9915 39th Avenue • Pleasant Prairie, WI 53158

TIME DATED MATERIAL

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2015 Solid Waste and Clean Water Utility Budget Information in This Issue

This issue of the Village Newsletter contains information on the 2015 Solid Waste and Clean Water Utility Budgets. On page two, you can learn about the services these utilities provide and how these budgets will impact Pleasant Prairie utility bills. □

Emergency Alerts

During an emergency, it's important to have access to first-hand information from public safety officials in order to make well-informed decisions that protect your family and property. Our community uses a free service called Nixle to deliver text and email messages to subscribers in the event of an emergency or other event with community wide impact (such as a snow emergency).

Nixle allows public safety officials to deliver the message to you, as opposed to you having to seek out the information on your own. Nixle protects subscribers' contact information and ensures that it is not used for any other purpose. If you have not yet subscribed to Nixle, we ask that you please consider doing so. Visit **Nixle.com** and sign up for free with zip code **53158**. Emergency announcements are also posted to *PleasantPrairieOnline.com* and *Twitter* and is shared with local media outlets.



A great place to live, work & play!

Village Welcomes New Business and Expansions

Plans for New Business and Expansion Approved by the Village Plan Commission in 2014

Company Name	Date Approved	Business Description	Additional Jobs Anticipated		
Regal Limousine/Forward Transport**	January 13, 2014	Dispatching office for transportation companies	6 full-time and 4 part-time		
Niagara Bottling	May 12, 2014	Bottled water supplier	75 full-time		
Kwik Trip at Hwys 31 and 165	June 9, 2014	Gasoline and convenience store with car wash	16 full-time and 11 part-time		
Central Storage Warehouse*	July 28, 2014	Refrigerated warehousing company	between 3 and 5 full-time		
Uline* (second warehouse at HQ)	August 11, 2014	Packing and shipping supply company	350 full-time		
Caterpillar College**	August 11, 2014	Academically focused preschool	between 7 and 10 part-time		
Good Foods Group*	August 25, 2014	All natural food manufacturer	65 full-time		
Uline* (additional warehouse lease)	September 8, 2014	Packing and shipping supply company	30 full-time		
Senior Lifestyle Corporation	September 8, 2014	Senior living community	74 full-time		
Costco	September 22, 2014	Warehouse retail store	75 full-time and 75 part-time		
Quest Products	September 22, 2014	Distribution and sales solutions provider	28 full-time		
The FNA Group	December 1, 2014	Pressure washer manufacturer	100 full-time		

^{*}A single asterisk reflects an expansion of an existing business in the Village

Source: 2014 Village of Pleasant Prairie Plan Commission Agenda Packets

The chart above represents twelve businesses that have had Site and Operational Plans approved by the Pleasant Prairie Plan Commission in 2014. The projects above are currently in various stages of completion.

In addition to those listed above, three other projects were under construction during 2014 - the Meijer Distribution Facility, Goddard School, and Regner Veterinary Clinic. Other projects announced in 2014 but not yet under construction include a second Uline office building and the Majestic Realty project including approximately 1.2 million square feet of industrial space.

Projects before the Plan Commission that were completed during 2013

included: Hanna Cylinders (new), EMCO Chemical corporate offices (expansion), Olds Products (expansion), TaChen International (new), Cheddar's Casual Cafe (new), the Plaza at Prairie Ridge (new multi-tenant retail), L&M Corrugated Container (new), and Konecranes (new).

Both the introduction of new business and business expansion continues to contribute to a healthy level of economic diversity in our community. This diversity provides added balance and stability to the local economy, protecting it from the decline of a single industry or large employer. The introduction of new business and the strength and growth of existing business also impacts the financial value of the Village.

In 2014, commercial and manufacturing development in Pleasant Prairie was valued at nearly \$1,192,548,500 (including personal property) and accounted for 44.7% of the total value of the Village (\$2,667,459,100). As a point of comparison, prior to the economic downturn, in 2008, commercial and manufacturing development in the Village was valued at approximately \$975,858,200 (including personal property) and accounted for 35.3% of the total value of the Village (\$2,764,015,600).

