



## OFFICIAL NOTICE AND AGENDA

of a meeting of a City Board, Commission, Department, Committee, Agency, Corporation, Quasi-Municipal Corporation, or sub-unit thereof.

Meeting of the: **PUBLIC HEALTH & SAFETY COMMITTEE**  
Date/Time: **Monday, April 22, 2024 @ 5:15 P.M.**  
Location: **City Hall (407 Grant Street) - Council Chambers**  
Members: Lisa Rasmussen, Becky McElhaney, Sarah Watson, Lou Larson, Carol Lukens

### AGENDA ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION / ACTION

- 1 Elect Chairperson and Vice Chairperson for the 2024-2026 term of the Public Health & Safety Committee.
- 2 Establish regular meeting date and time for the 2024-2026 term of the Public Health & Safety Committee.
- 3 Elect two members of the Public Health & Safety Committee to serve on the Liquor Licensing Review Subcommittee.
- 4 Approve minutes of previous meeting (03/18/2024).
- 5 Consider approval or denial of various license applications.
- 6 Wausau Fire Department Quarter 1 - 2024 Report.
- 7 Wausau Police Department Quarter 1 - 2024 Report.
- 8 Tavern Activities Report - March 1, 2024 – March 31, 2024.
- 9 Community Outreach Update.

Adjourn

, Chairperson

**NOTICE: It is possible that members of, and possibly a quorum of members of the Committee of the Whole or other committees of the Common Council of the City of Wausau may be in attendance at the above-mentioned meeting. No action will be taken by any such groups.**

Members of the public who do not wish to appear in person may view the meeting live over the internet, live by cable TV, Channel 981, and a video is available in its entirety and can be accessed at <https://tinyurl.com/WausauCityCouncil>. Any person wishing to offer public comment who does not appear in person to do so, may e-mail [kaitlyn.bernarde@ci.wausau.wi.us](mailto:kaitlyn.bernarde@ci.wausau.wi.us) with "PH&S public comment" in the subject line prior to the meeting start. All public comment, either by email or in person, will be limited to items on the agenda at this time. The messages related to agenda items received prior to the start of the meeting will be provided to the Chair.

**This Notice was posted at City Hall and sent to the Daily Herald newsroom on 4/19/2024 @ 5:00 PM**

In accordance with the requirements of Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA), the City of Wausau will not discriminate against qualified individuals with disabilities on the basis of disability in its services, programs or activities. If you need assistance or reasonable accommodations in participating in this meeting or event due to a disability as defined under the ADA, please call the ADA Coordinator at (715) 261-6622 or [ADAServices@ci.wausau.wi.us](mailto:ADAServices@ci.wausau.wi.us) to discuss your accessibility needs. We ask your request be provided a minimum of 72 hours before the scheduled event or meeting. If a request is made less than 72 hours before the event the City of Wausau will make a good faith effort to accommodate your request.

## **PUBLIC HEALTH & SAFETY COMMITTEE**

Date and Time: Monday, March 18, 2024, at 5:15 p.m., Council Chambers

Members Present: Lisa Rasmussen (C), Doug Diny (VC), Becky McElhaney, Lou Larson, Chad Henke

Others Present: Matt Barnes, Ben Graham, Jeremy Kopp, Justin Pluess, Tracy Rieger, Anne Jacobson, Tegan Troutner, Kaitlyn Bernarde, Kody Hart, Alder Kilian

Noting the presence of a quorum, Chairperson Rasmussen called the meeting to order at 5:15 p.m.

### **Approve minutes of previous meeting (02/19/2024).**

Motion by Larson, seconded by Diny, to approve the minutes. Motion carried 5-0.

### **Consider approval or denial of various license applications.**

Kenneth Lasiuk, applicant for New Operator/Bartender License, was referred back to committee by the Common Council after a recommendation to deny was made previously. Lasiuk appeared to appeal the denial recommendation and stated that a letter of recommendation would be provided and that requests for proof of a completed sentence were made to also be provided. It was stated that action would be held until the next meeting to provide the applicant the opportunity to provide documents for evidence of rehabilitation to be considered. John Wallin, applicant for New Operator/Bartender License, did not appear to appeal the denial recommendation.

