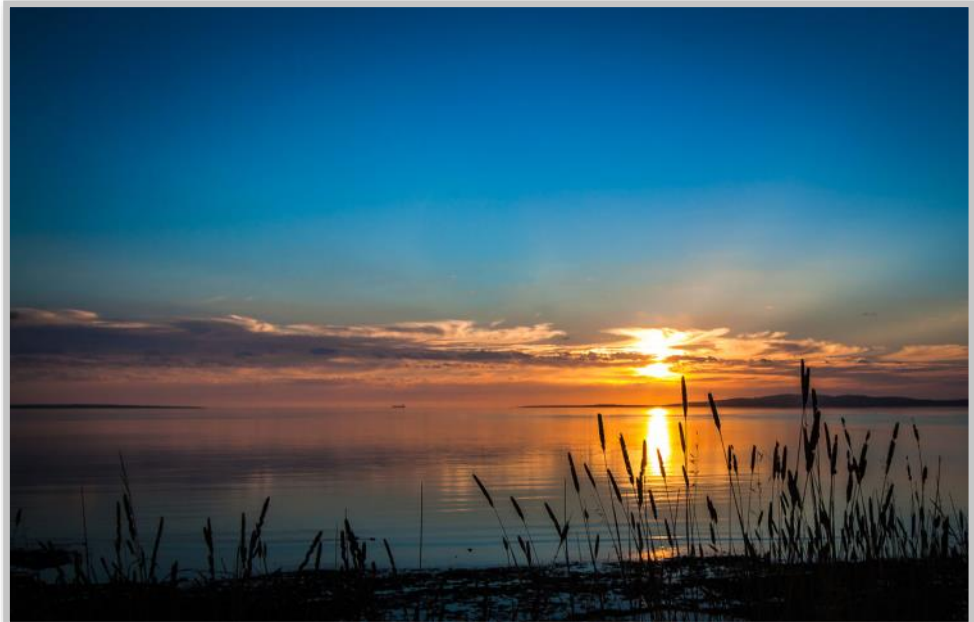


Town of Wilson Newsletter

Spring/Summer
2021



An update from the desk of the Chairman

Hello friends and neighbors. I hope you are doing well and were able to make the most of a winter in Wisconsin during a pandemic. I have to say that I have a bit more appreciation for springtime this year. And it is time to pump up the bike tires, begin growing our all-you-can-eat deer buffets, and for the spring newsletter.

Our volunteers rock! – Volunteers are essential to making town governments work. I want to give every ounce of thanks I have to those who donate their valuable time to various boards and committees and in other ways. I also want to put out a plea for others to get involved. There are frequent opportunities to serve on the fire department, as a first responder, on the plan commission, parks and forestry, and fire advisory committee, to name a few. You can contact me or the town office.

Pandemic Emergency Plan – Although there is light at the end of the tunnel, we are not there yet. As such, the town board continues to prioritize public safety and operate under an emergency plan. The town office remains closed to the public and only available in certain instances by appointment. We ask that you continue to conduct your town business remotely by

email or phone or by using the town office drop box. Town board and sanitary commission meetings continue to be held remotely via Zoom. Plan commission meetings are being conducted in-person at the larger town hall and require attendees to social distance and wear masks.

Town Annual Meeting – This year's meeting will be held on April 20 at 7:00 p.m. at the town hall. You will have the option of attending in-person, on Zoom, or by phone. The town meeting is a meeting of the town electors to directly exercise powers granted to you by Chapter 60.10 of the Wisconsin Statutes.

Ordinance Enforcement – The town board is seeking applications to fill two newly created Ordinance Enforcement Officer positions. These are paid (up to \$25/hr), limited hour positions (est. 3-4 hours per week) that require on call status to enforce town ordinances, investigate complaints, issue citations, assist the fire department and first responders with traffic control, and perform other related duties. Ideal candidates will be service minded, responsive, able to exercise sound judgement, and have some related experience. *(continued on pg. 2)*

Inside this issue

- 1 Chairman's Update
- 3 Park and Forestry
- 4 Fire Department
- 5 First Responders
- 6 Clerk/Treasurer
- 7 Sanitary
- 8 Contacts

If you would like a copy of the job description, please call the town office at 208-2390.