Over the past few years,

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^{**}A double asterisk reflects a move of an existing business from another Kenosha County location to the Village

Pleasant Prairie Enterprise Funds

Solid Waste Utility & Clean Water Utility

Pleasant Prairie Enterprise Funds

Pleasant Prairie's Solid Waste and Clean Water utilities are operated as "enterprise funds." They are called enterprise funds, because they are operated like a business and are not supported by property tax payments. Instead, these areas receive income from: fees charged for services provided, grants, and the resale of capital equipment. This income is then used to cover operating expenses and large capital purchases or improvements.

Pleasant Prairie uses the enterprise fund structure to more fairly distribute the expenses associated with the service to all who either benefit from or have an impact on the enterprise. If the cost for operating these enterprises was included on your property tax bill, some properties that are the largest users of a service wouldn't pay for the service they receive at all, because they are tax exempt. In December, the Village Board considered and passed the 2015 budgets for the Solid Waste Utility and the Clean Water Utility.

Solid Waste Utility

Solid Waste is the name of the utility that provides garbage, recycling, compost, hazardous waste, shredding, and leaf collection services for Village residents. The utility provides collection services for approximately 7,344 homes and operates a compost drop-off site, six out of seven days per week, on season.

During 2014, the Solid Waste Utility made its final debt payment. It is now debt free and is expected to remain that way for the foreseeable future. Large vehicle and equipment purchases for the utility, such as replacement trucks, will continue to be made with dollars from the Fleet Internal Service Fund (please see page three).

In 2015, a \$ 0.50 increase per month has been planned for solid waste services. In the coming year, the Solid Waste Utility will extend hours at the Village Compost site by two hours per day and add an extra round of leaf collection in both the spring and the fall.

During 2015, the utility will also install RFID (radio-frequency identification) readers on two garbage trucks and one recycling truck in order to study recycling participation. The more all residents recycle, the lower the overall cost for solid waste services (please see pages four and five).

Clean Water Utility

The Clean Water Utility was created in 2006 in response to Federal mandates requiring municipalities to increase their efforts to improve storm water quality. These mandates are intended to protect our country's natural water resources (lakes, streams, rivers and groundwater) from contaminated storm water runoff.

Storm water is rain or melting snow. As it flows across the landscape, it collects contaminants from properties and transports them through the storm sewer and into our natural water resources. All properties contribute to storm water runoff to varying degrees based upon their soil type and surface and how the property is being used.

The Village collects a storm water fee from property owners based upon how a property generates storm water (calculated based on the types of surfaces on and the size of a property). The funds collected by the utility are used to pay for: maintenance of Village-owned storm water infrastructure (like storm sewer); repair and cleaning of catch basins; and preserving natural drainage systems like streams and vegetative buffers.

The utility is also building a fund to help pay for the future replacement of existing infrastructure. Infrastructure maintained by the Clean Water Utility is currently valued at \$22 million dollars. Clean Water Utility capital projects that benefit the Village as a whole are funded by the Clean Water Utility. Those projects that benefit a specific drainage area are typically funded in part by the Clean Water Utility and in part by special assessment to the affected property owners.

During 2014, the Clean Water Utility completed street sweeping, outfall inspections, behind the curb sump drain inspections, and catch basin cleaning. The utility will continue more of the same during 2015. In the coming year, the utility also plans to complete: the second phase of a project in Beverly Woods; a floodplain boundary adjustment near 89th Street; shoreline protection at Lake Andrea; and storm water improvements in Carol Beach Unit W.

The storm water fee charged per ERU (equivalent runoff unit) will increase by \$ 0.25 per ERU as a result of the 2015 budget. More information about the Clean Water Utility, including an informational video, is available at *PleasantPrairieOnline.com* under the *Services* tab. □

Fleet Internal Service Fund



Created in 2009, the Fleet Internal Service Fund purchases, manages, maintains and repairs all vehicles, equipment, attachments and tools for all Village departments, except for Police and Fire & Rescue, With this structure, maintenance and replacement costs are factored into a pay-per-use system for each participating Village department.



