

# **ANNUAL REPORT TOWN OF EASTON 2025**

## **ANNUAL TOWN MEETING**

**Tuesday, April 21, 2026**

**7:00 p.m.**

**Town of Easton Municipal Center**



# TOWN OF EASTON ANNUAL REPORT

Marathon County, WI

## Town Officials

Dean Beck, Chairman – 715-571-4294  
Mark Pingel, Supervisor – 715-219-3395  
Susan Kurth, Supervisor – 715-848-2827  
Sherry Weinkauf, Clerk – 715-573-1372  
Melanie Neuendank, Treasurer – 715-297-5938

Dustin Merriam, Fire Chief – 715-297-1318  
Darin Pagel, Building Inspector – 715-218-0822  
Kurt Moeller, Assessor – 715-298-2061  
Public Works – 715-446-3400

## **NOTICE OF ANNUAL TOWN MEETING**

**Tuesday, April 21, 2026 • 7:00 PM**

Town of Easton Municipal Center

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the ANNUAL TOWN MEETING for the Town of Easton will be held on the 21st day of April 2026, at 7:00 P.M. at the Town of Easton Municipal Center.

Annual Town Meetings shall be held on the third Tuesday of April of every year per s.s.60.11(2)(a) unless set by the prior Annual Meeting to a day within 10 days after the third Tuesday of April (2)(b).

Town Meeting Procedure per s.s. 60.14.

- (1) Qualified voters. Any qualified elector of the town, as defined under ch. 6, may vote at a town meeting.
- (2) Method of action; necessary votes. All actions of the town meeting shall be by vote. All questions shall be decided by a majority of the electors voting.
- (3) Order of business. At the beginning of the town meeting, the town meeting chairperson shall state the business to be transacted and the order in which the business will be considered. No proposal to levy a tax, except a tax for defraying necessary town expenses, may be acted on out of the order stated by the town meeting chairperson.
- (4) Reconsideration of actions.
  - (a) A vote of the town meeting may be reconsidered at the same meeting at which the vote was taken if the town meeting votes to reconsider within one hour after the initial vote was taken.
  - (b) No action of a town meeting may be reconsidered at a subsequent town meeting held prior to the next annual town meeting unless a special town meeting is convened under s. 60.12 (1) (b) or (c) and the written request or the call for the meeting states that the purpose of the meeting is a reconsideration of the action.

### **April 21, 2026, Annual Meeting Agenda**

1. Call to Order and Pledge to the Flag
2. Opening Remarks by the Chairperson
3. Adopt April 15, 2025, Annual Meeting Minutes (included in this booklet)
4. Chairman's Report

5. Fire Chief's Report
6. Wages for Town Board members
7. Explanation of road and other work done in the town in 2025
8. Review projects planned for 2026
9. Questions and discussion by electors present (actions limited by s.s.60.10 "Powers of town meeting")
10. Adjourn

#### **April 15, 2025, Annual Meeting Minutes**

1. **Call to Order and Pledge to the Flag**

Chairman Beck called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m., followed by the Pledge to the Flag.

2. **Opening Remarks by the Chairperson**

Chairman Beck introduced Sherry Weinkauff as the new Clerk and recognized former Clerk Ron Sieglaff for his many years of service to the Town. He also provided an update on solar.

3. **Approval of April 16, 2024 Annual Meeting Minutes**

Motion by Resident Dan Southworth, seconded by Ron Sieglaff, to approve the April 16, 2024, Annual Meeting Minutes. All in favor. Motion carried.

4. **Chairman's Report**

Chairman Beck reviewed the 2024 Financial Report with the residents. He provided an update on the new truck purchased with COVID funds. He discussed plans to repave town roads, noting an estimated cost of approximately \$280,000 per mile. The Town is exploring funding programs to assist with these costs. He reported that the Fire Department's air packs must be replaced by the end of the year. He also informed the residents that the Town is undergoing a property revaluation; Assessor Kurt Moeller explained the process. Chairman Beck noted that grants are available through the DNR for well abandonment. He also provided an update on a recent accident involving a milk tanker on Eau Claire River Road.