Garbage Center Announcement – In response to a DNR directive, the town transfer center will only be accepting very small amounts of clean, unpainted scrap wood. The staff person on duty will make the determination of what is acceptable. We respectfully ask for your cooperation in complying.

2021 Road Improvements – This year's road projects are outlined below. The town budget also contains \$40,000 for annual road maintenance such as patching, center-lining, ditching, and shouldering.

Timberlake Road – Pulverize and pave (June target)

Juniper Drive East– Pulverize and pave (time TBD)

Culvert Replacements – Frontage Road, Ourtown Road, and Claver Court

Alliant Energy Projects – Alliant is targeting late summer to install underground cable from Evergreen Drive and Weeden Creek Road south to Woodhaven Court, relocating most of the existing overhead lines underground. This is the first phase of eventually undergrounding as much of the Black River area as possible. It does not include house services if they are currently fed overhead. Telephone and cable TV could remain aerial so you may see poles left after Alliant has completed their work. Alliant will also be performing maintenance work on the line from the Edgewater Generating Station south to the state park, which will include replacing poles and equipment along with performing other maintenance items. Asplundh Tree Company is already in town doing work.

Tree Removal on S. 12th Street – The County has been cutting trees along the S. 12th Street road right-of-way near Indian

Mound Road to increase visibility for motorists and open the road to more sun to increase its longevity. Shade is a best friend to water and water is the enemy of roads.

High Water Levels – Spring has arrived which means melting, increased precipitation, rising water levels, and potential flooding. The good news is that Lake Michigan levels are down about a foot from this time last year. Town staff continue to assist residents with water issues. There is also a volunteer group who monitor and clear the mouth of the Black River which occasionally becomes blocked from the lake action, resulting in a rapid rise in the river and flooding of nearby homes. If you have a water emergency or would like to join the volunteer group, contact the town office at 208-2390.



**“The good news is
that Lake Michigan
levels are down
about a foot
from this time
last year.”**

Black River Museum – This local gem located on Evergreen Drive north of the fire station is open 1-3 on Sundays from Memorial Day through Labor Day. The museum features Black River history, a fishing village replica, shoreline display, invasive species information, lake and wildlife photography, and more. Also, enjoy the new flagpole memorial and benches on the grounds.

Admission is free.

Black River Advancement Association – The BRAA mission is to assist in the development of the Black River area and in the perpetuation of its wildlife and natural

beauty. Located on the corner of Evergreen Drive and Indian Mound Road, the BRAA hosts an annual Fall Fry and other events, and the hall is available for rental. Join today or renew your annual membership for only \$10. You can find more information at www.blackriveradvancement.com.

Kohler Golf Course – There are several updates with this project. The City plan commission approved the conditional use permit for the golf course at their December 15, 2020 meeting. Kohler is still seeking their wetland fill permits from the DNR, which were revoked by an Administrative Law Judge in 2018, citing the standards for issuing the permit were not met. Kohler's appeal of that decision is still pending in Sheboygan County Circuit Court. Two separate lawsuits filed by a private advocacy group are also undecided. The first challenges the Natural Resource Board's 2018 decision to exchange 6.47 acres of state park land for a parcel of Kohler-owned property abutting the park. Kohler challenged the group's standing to file suit against a state agency, with the Appeals Court ruling against Kohler and affirming the group's right to file suit. Kohler then asked the Supreme Court to review the appellate decision and they have accepted the case. The second lawsuit challenges the DNR's Environmental Impact Statement, asserting deficiencies in its evaluation of wetland and storm-water impacts.

