

# LONGFELLOW NEIGHBORHOOD



WELCOME TO OUR NEIGHBORHOOD!  
November, 2023

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**Our next meeting is Monday, November 6, 2023**

Wausau Police Department Community Room, 6:30 PM

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## Agenda

- Welcome remarks from Longfellow Neighborhood President – Brooke Mueller
- Marathon County District 2 Supervisor – Ann Lemmer (with Q & A)
- Wausau District 2 Alderperson – Michael Martens (with Q & A)
- Wausau Police Department – with Q & A

## Dates to Remember

- October 30:* Leaf Pick-up, Phase II begins for our neighborhood; you can begin rake leaves into the gutter on Saturday, October 28 or Sunday, October 29
- October 31:* **Happy Halloween;** Trick or Treat hours: 4:00 PM – 7:00 PM
- November 5:* Daylight Saving Time ends (don't forget to turn your clocks back 1 hour)
- November 6:* **Longfellow Neighborhood Meeting**
- November 11:* **Veterans Day**
- November 19:* Yard Waste Site closes for the season at 5:00 PM
- November 23:* **Happy Thanksgiving**
- November 25:* Small Business Saturday, Wausau River District
- December 1:* Wausau Christmas Parade; 6:30 PM; Marathon Park to the 400 Block

***Santa Saturdays – City Square Office Center Lobby, 11/25, 12/2, 12/9, 12/16, 12/23***

*Marathon County Historical Society History Chats – Thursdays, 12:30 PM; livestream on Facebook and YouTube*

## Minutes from the October 2, 2023 Meeting

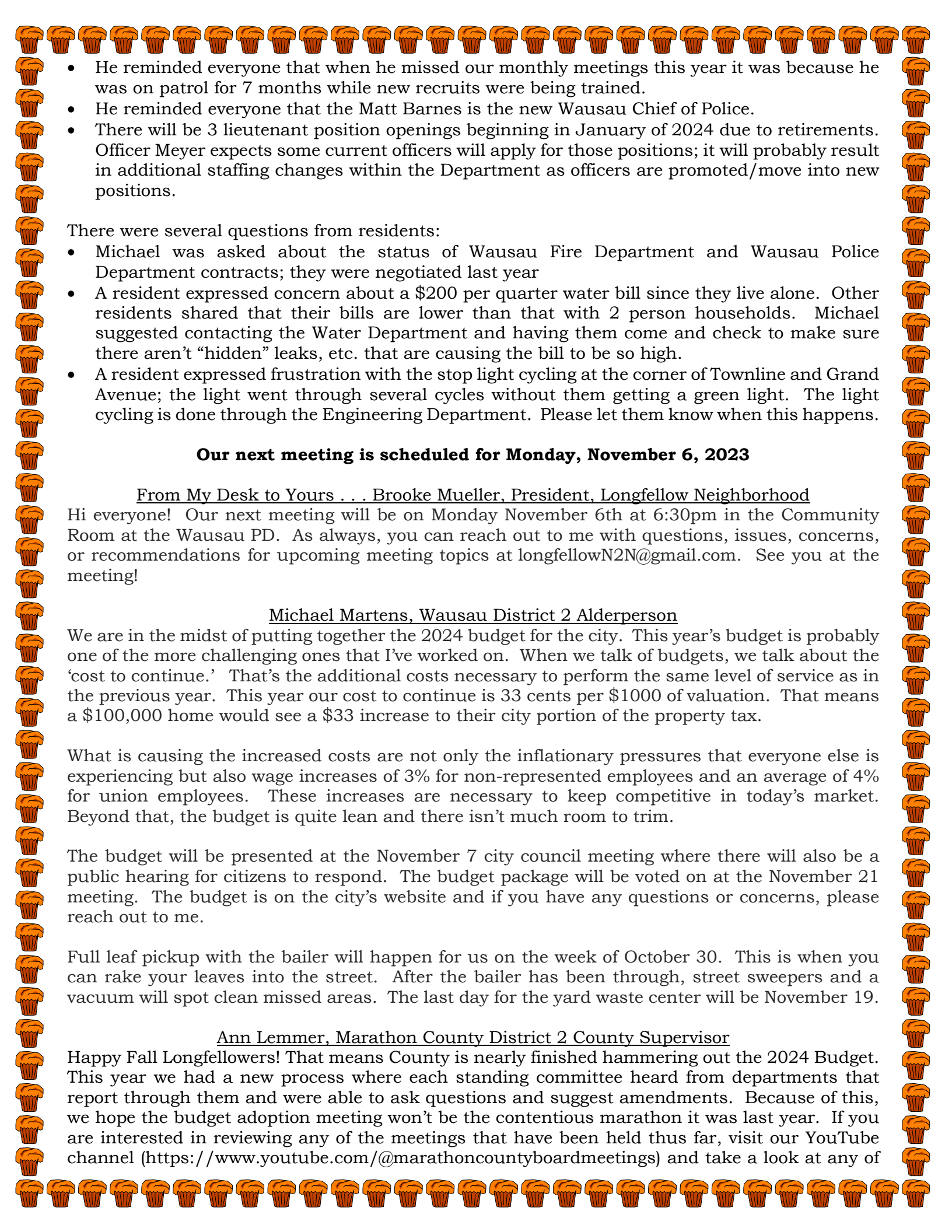
Michael had several items for the group:

- Michael shared that he is hoping the City Council will be able to resolve the current Wausau Center redevelopment issues by next month.
- The annual budget season is here with levy review sessions beginning next week.
- Michael discussed the increase in local water bills. The increase is a result of water treatment and wastewater plant construction and improvements including PFAS remediation costs.

Ann was unable to attend the meeting.

Officer Shawn Meyer was at the meeting this month and discussed the following topics.

- September was the busiest month for the Police Department Drug Unit since it started in 2015. Officer Meyer is in charge of compiling Drug Unit statistics so he did a presentation for us with statistics for May-September of this year. One of the graphs showed a decline in overdoses compared to 2022 as well as a large increase in methamphetamine seizures, a decrease in heroin seizures and 3 large marijuana cases this year (large amounts of cash were seized).

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- He reminded everyone that when he missed our monthly meetings this year it was because he was on patrol for 7 months while new recruits were being trained.
  - He reminded everyone that the Matt Barnes is the new Wausau Chief of Police.
  - There will be 3 lieutenant position openings beginning in January of 2024 due to retirements. Officer Meyer expects some current officers will apply for those positions; it will probably result in additional staffing changes within the Department as officers are promoted/move into new positions.

There were several questions from residents:

- Michael was asked about the status of Wausau Fire Department and Wausau Police Department contracts; they were negotiated last year
- A resident expressed concern about a \$200 per quarter water bill since they live alone. Other residents shared that their bills are lower than that with 2 person households. Michael suggested contacting the Water Department and having them come and check to make sure there aren't "hidden" leaks, etc. that are causing the bill to be so high.
- A resident expressed frustration with the stop light cycling at the corner of Townline and Grand Avenue; the light went through several cycles without them getting a green light. The light cycling is done through the Engineering Department. Please let them know when this happens.

**Our next meeting is scheduled for Monday, November 6, 2023**

From My Desk to Yours . . . Brooke Mueller, President, Longfellow Neighborhood

Hi everyone! Our next meeting will be on Monday November 6th at 6:30pm in the Community Room at the Wausau PD. As always, you can reach out to me with questions, issues, concerns, or recommendations for upcoming meeting topics at [longfellowN2N@gmail.com](mailto:longfellowN2N@gmail.com). See you at the meeting!

Michael Martens, Wausau District 2 Alderperson

We are in the midst of putting together the 2024 budget for the city. This year's budget is probably one of the more challenging ones that I've worked on. When we talk of budgets, we talk about the 'cost to continue.' That's the additional costs necessary to perform the same level of service as in the previous year. This year our cost to continue is 33 cents per \$1000 of valuation. That means a \$100,000 home would see a \$33 increase to their city portion of the property tax.