5. **Fire Chief Report**

Fire Chief Merriam reviewed his report with residents, as included in the Annual Report booklet. He noted that permits for outdoor burning are issued through the DNR.

6. **Explanation of Road and Other Work Completed in 2024**

Chairman Beck provided an update on a recent storm and stated that materials were delivered to repair roads. No lane wedging was completed last year. He also reported that seal coating was completed on Thornapple Creek Road.

7. **Review of Projects Planned for 2025**

Chairman Beck discussed the potential purchase of generators. He stated that the Town hopes to complete more lane wedging this year. He also provided an update on town equipment.

8. **Questions and Discussion by Electors Present**

A Marathon County representative, who was present, provided an update on broadband. Chairman Beck stated that Marathon County is conducting a comprehensive revision of Chapter 17 – Zoning Code and is seeking public feedback. Former Clerk Sieglaff shared that his first annual report was completed in 1985 and that he has retained all report booklets over the years.

9. **Adjournment**

Motion by Resident Sieglaff, seconded by Resident Schlund, to adjourn the meeting at 8:33 p.m. Motion carried.

## **Town Information & Reminders**

### **Town Website**



Stay Connected with the Town of Easton!

Visit: [www.eastonmcwi.gov](http://www.eastonmcwi.gov) to stay up to date with town news, notices, and information.

You can also follow the Town of Easton on Facebook for updates and announcements. Search for **Town of Easton** on Facebook or visit:

<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61579483601821>

### **Posting of Notices**

All official Town notices are posted on the Town's website and posting boards at the following locations:

- Town Hall
- Junction Road at Highway "Q"
- Owl Ridge Road at Highway "J"

Please check our website or posting boards in your area for Town meeting notices and other required postings.

Town Board meeting notices are always posted. Meetings may be held at various times in addition to the regular schedule on the second Monday of each month.

### **Burning Permits**

Burning permits are required for all residents for both trash barrels and open burning.

For more information, visit:

<https://dnr.wisconsin.gov/topic/forestfire/permits> or call 888-WIS-BURN (947-2876).

### **Zoning Permits**

Zoning permits are required prior to starting any construction. The Town of Easton is covered under Marathon County zoning.

For permits or questions, please call 715-261-6000.

### **Dog Licenses**

The owner of a dog more than 5 months of age on January 1 of any year, or 5 months of age within the license year, must annually (or when the dog reaches 5 months of age) obtain a license and pay the required fee.

Please contact the Treasurer at 715-297-5938 with any dog licensing questions.

### **School District Reporting**

When filing your state tax form, be sure to list: **Town of Easton – School District #4970 (D.C. Everest)**

### **Open Book & Board of Review (2026)**

Open Book is scheduled for **Monday, April 20, 2026, from 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.**

Board of Review is scheduled for **Monday, May 4, 2026, from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.**

Please contact the Assessor at 715-298-2061 with any questions.

### **Financial Report (Form CT)**

The Town's annual financial report is filed with the State by March 31 each year.

To review the report, please contact the Clerk at 715-573-1372.

### **Noxious Weeds**

State law requires every person to destroy noxious weeds on land owned, operated, or controlled by that person.

### **Culverts**

All culverts on town roads require approval from the Town. Please call:

- Town Shop: 715-446-3400
- Chairman: 715-571-4294

The Town will supply and install your culvert and, in most cases, at a lower cost.

## 📍 Town Information & Reminders (continued)

### 🚫 Illegal Dumping & Roadway Concerns

#### Garbage in Ditches

Garbage being dumped in our Town continues to be a problem. If you see garbage along roads or ditches, please call 715-446-3400 so Town employees can remove it.

If you have information about who is responsible, please report it.

#### Illegal Dumping Reminder

It is unlawful to dump yard waste, ashes from wood burners, stones, or other debris in the road right-of-way. Utility poles can help identify right-of-way boundaries.