Through the pay-per-use system, the Village sets money aside for future repair and replacement needs in order to avoid borrowing to purchase equipment. The fund manages 131 vehicles and pieces of equipment, 66 attachments to the equipment and 252 tools (such as chain saws, pumps, and items valued at over \$250).



During 2015, the Fleet Internal Service Fund increased rates charged to Village departments by 2% in order to cover increasing costs. The Fleet Internal Service Fund has not increased rates since its creation in 2009.



To date, the Fleet Internal Service Fund has performed well and built a solid base of funds to purchase vehicle replacements. The fund has also helped the Village to better estimate the number of hours spent maintaining the fleet. A majority of equipment and vehicle maintenance is performed in-house by two full-time and one part-time mechanic.

During 2015, the Fleet Internal Service Fund has plans to purchase: a single axle service truck; replacement pick up trucks; a Therapeutic Recreation bus (if grant funding is received); a replacement van; two side-loading garbage trucks; a used fork lift; a replacement zero-turn mower; an additional leaf vacuum: a used Bobcat: a side mounted road mower; and a vehicle code reader. The Fleet Internal Service Fund will make the 2015 purchases without incurring any debt. \Box

Questions?

Where to **Learn More** and How to **Reach Us**

If you have questions regarding services. budgets, or ongoing business being conducted in the Village, you can find more detailed, first hand information posted publicly at PleasantPrairieOnline.com.

There, you can find news articles and service updates, past issues of the monthly newsletter, Village ordinances (laws), maps, development information, park information, meeting agendas (with detailed agenda packets and audio files), budget documents, contact information, and more.

Other places you can find information about the Village:

- Twitter.com PIPrairieWI and PPPD
- YouTube.com **PIPrairie**
- 2015 Village Calendar

If you have questions and would like to contact a Village staff member directly, email addresses and telephone numbers for each Village department are listed on page three of your 2015 Village Calendar and Resource Directory (mailed to residents in December) and online at PleasantPrairieOnline.com

Recycling More Keeps Your Costs Lower

Automated Recycling Makes It Easy

The more recycling materials we can sort out of the garbage stream...the lower our costs for garbage collection in the Village

Please help us keep your collection costs lower by recycling more. While our community currently pays \$44.22 per ton of garbage placed in a landfill, we actually receive money back for our recyclables.

Automated Collection Made it Easier

During 2005, Pleasant Prairie introduced automated recycling collection. In 2008, the program was expanded to include automated garbage collection. Automated recycling collection provided an easier way to recycle a larger percentage of household waste by eliminating the need to sort recyclable materials and package them separately for collection. Residents place all recyclable materials into one single cart without sorting.

Recycling Helps Control Collection Costs

Collecting more recyclable material and less garbage allows Pleasant Prairie's Solid Waste Utility to keep costs lower for residents. Our community currently pays \$44.22 per ton of garbage collected and placed in a landfill. On the other hand, we pay \$10.49 per ton of recycled material, in addition to hauling fees, and then receive money back based on the market value of the material at that particular point in time (\$50,402 in 2014).

Your Help Will Make a Difference

Below you will find a chart showing the amount (in tons and percentage) of recyclables collected as opposed to garbage collected since 2005. You'll notice that during 2007 Village residents recycled more and produced less garbage than any other year since 2005. Your help will make a difference in the cost our community pays for garbage and recycling services. For each ton of garbage we, as a community, can keep out of the landfill, the less we will pay in tipping fees. Tipping fees are the per ton fee paid for garbage placed in a landfill. They have increased fairly steadily over the past several years (see the chart below).