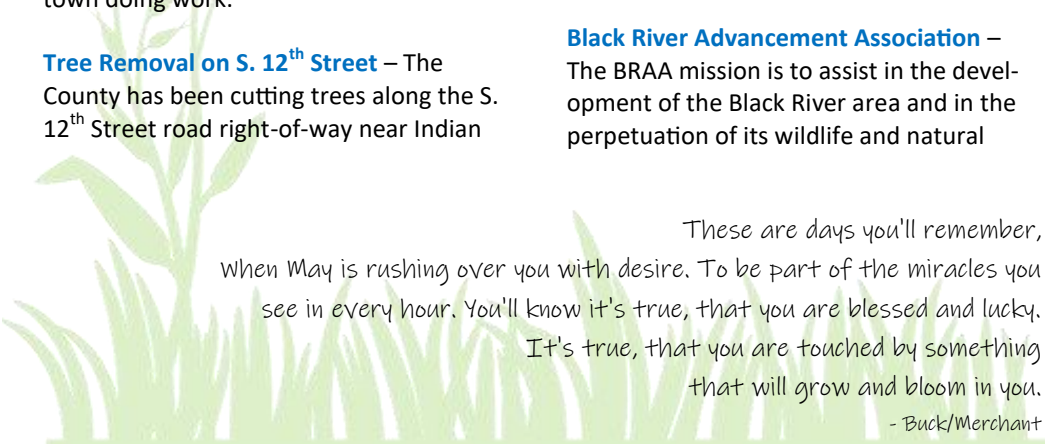
Sewer Project – The town's Sanitary District 1 will be making repairs to manholes on the Indian Mound sewer line that are experiencing corrosion and deteriorating rings. The project will be completed this summer and paid for with existing Sanitary District 1 reserves. Affected streets are Indian Mound, Lonesome Pine, Capital, Woodland, Ember and Hillside. A major upgrade of this line to larger piping will be needed within 3-5 years to provide additional capacity to accommodate new development.

If you have any questions or feedback or would like to discuss any issue in more depth, please do not hesitate to call the town office, me, or any supervisor.

Enjoy your summer!

John Ehmann, Chairman

(920) 254-9362



*These are days you'll remember,
when May is rushing over you with desire. To be part of the miracles you
see in every hour. You'll know it's true, that you are blessed and lucky.*

*It's true, that you are touched by something
that will grow and bloom in you.*

- Buck/Merchant



Businesses is closed but we are open!

The Parks & Forestry team has not formally met in over a year due to the pandemic, but that doesn't mean we've been inactive! Continued work on park beautification kept us busy throughout 2020 and we will continue these efforts in 2021!

We are happy to announce that with vaccines and other safety precautions becoming more widely available we plan to begin formal meetings soon.

Watch the Town website and posting locations; As always our meetings will be properly posted and in compliance with open meeting laws. Have a great Summer!

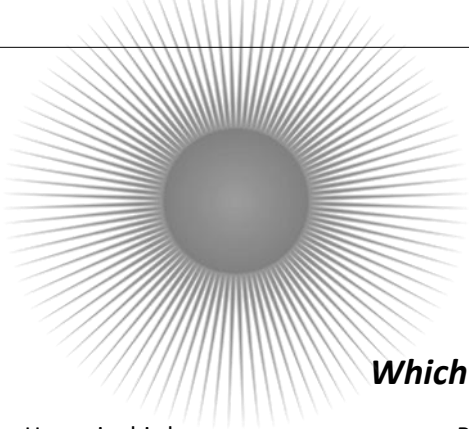
Out on the town –

Deborah Lisberg formally accepted Chairman Ehmann's appointment to the long vacant Park and Forestry Commission.

Chairman Greg Hopkins took Deborah on a fun filled, guided tour of all the Town parks and conservancies. Once Deborah learned the lay of the land, she hit the ground running! She has been doing some much needed clean-up work in the undeveloped park at 9th Street and Riverdale Avenue. The park has a large number of trees that had fallen and needed cleaning out to make room for new life.

She also did some scouting at Jerving Conservancy and has identified a few trees there that likely will need removal.

Forest management is one of the best ways we can keep our parks and conservancies healthy so they can continue to bring joy to us and shelter to the many species of wildlife that call the Town of Wilson home.



"Mama always told me not to look into the eyes of the sun.

But Mama, that's where the fun is!"

- Springsteen (elevated by Manfred Mann)

Which bird can fly the fastest?

A. Hummingbird

B. Peregrine Falcon

C. Sandhill Crane



Answer: B. The Peregrine Falcon: When in a hunting dive a falcon can reach speeds over 200 MPH. However, in horizontal level flight it tops out around 68 MPH.