Motion by Diny, seconded by Henke, to approve or deny license applications as recommended by staff with the exception of Kenneth Lasiuk. Motion carried 5-0.

### **Discussion and possible action on agreement for Urban Search and Rescue Emergency Response Services with the State of Wisconsin – Wausau Fire Department.**

Motion by McElhaney, seconded by Henke, to approve the agreement. Motion carried 5-0.

### **Discussion and possible action of Community Care Paramedic position for the Fire Department.**

Rasmussen stated that a pilot program for this was conducted previously and proved successful but lacked the financial resources to implement at that time. It was further stated that this is of significant value to the senior community and will take care of various issues from trip and fall prevention, medication management, nutrition, and living conditions. This would be proactive in mitigating EMS challenges.

Diny questioned the referral process meant to prevent an increase in 911 calls. It was stated that referrals to the position could come from any other community partners or stakeholders. The goal would be to cut down on 911 calls and emergency care needed.

Henke questioned if the county has been brought on as a partner for this program for funding. It was stated that the Fire Department had gone to the county but had been unsuccessful adding that future request for partnership could happen upon a demonstration of success.

Motion by Larson, seconded by Diny, to forward this item to the Finance Committee to look into the funding of the local share and the acceptance of the funding mechanisms. Motion carried 5-0.

### **Discussion and Possible Action Approving the Addition of Two Officers to Wausau Police Department Authorized Staffing Level.**

Rasmussen stated that the solutions to overcoming homelessness is a combination of accountability and help. It was stated that success will be setting people on a path to be housing ready. Rasmussen questioned if the funding mechanism would be funded through core staff allotment and be absorbed through attrition and a combination of resources to get the initial staffing level started.

Larson questioned if the Wausau Police Department was receiving assistance from the Marathon County Sheriff's Department. It was stated that mutual aid agreements help provide community protection when police are spread thin and that the real assistance from the county comes from the county jail which receives individuals who are taken into custody. Larson further questioned if this would lead into a further increase of officers to resolve this as homelessness rates increase. It was stated that success of the hiring of additional officers would be not coming back to request more officers while acknowledging that homelessness is increasing.

Diny questioned if this was a major shift in strategy and if it would be effective when mental health and addiction treatment was a more viable strategy. It was stated that this recommendation to increase officers is within the functions of the Police Department when the other strategies are within the function of other departments. Diny recommended a committee of the whole be convened to discuss partnerships with organizations and the county to provide these services.

*Without objection, public comment was taken on this agenda item.*

- 1) Vicki Harness, Marathon County Community Outreach Task Force – spoke on the current outreach work of the task force and stated that unhoused people often have no place to go as shelters become full or have turnaways.
- 2) Tom Kilian, 133 E. Thomas Street – spoke to question what was the strategy and approach and requested a committee of the whole meeting to talk about providing services to the unhoused.

Rasmussen stated concerns with a committee of the whole meeting as the issues with behaviors in this area is serious and immediate enough for the Police Department to bring this recommendation for additional officers forward.

Henke outlined that the number of unhoused individuals being housed in the county jail has increased in the time that the Community Outreach Coordinator has been in place. It was also questioned as to if the Marathon County Community Outreach Task Force is meeting to discuss this matter. It was stated that the task force will meet soon.

Rasmussen stated that the county has seemed unwilling to take on the matter of homelessness as it was viewed as a city issue that was beyond their purview and stated concerns with waiting to act. It was suggested that the city should continue engaging the county while continuing to allow this to move forward.

Larson requested communication with the county to ask why they are not addressing this issue as a partner with the city. It was stated that the Police Chief and the Mayor were meeting with the county Health and Human Services Committee to begin this discussion.

Henke requested that city staff, elected officials, and organizations should go to the Marathon County Board meetings and their standing committee meetings to raise awareness of this issue.

Motion by Henke, seconded by Larson, to amend the motion to sunset the date of these positions on 12/31/2025 absent a renewal and that a report be brought forward in for review by the Public Health & Safety Committee in September of 2025 on the ongoing efforts achieved by the additional officers. Motion carried 5-0.

