

LONGFELLOW NEIGHBORHOOD



WELCOME TO OUR NEIGHBORHOOD!
April, 2024

Our next meeting is Monday, April 1, 2024

Wausau Police Department Community Room, 6:30 PM

Agenda

- Welcome remarks from Longfellow Neighborhood President – Brooke Mueller
- Guest Speaker - Chief Matthew Barnes, Wausau Police Department, speaking on proposed fencing for the Police Department parking area
- Wausau District 2 Alderperson – Michael Martens (with Q & A)
- Marathon County District 2 Supervisor – Ann Lemmer (with Q & A)

Dates to Remember

- March 29: **Good Friday**
 March 31: **Easter Sunday**
 April 1: **Longfellow Neighborhood Meeting**
April Fool's Day
 April 2: Election Day
 April 3: Yard Waste Site opens
 April 22: **Earth Day**

Wausau Winter Market, Saturdays, 8:00 AM – Noon, Whitewater Music Hall, 130 1st Street
Marathon County Historical Society History Chats – Thursdays, 12:30 PM; livestream on Facebook and YouTube

Minutes from the March 4, 2024 Meeting

Our meeting this month was held at the Lakeview Conference Center at the North Central Health Care Center campus and included 2 guest speakers: Kody Hart (Wausau Deputy Clerk) and Chris Holman (Marathon County Deputy County Administrator). The Southeast Side neighborhood group was invited to join us since the Conference Center is located in their neighborhood. We had an excellent turnout for our joint meeting.

Kody Hart spoke to our group about the process of holding local elections.

- Kody discussed the reason for the change in our polling location. The polling location at Pilgrim Lutheran (and Sylvan) was part of a 2022 audit which reviewed parking and accessibility issues at various polling locations. The change in our polling location addresses those issues. Signs will be posted at Pilgrim Lutheran directing voters to their new polling location.
- Every step of the election process is open to the public, until about 9:00 PM on election night, including confirmation that the number of voters matches the number of votes cast.
- The City is always looking for poll workers; election observers are always welcome at all polling locations. Being a poll worker is a paid position; the total amount received is based on the poll worker position, amount of training and how many hours are spent at the polls. The process includes completing an application (found under the Human Resources tab (under “Your Government”) on the City website), an interview, availability on election days, and completing a specific number of hours of training (which depends on the specific position you fill).

- Badger Books is an electronic poll book which replaced paper poll books and is used at all polling locations. They are connected securely within each polling place to communicate with each other but are not connected to the internet or any other network outside the polling place.
- Early voting takes place during the 2 weeks prior to an election. City Hall is open for in person absentee voting in the Spring Election on Monday-Friday from 8:00 AM – 4:30 PM and on Saturday, March 30 from 8:00 AM – 12:00 PM (Noon).
- If you haven't voted in the last 4 years, you will need to re-register; this can be done ahead of time or at your polling place on election day. A specific process is required to notify voters if they are being removed from the voter rolls. You can register on-line at myvote.wi.gov or pick up a paper form at the City Clerks office.
- When casting your ballot, you can use either the traditional paper ballot or the express machine (it prints out what you entered on the computer screen; you review the information shown, then feed it into the same ballot reader as used for the standard paper ballots).
- There is a particular process you must go through if you request an absentee ballot by mail but don't mail it back before election day and/or decide to vote on election day instead.

After Kody's presentation, Chris Holman gave us an overview of the North Central Health Care campus and a guided tour. Chris was previously the County Executive for Portage County.

- The entire campus is owned by Marathon County; some County departments are, or will be, moved to the campus. There are approximately 1,050 public parking spaces as well as a designated staff parking area.
- A green space and the asphalt walking path will be returning to the campus along with new berms as part of the remodel/renovation. There will be several new and/or renovated spaces on the campus; it is estimated the renovation work will be completed in about a year.

Michael discussed the following with our group:

- Wausau has received a grant for approximately 7 buses (from a Volkswagen legal settlement); about 90% of the cost of the new buses will be covered if the grant is approved by the City. The buses will be diesels with delivery in about 2 years.
- The organizational structure of the Water Commission will continue to be discussed. Part of the discussion will be whether it remains a commission vs becoming a standing committee; there are pros and cons with either structure.

Ann had several items for our group:

- The County meeting schedule remains very busy.
- Ann gave a brief update on the Aging and Disability Resource Center committee, including whether or not they will be moving to the Lake View Campus.

Our officer was unable to join us this month due to previously scheduled out of town training.

Our next meeting is scheduled for Monday, April 1, 2024

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

Hi everyone! Our next meeting will be on Monday, April 1st, at 6:30pm. Wausau Police Chief Matthew Barnes will be joining us to discuss the possibility of a fence being put up around the police station. He will answer any questions or concerns that may arise.

As a reminder, when walking dogs in the neighborhood, please remember that dog waste must be bagged up. There have been some complaints regarding dog waste being left in resident's yards. 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

Some of you may remember Badge, he's Officer Nate Stetzer's personal dog and would visit the Longfellow meetings occasionally when Nate was our Community Resource Officer. Nate moved

on to become a School Resource Officer and Badge has served, for the last six years, as a therapy animal at Wausau East. The therapy dog program has been a great success with a measured drop from 35 behavioral incidents in 2016-2017 to nine in 2021-2022. Badge is now retiring. But the school and community see the value of the program and the Community Foundation of North Central Wisconsin is providing a \$15,000 grant for a new school therapy dog. Congratulations to Badge on your retirement and may your replacement see continued success in our schools.

Ann Lemmer, Marathon County District 2 County Supervisor

Happy April Longfellowers! There's a lot going on within the county, so I'll update you on two of the committees I serve on. The Administrator's 2024 Work Plan was adopted, and as part of the ranking task completed by the Executive Committee, one project high on the list is to complete approved Lake View Campus renovation projects and relocate designated departments to it. Well GOOD NEWS! The Board of the Aging and Disabilities Resource Center of Central Wisconsin, which I chair, just approved a 10 year lease for us to move in once completed (early 2025). This will benefit our customers, our staff, and the fiscal health of both organizations. Stay tuned for further updates as we get closer to the transition.

Another exciting announcement is that the Department of Health received a \$48,000 grant through the Lead-in-Water Testing and Remediation Initiative to implement a water sampling program in Marathon County childcare centers and coordinate remediation measures. You are hearing a lot about lead abatement in our drinking water through the city's programs, as well as how much childcare facilities are struggling with high costs, so this grant will enable up to 40 centers (already identified) to begin rectifying any contamination. Lead is a health hazard. There is no safe blood lead level in children. Even low levels of lead in blood have been shown to affect learning, overall IQ, a child's ability to pay attention, academic achievement, and long-term harm. This important program will protect many children in our county.

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

NEED TO KNOW NUMBERS (continued)

NEIGHBORHOOD LIAISONS:

OFFICER JOHN SHEAR (john.shear@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