## ❄️ Winter Safety Reminders

#### Plowing Snow onto Roads

Pushing snow or other materials onto a roadway is prohibited under Wisconsin Statutes 86.01 and 346.94(5). This creates a significant hazard for the traveling public and may result in serious accidents, equipment damage, or injury.

Please ensure all snow is placed beyond the right-of-way (the area typically cleared by plows, extending past the shoulder).

#### Garbage Containers During Snowstorms

During snowstorms, keep garbage and recycling containers far enough from the road to avoid being struck or buried by plows.

## ♻️ Recycling & Garbage Pickup

Recycling and garbage pickup occurs **every Thursday**.

All occupied residences are required to maintain garbage and recycling services. If you do not currently have service, please contact the Clerk at **715-573-1372**.

The cost of service is applied to your tax bill as a special charge.

## ♻️ Recycling Questions

If you have questions about what can or cannot be recycled, please visit:

<https://www.marathoncountysolidwaste.org/recycling-guide-house-hold>



## 🚚 Additional Item Pickup (Harter's)

Our contractor, Harter's, can provide removal of additional items, including:

- Appliances
- Electronics
- Furniture
- Tires
- Batteries

Please contact Harter's directly at **715-446-5400**. Additional fees may apply.

## ⚠️ Hazardous Household Waste

Hazardous household waste must be disposed of safely in a manner that does not harm the environment.

Appointments are required and must be scheduled at least one day in advance.

To schedule an appointment:

<https://www.marathoncountysolidwaste.org/scheduling> or call **715-446-3101**

**Note:** No Saturday appointments are available.

## 🚫 Prohibited Disposal

The Town of Easton prohibits the littering of solid waste or hazardous waste on any public or private property within the Town.



## Elections 2026

### Election Dates

- Spring Election – Tuesday, April 7, 2026
- Partisan Primary – Tuesday, August 11, 2026
- Fall General Election – Tuesday, November 3, 2026

### Polling Location & Hours

All voting will be held at:

#### Town of Easton Municipal Center

169612 County Road Z  
Ringle, WI 54471

Polls are open from **7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.**

### Photo ID Requirement

A valid photo ID is required to vote.

To check if your ID is acceptable, visit:

[www.bringit.wi.gov/do-i-have-right-photo-id](http://www.bringit.wi.gov/do-i-have-right-photo-id)

If you do not have a photo ID, learn how to obtain a free state ID at:

[www.bringit.wi.gov/how-do-i-get-free-state-id-card](http://www.bringit.wi.gov/how-do-i-get-free-state-id-card)

### What's on Your Ballot?

To see what is on your ballot, visit:

<https://myvote.wi.gov>

Then click on **“What's On My Ballot”**

### Absentee Voting

#### In-Person Absentee Voting

Available by appointment only.

Please call 715-573-1372 to schedule an appointment with the Clerk.

Absentee voting will take place at the Town of Easton Municipal Center.


#### Vote by Mail

Visit <https://myvote.wi.gov> and select **“Vote Absentee By Mail.”**

Once you receive your ballot:

- Return it by mail using the postage-paid envelope, or

- Contact the Clerk at 715-573-1372 to arrange hand delivery

 *Tip: Mail your ballot early to ensure it arrives on time.*

## Voter Registration

### Online

You may register to vote online up to 20 days before the election if you have a valid Wisconsin Driver License or Wisconsin ID issued by the DMV, please visit: <https://myvote.wi.gov>

### By Mail

You may register by mail up to 20 days before the election. Registration forms should be mailed to your municipal clerk.

### In Person

You may register in person up until the Friday before an election at 5:00 p.m. Please call 715-573-1372 if you would like to register early.

### At the Polls

You may also register at your polling place on Election Day.

### Proof of Residence Requirement

You must provide a Proof of Residence document when registering to vote. This document must show your current address.

If you have questions about acceptable documents, please contact the Clerk at 715-573-1372.

### Interested in Serving as a Poll Worker?

Want to help your community and get paid? Serve as a poll worker!

