

From the Waupun Mayor -

Hi everybody!

While the city logo/branding issue has attracted the most media attention, there's lots of other issues we've been dealing with and I'm going to go through them here. Hopefully bringing you up to speed or maybe clarifying a rumor you may have heard.

First, The next "big issue" will be spending our ARPA funds that Waupun received from the federal government for COVID relief and recovery. In my opinion those funds should be used to do the most good for the most people.

With that in mind, my proposal to the council would be to spend the money this way:

\$500,000 baseball complex-turf replacement

\$250,000 Child Care expansion

\$30,000 climbing wall

\$34,000 stop light

\$125,000 Shaler ADA

\$35,000 Dodge Park

\$200,000 senior center overruns

Why? This does the most good for the most people. I'll break it down:

BASEBALL: Waupun has an awesome baseball complex that hosts several leagues and many tournaments. Including Little League, high school, and Legion baseball. Those tournaments bring hundreds of people to Waupun several weekends a Summer. Those people spend the night, eat lunch, shop, and are good for our local economy.

And baseball is a great youth activity, with hundreds of kids taking advantage of our baseball complex every year, from tee ball through legion ball. What makes our complex so unique and able to host so many tournaments is the awesome turf that's very weather resistant. If we didn't have that turf, we wouldn't have the tournaments, and the turf is beginning to wear out.

I know some of you are thinking, 'make the school pay for some of it, they use it too!' That's a fair point, but let's face it, they're broke, and the same taxpayers support both the city and school, so let's just get this done and playball!

CHILDCARE: Waupun, like everyone else, is facing a child care shortage, and if we can help a local day care expand or help bring in a second child care center, we need to try! Too many working families don't have access to quality childcare. I'm committed to tackling this issue, even though it's extremely difficult.

CLIMBING WALL: Our aquatic center is a very popular Summer destination and a climbing wall is another fun thing for the kids. Keeping our kids busy during the Summer helps to keep them out of trouble.

STOP LIGHT: The Main and Madison stop light is nearing a replacement. It's our busiest intersection. Let's just get er done.

SHALER ADA: The Veterans' wall at Shaler Park isn't exactly disability friendly. Many of our older veterans are disabled. I think it's the least we could do to make sure our heroes have access to their wall.

DODGE PARK: The tennis court is shot and needs to be replaced. This is one way to pay for it. I don't know if it should stay just a tennis court, with the popularity of Pickle Ball, but whatever we decide to do with it, this gets it done. And again, giving people recreational opportunities is good for one's mental health, and helps to keep Waupun a great place to live.

SENIOR CENTER: As we're drawing up the plans, many of us are committed to doing this right, and making sure this can also be a center used by the entire community. I love the idea of housing REACH and the food pantry in this new building, but doing so will drive up the cost. This is a way to hold some funds back to cover those costs.

So, those will be my recommendations as to how we spend your federal tax dollars in Waupun. I know there will be some 11,264 different opinions, but I am trying to do the most good for the most people. In the end, the council gets the final decision, so make your voice heard!

Other issues going on:

Last week, I did get a concern that Waupun Correctional Institution was going to be closing Tower 1 on weekends. This was worrisome because that is the main tower and we do want to make sure city residents are safe. After reaching out to Warden Randy Hepp, we learned that WCI is NOT closing that tower.

Next, I occasionally get asked about the Saturday "Noon Whistle" and why it sounds for so long. The answer is that it's the county wide test. All sirens in Fond du Lac County sound at noon on Saturday for three minutes. This allows for the mechanism in the siren to stay lubricated, and for officials to make sure the sounding software is working properly. We'd rather something fail at Noon on Saturday than during a Tornado warned storm. You may

remember, we used to sound the siren every day at noon, that was changed several years ago to only Wednesday's growl test and the Saturday county wide test.

The next question I received was why is Windmill the never going? I do have a couple people willing to volunteer to operate and help maintain it. We'll see what happens!

Reminder, the railroad crossing at Main Street is scheduled to be replaced next year!

Volksfeast is returning! Saturday September 10 at the Waupun Community Center. Volksfeast has been taken over by the Waupun Hockey Club, and I hope to see you their!

Prisoners in the Park. You may remember that about a month ago I learned that county vehicles who are waiting to drop off incoming inmates to the Dodge Correctional Institution were using Dodge Park as the restroom for prisoners who needed to go. We had troubling pictures of cuffed and shackled prisoners being escorted by armed deputies through a park full of kids. Obviously, this isn't ideal.