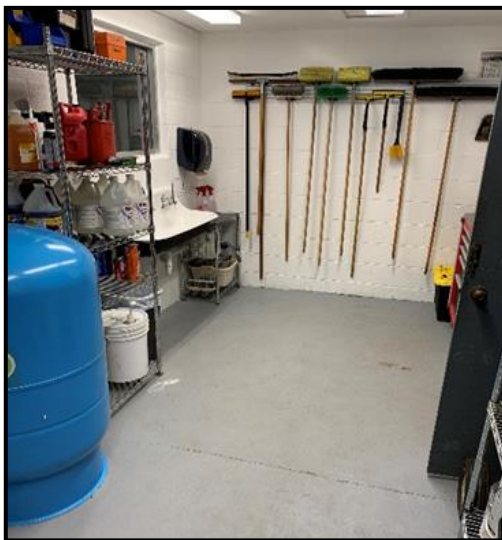


Photo of the tool room at the fire station.

Many hands makes light work -

Organization and a lack of clutter makes every job not only nicer but also more efficiently completed and more safe.

The firefighters and first responders all came together to help with the cleaning out and updating of our tool room at the Town of Wilson Fire Station and as shown in the photo our project was a great success.

With a clear floor and organized shelving we can be more productive than ever in our projects and repairs.

Thank you to everyone who made this possible!

New local heroes –

Jaden Becker has advanced from his beginnings as a fire explorer with the Town of Wilson, and is climbing the ladder to more skills and more responsibility. We are proud to announce Jaden is now one of our new firefighter recruits.

Joining Becker as a new recruit is **Kevin Westenberger**. Kevin is signed up for the Spring session of entry level fire classes, and will begin his studies in late March. Welcome Jaden and Kevin!

New fire explorers have joined TWFD this year as well. **Jennifer Hitman** and **Tyler Skaggs** are our fresh faces in the explorer program. Welcome Jennifer and Tyler!

Several of our firefighters have continued their education and received State of Wisconsin certifications for Firefighter 1, Firefighter 2 and Driver Operator. Congratulations to those who have advanced their education and continue to serve our community.

We are grateful for your commitment, your bravery and your sacrifice!

A message from the Chief -

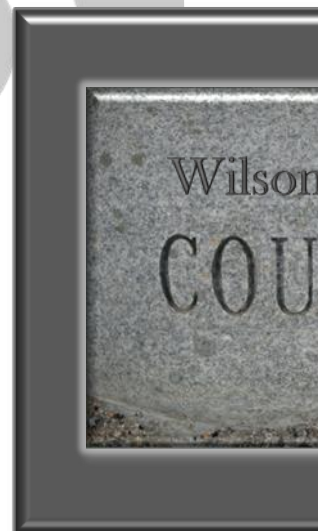
This past year of 2020 was a unique year as everyone knows. I want to extend a thank you to everyone that answered the calls regardless of the circumstances, so many people stepped up to help others out!!

Fire Chief Todd Hittman

These are the seasons of emotion, and like the wind, they rise and fall
This is the wonder of devotion

I see the torch
We all must hold
This is the mystery
of the quotient
Upon us all,
upon us all
a little rain
must fall

-Plant/Page



2020 INCIDENT RESPONSES BY CATEGORY		
MAJOR INCIDENT TYPE	# INCIDENTS	% of TOTAL
Fires	17	34.69%
Rescue & Emergency Medical Service	4	8.16%
Hazardous Condition (No Fire)	11	22.45%
Service Call	7	14.29%
Good Intent Call	3	6.12%
False Alarm & False Call	5	10.2%
Severe Weather & Natural Disaster	2	4.08%
TOTAL	49	100%

Never a bill -

Town of Wilson First Responders are commonly asked; Will residents receive a bill for First Responder assistance on the scene of a 911 call? The answer is no. Town of Wilson First Responders are a volunteer organization made up of members of the community. **We do not bill anyone for our service, ever.**

We respond to a 911 call sometimes faster than an ambulance to render immediate life-saving care, medical assessments and administer critical medications. Then we assist the ambulance crew with further treatment, and occasionally with transport.

This helps get patients to their hospital of choice and definitive care so they can have the best possible outcome to their medical emergency.



The rehabilitation trailer has been extremely welcomed by all firefighters, it provides shelter in the winter months from the cold and a cool place to rest in the summer.

A safety reminder from the co-director -

As warmer weather approaches we are sure to see our neighbors and friends outside taking in the sunshine and fresh air! There are simple measures we can all put in place every day to help ensure a accident free and happy summer for all.

One of the easiest is putting personal emphasis on the importance of watching out for our people walking, biking and children playing.

Please **slow down** while driving on the roads and safely move your vehicles over to provide room for our bikers and walkers and keep an eye out peripherally for the occasional ball that a child may run after.