Motion by Larson, seconded by Henke, to move this program to the Human Resources Committee for review. Motion carried 4-1, with Diny voting no.

#### **Discussion and Possible Action on committee duties and responsibilities.**

Rasmussen agreed with the City Attorney analysis that the committee is conducting its duties and responsibilities accordingly but that the city website needed to be updated to be in accordance as well. Rasmussen made the request of staff to update the website.

Larson stated that it was not the duty of the committee to facilitate and approve the purchase of equipment for the Fire and Police Department as that duty is for the Capital Improvement Program Committee and Finance Committee.

#### **Tavern Activities Report – February 1, 2024 through February 29, 2024.**

Larson requested that the Domino Bar receive extra patrols during the weekend to ensure that they are open during their limited regular hours.

*Report Placed on File.*

**Community Outreach Update.**

McElhaney requested that the Community Outreach Coordinator should look into working with local hospitals to ensure that unhoused patients who are at their facilities for care from another community are discharged back to their own community.

*Report Placed on File.*

**Adjournment**

Motion by Henke, second by Larson, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

*For full meeting video on YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vZu99sxYJYE>*

DRAFT



## PHS Date 04/15/2024

License ID	License Typ	Name	Address	Details	Business	Begin Dt	End Dt	Police	PHS	Council
194237	9010 - Bartender/Operator New	LASIUK, KENNETH	608 1/2 WASHINGTON ST, APT 1 WAUSAU WI 54403		KRIST FOOD MART #61	01/18/2024	06/30/2024	No		
135134	9020 - Public Transport Driver Renewal	MOLLEY, MATTHEW	2101 NEHRING ST WAUSAU WI 54401		NORTHWOODS CAB	04/08/2024	06/30/2025	Yes		
197328	9022 - Public Transport Business	FICK, CHERYL	W7148 VON BESSER DRIVE MERRILL WI 54452		BLUE JAY TAXI	04/16/2024	06/30/2025	Yes		
197188	850 - Obstruction	CHYSTIUKHINA, ANASTASIIA	119 SCOTT STREET WAUSAU WI 54403							
196191	9026 - Class I	PELLEGRINO, JOHN	2315 GRAND AVE, #2 WAUSAU WI 54403	2024 MEMORIAL DAY PARDE on 05/25/2024 Organized by CITY OF WAUSAU VETERAN'S COMMITTEE						
196192	9027 - Class II	LECHNER, TINA	3368 HOWARD AVE STEVENS POINT WI 54481	LIVING RIVER MY TEAM TRIUMPH BENEFIT CONCERT on 06/07/2024 Organized by MY TEAM TRIUMPH NORTH CENTRAL REGION						



## PHS Date 04/15/2024

License ID	License Typ	Name	Address	Details	Business	Begin Dt	End Dt	Police	PHS	Council
196455	9027 - Class II	PARSCH, COREY	606 E THOMAS ST WAUSAU WI 54403	BLESSING OF THE BIKES 2024 on 05/18/2024 Organized by COREY PARSCH						
196637	9027 - Class II	WEINSCHENK, PETER	625 N 4TH ST EDGAR WI 54426	JAZZ ON THE RIVER on EVERY SUNDAY Organized by RIVER VALLEY JAZZ SOCIETY						
196281	9069 - Temporary "Class B" (Picnic)	BODENHEIMER, ROSS	6611 FEITH AVE WESTON WI 54476		Newman Athletic Booster Club					
197549	9069 - Temporary "Class B" (Picnic)	GROGAN, BLAKE	PO BOX STEVENS POINT WI 54481		MID STATE SISTERS OF SKATE					
197232	9080 - Public Transport Driver New	GNIOT, MIRANDA	PO BOX 41 WAUSAU WI 54402		BLUE JAY TAXI	04/10/2024	06/30/2024	Yes		
196504	9080 - Public Transport Driver New	HORST, PHILIP	607 N SALES ST MERRILL WI 54452		NORTHWOODS CAB	04/04/2024	06/30/2024	Yes		
196492	9080 - Public Transport Driver New	JEWELL, ROBIN	1000 RANGELINE RD APT #3 MOSINEE WI 54455		NORTHWOODS CAB	04/03/2024	06/30/2024	Yes		
197235	9080 - Public Transport Driver New	LEE, KENG	8409 WINDSOR DR WESTON WI 54476		BLUE JAY TAXI	04/10/2024	06/30/2024	Yes		
196151	9080 - Public Transport Driver New	MCGUIRK, CHRISTOPHER	200836 SUNSET SR MOSINEE WI 54455		NORTHWOODS CAB	03/18/2024	06/30/2024	No		
197238	9080 - Public Transport Driver New	MILLER, JESSIE	1304 LAKE ST WAUSAU WI 54401		NORTHWOODS CAB	04/10/2024	06/30/2024	Yes		