Visit: <https://myvote.wi.gov/en-us/Become-PollWorker>

or contact the Clerk at 715-573-1372

### More Election Information

For additional election details, please visit: <https://www.eastonmcwi.gov/elections>

## Annual Fire Department Report

In 2025, the Fire Department responded to **19 calls**, including:

- 2 accidents
- 2 structure fires
- 1 fire alarm
- 1 grass fire
- 1 utility fire call
- 1 rescue call
- 1 vehicle fire

The remaining 10 calls were mutual aid responses to the towns of Hewitt, Ringle, Birnamwood, Wausau, and the City of Wausau.

First Responders handled 28 medical emergencies and assisted with 2 accidents.

## Firefighters & First Responders

The Firefighters and First Responders of the Town of Easton are:

Ronald J Abt, Jacob Arends, Kevin Baumann, Seth Baumann, Vern Block, Royce Christiansen, Jason Doepke, Nick Drews, Wilt Faber, Aiden Hoppe, Nicholas Janak, Ronald Kurth, Dustin Merriam, Linda Merriam, Jason Neuendank, Zach Neitzke, Dennis Reynolds, and Mark Schlund.

## Interested in Serving?

If you have questions about the Fire Department or are interested in becoming a firefighter or first responder, please call **715-297-1318**.

## Insurance Information

When renewing your property insurance, inform your agent that the Town of Easton's **ISO rating is 6**. Depending on your insurance carrier, this may help reduce your premium.

## Safety Reminder

Residents are encouraged to install and maintain smoke alarms and carbon monoxide detectors.

**State law requires both on every level of residence.**

## Chairman's Report for 2025

The past year has presented many challenges. On a positive note, we finally received our new Western Star plow truck after a more than two-year process. We all experienced the recent major snowstorm. The new truck, along with our all-wheel-drive grader with

the V-plow and our 1972 Oshkosh four-wheel-drive truck with a V-plow, helped get our roads open and passable. Thank you to our workers for their long hours and dedication to our community. We need to consider upgrades to our current equipment for such emergencies so we can continue to serve the community throughout the years.

## Other new things that happened this past year:

- We now have a Town website to better share information with the community.
- We have upgraded our computer software to better enable the Clerk and Treasurer to perform their duties and submit numerous reports in a timely manner.
- We have all got new air packs and two thermal imaging cameras for the fire department. Thanks to the leadership of our fire department and the dedicated volunteers, we are able to keep the community safe.

## Upcoming roadwork:

- We will be submitting bids for resurfacing the north one mile of Highpoint and the south one mile of Highpoint. The estimated cost is \$600,000. We submitted an application for and were awarded TRIP funding of around \$30,000 for the project.
- A future project is the bridge replacement on Riveredge Road, with an estimated cost of \$1.2 million. We are responsible for 10% of the cost.

## Potential changes:

- There is potential for a large solar array in the Town of Easton in the future.

Thank you to the Town Board, Clerk, and Treasurer for working through the challenges of the past year. I also want to thank Rob, Mark, and Dave for their dedication to our roads and our community, and for all the hours of labor that go into making the Town of Easton a great place to live.

I am proud to be the Town of Easton Chairman. Thank you for your continuing support as Town Chairman. I look forward to meeting the challenges of the coming year. Please join us at the annual meeting.