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Recycling Collected vs Garbage Collected in Tons and by Percent

	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Recycling	2145	2473	2534	2375	2328	2145	2144	2122	2111	1991
Garbage	6130	6021	5456	5545	6361	6491	5951	6009	6213	6445
Recycling %	25.9%	29.1%	31.7%	30.0%	26.8%	24.8%	26.5%	26.1%	25.4%	23.6%
Garbage %	74.1%	70.9%	68.3%	70.0%	73.2%	75.2%	73.5%	73.9%	74.6%	76.4%

Landfill Costs Per Ton of Garbage (tipping fees)

	2006 Aug 16	2007 Aug 16	2008 Aug 16	2009 Aug 16	2010 July 21	2011 July 21	2012 Aug 1	2013 Aug 1	2014 Aug 1
Tipping Fee	\$29.31	\$30.78	\$32.48	\$38.50	\$41.00	\$42.50	\$42.50	\$43.35	\$44.22
Increase	3%	3.5%	5%	*18.5%	6.5%	3.7%	0%	2%	2%

*The large increase in tipping fees during 2009 relates to the State of Wisconsin approving an increase in landfill tax from \$5.90 to \$13.00 per ton.

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Garbage vs Recycling Costs

During 2014, the Village Solid Waste Utility paid garbage tipping fees of \$293,447. During 2007, the Village paid \$153,286 in garbage tipping fees. During 2014, after recycling fees, rebates, and receipt of a recycling grant, the Village expects to receive \$32,762 for recyclable materials.

Rate Increase Planned for 2015

In order to keep up with collection costs, in addition to expanding solid waste services (see page two), Pleasant Prairie's Solid Waste Utility has planned a rate increase during 2015. The Village will continue efforts to keep costs down by encouraging more residents to recycle accepted items (listed at right). With the help of all in our community, the Village will be able to lower the volume of garbage collected in order to help control costs. Village Staff would like to thank all those who are already recycling materials on a regular basis.

Not only will recycling help keep our costs lower, but it's a great way to protect our natural resources and the planet for future generations. According to the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, rigorous recycling efforts keep almost 1.7 million tons of material out of Wisconsin landfills and incinerators each year.

Recycling Reminders

...to Post in Your Kitchen...

Thank you for helping to keep our garbage and recycling costs low. Items on the list below should be placed in your recycle cart for collection.

Making recycling a family challenge or game can help make new recycling habits stick.

Residents
can request
a second
recycling bin for
free by calling
925.6700

Accepted Recycling

- Cardboard
- Chipboard boxes (cereal/shoe boxes)
- Boxboard (unlined merchandise boxes)
- Magazines
- Newspapers
- · Catalogs, flyers and junk mail
- Telephone books
- Paperback books
- Untreated office papers (typing, copy, printer paper)
- Stationary, envelopes, and bills
- Brown paper bags
- Clean plastic bottles and containers (marked with recyclable numbers 1 through 7)
- · Clean glass containers
- Clean aluminum cans and containers
- Clean steel (tin) cans and containers

As a reminder, food containers that are recyclable should be free from food remnants (for example, a pizza box is recyclable so long as any melted cheese and other food remnants are removed from the container).

Please have your recycling cart to the roadside by 6:30 a.m. on your scheduled pickup day. An automated collection truck (with a single operator) will collect your recycling. Please face the opening of the cart towards the road and ensure that the bin is five feet away from any other bin, item, or obstruction. Questions about recycling can be directed to *pw@plprairie.com*, or you can reach us by phone at *925.6700*.

New Business and Expansions continued from page 1

the strong values of commercial and manufacturing properties have had a favorable effect for residential taxpayers who saw residential property values decline during the recent recession and housing downturn. When the percentage of the total value of the Village is redistributed between the different classes of real estate (residential, commercial, manufacturing and other uses), each real estate class assumes a greater or lesser responsibility for that year's tax levy. During 2015, the

2014 and 2008 Final Assessed Values									
Category/Use	2014 Final Assessed Value	2014 % of Total Value	2008 Final Assessed Value	2008 % of Total Value					
Residential	\$ 1,466,665,000	54.9%	\$ 1,778,792,100	64.4%					
Commercial	889,869,400	33.4%	659,012,600	23.8%					
Manufacturing	199,371,600	7.5%	254,165,300	9.2%					
Personal Property	103,307,500	3.9%	62,680,300	2.3%					
All other	8,245,600	0.3%	9,365,300	0.3%					
Total	2,667,459,100	100%	2,764,015,600	100%					

Source: 2014 and 2008 Statements of Real Eslate and Property Assessments

Village will continue efforts to ensure that new development will add value to our community. The Village Board, Plan Commission, and staff will also work to ensure that any remaining developable land in the Village achieves its highest and best use in order to help our community maintain its value over the long term. \Box

Please Help Us Congratulate Uline Recently Named Family-Owned Business of the Year by BizTimes

This December, BizTimes Media named Uline Family-Owned Business of the Year. Uline employs approximately 1,100 people from its headquarters in Pleasant Prairie. During 2010, the company relocated to Pleasant Prairie from Waukegan, Illinois.