## PHS Date 04/15/2024

License ID	License Typ	Name	Address	Details	Business	Begin Dt	End Dt	Police	PHS	Council
197311	9080 - Public Transport Driver New	WIESSINGER, ROBERT	1426 GRAND AVE WAUSAU WI 54403		NORTHWOODS CAB	04/15/2024	06/30/2024	Yes		
196507	9080 - Public Transport Driver New	WORKMAN, ALLISON	217801 RIFLE RD MOSINEE WI 54455		NORTHWOODS CAB	04/04/2024	06/30/2024	Yes		

**Total Licenses**

**16**

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Kody Hart, Deputy City Clerk



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TEL: (715) 261-6616

FAX: (715) 261-6626

TO: Public Health & Safety Committee

FROM: Kody Hart, Deputy City Clerk

RE: Approve or deny various licenses as indicated on the attached summary report of all applications received.

DATE: April 16, 2024

Applications as listed have or will have a background check run by staff and reviewed by the Police Chief or a designee. Applications marked pending will have a status update at the meeting. In accordance with city ordinance, all permits approved are held for debts owed to the city until the debt is paid in full.

#### STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS

Approve or deny as indicated on the summary report attached, including those that may be introduced at the meeting. Further summaries on staff recommendations are outlined below.

1. **Denial Recommendations – New Operator’s License: Kenneth Lasiuk** – This application is recommended for denial due to conviction for 1<sup>st</sup> degree sexual assault of a child and was referred back to the committee for reconsideration at the March 12<sup>th</sup>, 2024, Common Council meeting; this application was reconsidered at the March 18<sup>th</sup>, 2024 Public Health & Safety Committee meeting where action was held off until the applicant was able to produce documents of rehabilitation. **New Public Transport License: Christopher McGuirk** – This application is recommended for denial due to recent history of meth possession coupled with arrests for theft and burglary.
2. **Approval Recommendations – Special Event Class I Permits for 2024 Memorial Day Parade** from Trinity Lutheran Church to 388 Drive on May 25<sup>th</sup>, 2024, from 10:45 AM to 12:30 PM, license applicant City of Wausau Veteran’s Committee, John Pellegrino.
3. **Approval Recommendation – Special Event Class II Permit for Living River My Team Triumph Benefit Concert** located at the 400 Block on June 7<sup>th</sup>, 2024, from 6:30 to 8:30 PM, license applicant My Team Triumph North Central Region, Tina Lechner; **Blessing of the Bikes 2024** from UWSP-Wausau parking lot to Bull Falls Harley Davidson on May 18<sup>th</sup>, 2024, from 9:30 to 10:00 AM, license applicant Wausau Firefighters Community Assistance Foundation, Corey Parsch; **Jazz on the River** located at Kickbusch Plaza on July 14<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup>, 28<sup>th</sup>, August 4<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup> from 5:00 to 7:00 PM, license applicant River Valley Jazz Society, Peter Weinschenk.