I reached out to Warden Benzel at DCI and he agreed that a park isn't a good a place for prisoners. I then talked to Senator Feyen who called Department of Corrections Secretary Kevin Carr. An email has been sent to all Sheriff's in Wisconsin asking them not to use Dodge park for a prisoner's restrooms. They were instructed to use any jail, or any correctional facility in Waupun if the inmate needs to relieve himself.

Thank you and God Bless,
Rohn W. Bishop
Mayor, City of Waupun

AUGUST 19 PASSPORT TO ADVENTURE COMMUNITY SCOUTING EVENT: 5PM TO 8PM. Troop 711 (boys ages 11-17) invite you and your family. Activities include fire building, giant water launchers, dutch oven desserts, orienteering, first aid scenarios. A light dinner will be provided. Come for a short time or the entire night. Held at the Waupun County Park, 825 County Park Rd, Waupun. Meet by the Campsites – Look for the Troop Flag. RSVP to: Michelle at 608-577-2887.

WAUPUN AQUATIC CENTER: POOL OPEN JUNE 4-AUGUST 21

POOL PASSES may be purchased prior to the pool opening at www.theydc.org starting April 11, at the Waupun Senior Center by appointment by calling 920-324-7930, or at the Waupun Family Aquatic Center beginning June 4. Pricing: \$150 Residential Family Pass; \$75 Residential Individual Pass; \$175 non-residential family pass, and \$85 non-residential individual pass. Questions, call Waupun Senior Center at 920-324-7930, YMCA of Dodge County at 920-887-8811, or Waupun City Hall at 920-324-7900.

SENIOR SWIM (50+) – Fridays at 11AM – Sponsored by the Waupun Community Coalition on Aging (WCCA)

SWIM LESSONS may be purchased prior to pool opening online at www.theydc.org starting April 11, at the YMCA of Dodge County, or at the Waupun Family Aquatic Center beginning June 4. Questions, call 920-887-8811.

AUGUST 27 DODGE COUNTY CLEAN SWEEP COLLECTION DAY: 8AM TO NOON. Located at Dodge County Highway Dept Shop (Town of Trenton), N8856 CTH A, Beaver Dam, WI. Cost: Household/\$10 vehicle. Agriculture/Free – must pre-register. Small business (VSQG) – must pre-register – cost will be assessed. For more information and pre-registration, please visit the Extension Dodge County website at: www.dodge.extension.wisc.edu or call the office at 920-386-3790 between 8AM and 4:30PM, Monday – Friday.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 10 – WAUPUN VOLKSFEST – 8AM TO 11PM. FREE Music and admission!! Pancake Breakfast hosted by Kiwanis 8-10am. Desserts are hosted by Pella Lutheran Church. Food and beer hosted by Waupun Hockey Association. Event hosted by the Waupun Chamber of Commerce. Held at the Waupun Community Center, 510 E Spring Street.

OCTOBER 3, 4, & 5 BULK PICK-UP - The Fall bulk item pick-up with Advanced Disposal Services will be held the week of April 4, 2022. Bulk items should be picked up on your normal trash pick-up date. Items may not be placed at the curb prior than 24 hours to your scheduled pick-up date. If items do not meet bulk pick-up guidelines a door-

hanger will be hung the day of pick-up. A picture will be taken of the remaining items, and you will have 3 days to remove them. Please remember bulk pick-up is for large items that do not fit in a garbage or recycling container. Waste Management will be providing three 30 yard containers for wood related items only during bulk pick up as well. The dumpsters will be located at the Department of Public Works Garage, at 903 N. Madison St. The days and hours of operation will be Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday from 8am to 3pm during the bulk pickup days only. Residents will be required to show proof of residency. Material other than wood related items, will not be accepted and will be turned away. You may check out the guidelines for what is considered bulk on our City website at www.cityofwaupun.org.

OCTOBER 10 – NOVEMBER 14 SPRING YARD WASTE PICKUP: The City's Fall Yard Waste pick-up is designated for October 10, 2022 thru November 14, 2022 (weather permitting). This service is for the disposal of leaves, grass, garden waste, and branches that are generated from routine yard maintenance. Leaves and brush shall not be deposited on the street. Leave grass clippings and leaves at the curbside loose, do not bag. Separate leaf piles and brush piles. Branches shall not exceed 3 inches in diameter. No tree stumps or tree root systems will be collected. The service is not intended for tree removal or lot cleaning.

