

LONGFELLOW NEIGHBORHOOD



WELCOME TO OUR NEIGHBORHOOD!
December, 2023

Our next meeting is Monday, December 4, 2023

Wausau Police Department Community Room, 6:30 PM

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

Annual holiday meeting; bring a treat/snack to share and visit with your neighbors!

Dates to Remember

- November 25:* Small Business Saturday, Wausau River District
- December 1:* Wausau Christmas Parade; 6:30 PM; Marathon Park to the 400 Block
- December 4:* **Longfellow Neighborhood Meeting**
- December 8:* **Happy Hanukkah**
- December 25:* **Merry Christmas**
- December 26:* **Happy Kwanzaa**
- January 1:* **Happy New Year**

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

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

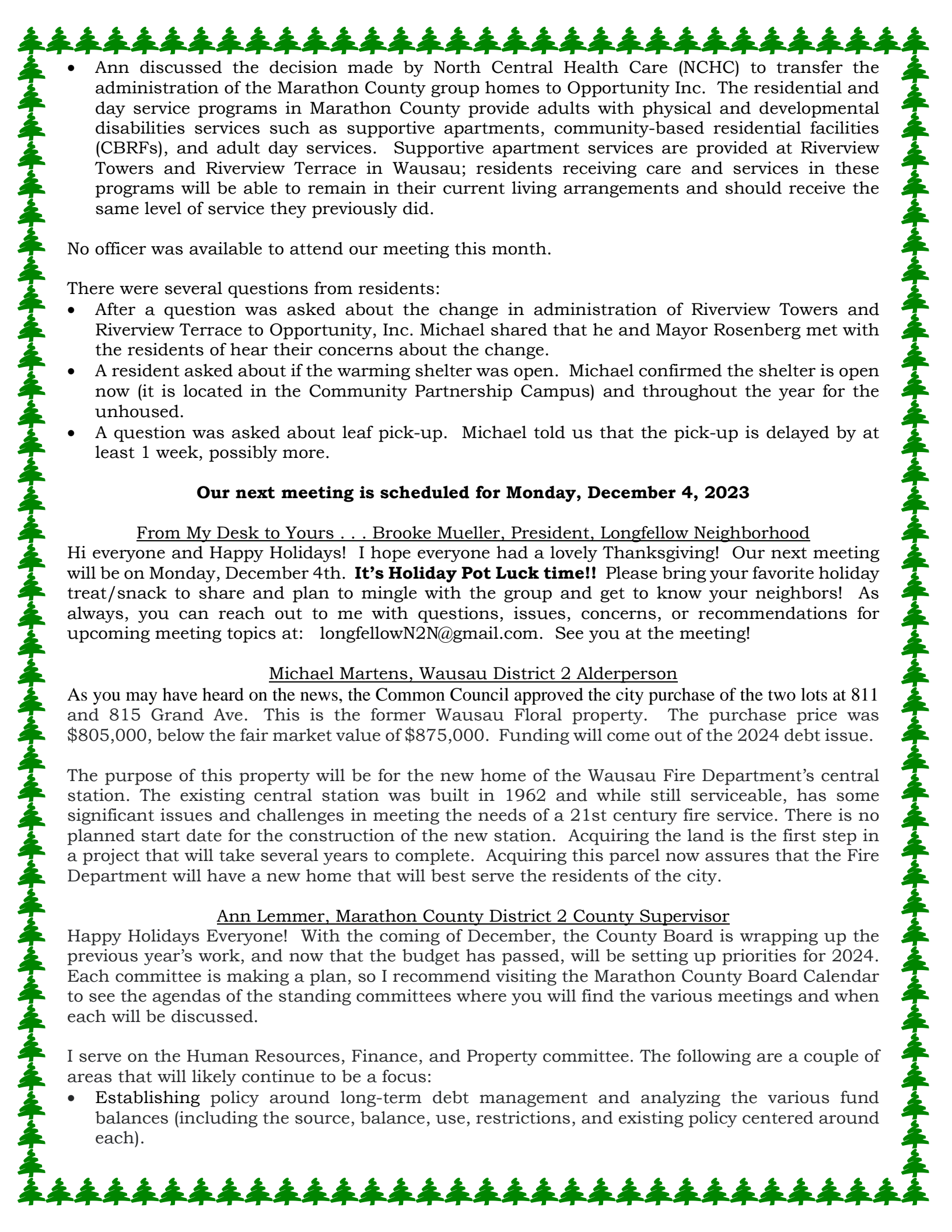
Minutes from the November 2, 2023 Meeting