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Kody Hart, Deputy City Clerk



TEL: (715) 261-6616

FAX: (715) 261-6626

4. **Approval Recommendations – Temporary “Class B” Picnic Licenses – Cabin Fever** located at 1130 W. Bridge Street on April 6<sup>th</sup>, 2024, license applicant Newman Catholic Schools Athletic Booster Club; **Mid-State Roller Derby Season 12, Home Game** located at 1201 Stewart Avenue on May 18<sup>th</sup>, 2024, license applicant Mid-State Roller Derby.
5. **Approval Recommendations – Transport Business License – Blue Jay Taxi** located at 126 N Prospect St, Merrill, WI 54452, license applicant Cheryl Fick.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS  
DIVISION OF INSPECTION, ZONING  
AND ELECTRICAL SYSTEMS



407 Grant Street  
Wausau, WI 54403  
Phone 715.261.6780  
Fax 715.261.4102

## **CITY OF WAUSAU CENTRAL BUSINESS DISTRICT OBSTRUCTION PERMIT**

The City of Wausau supports a vibrant central business district and recognizes the social and economic benefit in allowing certain activities to take place within the public right of way. Per Chapter 5.63 of the Wausau Municipal Code, such uses as sidewalk cafes and other obstructions including, but not limited to self-supporting signs, sandwich board signs, works of art, planters, potted plants, statues, and other similar types of objects.

**The following information is required to complete the application submission:**

**APPLICANT** MIB US, LLC **PHONE NUMBER** (534) 356-2258

**MAILING ADDRESS** 119 Scott street, Wausau, W **EMAIL** mibusllc@gmail.com

**ADDRESS OF PROPERTY** 119 Scott street, Wausau, Wisconsin, 54403

☒ **PERMIT FEE \$20** (Make check payable to the City of Wausau and submit with this application)

☒ **DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED OBSTRUCTION** (Attach photographs, drawings, sketches and other descriptive information.) It's going to be a sidewalk sandwich board sing

☒ **EXACT LOCATION OF PROPOSED OBSTRUCTION** (Describe and show a brief sketch with dimensions from existing buildings and other fixed objects.) A sandwich board sing near the front door, entrance to the shop

☒ **INSURANCE COMPANY AND AGENCY** (Provide Copy) State Farm

**LIMITS OF LIABILITY INSURANCE:**

*Commercial liability insurance in the amount of at least \$1,000,000 per occurrence for bodily injury and property damage, with the city of Wausau named as an additional insured, shall show that the coverage extends to the area used for the sidewalk cafe, and shall provide that the policies of insurance shall not be cancelled, nonrenewed, or altered without 30 days prior written notice to the city.*

**ACTION BY PUBLIC  
HEALTH AND SAFETY COMMITTEE**

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- ☐ PERMIT DENIED
- ☐ PERMIT APPROVED (THIS PERMIT IS VALID FROM JULY 1 THROUGH JUNE 30 OF THE CURRENT YEAR)
- ☐ PERMIT APPROVED WITH CONDITIONS (THIS PERMIT IS VALID FROM JULY 1 THROUGH JUNE 30 OF THE CURRENT YEAR)

**SPECIAL CONDITIONS** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**I UNDERSTAND AND AGREE TO THE ABOVE CONDITIONS:**



\_\_\_\_\_  
**APPLICANT SIGNATURE (REQUIRED)**

04/04/2024

**DATE SIGNED**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**CHIEF INSPECTOR/ZONING ADMINISTRATOR**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**DATE SIGNED**

# Wausau Fire Department Monthly Report

## Quarter 1 – 2024



(Wausau Fire Personnel attend as many job fairs as possible to recruit new members)

## Fire Chief Report by Chief Jeremy Kopp

This year's unusually above-average temperatures were a welcome treat for our staff on a working level. Performing fire, rescue, and EMS operations in ultra-cold temps make everything more difficult and dangerous. When temps drop below zero, operations can become brutal. Crews take extra time to don proper warm protective gear. Paramedics must protect themselves and the patients they care for from the cold. During the cold weather, they pack extra blankets and towels to bundle the patient up during the movement from the home to the ambulance. Every little detail becomes more difficult in extreme weather conditions.

