage for Belvidere residents, the Belvidere Town Board made alterations to its ambulance coverage area by eliminating multiple EMS services to the township and decreasing response time to our residents in need of help.

The discussions with SVEMS over the past months have included the local governing bodies of Belvidere, Buffalo City, Cochrane and Waumandee, as we are the four municipalities which provide financial support to SVEMS. It has been contractually agreed upon, that all four municipalities will pay equal Per Capita rates. The Township of Waumandee was the first to agree to the 2021 financial request from SVEMS to increase the Per Capita rate from \$7.50/resident to \$27.50/resident. In October, the Town of Belvidere tentatively budgeted the additional funds for 2021 for SVEMS, which was relayed to SVEMS Director, Ron Olson. After Belvidere and Waumandee committed the funds to SVEMS, it was brought to our attention that Buffalo City and Cochrane were only able to put some additional funds aside, and were unable to immediately put forth the full amount requested by SVEMS. The lack of funding from these municipalities was not a surprise to SVEMS, as respective budgets were discussed at the meetings with SVEMS during previous months.

To be contractually compliant with the other municipalities in regards to Per Capita responsibility, the Belvidere Town Board adjusted the budget during the November meeting to mirror the amount of funding to what Buffalo City and Cochrane were able to pay. Scenic Valley Emergency Medical Services President, Crystal Ganz, herself, has publicly stated that the Per Capita rate needs to be equal for all the communities serviced by SVEMS.

The Town of Belvidere, along with the other municipalities involved in the SVEMS financial discussions, offered a stepped Per Capita increase for SVEMS, as a solution to the inability for some of the municipalities to fund the drastic Per Capita rate change with just a few months' notice. Unfortunately, we, the municipalities, were told by SVEMS that this proposal was not acceptable. While we understand that Scenic Valley Emergency Medical Services have not adjusted its Per Capita rates since the 1990's, this was a management decision made solely by SVEMS over many years, and one that local government agencies should not have to rectify with a few months' notice.

Upon discussions of increasing the Per Capita rate, the Belvidere Town Board examined the structure of neighboring EMS services, along with reviewing their Per Capita rate and level of service provided, ie: EMT vs Paramedic. It was discovered that the neighboring services who offered a higher level of care from Paramedics instead of Emergency Medical Technicians (EMTs), Per Capita rates were considerably lower than SVEMS's rate proposal.

While we recognize the value in having a local and sustainable ambulance service and emergency responders, the Town Board also has a responsibility to be financially responsible with the town funds. Our Board will continue to work towards a compromise with SVEMS and achieve a long-term solution that will benefit our community.