If we all have a goal to watch out for each other, we all have a chance at a SAFE and enjoyable summer! - Shelly Hittman

Did you know -

Heavy grass clipping left in the roadway can swiftly take a motorcyclist down to the ground. The grass clippings make the roadway slick like ice or sand and it's even worse with worn tires. Please sweep off the roads or use a leaf blower to assist in keeping our two wheeled residents upright!

Call volume on the rise -

The Town of Wilson First Responders had a busy year in 2020. We responded to over 150 calls including fire rehabilitation for neighboring fire departments. Fortunately, as demand increased so did our crew!

**Town of Wilson First Responders extend a hearty welcome to :
Jaci Shuit, Joshua Hittman and Cherie Duby.**

They all have completed the necessary education and are NREMT certified as EMT's.

Welcome aboard and thank you for your commitment to helping mankind and making the world a better place!



In no position to give advice
My heart it spoke and I wrote it down
And you know every wisdom has its price
My head up in the stars
And my feet planted firmly on the ground
When will I embrace this life I see?

I've been wondering for so long
Thinking back, the truth may be
I've been unaware but I've been living it all along



Dog days of summer -

Summertime! With the longer days and a plethora of activities happening outside it's easier for our furry friends to escape the confines of their safe home. Did you know a dog wearing a licensing tag is more likely to be quickly reunited with it's owner? Well, and also it's required to license your canine companion.

Given our current circumstances with the Covid - 19 virus, the Town Board has agreed to postpone late fees until April 30th, 2020 again this year.

Please send your payment and a copy of the current rabies certificate along with a stamped, self-addressed envelope to the town office at **5935 South Business Drive, Sheboygan, WI 53081**, or place it in the drop box conveniently located immediately east of our front door. Your tag and new license will be mailed back to you. You can also e-mail a scanned copy of the current rabies certificate to **kmooney@townwilson.com**. However, if you choose this method you must send or dropbox a check. Please mention in your email whether to expect to use mail or dropbox for payment. As a reminder, the fee is \$7 for spayed or neutered, \$14 for intact dogs.

Contactless contact -

We are infinitely grateful for all of our residents that have shown patience, kindness and understanding while we work within guidelines to help everyone stay healthy during this lengthy delay of reopening. The Town of Wilson has taken steps and embraced technology to make it easier!

At the office front door is a fantastic addition that helps us communicate efficiently and effectively. A new video door bell is located by the drop box to the left of our office front door. When pressed, the door bell activates a two way speaker. It's like a phone call with-

out the phone! Simply ring the doorbell and one of our friendly staff would be glad to assist you with any questions you may have or needs that arise.

Along with the new doorbell, we have upgraded our doors to allow for contactless entry and handicap accessibility with the wave of a hand. Once we can safely reopen, many people will benefit from this helpful new addition. Simply wave your hand in front of the sensor and the door will open, eliminating the need to touch the door handles.

For now, all general permit applications, liquor license applications and other forms can be downloaded from the town's website. Completed applications and forms can be placed in the town office drop box along with a check for the appropriate payment. Consultation and other discussions related to permit applications or other forms can be conducted remotely via telephone, email or our new doorbell!

A sure thing -

Taxes.

One of the inevitable things in life.

For those of you that chose the installment method of paying property taxes, here are some important reminders:

- ◇ Bills are usually sent out in the beginning of June and are due July 31st.
- ◇ *Second half payments MUST BE made at the County Administration Building.*

We cannot accept them at our office.

This includes all late payments made after January 31, 2021

- ◇ Write checks to:
Sheboygan County Treasurer,
and mail or pay in person at:
508 New York Avenue,
Sheboygan, WI 53081.



M	Q	S	W	E	R	T	Y	U	C	O	T	T	O	N	P	A	D	S	I
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I	H	G	U	M	M	Y	T	E	E	N	O	H	P	L	L	E	C	E	K

Some things that shouldn't get flushed down the drain or toilet

RAGS
MAKEUP WIPES
TOOTHBRUSHES
HAIR
DIAPERS
PLASTIC WRAP
ROCKS
BOBBY PINS
TAR
DRUGS
PACKING PEANUTS
MOP HEADS
TOILET WIPES
FAT
GREASE
BAGS
CEMENT
OILS
Q TIPS
URETHANE
GAS
GUM
SOLVENTS
TOWN
WILSON
SANITARY
CELLPHONE
STRING
TOYS

SANITARY DISTRICT

Onward and upward -

It's hard to believe it's been 33 years since the Town of Wilson Sanitary District began! All of the pipes and pumps are something most of us don't even give a thought to when we take a shower or flush a toilet. Paying for a service that has been stable and generally without incident is an often an overlooked advantage.