This first quarter has been an exciting one for the Wausau Fire department and me. My first few months as fire chief have been educational, challenging and very exciting. We hired Deputy Chief Justin Pluess who comes from the Wisconsin Rapids Fire Department where he has served the past 20 years and since arriving here, he has proven to be an invaluable addition to our department with his knowledge, experience, and connections all around the state with political figures as well as other fire department leaders. Together as co-leaders of this department we have taken on more and conquered more challenges than I even thought we would in this first quarter. Things like building partnerships with many organizations in the city such as Northcentral Technical College, Marathon County Departments, Community Foundations, and Aspirus Hospital to name a few. This management team has managed to apply for more grants in 2024 than it has in any other year that I am aware of. We have even strengthened our partnership with the Wausau Police Department which was already one of the strongest fire/police partnerships in the state. These partnerships have also helped us successfully propose and receive a Community Care Paramedic position which will be funded for a 3-year trial period with some of our partners.

This year has already proven to be as difficult as past years recruiting and keeping quality employees in the fire department. In 2024 we have on-boarded 4 new employees and have seen 2 resignations and another resignation expected in the next couple months. The 2 resignations were from employees brought on in 2023. We are currently running another hiring process and are hopeful to get to full staff early into the year in anticipation of 3 retirements at the end of 2024. We have also brought on a shared full-time employee as an administrative assistant that we share with P.D. Governor Evers and Senator Baldwin are aware of these difficulties. We are currently working with both offices to employ an apprenticeship program in partnership with NTC to resolve statewide recruitment issues in the fire service.

Congressional Directed Spending Request: In February, Senator Baldwin's regional representative, Gregg Wavrunek, visited Central wanting to know what the needs of Wausau Fire are, and he encouraged us to apply for a Congressional Directed Spending Request through Senator Baldwin. In March, the announcement came that the application period was open. We requested over \$300 million in conjunction with the leaders at NTC to help fund the apprenticeship program. We also submitted a separate request for money to help replace the 11-year-old ladder truck that is housed at station 1.

Central Fire Station: The discussion of the future of the Central Fire Station continues. The problems with the aging facility are becoming more troublesome every year. We hope to begin the discussion about the future of the facility, especially with the purchase of the old floral property in 2023 by the City. As a first step to restarting conversations we have moved another step forward with Five Bugles Design to perform a conceptual fire station design on this property. The existing station needs many updates and repairs, and we have just outgrown its space with new employees and parking. The facility assessment report found a myriad of problems that need to be addressed.

Wisconsin Chief's Education Conference: Deputy Chief Pluess and I traveled to Madison to attend the Wisconsin Chief's educational winter conference. This conference is unique because it is only full-time career Fire Chiefs from around Wisconsin. The conference had many interesting topics, with the biggest being Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion in the fire service.



# Fire Operations Report by Deputy Chief Justin Pluess

As Deputy Chief of the Wausau Fire Department, I am pleased to present my inaugural quarterly report, covering the period from January to March 2024. Since assuming this role, I have been deeply engaged in the department's operations and am grateful for the warm reception received from both the members of the Wausau Fire Department and the Wausau community. Our commitment to exceptional service remains unwavering, with a focus on enhancing capabilities while prioritizing the safety of our citizens and dedicated staff.

## Fleet:

During this quarter, ongoing repairs were undertaken on two new engines in collaboration with Custom Fire, Sutphen, and the Department of Public Works (DPW). Engine 3 has returned from Custom Fire after repair of a



water tank leak covered under warranty, while Engine 1 has also returned from Cummins following repair of a minor oil leak under warranty. Ladder 2 remains out of commission pending a thorough investigation into an incident resulting in severe injury to a Lieutenant, detailed in the significant events section. Ambulances continue to be in for repair on a weekly basis due to the amount of uses they receive. Additionally, plans in April are in

place to take delivery of a new ambulance manufactured by AEV, with a second slated for delivery in November 2024.

## Buildings and Grounds:

The installation of cubicles in dormitories at Fire Stations One and Three has been completed, providing much-needed privacy and space for firefighters during their overnight shifts. Fire Station One continues to face maintenance challenges and limited space, with plans underway to examine the front vestibule/entryway for the addition of two necessary workstations. At Station Three, the apparatus bay has been repainted in preparation for the installation of a washer and dryer for firefighter turnout gear. Station Three has been approved funds to repair the leaking roof.