WAUPUN FARMER'S MARKET will run on Saturday's from 8AM to 12PM, June 4 through September 24, in the O'Connor, Wells, & VanderWerff parking lot, corner of Main St & Forest St. The Farmers Market serves as an outlet for local producers to sell their products and provides the community with access to fresh foods and associated crafts from small vendors, hobby farmers and local gardens. If you would like to participate in the Farmer's Market you can contact Stephanie Fletcher at 414-313-0841 or email her at fletchersn09@gmail.com.

FREE COVID-19 TESTING

Fond du Lac County Health Department is offering FREE COVID-19 testing for all residents ages 2 and older. Accelerated Clinical Laboratories will be providing mobile COVID-19 testing onsite at the Fond du Lac County Fairgrounds (520 Fond du lac Ave) on **Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays & Fridays from 8AM -4:30PM**. Drive-thru only. As a reminder, anyone ages 2 or older can utilize these testing sites. Symptoms are not required. No appointments, insurance, or identification is required. Pre-registering may speed up your visit; individuals can pre-register at <https://register.covidconnect.wi.gov/en-US/>. Individuals may find additional testing sites within Fond du Lac County by visiting our website, or throughout the state by visiting the DHS website.

WAUPUN AREA VETERANS MEMORIAL WALL PROJECT: The Waupun Area Veterans Memorial Wall is located in Shaler Park and is a lasting tribute to all Waupun area veterans who have served or are now serving their country. Those veterans have served the country in times of war and peace from the War of 1812 up through present day. The project was started in 2004 and there are currently over 1214 veteran's names on the walls and more are added every year. For more information, or to have additional names added to the walls, call the project director at 920-324-4641. Application forms are also available at the National Exchange Bank & Trust in Waupun.

CITY HALL

Open 7:30am- 4:00pm, Monday-Friday. For assistance, call 920-324-7900.

CALL YOUR COMMON COUNCIL

Mayor Rohn Bishop 920-210-1063; District 1 – Jason Westphal, 920-210-5140, District 2 – Pete Kaczmarek, 920-324-2213; District 3 – Will Langford 262-224-1035; District 4 –Mike Matoushek 262-470-5975; District 5 – Dan Siebers 920-205-3065; District 6 – Nancy Vanderkin, 920-345-1151.

BUILDING INSPECTOR

Contact Susan Leahy 920-229-6360. City Hall hours: Monday's & Wednesday's 10:00am – 12:00pm. Friday 11:00am – 12:00pm.

PROPERTY ASSESSMENT QUESTIONS

Call Associated Appraisal Consultants 1-800-721-4157

SENIOR CENTER

301 E. Main Street, Waupun, WI 53963. Phone (920) 324-7930. Hours: Mondays, Wednesdays, Thursdays from 8:00am—4:00pm, Tuesdays, Fridays from 8:00am—2:00pm. Email: parks@cityofwaupun.org

WAUPUN PUBLIC LIBRARY

Hours: Mon.-Thurs. 9:00am - 8:00pm, Friday-Saturday 9:00am - 4:30pm. Sunday CLOSED. Curbside pick-up is available. 920-324-7925.

WAUPUN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Tuesday from 8AM to 12PM. Thursday from 1PM to 5PM. Additional time can be made available for appointments and special projects. For any questions you can call the Waupun Chamber at 920-324-3491 Monday – Friday, 8AM to 5PM. The Waupun Chamber is located at 321 E Main Street.

WAUPUN UTILITIES

Open Monday-Friday from 8 AM to 4PM. For assistance, call 920-324-7920. An answering service is available to take your call outside of normal business hours.

WAUPUN TAXI

HOURS OF OPERATION: Waupun Taxi provides shared-ride taxi services in the City of Waupun. Hours are: Mon. – Thurs., 6 a.m. – 6 p.m., Fri., 6 a.m. – 6 p.m., 9 p.m. – 2:30 a.m., Sat. 9 a.m. – 2 p.m., 9 p.m. – 2:30 a.m. No Sunday service. Phone number is 324-2426. During this public health emergency Waupun Taxi is allowed to make certain pharmaceutical deliveries. Ask your pharmacist if your medications can be delivered. No charge for the delivery service. To qualify your pharmacist must agree, and you must pay the cost of your medications (if any) over the telephone or internet. But Waupun Taxi will not add on any extra charge for the delivery. Call your pharmacist.