Since the district has 33 years under it's belt, some of the infrastructure is due for replacing and repair. Man-holes corrode, flow increases with neighborhood growth and general upkeep increases with age.

With larger repair projects on our horizon residents will notice a modest \$8 per quarter (less than \$3 a month) increase in rates to facilitate our needs as we continue to provide the swift transportation of our residents waste water on to the treatment plant. Metered commercial customers will also notice a \$10 per quarter meter fee.

One thing we can all do to keep costs from rising is watching what gets flushed down a drain or toilet. Pumps get clogged, jammed and sometimes even broken from items that make their way into the sewers.

If we all work together we can keep our costs down and our efficiency up!

Checking In -

There are quite a few things in life where an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure. One of those things is your sewer check valve! A simple way to help prevent a sewer back up is to check in on your check valve.

Not all homes are equipped with one, but homes built after 2015 definitely have them. It became part of the building code in 2015 and since then is required.

Check valves work like a one way street. Water can flow in one direction, but a flap closes and will not allow water to flow backwards. When working properly, the closed flap is like insurance that what has made it's way beyond the home cannot make it's way back in.

Sometimes when un-flushable items get accidentally flushed they can cause a flap to get stuck and not properly close. Another cause for a faulty flap closure is improper installation, and sometimes they just get worn.

The ounce of prevention is simple. Have your check valves periodically cleaned and inspected! If your home does not have one a licensed plumber can install one for you.

Good friends we have, oh, good friends we've lost along the way.

In this great future, you can't forget your past so dry your tears, I say.

- Marley

Quoted lyrics in this issue are dedicated to the memory of my fantastic dad. RPH 12/16/44-03/12/21



Town of Wilson
5935 South Business Drive
Sheboygan, WI 53081

Newsletter

OFFICE HOURS:

8:00 AM - 4:30 PM Mon. - Thurs;

Phone (920) 208-2390; Fax (920) 208-2450

www.townwilson.com

SANITARY OFFICE HOURS:

Monday Afternoons *hours vary*

Tues. 10-3:30 PM (*closed Wednesdays*)

and Thursday 8:30 - 12:30PM;

Phone: (920)694-0088; Fax: (920) 452-0548

RECYCLE CENTER & TRANSFER STATION

4430 Meyer Court

Tues. 8 AM - 5 PM; Sat. 8 AM- 4 PM

EMERGENCY SANITARY

SEWER CONTACTS:

Otis Kiehl: (920) 918-8723

Steve Pautz: (920) 946-2216

Mike Klokow: (920) 457-6727

Tom Sanville: (920) 457-6554

Or Tom Sanville Cell : (920)980-0262

TOWN OF WILSON BOARD MEMBERS

Chairman John Ehmann.....(920)254-9362 or chairman@townwilson.com

Supervisor Tom Stoelb..... (920)627-5647 or supervisorts@townwilson.com

Supervisor Brian Hoffmann.....(920)918-2010 or supervisorbh@townwilson.com

Supervisor Nancy Des Jardins.....(920)457-1230 or supervisorndj@townwilson.com

Supervisor Matt Fore.....(920)212-0280 or supervisormf@townwilson.com

TOWN OF WILSON STAFF

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Karen Bollwahn, Sanitary District Administrator.....(920) 694-0088

kbollwahn@townwilson.com

Rick Meyer, Maintenance & Road Supervisor.....(920) 980-0198

maintenance@townwilson.com

Tom Rogers, Electrical Inspector(920) 377-0074

Grota Appraisals(262) 253-1142

Jack Vander Weele, Building Inspector(920) 946-7844

Scott Winter, Plumbing HVAC Inspector(920) 207-2818

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firedept@townwilson.com

Todd Hittman, Chief(920) 458-6763

Steve Pautz, Assistant Chief(920) 946-2216

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Shelly Hittman, Co-Director (920) 458-6763

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