## Operations:

Multiple hiring processes have culminated in a recruit academy scheduled for mid-May, bolstering our personnel resources. A revised staffing deployment model has been crafted to optimize emergency response efficiency. Stations Two and Three will consistently maintain a staffing complement of five personnel each, while Station One's staffing levels will adapt daily according to available personnel resources. This refined deployment strategy aims to enhance apparatus assignment efficiency, ensuring optimal utilization of both personnel and equipment. Additionally, this updated deployment approach will bolster the availability of Med-5, particularly during periods when all three primary ambulances are engaged in ongoing emergency responses.



I had the privilege of participating in the National Fire Academy's Executive Planning course in Mayland MA in February, paid for by FEMA. Throughout this rigorous program, attendees were tasked with formulating



strategic initiatives and developing comprehensive implementation plans. As a result of this training, I formulated a proposal for the establishment of a Firefighter Apprenticeship program, representing a groundbreaking initiative within Wisconsin. This proposal garnered the attention of Governor Evers and Northcentral Technical College, both of whom visited Wausau Fire Station 2 for an in-depth presentation and

discussion on the recruitment challenges faced by Wisconsin fire departments. Subsequently, Wausau Fire and Northcentral Technical College have initiated the planning process to materialize this program, with anticipated commencement scheduled for June 2025.

#### **Summary of Significant Incidents - Wausau Fire Department (WFD) First Quarterly Report 2024**

**January 8, 2024:** WFD crews assisted the Village of Maine with a fully involved building fire. Lieutenant Prausa received commendation from Town of Texas Chief Walters thanking Lt Prausa for his effective collaboration and tactical expertise in extinguishing the fire. WFD worked alongside Texas FD and Maine FD to deploy resources and coordinate suppression efforts, ensuring a coordinated and effective response. WFD demonstrated exemplary teamwork and professionalism in challenging conditions.

**January 14, 2024 (First Incident):** WFD crews extinguished a vehicle fire near a structure coordinated with Village of Maine FD. Upon arrival, WFD found a fully involved passenger truck on fire approximately 20-30 feet from a structure. A thorough extinguishment was conducted, utilizing the entire reserve tank from Engine 3 (750 gallons). WFD deployed a 1 3/4" hoseline for fire suppression, ensuring effective containment and preventing fire spread to nearby structures. The scene was turned over to Chief Bozinski of the Village of Maine FD. WFD demonstrated efficient coordination and collaboration with mutual aid partners.

**January 14, 2024 (Second Incident):** WFD crews responded to a fully engulfed garage fire that was threatening adjacent structures. WFD Engine company three arrived at the scene, confronting a two-car garage fully engulfed in flames. Crews utilized a 2 1/2" hoseline for fire suppression, effectively controlling the blaze and preventing further escalation. WFD conducted aggressive fire attack and ventilation operations, ensuring structural integrity and preventing exposure to neighboring properties. WFD demonstrated exemplary tactics and coordination in a challenging firefighting scenario.

**February 1, 2024:** WFD crews responded to a possible structure fire at Wausau West High School, where smoke was reported in the metal shop. Upon arrival, WFD found a large amount of smoke emanating from the school, filling the entire high school with smoke. WFD mitigated the fire hazard and exhausted the smoke, ensuring the safety of students and staff. The smoke was contributed to a fire in the dust collector system filters due to a student burning wooden handles for a project. WFD provided guidance to maintenance for system inspection and maintenance, highlighting proactive measures for fire prevention.

**February 1, 2024 (Second Incident):** WFD dispatched for a fire at Kolbe and Kolbe, where a fire was reported in a pipe's inner liner. Upon arrival, WFD extinguished the fire and advised staff to monitor for further signs of ignition. WFD conducted thorough investigation and ensured safety of personnel. WFD demonstrated

proactive measures and effective communication to mitigate fire risk and ensure safety.

**February 6, 2024:** WFD responded to a grass fire at N 4th Ave/W Campus Dr, caused by a burn barrel. Upon arrival, WFD extinguished the grass fire and educated property owner on city regulations ensuring compliance and preventing future incidents. WFD crews demonstrated community engagement and education on fire prevention measures.

