

CHAPTER 4 Utilities and Community Facilities Element

Section 4.1 Introduction

Adequate infrastructure, utilities, community facilities and services are important in meeting existing and future community needs. They are the framework of a community's life and without them, the present day standard of living could not exist. Decisions made by the Town of Alban regarding utilities and community facilities will have an impact on all present and future residents. This chapter will describe the existing utilities and community facilities serving the community, and outline future desires and needs for Town residents.

Section 4.2 Public Utilities and Community Facilities Inventory

A. Sanitary Sewer Service

There is no sanitary sewer service in the Town of Alban. Residents in the Town utilize private on-site wastewater treatment systems (POWTS), otherwise known as private septic systems, as allowed by the Portage County Private Sewage System Ordinance.

The Portage County Planning and Zoning Department administers the permitting and management of POWTS County wide. The Town is comfortable with Portage County handling all private onsite wastewater issues.

B. Water Supply

The Town relies entirely on private wells for water supply. Please see the groundwater section of the Agricultural, Natural and Cultural Resources Chapter for further information.

Since potable water is obtained primarily from groundwater, consideration should be given to possible sources of contamination. One possible source is landfills. Landfills (also formerly known as dumps) have been around as long as people have lived in Portage County, however, the locations of many of the smaller, private dumps are unknown. The amount of materials deposited in these was small, and the toxicities of the materials were likely low as compared to current solid waste. All known landfills, including the current County Landfill located on Cty Rd QQ, have been closed. According to Department of Natural Resources Administrative Code, there must be a 1,200 foot separation between a private well or reservoir and the nearest edge of an existing, proposed, or abandoned landfill. Modifications to this requirement may be granted by the DNR, particularly where a proposed development is up gradient (in terms of direction of groundwater flow) from the landfill site. Landfills in Alban are shown on Map 4.1.

C. Storm Water Management

The Town does not have a formal storm water management plan. However, responsibility for storm water management within the Town of Alban is split between Portage County and the Town. Storm water facilities consist mainly of ditches along the road network. Portage County maintains the ditches along the portions of County Highways within Alban, while the Town maintains any ditches along Town roads. In the spring, warning signs for "water crossing roads" are regularly seen in certain areas of the Town. Ditches along Town roads vary in size, ranging up to 4 feet in width.

D. Solid Waste and Recycling Facilities

The Town of Alban contracts Wittenberg Disposal from Wittenberg, WI to dispose of solid waste and recycle materials.

E. Corporate Utilities

1. Telecommunication Facilities - The Town does not own or manage telecommunication facilities. There are two cell phone towers in Alban, one located just north of the Village of Rosholt. A third tower servicing the Town is on STH 66 in the Town of Sharon.
2. Power Generating Plants and Transmission Lines - The Town currently receives its electric from two different companies, Alliant Energy, out of Madison, WI, and Central WI Electric Cooperative. There is a substation on County Road A north of the WI Lions Camp owned by Central Wisconsin Electric Coop. Residents along State Highway 66 and along County Road A and north to the Wisconsin Lions Camp receive gas service from Wisconsin Public Service, out of Plover, WI. Other residents use propane supplied by 4 suppliers in the area.
3. Telephone and Internet Services – Town residents do not have access to cable television or cable telephone services. They receive telephone service from Amherst Telephone Company out of Amherst, WI. Internet service providers include Tomorrow River, MS World Net, and Wild Blue. High speed internet service in the form of DSL (Digital Subscriber Line) is available to all customers of the Amherst Telephone.

Section 4.3 Community Facilities Inventory and Analysis

A. Municipal Buildings

The Town of Alban has no Town Hall. Municipal meetings are held at the Wisconsin Lions Foundation Eyeglass Recycling Center during the winter, and at the Town of Alban storage garage during the summer. The storage garage facility, located on CTH A (see Map 4.1), stores all the Town records as well as maintenance vehicles, including:

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|---|--|
| 2 single axle plow trucks with 5 yard dumps | 1 mowing tractor |
| 1 pay loader with 1 ¼ cubic yard bucket | 1 one ton service truck with 2 yard dump box |
| 1 Road Grader | |

B. Police, Fire, Rescue, Emergency Response

Police protection and ambulance service is provided by Portage County. The Portage County Sheriff’s Department provides protective services through random patrols and on a “call-out” basis. Portage County is divided into 3 districts for patrol purposes. During the day shift, 1 officer is assigned to each district, and an additional officer “floats” throughout the County. During the night shift, 2 officers are assigned to each district, and 2 additional officers float throughout the County. Officers may drive through the Town any number of times during each shift to check on businesses and residences.

The Rosholt Fire District includes the Town of Alban, the Village of Rosholt, and the Town of Sharon. The fire station for the district is located in the Town of Alban on State Highway 66 west of the Village of Rosholt. The Rosholt Fire District has 8 trucks:

2 Tanker Trucks; 1 Brush Truck; 2 Pumper Trucks; 2 Rescue Squads; 1 Pumper Transfer Truck.

There are First Responders within the Village of Rosholt that serve Alban residents. First Responders are local residents who volunteer to be the first to respond to accidents and medical emergencies within the area. They are dispatched by the Portage County 911 system, respond in their personal vehicles and attempt to stabilize patients before EMT's and/or Ambulances arrive. Supplies and equipment used by First Responders are kept at the Rosholt Fire District Station.