Michael had these items for the group:

- The City Council voted down a pay raise for alderpersons and the mayor. Data from the Human Resources Department suggested current salaries are in-line with comparable communities; any salary increases would have to be effective after the April, 2024 election.
- The City budget is mostly complete with a hearing tomorrow (Tuesday, 11/7) and the budget vote to be held on the third Tuesday of the month (11/21). The budget includes a 2.4% increase which translates to approximately \$24 per \$100,000 of home value. The increase includes the cost to continue (the cost to maintain the same level of service, including for wages, inflation, etc.) as well as new items (including installing partitions in the Fire Department bunk house for women and a new administrative assistant who will be shared by the Police and Fire Departments due to an increase in public records requests).

Ann discussed the following the group:

- The County portion of the budget is almost complete with a final vote this Thursday (11/9). There is an overall increase in the total budget. The library requested the same budget amount for 2024 as they did in 2023. Since the library received 12% less than requested in 2023, the 2024 request is not an increase over the 2023 request. It is uncertain at this point what actual funding amount the library will receive.

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- Ann discussed the decision made by North Central Health Care (NCHC) to transfer the administration of the Marathon County group homes to Opportunity Inc. The residential and day service programs in Marathon County provide adults with physical and developmental disabilities services such as supportive apartments, community-based residential facilities (CBRFs), and adult day services. Supportive apartment services are provided at Riverview Towers and Riverview Terrace in Wausau; residents receiving care and services in these programs will be able to remain in their current living arrangements and should receive the same level of service they previously did.

No officer was available to attend our meeting this month.

There were several questions from residents:

- After a question was asked about the change in administration of Riverview Towers and Riverview Terrace to Opportunity, Inc. Michael shared that he and Mayor Rosenberg met with the residents of hear their concerns about the change.
- A resident asked about if the warming shelter was open. Michael confirmed the shelter is open now (it is located in the Community Partnership Campus) and throughout the year for the unhoused.
- A question was asked about leaf pick-up. Michael told us that the pick-up is delayed by at least 1 week, possibly more.

Our next meeting is scheduled for Monday, December 4, 2023

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

Hi everyone and Happy Holidays! I hope everyone had a lovely Thanksgiving! Our next meeting will be on Monday, December 4th. **It's Holiday Pot Luck time!!** Please bring your favorite holiday treat/snack to share and plan to mingle with the group and get to know your neighbors! As always, you can reach out to me with questions, issues, concerns, or recommendations for upcoming meeting topics at: longfellowN2N@gmail.com. See you at the meeting!

Michael Martens, Wausau District 2 Alderperson

As you may have heard on the news, the Common Council approved the city purchase of the two lots at 811 and 815 Grand Ave. This is the former Wausau Floral property. The purchase price was \$805,000, below the fair market value of \$875,000. Funding will come out of the 2024 debt issue.

The purpose of this property will be for the new home of the Wausau Fire Department's central station. The existing central station was built in 1962 and while still serviceable, has some significant issues and challenges in meeting the needs of a 21st century fire service. There is no planned start date for the construction of the new station. Acquiring the land is the first step in a project that will take several years to complete. Acquiring this parcel now assures that the Fire Department will have a new home that will best serve the residents of the city.

Ann Lemmer, Marathon County District 2 County Supervisor

Happy Holidays Everyone! With the coming of December, the County Board is wrapping up the previous year's work, and now that the budget has passed, will be setting up priorities for 2024. Each committee is making a plan, so I recommend visiting the Marathon County Board Calendar to see the agendas of the standing committees where you will find the various meetings and when each will be discussed.

I serve on the Human Resources, Finance, and Property committee. The following are a couple of areas that will likely continue to be a focus:

- Establishing policy around long-term debt management and analyzing the various fund balances (including the source, balance, use, restrictions, and existing policy centered around each).

- Continuing work on Tax Delinquent, County Properties, and Long-Term Facilities Plan, establishing goals, guidelines, and processes for dealing with each (especially divesting from vacant properties)

As always, feel free to reach out to me if you have any questions or suggestions!
Ann.lemmer@co.marathon.wi.us.

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