Respectfully,

Dean Beck  
Chairman, Town of Easton

# 2025 FINANCIAL STATEMENT

## TOWN OF EASTON, MARATHON COUNTY, WISCONSIN

2024 TAX ROLL RECONCILIATION		2023 TAX ROLL	
TAX ROLL COLLECTIONS BY TOWN	1,636,047.01	1,667,544.17	98.1%
LOTTERY CREDIT	17,815.09	20,454.46	87.1%
DOG LICENSE COLLECTED	655.00	795.00	82.4%
SETTLEMENT FROM COUNTY	155,485.72	137,148.42	113.4%
DELQ & PP PERSONAL PROPERTY TAX	0.00	61.65	0.0%
<b>TOTAL RECEIVED</b>	<b>\$1,810,002.82</b>	<b>\$1,826,003.70</b>	<b>99.1%</b>
TAX COLL TO COUNTY	385,459.12	400,748.26	96.2%
DOG LISC TO COUNTY	594.50	724.00	82.1%
TAX COLL TO DCE	696,098.69	733,660.15	94.9%
TAX COLL TO NTC	111,540.81	110,382.87	101.0%
TAXES RETAINED	112,932.84	112,904.91	100.0%
<b>TOTAL PAID TO OTHERS OR RETAINED</b>	<b>\$1,306,625.96</b>	<b>\$1,358,420.19</b>	<b>96.2%</b>
<b>TOWNS PORTION OF PROPERTY TAX</b>	<b>\$503,376.86</b>	<b>\$467,583.51</b>	<b>107.7%</b>
2025 REVENUES		2024 REVENUES	
<b>RESERVES AND CASH FROM PRIOR YEAR</b>	<b>\$514,928.00</b>	<b>\$198,323.44</b>	<b>259.6%</b>
TOWNS PORTION OF PROPERTY TAX	\$503,376.86	\$467,583.51	107.7%
FOREST LAND TAX	\$15,772.34	\$16,074.00	98.1%
STATE SHARED REVENUES	\$103,672.03	\$101,272.23	102.4%
GRANTS	\$0.00	\$731.48	
FIRE INSURANCE TAX (2% dues)	\$6,347.96	\$6,067.53	104.6%
OTHER STATE SHARED TAXES	\$0.00	\$0.00	
EMS GRANT	\$12,197.80	\$0.00	
RECYCLING GRANT	\$941.35	\$940.87	100.1%
TRANSPORTATION (road) AIDS	\$165,947.40	\$167,047.40	99.3%
MFL STATE AID	\$9,092.54	\$1,538.66	590.9%
OTHER STATE PAYMENTS / PILT	\$11,761.46	\$10,904.18	107.9%
COUNTY BRIDGE AID	\$0.00	\$0.00	
<b>TAXES, GRANTS &amp; AIDS</b>	<b>\$829,109.74</b>	<b>\$772,159.86</b>	<b>107.4%</b>
LICENSES BUSINESS	\$1,360.00	\$1,430.00	95.1%
LICENSES DOG TOWN PORTION	\$60.50	\$71.00	85.2%
GENERAL GOVERNMENT	\$2,065.70	\$168.60	
FIRE SERVICES	\$0.00	\$0.00	
PUBLIC SAFETY DONATIONS	\$11,750.00	\$12,900.00	91.1%
SNOW PLOWING	\$0.00	\$0.00	
SERVICE AND MATERIAL SALES	\$11,472.00	\$9,659.91	118.8%
SALES TAX	\$229.88	\$0.00	
CURBSIDE PICKUP REFUSE & RECYCLE	\$98,497.50	\$87,500.00	112.6%
<b>LICENSES &amp; SERVICES</b>	<b>\$125,435.58</b>	<b>\$111,729.51</b>	<b>112.3%</b>
INTEREST INCOME	\$2,566.47	\$2,480.39	103.5%
FACILITY USE FEE	\$35.00	\$35.00	100.0%
SALE OF USED EQUIP & MATERIAL	\$0.00	\$8,000.00	
INSURANCE RECOVERIES	\$0.00	\$0.00	
REFUNDS AND REBATES	\$1,016.00	\$1,148.00	88.5%
LOAN PROCEEDS	\$0.00	\$410,000.00	
A/R COLLECTED FROM PRIOR YEARS	\$11,846.86		
<b>OTHER REVENUES</b>	<b>\$15,464.33</b>	<b>\$421,663.39</b>	
<b>TOTAL MONIES AVAILABLE</b>	<b>\$1,484,937.65</b>	<b>\$1,503,876.20</b>	<b>98.7%</b>

