

From the Waupun Mayor –

Hello Waupun!

I am pleased to present the City of Waupun's proposed 2025 budget, which outlines a roadmap for the delivery of essential services and quality of life investments to benefit every Waupun resident. Once adopted by the City Council, the budget establishes the direction for all City government programs and services for the coming year. The budget as presented is built on our 2024 accomplishments and lays a foundation for advancement of our 2025 goals to keep Waupun as a city that has it going on!

Throughout this document, you will find a number of key themes:

1. **We are moving Waupun forward with public safety as a top priority.**
 - Early in 2024, the city successfully hired Jeremy Rasch as Police Chief, and Ted Sullivan, as Deputy Police Chief. Under their leadership, the department is rebuilding critical talent and adding tools to maintain officer safety, while addressing modern day policing challenges to keep Waupun as one of the top 20 safest cities in the state of Wisconsin. The 2025 budget invests in drug detection software and reallocates head count to an investigator position to address growing complexity within our law enforcement needs.
 - In 2024, the fire department celebrated 150 years of service, and I had the opportunity to thank our volunteers who respond regularly, often sacrificing personal and professional time, to ensure our safety. As the world changes, it is becoming more difficult to fill vacant positions within the volunteer fire service. In 2024, a fire and emergency response staffing study was completed that lays a roadmap to help us navigate staffing challenges to ensure sustainability of this critical service in 2025 and beyond.
2. **Waupun is a great place to live, work and play because we invest in assets that promote a strong quality of life.**
 - Construction completed and our recreation department moved into our new \$5.8M Senior/Community Center. This project was supported in part by a \$4.9M grant from American Rescue Plan Act funds awarded to the City of Waupun via the Wisconsin Department of Administration by the U.S. Department of the Treasury and \$1M in private donations. This facility will be a game changer for what we're able to provide to the community to promote wellbeing for people of all ages. The 2025 budget brings additional resources to support living well in Waupun.
 - The city worked in partnership with a local non-profit called Create Waupun, which brought Ice Fest, a new winter festival, that attracted nearly eight thousand visitors to Waupun this past February. Most recently, our partnership with this group brought to life the Waupun Sculpture Tour with new sculpture exhibits added to our downtown. Businesses and nonprofits in the area stepped up and invested sponsorship dollars to support these programs. We will continue to foster partnerships like these as part of a strategy to strengthen the creative economy in Waupun, building on the legacy Clarence Shaler gifted us more than 100 years ago.
 - The city invested \$125,000 of Childcare Stabilization Grant funds to increase the number of licensed childcare spaces available to working families in the community, with the first round of funding adding more 4K and younger spots at Wee Care. Expanding childcare options in Waupun will continue to be a priority for 2025.
 - The City committed \$275,000 of funds to support Youth Sports Grants of various forms, recognizing that non-profit parent-led organizations contribute to a culture of volunteerism that give Waupun a great quality of life. Notable projects address the turf replacement at the baseball complex and a new floor at the Waupun ice arena in 2025.
 - A Vibrant Spaces Grant was awarded from WI Economic Development Corporation and resulted in a new food truck alley in our downtown, which opened in the fall of 2024, with more extensive programming planned in 2025.
 - Design WI completed a workshop with community stakeholders and presented ideas to advance Capital Improvement Planning in the Central Business District using Tax Increment financing.
3. **Waupun promotes a business-friendly culture that is attracting investment to expand our tax base and bring family-supporting jobs to the community.**
 - A Waupun Industrial Park expansion completed in 2024, marking the first major expansion of the park in decades. The project resulted in 5.3% growth in net new construction for the city (historically around 1.5%). The third and final phase of the project is underway and anticipated to complete in fall of 2025.

Additional land acquisition is needed to support future growth and planning is underway to consider where our next industrial park expansion will be.