What is causing the increased costs are not only the inflationary pressures that everyone else is experiencing but also wage increases of 3% for non-represented employees and an average of 4% for union employees. These increases are necessary to keep competitive in today's market. Beyond that, the budget is quite lean and there isn't much room to trim.

The budget will be presented at the November 7 city council meeting where there will also be a public hearing for citizens to respond. The budget package will be voted on at the November 21 meeting. The budget is on the city's website and if you have any questions or concerns, please reach out to me.

Full leaf pickup with the bailer will happen for us on the week of October 30. This is when you can rake your leaves into the street. After the bailer has been through, street sweepers and a vacuum will spot clean missed areas. The last day for the yard waste center will be November 19.

Ann Lemmer, Marathon County District 2 County Supervisor

Happy Fall Longfellowers! That means County is nearly finished hammering out the 2024 Budget. This year we had a new process where each standing committee heard from departments that report through them and were able to ask questions and suggest amendments. Because of this, we hope the budget adoption meeting won't be the contentious marathon it was last year. If you are interested in reviewing any of the meetings that have been held thus far, visit our YouTube channel (<https://www.youtube.com/@marathoncountyboardmeetings>) and take a look at any of

the videos between September 26-November 2. On November 2, 2023, you can take part in the Public Hearing and contribute your thoughts. The entire budget will be adopted on November 9th at the regular Board Meeting. Meetings are held @ the Courthouse beginning at 7PM. As always, reach out to my county e-mail if you have any thoughts.

**NEIGHBORHOOD/COMMUNITY BUSINESSES**

Acro Plumbing	904 Sumner Street	715-842-9425
Bull Falls Brewery	901 East Thomas	715-842-2337
Cveykus Law Office	301 Grand Avenue	715-842-5205
Distinctive Treasures (seasonal)	701 Prospect Avenue	715-842-7739
Global View Capital Advisors	215 Grand Avenue	715-298-0313
Herrle Health Services	215 Grand Avenue	715-846-3444
JAS Construction	josh@jasbuilds.com	715-432-5732
M & S, The Siding Specialists	818 Henrietta Street	715-842-7965
Olson Tire and Auto	601 Forest Street	715-845-8473
Incredible Bank	101 Grand Avenue	715-845-0900
Schmidt & Schmidt	123 Grand Avenue	715-845-9621
Townline Market	916 Townline Road	715-842-5201
True North Counseling & Wellness	207 Grand Avenue	715-370-8863

**NEED TO KNOW NUMBERS**

**LONGFELLOW NEIGHBORHOOD PRESIDENT:**

BROOKE MUELLER (longfellowN2N@gmail.com) 262-349-0605

**NEIGHBORHOOD ALDERPERSON:**

MICHAEL MARTENS (michael.martens@ci.wausau.wi.us) 715-845-4218

**WAUSAU MAYOR:**

KATIE ROSENBERG (katie.rosenberg@ci.wausau.wi.us) 715-261-6800

**MARATHON COUNTY DISTRICT 2 SUPERVISOR:**

ANN LEMMBER (ann.lemmer@co.marathon.wi.us) 920-207-3105

**SECRETARY/NEWSLETTER EDITOR:**

JOY FOYE 715-842-9197

**POLICE DEPARTMENT:**

NON-EMERGENCIES 715-261-7800

**NEIGHBORHOOD LIAISONS:**

OFFICER SHAWN MEYER (Shawn.meyer@ci.wausau.wi.us) 715-261-7934

OFFICER MICHAEL BEDISH (Michael.Bedish@ci.wausau.wi.us) 715-261-7809

OFFICER MICHAEL GRUND (Michael.Grund@ci.wausau.wi.us) 715-261-7998

**COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT:**

TAMMY STRATZ (tammy.stratz@ci.wausau.wi.us) 715-261-6682

**INSPECTIONS DEPARTMENT:**

Uncut grass 715-261-6780

**ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT:**

Unshoveled sidewalks 715-261-6740

**STREET CONSTRUCTION & MAINTENANCE:**

Missed by snow plows 715-261-6960

**FIRE MARSHALS OFFICE:**

BRIAN STAHL (brian.stahl@ci.wausau.wi.us) 715-261-7900

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