



WISCONSIN TOWNS
ASSOCIATION

Empowering Town Officials

Contemporary/Legislative Updates for Spring 2021



Virtual Meeting Reminders

- Toll Free Phone Call or Zoom Video
- Please Mute your Phone/Computer
 - Unmute when you want to ask a question, make a motion, etc.
- Plan B
 - Moderator will mute everyone and open the microphone by unmuting everyone for Q&A at the end of the presentation.
- Plan C
 - Moderator will mute everyone and only allow for chat Q&A.

Learning Objectives

- Review Changes from the Town Law Reform Bill
 - Options for Appointing Temporary Replacements
 - Wage Limit Changes
 - Notice Changes
 - Electronic Posting Clarification
 - Board of Review
- Review WTA Legislative Agenda for 2021-2022
 - Including Budget Priorities
- Recent Legislative Developments in Current Session

Town Law Reform Bill

- 2019 Wisconsin Act 140
- Wis. Stat. § 60.30(5)(c)
 - “If a town board supervisor is temporarily incapacitated because of physical or mental disability, the town board may appoint a person to discharge the supervisor's duties until the disability is removed.”
- Wis. Stat. § 17.13 (2m)
 - “Any elective town officer by a majority vote of all the members of the town board, because of continued physical inability to perform the duties of office or gross neglect of duty.”

Town Law Reform Bill cont.

- Wis. Stat. § 17.25(1)(a)2.a.
 - “If there are 2 vacancies in the town board, the remaining supervisors, the town clerk, and the town treasurer shall appoint an individual to fill one vacancy and the remaining supervisors, including the appointee, and the town clerk shall appoint an individual to fill the other vacancy.”
- Wis. Stat. § 60.37(4)(a) - Amended
 - Compensation Changes
 - “An elected town officer who also serves as a town employee may be paid an hourly wage for serving as a town employee, not exceeding a total of \$15,000 each year. Amounts that are paid under this paragraph may be paid in addition to any amount that an individual receives under s. 60.32 or as a volunteer fire fighter, emergency medical services practitioner, or emergency medical responder under s. 66.0501 (4) (a). The \$15,000 maximum in this paragraph includes amounts paid to a town board supervisor who is acting as superintendent of highways under s. 82.03 (1).”

Town Law Reform Bill cont.

- Wis. Stat. 19.84
 - Amendment to clarify options for posting requirements
 - Public notice of all meetings of a governmental body shall be given in the following manner
 - 1. Posting a notice in at least 3 public places likely to give notice to persons affected.
 - 2. Posting a notice in at least one public place likely to give notice to persons affected and placing a notice electronically on the governmental body's Internet site.
 - 3. By paid publication in a news medium likely to give notice to persons affected
 - Note: Wis. Stat. [19.84\(1\)\(a\)](#)
 - As required by any other statutes

Town Law Reform Bill cont.

- Board of Review Notice Changes
 - Act 140 clarifies requirements for notice of Board of Review
 - Newspaper publication is NOT required
 - Class 1 Notice is required – see Wis. Stat. 70.47(2)
 - 3 Options for providing notice of the BOR
 - **1.** Posting a notice in at least 3 public places likely to give notice to persons affected.
 - **2.** Posting a notice in at least one public place likely to give notice to persons affected and placing a notice electronically on the governmental body's Internet site.
 - **3.** By paid publication in a news medium likely to give notice to persons affected

2021-2023 State Budget Timeline

- Fall 2020
 - TAC hosted three listening session with town officials statewide
 - WTA and TAC developed Legislative Agenda
 - State Agencies submitted their funding requests to Gov.
- January 2021
 - Legislative Session Begins
- February 2021
 - Governor will propose state budget
 - Joint finance will begin their response immediately
- Summer 2021
 - The budget bill is signed by July 1

WTA's 2021-2022 Leg. Priorities

- Top Priorities

- Transportation
- Broadband
- Volunteer Fire/EMS
- Land Use

Developments from Current Leg. Session



Questions?

WTA...

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