

Hello Waupun!

Being mayor is a most unique job! On a school visit early in my first term a kid asked me what the most surprising part of the job was. After stumbling around for a good answer, I realized what it was. The most surprising part of this job is that the things the mayor worries about and works on at City Hall, are almost totally different than what the average citizen cares about.

When I go into work as mayor, I spend my time dealing with important issues like next year's budget, long term planning, and prioritizing projects we need to complete. I lose sleep over personal issues, how to pay for some (always expensive) needed piece of equipment, health insurance, or some unexpected issue that came up. I worry about our employees and residents, too. I don't show up at many emergency situations as to not be in the way, but when I heard an officer fell through the ice on the Mill Pond, I rushed to the scene. I was concerned about his safety. When the apartment fire broke out, I knew it would cause several folks to be displaced, so I showed up. When our fire department had to miss a Packers game to fight a fire in subzero temperatures, I showed up to experience what they have to go through. Remember a couple years ago when we had that tactical situation on W. Brown St. and our officer had a gun pointed at him, and almost fired before the guy took his own life? I showed up at that, talking with Sheriff Schmidt at 10:30 at night.

Then there's weather events. Severe storms, planning for snow, etc.

The goal is always to continue to keep Waupun a safe city with great services, first responders, delicious water, maintain our history, while continuing to grow, while at the same time being a responsible steward of your hard-earned tax dollars.

But, when I check my messages to call a person back, what is he upset about? A parking ticket. It's always the parking ticket, or some other small rather insignificant thing we get the most upset about. I'm guilty of it, too, but now into my third year as mayor, dealing with all this job has to deal with, someone's parking ticket complaint is an annoyance.

I know winter parking restrictions are a challenge. They're a real challenge in some parts of Waupun. But our city does allow for on street parking all winter long, which most cities around here ban on street overnight parking all winter. The only restriction is if it snows, you cannot park on the street that night, or the next night, to allow the plows to clean up the city. If you're unsure when it stopped snowing, please don't park on the street, then you won't receive a ticket.

The other parking issue I hear about is not being allowed to park in your front yard. This was passed because we had too many (mostly rental) properties that had more cars than available parking, and front lawns were turning into mud pits. The mud was spilling onto sidewalks and it was a big slippery mess, and the properties were starting to look like Sanford and Son were opening up shop in town. The parking restriction has cleaned many of the properties up. Under the restriction, you can't park in the front lawn, but if you have a hard surface, like concrete, pavement, pavers, block, or even gravel, you can park on that.

A Tip: If your yard isn't a hard surface and it's snowing, the cops can't tell. They can tell if you're parked in the street, and during a snow event, that's our priority, keeping the streets clean.

Tip #2 We're a nice city. If you have a legit hardship for parking, or have guests over for an event, if you call it in to WPD with some advance notice, they'll cut you some slack. We're not out to be the gestapo here. If your parking struggle is long term, come see us, I do try to help people, but if you're just going to call me all upset and yell at me, "Where am I supposed to park my car?!" I'm not interested. Life is too short, and I'm way underpaid to put up with it. The reality is, whatever the parking rules are, some people will not like them.

Complaining is easy. Leadership is hard.

Mayor Rohn

**FEBRUARY 24 6PM – WINTER SOWING** – Does the thought of starting seeds indoors seem intimidating with lights, trays, & threat of disease? Skip that process and do something much simpler: winter sowing. Pioneered 20 years ago in upstate New York, it is a cost effective & low maintenance way of starting seeds! Join Certified Master Gardener Carol Shirk in getting this fun way of gardening started! Bring along a clean, one gallon plastic jug to build & take home your 1<sup>st</sup> mini greenhouse! Sign up required (for materials needed). FREE! No charge! Held at the Waupun Public Library, 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](http://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 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

#### **WAUPUN COMMUNITY CENTER (520 McKinley Street):**

HOURS: Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, from 8AM to 4PM. Tuesday & Friday, from 8AM to 2PM.

#### **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](mailto: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 1<sup>st</sup>.

### **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](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://www.BargainsGaloreThriftStore.com)