PARK RESERVATIONS: If you are planning picnics, graduations, or family gatherings, you may wish to hold your event in one of our City park shelters. Park fees are: \$50 City Resident and \$75 Non-City Resident. To reserve a park, call 324-7930. Leave a message if no one answers. Parks are scheduled to open April 1st, weather permitting. They close October 1st.

THE ELDERLY IN OUR COMMUNITY DESIRE YOUR HELP!

There is a significant need in and around Waupun for a variety of services for the elderly. Some of these services include house cleaning, moving/downsizing, lawn/landscaping services, home repairs, snow removal, technology help and more. To that end, the ONE Waupun ministry is organizing the ongoing efforts to connect those in need with those that are able to donate some of their time. We plan to start offering these services to the seniors in Waupun soon; however, we first need to generate a list of people that are willing to serve. Even if you can only help occasionally, it all helps. We need both men and women volunteers. Also, we realize that some of you may be reluctant to serve right now because of COVID, but please fill out this survey with the idea that this virus should be less of a concern in the coming months. To learn more about this service and to sign up as a volunteer, please go to www.onewaupun.com and click on the “Service” link at the top of the page.

WAUPUN DOG PARK (903 N. Madison St.): Waupun is pleased to offer an area for local dog owners to bring their dogs to run and play, as well as socialize with other dogs. It is open from sunrise to sunset, 7 days a week, year round. Please use the driveway entrance to the Waupun Area Animal Shelter. You may stop in at City Hall (201 E. Main Street) for an information guide that contains the rules and regulations.

WAUPUN ANIMAL SHELTER INC.: Hours: Monday 4PM to 7PM, Thursday 2PM to 6PM & Saturday by appointment only. 920-324-3200. Please visit our website www.waupunareanimalshelter.org to see all of the wonderful animals that we have available for adoption and a listing of our current needs.

WAUPUN AREA ANIMAL SHELTER SELLS BRICKS: The Shelter is selling bricks @ \$30.00. The 4 x 8 bricks will hold 3 lines (13 characters per line) and the icon of your choice. Order forms are available at the Animal Shelter. For questions, call the animal shelter at 920-324-3200.

HOUSING GRANT PROGRAM: Information on the Housing Grant Program can be obtained by calling MSA Professional Service, Beaver Dam, at 920-392-5142. Web Address: www.msa-ps.com

GLACIER RIDGE LANDFILL DUMP SITE: Glacier Ridge Landfill in Horicon has a dump site that is open Monday – Friday from 6:15 am to 4:30 pm. It is located at N7296 Cty Rd V, Horicon (off of Hwy 33). If you have questions you may call them at 920-387-0987.

ELECTRONICS RECYCLING SERVICE: ELECTRONICS RECYCLING SERVICE: Bargains Galore Thrift Store is an E-Cycle Wisconsin Registered Collector of electronics (computers, CPU's, copiers, phones, mice, keyboards, printers, scanners, fax machines, other electronics and/or any household items with a cord). Recycling Fees effective 10/22/18: TV's under 27" - \$20, TV's 27" & over - \$50, Consoles, Projections & Over 50" - \$75, Monitors - \$20, Microwaves - \$20, Stoves, Dishwashers, Washers & Dryers, etc. - \$20. Refrigerators, Freezers, Air Conditioners & Dehumidifiers are NOT accepted. (All other electronic recycling is free.) Drop-off hours: Thurs. 10–8, Fri. & Sat. 10–2. 810 W. Main St. Waupun. (920) 324-8677 or www.BargainsGaloreThriftStore.com

AFFORDABLE TRANSPORTATION AVAILABLE FOR AGE 60+:

We can take you anywhere within the city limits of Waupun with the exception of the laundromat or pet-related places. We can take you to doctor appointments, hair appointments, grocery shopping, to restaurants, to banks, to the library, to anywhere! Transportation for ages 60+ within the city limits of Waupun. Multiple stops can be scheduled in 15-minute or more increments. Riders must be able to navigate two steps safely to board the vehicle. Van can seat up to nine passengers. Cost: \$1 each stop. Rides must be scheduled the day before by noon by calling 324-7930. Rides can be scheduled as early as 9AM. The last non-medical ride is at 2PM and the last medical ride appointment is at 3PM.