During 2014, Uline announced that it plans to: double the size of its corporate campus in Pleasant Prairie; lease an additional warehouse in LakeView Corporate Park; and move additional operations from Illinois to the City of Kenosha - leading to just over 1,000 additional jobs in Kenosha County.

The Village would like to congratulate Uline for being named the BizTimes Family-Owned Business of the year. \Box

2015 Election Dates and Voting Information



Spring Primary - *Tuesday, February 17, 2015*

The *Spring Primary* is a nonpartisan primary held to nominate candidates to be voted for at the Spring Election.

Spring Election - Tuesday, April 7, 2015

The **Spring Election** is held to elect nonpartisan judicial, county, educational and municipal officers.

On election dates, Village polling locations will be open from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Where To Find More Information

Sample ballots for each election are posted to *PleasantPrairieOnline.com* in the *News* section once they become available, typically three weeks prior to an election. More information about voting in the Village is available at *PleasantPrairieOnline.com* under the *Voting* tab, on page four of your Village Calendar, or by telephone at *262.694.1400*. □

InVEST Year End Recap and Thank You









From top to bottom: the Hoop House project for the Kenosha Achievement Center; Fuel for Funds at Truesdell Mini-Mart; Stick It to Em at RecPlex; and Celebrity Chef at Nick n Willy's.

Introduction to InVEST

Much like employees in the private sector may participate in a charitable giving campaign through their employer, Village employees are invited to participate in an organization called InVEST. The name is an acronym for "Involved Village Employees Serving Together." InVEST is an independent entity, not overseen by Village administration or the Village Board, but ruled by its own Board and Executive Committee, which is comprised solely of Village employees. InVEST collects funds through payroll deductions and then distributes these monies through Emergency and Charitable Funds. Each year, employees designate the charities that will receive support. In addition to collecting funds through payroll deduction, the group conducts small fundraisers and community service projects throughout the year.

Year End Recap

During 2014, \$3,442 from InVEST's Emergency Fund was used to help ten people. Through InVEST's Charitable Fund: \$1,500 was donated to the Boys and Girls Club of Kenosha; \$1,185 was donated to the Make-a-Wish Foundation; and \$1,185 was donated to the Stars and Stripes Honor Flight. InVEST made an additional donation to the Kenosha Noon Optimist Club for the Youth of the Year program.

Additional fundraisers conducted throughout 2014 included:

- a **Fuel for Funds** fundraiser with Truesdell Mini-Mart (pictured at left),
- a Packer vs Bear Day employees donate to wear their team's jersey,
- **Jeans Days** employees donate to wear jeans on designated days.
- Celebrity Chef fundraisers with Nick n Willy's Pizza (pictured at left),
- Bake Sales conducted throughout the year,
- a Pi (Pie) Day pie sale.
- a Holiday Wrapping fundraiser, and
- a Stick It to Em fundraiser where employees were taped to a wall in return for donations (pictured at left).

Other activities undertaken by InVEST during 2014 included:

- constructing a Hoop House for the Kenosha Achievement Center (pictured),
- hosting three blood drives.
- hosting a **school supply drive** for local elementary schools,
- hosting a hat, coat and mitten drive during the Month of Caring,
- hosting a toy drive on behalf of the Toys for Tots program.
- hosting a Giving Tree at RecPlex during the holiday season, and
- participating in Adopt a Family (adopting seven families at Christmas time).

Thank You

Village employees would like to thank all of the local businesses and members of our community who helped to support and participated in these various fundraisers, drives and activities. Your concern for others in our community is heartwarming, and we cannot thank you enough. To learn more about InVEST, please email *InVEST@plprairie.com*.