

THE TOWN OF HULL  
DESCRIPTION, FOCUSES, VALUES  
By John Holdridge, Town Chairperson

The Town of Hull is located in central Wisconsin approximately 107 miles north of Madison, 34 miles south of Wausau, 89 miles west of Green Bay and 116 mile east of Eau Claire. Hull is situated at the intersection of Interstate 39 and State Highway 10 which are both major four lane highways running north and south and east and west respectively. The major airport serving the Town of Hull is the Central Wisconsin Airport (CWR) which is located at Mosinee approximately 18 miles to the north on I-39. Hull surrounds the City of Stevens Point on the cities' north and east sides.

Hull is the largest town and the third largest municipality in Portage County. Only Stevens Point and the Village of Plover are larger. The town has nearly 5700 citizens and 2020 households. It has 80 miles of roads and covers 20,088 square acres of land. Hull stretches from Highway 10 on the east to the Wisconsin River to the west. Major institutions in the Hull-Stevens Point area are the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point, Sentry Insurance and several paper mills.

The Town of Hull is governed by a five (5) member board of supervisors elected in staggered terms every two (2) years. Its annual budget in 2010 was \$1.7 million. Hull operations are primarily funded by the property tax (53% of revenues) and major state aid (22%). Of the total property tax each Hull household pays only 13% goes to support town operations. The majority goes to the Stevens Point Public Schools (51%) and Portage County (27%).

Services provided to Town residents primarily consist of road maintenance and, reconstruction, snow plowing, curbside garbage/recycling pickup, park maintenance and improvements, and municipal sponsored volunteer fire department protection. Efforts continue to utilize other governmental units to provide needed services, such as police protection and zoning/planning services obtained from Portage County. The Town will strive to keep a reasonable tax rate, below other municipalities in the Stevens Point area and below the State average for towns of similar size.

The Hull staff consists of town clerk and town secretary, both of whom are full time, four (4) full time road crew members and two (2) part time clerical staff. A part time appointed Treasurer and part time appointed Assessor/Building Inspector complete the Hull staff. Hull has a very active Plan Commission and Park Commission.

The preservation of neighborhoods has been the major unifying theme running through recent Town government operations. Neighborhood preservation has

been driven by strong citizen interest and participation in civic life particularly as more citizens live in subdivisions and cluster developments. The Town of Hull promotes the civic value of transparency, fiscal responsibility, competency, fairness/justice, integrity, and neighborliness/responsiveness. Hull has high voter turnout and active citizen participation in government. The Town of Hull recognizes citizen rights but also citizen responsibility in a participating democracy.

As the Town of Hull embraces the 21<sup>st</sup> century, expectations are the Town will continue to develop as an almost exclusive single-family residential area. Agricultural land will persist but diminish proportionally over all in the Town. Very little commercial development will occur because of the lack of municipal sewer and water. Growth is expected to be moderate, with residential development occurring primarily in areas contiguous to Stevens Point in the southern and eastern portions of the Town.

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