**2025 FINANCIAL STATEMENT**

**TOWN OF EASTON, MARATHON COUNTY, WISCONSIN (Page 2)**

<b>2025 EXPENDITURES</b>		<b>2024 EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>%24/23</b>
FOREST LAND PAYMENTS TO COUNTY	\$1,960.50	\$297.69	658.6%
PAYMENT IN LIEU OF TAX, SETTLEMENT	\$9,174.70	\$8,724.51	105.2%
TOWN BOARD SALARIES & EXPENSES	\$23,176.74	\$18,364.80	126.2%
CLERK SALARIES & EXPENSES	\$14,389.82	\$13,318.01	108.0%
ELECTIONS	\$2,808.10	\$7,235.45	38.8%
TREASURER SALARIES & EXPENSES	\$9,798.03	\$6,726.28	145.7%
PROPERTY ASSESSMENT	\$24,974.00	\$12,147.00	205.6%
TELEPHONE	\$1,037.84	\$2,548.26	40.7%
ELECTRIC	\$3,708.72	\$3,939.20	94.1%
HEAT	\$12,627.58	\$4,255.33	296.7%
ADMINSTRATION	\$8,686.91	\$9,325.16	93.2%
POSTAGE	\$2,021.93	\$3,004.00	67.3%
LICENSES DUES FEES	\$1,593.90	\$1,164.05	136.9%
INSURANCE	\$21,347.00	\$19,570.00	109.1%
LEGAL EXPENSES	\$960.00	\$1,599.00	60.0%
SALES TAX PAID	\$0.00	\$0.00	
PROPERTY MAINTENANCE	\$29,357.08	\$7,932.06	370.1%
FACILITY CONSTRUCTION	\$0.00	\$0.00	
GARBAGE AND RECYCLING	\$94,627.69	\$89,018.35	106.3%
ZONING ADMINSTRATION	\$0.00	\$0.00	
OTHER GENERAL GOV'T	\$10.00	\$0.00	
<b>GENERAL GOVERNMENT</b>	<b>\$262,260.54</b>	<b>\$209,169.15</b>	<b>125.4%</b>
FIRE PROTECTION	\$152,894.12	\$50,832.81	300.8%
AMBULANCE SERVICE	\$9,397.00	\$9,081.48	103.5%
<b>PUBLIC SAFETY</b>	<b>\$162,291.12</b>	<b>\$59,914.29</b>	<b>270.9%</b>
MAINTENANCE MATERIAL	\$122,404.07	\$71,118.02	172.1%
CONSTRUCTION	\$0.00	\$75,985.00	
SNOW ICE CONTROL	\$6,345.00	\$900.00	705.0%
EMPLOYEE WAGES/FICA	\$99,033.52	\$89,763.60	110.3%
EMPLOYEE RETIREMENT	\$4,773.82	\$4,598.61	103.8%
UNEMPLOYMENT TAX	\$396.46	\$0.00	
EMPLOYEE EXPENSES	\$21.00	\$199.52	10.5%
EQUIPMENT REPAIRS	\$122,540.50	\$27,821.23	440.5%
FUEL	\$19,812.98	\$15,290.88	129.6%
<b>PUBLIC WORKS</b>	<b>\$375,327.35</b>	<b>\$285,676.86</b>	<b>131.4%</b>
<b>HIGHWAY EQUIPMENT</b>		<b>\$215,446.35</b>	<b>0.0%</b>
PRINCIPAL PAYMENT	\$132,491.13	\$189,620.22	
INTEREST PAYMENT	\$17,508.87	\$12,699.48	
<b>DEBT PAYMENT</b>	<b>\$150,000.00</b>	<b>\$202,319.70</b>	<b>74.1%</b>
<b>PAYROLL TAX PAYABLE</b>		<b>\$10,922.92</b>	
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>\$949,879.01</b>	<b>\$983,449.27</b>	<b>96.6%</b>
Timing of Exp vs Cash/Outstanding checks	(\$22,975.56)	\$5,498.93	
CASH ON HAND 12-31-2025	\$558,034.20	\$514,928.00	
<b>TOTAL MONIES DISBURSED AND ON HAND</b>	<b>\$1,484,937.65</b>	<b>\$1,503,876.20</b>	<b>98.7%</b>



# TOWN OF EASTON

Sherry Weinkauf  
169612 County Road Z  
Ringle, WI 54471

PRSRT STD  
US POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
WAUSAU WI  
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