

From the Waupun Mayor –

Hello Waupun,

I'm back! I spent four days out in Washington, D.C. meeting with our federal elected leaders about the important issues affecting communities with municipal power, like Waupun. It was a cool experience to have the opportunity to advocate for Waupun in our nation's capital! We take it for granted that when we flip the switch our lights come on, but there's a lot that goes into getting that electricity, and those were the issues we discussed. Power supply, transporting that power, the grid, and of course the supply chain issues affecting all of it. Cheap and reliable power is key for economic growth in our area as we are a heavy manufacturing area, and as we transition to more electric powered vehicles, we're going to need even more electricity.

As demand for electricity goes up, so will the cost, unless we get better regulations dealing with the production and transportation of power. Hopefully, our advocacy work will help break some of the gridlock in Washington.

In other news.....

Since the completion of the 2023 budget last fall, you've been hearing me talk a lot about the state's broken funding system and how it's affecting Waupun. The two ways the state funds our city is through shared revenue and Mutual Service Provider Payments. Both have been flat for over a decade while cost have risen. At the same time, the state has imposed limits on how much a city can spend and tax.

This isn't all bad. It has forced cities all across Wisconsin to "tighten the belt" and cut waste. It has forced local elected officials to prioritize, and it's good that local elected officials are held to account for every penny of your hard-earned money we spend.

However, shared revenues actually declined a little for 2023 and the state has been underfunding Waupun close to \$400,000 on the Mutual Service Provider Payments since they capped them in 2011. This messed up funding system has led to real cuts to our city's budget. In order to balance our budget for 2023 Waupun had to reduce services including:

1. We cut a half time economic development position (\$35k)
2. Reduce sealcoating budget for streets by half (\$15k)
3. Reduce mill and overlay by 11% (\$30k)
4. Postpone maintenance for the museum (\$62k)
5. Slow the implementation of sidewalk replacement, including ADA upgrades.
6. Delayed street reconstruction
7. Delay buying a ladder fire truck
8. Delay buying showers for the firefighters
9. Painting the streets is cut to every other year
10. Cut \$19k from the police budget

The state mandated levy limits, and spending controls, also hurt. You're not going to believe this, but because of the reevaluation of Waupun last year, we will actually be bringing in LESS tax revenues! Yes, you read that right, less revenues. Why? Because that state mandated reevaluation is shifting the tax burden from commercial to residential, so when the new mill rate takes effect, we will bring in less revenues.

All this is happening at the same time that Waupun is facing some "growing pains." We're adding streets, but taking away DPW personal. We expect fire protection, but are having fewer and fewer volunteers available at key times. We want EMS service, but are seeing more missed ambulance calls because Lifestar is often busy. We want to preserve our historic city hall but we're close to not being able to afford to do so!

We want a high quality of life with nice parks, youth sports, and trails, yet the city is forced to spend money on "Outdoor Recreational Plans" instead of just spending the money fixing up McCune. Sometimes I think our staff spends more time filling out reports than actually providing residents services!

It's enough to pull your hair out! If you're lucky enough to have hair, ha!

Had the state's shared revenues just kept pace with inflation since 2005, we'd have an additional \$1,328,391.

That's just keeping up with inflation, and that's not counting the \$400,000 in missed MSP payments from the state.

So while our legislators argue over a \$6 billion surplus, cities like Waupun continue to be overlooked. The state will continue to grow the size of government while suffocating smaller cities that are just trying to provide basic services. And as you can see from our list, we're running out of things to cut.

I am planning a Waupun listening session with Senator Feyen and Representative Schraa, and I hope you'll attend. Both are good guys and friends of mine, but I do want them to understand that Waupun's challenges are real. We're not some big city that waste millions of dollars, we're Waupun, and every good Hollander knows how to stretch a buck!

Waupun has always been a progressive city, and that's why we have such a rich history and strong economy and a community pride. We've also always been conservative and frugal. We're now being punished for our conservative budgeting values and that's not right.

The state is just beginning the budget process as the legislature hasn't even met in February, so I plan on being a friendly pain in their butt as I fight for Waupun! I'd appreciate your help and support.

Thank you and God Bless,
Mayor Rohn

WAUPUN UTILITIES EMPLOYMENT

Waupun Utilities has an opening within the utility's electric department for a **Line Technician – Journey Level**. The position requires successful completion of a recognized lineworker vocational training school and journeyman certification. A High Step Apprentice would be considered. Municipal line work experience is preferred. A valid Wisconsin Driver's license and CDL license with air break certification is required.

This position includes skilled work in the construction, maintenance, and repair of overhead and underground electrical distribution and transmission system in accordance with standard trade practices. Employees frequently work with high voltage wires and under unfavorable weather conditions, requiring skill and care. This position also entails climbing, lifting and carrying heavy objects. Must be able to report for duty within 20 minutes for standby and callout situations. Employment is subject to background investigation, including past drug and alcohol testing records and post-hire physical exam.

Waupun Utilities offers a competitive benefit package including: Medical, Dental, Vision, Short and Long-Term Disability, Life Insurance as well as the State of Wisconsin Retirement Plan (WRS), which is a defined benefit pension plan. Our employees enjoy an excellent work environment.