- Investment in our downtown continues. The City attracted a new brewery project with the help of a \$199K Community Development Investment (CDI) Grant from WEDC. Construction is underway and Hoya Hop House is expected to open for business in late 2024.
 - Development continues in the Heritage Ridge Business Park, with projects for Eric Mulder Construction and 18-Wheeler Truck Wash underway and completing in early 2025.
4. **Investment in public infrastructure is ongoing and necessary to ensure our ability to deliver essential services to our community.**
- Public facilities received attention in 2024, with roof replacements to city hall and the public safety building and tuckpointing to the museum. In addition, flood and hail damage forced improvements that are currently underway on many of the remaining facility roofs, replacement of the gate dam valve and modernization of the elevator at city hall.
 - As a result of our fire and emergency response staffing study, work is underway on intergovernmental agreements to examine consolidation of fire service with the surrounding townships to gain efficiencies and reduce overall cost. And, we are beginning a planning process to examine how we increase safety and support recruitment of volunteer firefighters through facility design.
 - As weather patterns change, we are experiencing more flooding across the city. Engineering studies are being commissioned to examine areas impacted by significant sustained flooding on the edges of the city.
 - We have prioritized the purchase of long-deferred equipment purchases to ensure our staff have the tools necessary to do their jobs, including the purchase of a new aerial ladder truck.
5. **We will deliver service with a commitment to operating in a transparent, efficient and fiscally sound manner to meet the needs of our community.**
- A debt forecasting and funding strategy was completed in 2024 that lays the groundwork for investment in top priorities across the community, while addressing long-deferred operational needs both for capital equipment and improvements.
 - Investment in technology is being made to improve service delivery and increase transparency for residents.
 - In 2024, we close roughly \$5.5M of grant funding that supports several 2024 accomplishments. As a team, we routinely evaluate grant funding opportunities and work on alternative funding strategies to support community needs to minimize impact on the community's tax levy.

I think we can be proud of the 2025. We are making investments to move Waupun forward while remaining true to our heritage and values. If you have questions on the 2025 budget, feel free to ask me, or Kathy Schlieve, City Administrator

Thank you Waupun for the privilege of serving as your Mayor and have a wonderful day.

Mayor Rohn

OCTOBER 7 – NOVEMBER 11 FALL YARD WASTE PICKUP: The City's Fall Yard Waste pick-up is designated for October 7, 2024 thru November 11, 2024 (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.

NOVEMBER 14 – ADULT CRAFT NIGHT – 6PM-7PM – BEADED TREE ORNAMENT – Add a little rustic charm to your home this season! These fun ornaments feature wooden beads & jute twine. Held at the Waupun Public Library, 123 S Forest St.

DECEMBER 3 – WAUPUN COMMUNITY CENTER GRAND OPENING (520 McKinley St) -

3PM – Open House

4PM – Dedication Ceremony

5PM – 7PM – Tours

Come join us for tours, enter for raffle prizes, enjoy coffee, juice and snacks. Construction of the Waupun Community Center was supported in part by American Rescue Plan Act funds that provided a \$4.9M grant awarded to the City of Waupun via the Wisconsin Department of Administration by the U.S. Department of Treasury and by private donor contributions.

WAUPUN HOLIDAY HELP - Applications are available at Waupun City Hall, Waupun Food Pantry, the National Exchange Bank, and Waupun Area School District offices. Completed applications need to be returned no later than November 22 to City Hall, Food Pantry, or National Exchange Bank. Distribution of gifts and food coupons will be on Saturday, December 14, at the Waupun Fire Department. In addition, we are looking for individuals, families, and organizations from the Waupun area who would be willing to adopt a family and purchase gifts for their children. Applications for donors can be obtained by contacting Jessica Buchholz at the National Exchange Bank (920-324-5551).

COMMUNITY GARDEN QUESTIONS – Please call 920-324-4000 or 920-318-3335.

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 7:00am - 4:00pm, Monday-Thursday. Friday 7am – 11am. 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 – Kambria Ledesma 309-709-0092; 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 – 12:30pm.

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 BUSINESS ALLIANCE

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 Business Alliance at 920-324-3491 Monday –

Friday, 8AM to 5PM or you can email at info@envisiongreaterfdl.com. The Waupun Business Alliance is located at 10 W Main Street.

WAUPUN UTILITIES

Open Monday-Friday from 8AM 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..

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 vary with each park. To reserve a park, call 324-7930. Leave a message if no one answers. For more information: <https://www.cityofwaupun.org/parksrec/page/parks-and-recreation-home>. 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