Map 4.1 Community Facilities

There are approximately 10 First Responders, and 40 volunteer fire fighters between the Towns of Alban, Village of Rosholt, and the Town of Sharon.

There are Mutual Aid Agreements between the Town of Alban and the surrounding Towns for first response and fire emergencies including those Towns in neighboring counties.

C. Schools

Alban is located within the Rosholt School district. This district serves a student population from Pre-K to 12th grade students in a single facility located in the Village of Rosholt. The system is composed of three schools within the larger Pre K-12 facility: Rosholt Elementary (PreK-5th grade), Rosholt Middle (6-8th grade), and Rosholt High (9-12th grade). There is an additional private school in the Town of Alban, St. Adalbert's, which is associated with St. Adalbert's Church.

The University of Wisconsin - Stevens Point and Mid-State Technical College, both located in the City of Stevens Point, are available to residents for post-secondary education. The University of Wisconsin-Marathon County and North Central Technical College in the City of Wausau, located approximately 30 miles northwest of the Town, are also available.

D. Parks

The Town does not currently maintain any land as a Town park, but other recreational opportunities are available to residents. Three County parks are located in the Town of Alban. They include: Peterson County Park, located off STH 49 in the northern part of the Town; Lake Helen Park, located on STH 49 in the eastern part of Town; and Collins Park, located on County Road I in the southwestern part of Town.

- Peterson Park is 9 acres in size and is located next to Tree Lake (74 acres in size). The park has a beach, picnic and restroom facilities, play equipment, and a boat ramp.
- Lake Helen Park is 10 acres in size and is located on the north side of Lake Helen (87 acres - the largest lake in northeastern Portage County). There are picnic and restroom facilities, a shelter, and boat ramp available to the public.
- Collins Park is 31 acres in size and is adjacent to the 42 acre Collins Lake. Amenities include: a beach, picnic and restroom facilities, campsites, swimming raft, playground, boat ramp, and manager's residence.

The Village of Rosholt also has six parks; Depot Park, Rosholt Fairgrounds, Historic Marker, Rosholt School Complex Sport Fields, Lions Park, and the Footbridge Park.

E. Cemeteries

The Town currently has three cemeteries: St. Adalbert's, 5 acres in size; Alban Cemetery, 2 acres.

F. Health Care Facilities

There are no health care facilities in the Town of Alban. Residents travel primarily to Stevens Point and Rosholt for their health care needs. St. Michael's Hospital and Rice Medical Center, located in Stevens Point, are the largest facilities in the County. Rosholt Family Practice is located in the Village of Rosholt but presently has no doctor on staff. Dental facilities are also located in Rosholt as well as Stevens Point.

G. Child Care Facilities

There are no licensed daycare facilities in the Town of Alban. There are 2 different categories of state licensed childcare; they depend upon the number of children in care:

- Licensed Family Child Care Centers provide care for up to 8 children. This care is usually in the provider's home, but it is not required to be located in a residence.
- Licensed Group Child Care Centers provide care for 9 or more children. These centers are usually located somewhere other than a residence and may be small or large.

For a complete list, contact the Regional Division of Children and Family Services at:

2811 8th St. - Ste. 70
Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54494
Phone: (715) 422-5080 Fax: (715) 422-5091

H. Libraries

The Town of Alban does not have a public library. Residents make use of the library in Rosholt, which is affiliated with the Portage County Public Library system. The Charles M. White public library in Stevens Point is the next closest facility available to residents. Public internet service is available at all Portage County library locations. A complete list of facilities and services can be obtained on the internet at: <http://library.uwsp.edu/pcl/>.

Section 4.4 Utilities and Community Facilities Issues

- Parks: The Town will support and work with the County on the provision of parklands, however the Town Board does not want to manage or own park property.
- Telecommunication Facilities: Town residents desire better cell phone coverage since reception is very poor.

The Portage County Telecommunication ordinance for the management and placement of these facilities is sufficient for the Town, provided that there is a continuation of co-location requirements and a consideration for aerial spraying operations during the placement of these facilities. The Town would like to investigate ways to protect aerial spray planes from interference by communications or other types of towers.

- Child Care Facilities: There are no licensed commercial childcare facilities in the Town at this time.
- Sheriff: The Town appreciates a continued presence of the Portage County Sheriff's Department within Alban. The Town would like to work toward increasing the speed of response time when calls are made to the Sheriff's Department.
- Rescue and Ambulance: The Town wants to reevaluate the effectiveness of the ambulance service and address first responder issues as the need arises.

Section 4.4 Utilities and Community Facilities Goals, Objectives and Policies

Goal 1: Adequate community services are provided to Town residents.

Objective 1.1: Seek continued involvement in the shared services of fire, first responders, solid waste, recycling, and road repair on boundary roads.

Policy 1.1 (a): Continue to coordinate the following services with cooperating municipalities: Fire

First responders

Solid waste and recycling

Road repair on boundary roads

Policy 1.1 (b): Share services across municipal borders whenever possible.

Policy 1.1 (c): Set guidelines with adjacent municipalities to share services and facilities for emergency events.

Goal 2: Protect public green space and water resources.

Objective 2.1: Identify significant open spaces and water resources.

Policy 2.1 (a): Use recommendations in this plan to protect identified open spaces and natural resources.

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