An application form and job description are available on our website – www.waupunutilities.com or at Waupun Utilities, 817 South Madison Street, Waupun, WI 53963. Waupun Utilities is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

This position will remain open until filled. Return completed application and resume to:

Waupun Utilities

Attn: General Manager

817 S. Madison St.

Waupun, WI 53963

OR

waupunutilities@waupunutilities.org

Mark your calendars! The Waupun Area School District **4-year-old** kindergarten registration begins **February 1, 2023**. To attend 4-year-old kindergarten, students must be 4 years old by September 1st.

Registration for the 2023-24 school year will be online beginning Feb. 1, 2023. Directions are below: 4K registration information can be found on the Waupun Area School District webpage (www.waupun.k12.wi.us) by clicking the black box that says "4K Program". Here you will find the 4K information sheet, brochure, handbook and link to the registration. The information is currently available **but the registration for the 2023-24 school year will not be activated until February 1, 2023.**

MARCH 10 – DISCOVER DOWNTOWN WAUPUN'S SPRING FASHION SHOW – 6PM TO 9PM. Held at Stone & Suede, 417 E Main St. You will find the perfect pieces to elevate your spring and early summer wardrobes. Exquisite drinks and heavy hors d'oeuvres will be served to all guests! Gain a new experience and explore the spring and summer fashion lines and accessories from several Waupun businesses!! Enjoy exclusive items from: Stone + suede, Werner Harmsen Furniture, Wind and Unwined, Guth's, Gysbers Jewelry, Brooks shoes and Repair, The Parlor Hair

Boutique, Glamour Shop, Real Sportscards Wisconsin, Rock River Eyewear, Modern Mercantile, That Mom Creations, 0638 The Clothing Collections, Chic Tique & Weaving it up to You

Food will be provided all night and a drink credit with each ticket purchased. Each ticket purchased will also receive a shopping credit to kick off your shopping experience.

Purchase tickets at [Eventbrite.com](https://www.eventbrite.com).

MARCH 14 – ADULT CRAFT NIGHT – 6PM to 7PM. Diamond Art Seasons Tree. Diamond Art is a simple & relaxing activity. Display your finished artwork at home or give as a gift! Held at the Waupun Public Library, 123 S Forest St.

MAY 13 – CITY WIDE RUMMAGE SALE

WAUPUN WINTER MARKET

The Winter Markets are held on the 3rd Thursday of the months October thru March from 4PM to 7PM. Join us for a vendor shopping experience from local artisans, direct sales vendors, farmers, crafters and more. Enjoy a food option each month provided by Go-Dutch Solutions. The market is held at Go-Dutch Solutions (328 S Division St). If you would like to be a vendor at the market go to www.godutchsolutions.com. Dates for the market are:

March 16, 2023

WINTER PARKING REGULATIONS - states that for a period of 48 hours immediately following an accumulated snowfall of two inches or more, vehicles cannot park on city streets or alleys between the hours of 2:00am and 6:00am. Snowfall is measured at the Waupun Safety Building. During these early morning hours the Public Works Department is out cleaning the streets. If cars are parked on the streets during this time City staff has the authority to have the vehicle removed and stored at the owners expense. For further information regarding winter parking regulations please visit the city website www.cityofwaupun.org (Government, Municipal Codes), and review Chapter 6, Traffic Code section 6.05(5).

SNOW AND ICE REMOVAL is addressed in Chapter 7 of our municipal code. Property owners are given 24 hours after the end of a snowfall to remove snow and ice from sidewalks. Failure to do so is cause for the city to clean up the area and will result in a minimum fee of \$100.00. The City provides notice of these winter rules in the local paper and will put door hangers on any property they have to clean up. Pictures of the property are taken before the property is cleaned for verification of violation. Visit the city website, and review Chapter 7, sections 7.07 and 7.08 for additional information on snow and ice removal requirements. You can also call City Hall or the Police Department for further clarification.

FOND DU LAC COVID-19 TESTING MOVING INDOORS FOR COLDER WEATHER Beginning Monday October 31, 2022, COVID-19 testing held at the Fond du Lac County Fairgrounds will move to the lobby of the Expo Center to accommodate for the colder weather. The Expo Center is building "R" on the Fairgrounds Map. When arriving for testing, individuals may park in the Expo Center Lot and enter through the main doors of the Expo Center. Testing will be walk-through instead of drive-through. The days of the week and times at this site remain the same: Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays from 8:00am-4:30pm. Testing will continue to be available at Ripon College on Mondays from 11:30am-4:30pm through December 19, 2022. As a reminder, anyone ages 2 or older can utilize these testing sites. Symptoms are not required. No appointments, insurance, or identification is required. Although appointments are not required, individuals must have an account with CovidConnect2. If an individual has received COVID-19 testing from Accelerated Clinical Labs after 8/3/2022, they do not have to create a new account. Accelerated Clinical Laboratories will provide test results in 1-2 days. Individuals may find additional testing sites within Fond du Lac County by visiting our website, or throughout the state by visiting the DHS website. Contact: Kim Mueller, Health Officer, kim.mueller@fdlco.wi.gov (920) 929-3085.

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 – Bobbi Jo Kunz 920-392-9366.

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 AREA 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 or you can email at info@waupunchamber.com. The Waupun Chamber is located at 10 W 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.waupunareaanimalshelter.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: 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.