

From the Waupun Mayor –
Hello Waupun, and Happy New Year!

2024 was another successful year for Waupun! We had our first Ice Fest, debuted the new Sculpture Tour, opened the Food Truck Alley, and we continue to see a thriving downtown, a strong business community, and a growing business park on the southeast corner of our city. We successfully modified our purchase policy to allow the city to buy from local businesses, and we continue to be one of Wisconsin's safest cities thanks to our great police department. While 2024 was another successful year for our city, I continue to have high expectations and big goals for our little city going into and beyond 2025!

As we begin 2025, I'm excited for what's to come. Here are some quick hits to what's up, Waupun!

1. We will begin the process of improving the alleyway north of Main Street, between Madison Street and Mill St. By removing a building, burying the overhead utilities, moving a fire hydrant, and making it a one way, we can safely add more parking spaces. We will also be adding some greenery and a pedestrian path along the back of the downtown businesses.
2. We need to increase the pay of the city's mayor. It's absurd how little we pay the CEO of our city. The only person elected city wide, who by state statute is in charge of the police and fire departments, appoints members of boards, commissions, and committees. The Mayor is responsible for a city budget, handling staffing issues, taking complaints, attending functions, representing Waupun at official events, chairs multiple committees including the City Council, and has the authority to tell people what to do, and can sign or veto legislation. It really is an important position, and we should stop treating it like it's not. Since 1998 I have advocated for it to be a full-time position and having had the job for three years, I can tell you the way it's currently structured it's WAY more than part time. It's not quite full time, true, but it's a lot more than part time. Having talked with alderman, there is broad agreement to fix this for the next mayor. It does not have to be full time, but at least half time. Pay the person \$25,000 per year with NO benefits. A person shouldn't get rich off of it, but they shouldn't have to borrow money either. If we don't change it, we're destined to have bad mayors, and we can't afford that. Also, tie the mayor's pay with the COLA increases given annually, so we don't keep falling behind. In case you're wondering, as Mayor I make \$32.88 per day. Per day!
3. A big goal of mine is border agreements with the local townships. It's time to clean up these islands spread throughout the city. The islands are town lots within the city. They don't pay city taxes but receive many city services. It's not right and has to end. It also results in the city having to maintain roads we don't own, like Woodland Drive, Grove St. Doty St. and Young St, just to name a few. I'm done paying for roads we don't own. The towns refuse to help, and this is on top of the towns not helping pay towards many of the city's amenities their residents use, like the ice rink, baseball fields, softball fields, the new community center, the fireworks display, etc. And, they have for years been grossly underpaying for fire and EMT services. They've been bucking my attempts to charge more for emergency services. Fine, but then at the very least, let us square off the city borders. It's the fair, and correct thing to do.
4. Shaler Drive!! I'm probably a year too soon, however as revenues from the industrial park TIF district continue to grow we get closer and closer to my goal of connecting Shaler Drive all the way from Main Street to HWY 26 by the truck stop.

A few other projects out there. As you know, National Rivet started a 50/50 fundraiser to keep the Rosie the Riveter sculpture in Waupun. We're only about \$3,000 away from having the funds, so if you want to make a donation, we'd appreciate it.

Also, the ice arena's new refrigerated floor project will be a go this spring. The city did provide \$100,000 towards the project; however, it's also about \$100,000 short of the total amount needed to replace the floor. I mention this because I am looking to sell the naming rights to the building. And even though the building is owned by the city, I'd put the funds towards the new refrigeration system. It's important to maintain our city's hockey culture, and figure skating, too. I mean, if the floor melted, my friend and figure skater Morgan, would be very upset with me! We're so close for both projects Waupun, let's do it!

Finally, the state legislature plans to address corrections issues more this year and I plan to be in Madison advocating for Waupun Correctional and the good people who work there. I'll have much more to say about this moving forward, but I guarantee you Madison will know how we feel.

Again, Happy New Year Waupun, and let's make it another great year for Wisconsin's greatest little city!

Mayor Rohn

JANUARY 30 6PM – JIGSAW PUZZLE RACE – Teams will compete to finish a 500 piece jigsaw puzzle. Whoever completes their puzzle first wins! Prizes for 1st, 2nd & 3rd place. Teams consist of 1-4 members, of any age; please note this is the team's choice and no accommodations will be provided for teams based on age or number or members. Contact the library to sign-up a team! 123 S Forest St.

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.

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 Kaczmariski, 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.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