**February 17, 2024:** WFD Dispatched for a structure fire at 1300-4H N 9th Avenue, where flames were reported between apartments O and P. Upon arrival, WFD crews quickly extinguished exterior fire and ensured safety of residents. WFD conducted thorough investigation and coordinated with maintenance for alarm system reset. Crews demonstrated effective firefighting tactics and collaboration with stakeholders for incident resolution.

**March 4, 2024:** WFD dispatched to Jefferson Street Parking Ramp for a fire alarm due a detected fire. Upon arrival, crews located and extinguished a small fire. The fire was a result of burnt paper towels near the elevator. WFD collaborated with law enforcement and building management for system reset. WFD demonstrated proactive response and effective coordination to mitigate fire risk and ensure public safety.

**March 12, 2024 (First Incident):** WFD crews responded to the Wisconsin River for reports of a body in the water. Upon arrival, WFD deployed watercraft and assisted dive team in recovery efforts. Coordinated with law enforcement and medical examiner for proper handling of the situation. WFD crews demonstrated effective collaboration with multiple agencies for a safe resolution of the incident.

**March 12, 2024 (Second Incident)** WFD requested for mutual aid for a grass fire near 3104 W. Wausau Ave. Upon arrival, crews positioned strategically to prevent fire spread and assisted in quick extinguishment efforts. WFD ensured safety of personnel and containment of the fire. Crews demonstrated effective mutual aid support and proactive measures for fire prevention.

**March 12, 2024 (Third Incident):** WFD crews responded to 406 Elm Street for a structure fire, where smoke and charring was observed on the siding of a second-floor porch area. Upon arrival, crews conducted interior search and overhaul to ensure fire extinguishment and prevent rekindling. WFD Crews demonstrated thorough investigation and effective firefighting tactics for incident resolution.

**March 14, 2024:** WFD responded to reports of a person in the water near the gazebo on Scott St. Upon arrival, Wausau Police Department (WPD) was standing on the seawall near the gazebo on the river's edge. WPD officers had thrown the victim a throw rope. The victim was holding onto the rope but stating that he "couldn't hold on much longer". Rescue 1 (R1) arrived on scene with members in water rescue suits and immediately deployed into the water for victim retrieval. WFD provided medical assessment and treatment. WFD and WPD demonstrated effective coordination and response in water rescue operations.

**March 19, 2024:** WFD responded to a structure fire, finding a large wood frame building with visible smoke showing on the bravo side. Ladder 2 initiated an exterior offensive attack while Engine 1 controlled power and conducted a search, initially finding no fire inside. However, upon opening the bravo side gable, it was revealed that the fire originated from arcing electrical behind an the attached cross. During suppression efforts, the hydraulic aerial ladder retracted, crushing and trapping the Lieutenant's lower extremities, prompting swift action from the Engineer and crews to free him. The Lieutenant was then transported to a local hospital for treatment, accompanied by Chief Kopp and Deputy Chief Pluess until notification and arrival of his spouse. Firefighting operations continued until the fire was fully extinguished. The injured firefighter is expected to recover, although the road to recovery will be lengthy. WFD crews conducted aggressive firefighting tactics to extinguish fire caused by electrical arcing, ensuring safety of occupants and property. The Battalion Chief Kruzan demonstrated effective incident command and firefighting techniques for swift resolution. This incident remains under investigation.

**March 26, 2024:** WFD responded to TerX Shredding and Recycling Center for a structure fire, where heavy smoke was observed on the A/D side of a building. WFD provided extensive mutual aid support and conducted



aerial operations to extinguish fire and prevent further spread. WFD demonstrated effective teamwork and strategic firefighting efforts for incident containment.

**March 31, 2024:** WFD dispatched to 1500 N 1st #116 for a structure fire, where smoke was reported in an apartment complex. Crews donned full PPE and conducted interior search and extinguished fire caused by burning cardboard boxes. WFD crews demonstrated swift response and effective firefighting tactics for incident resolution, ensuring safety of residents and property.

Overall, this quarter has been marked by ongoing efforts to enhance operational efficiency and advance our mission of serving the Wausau community with excellence. Please feel free to contact me at (715) 261-7903, [justin.pluess@ci.wausau.wi.us](mailto:justin.pluess@ci.wausau.wi.us) or visit me in person at Station One.

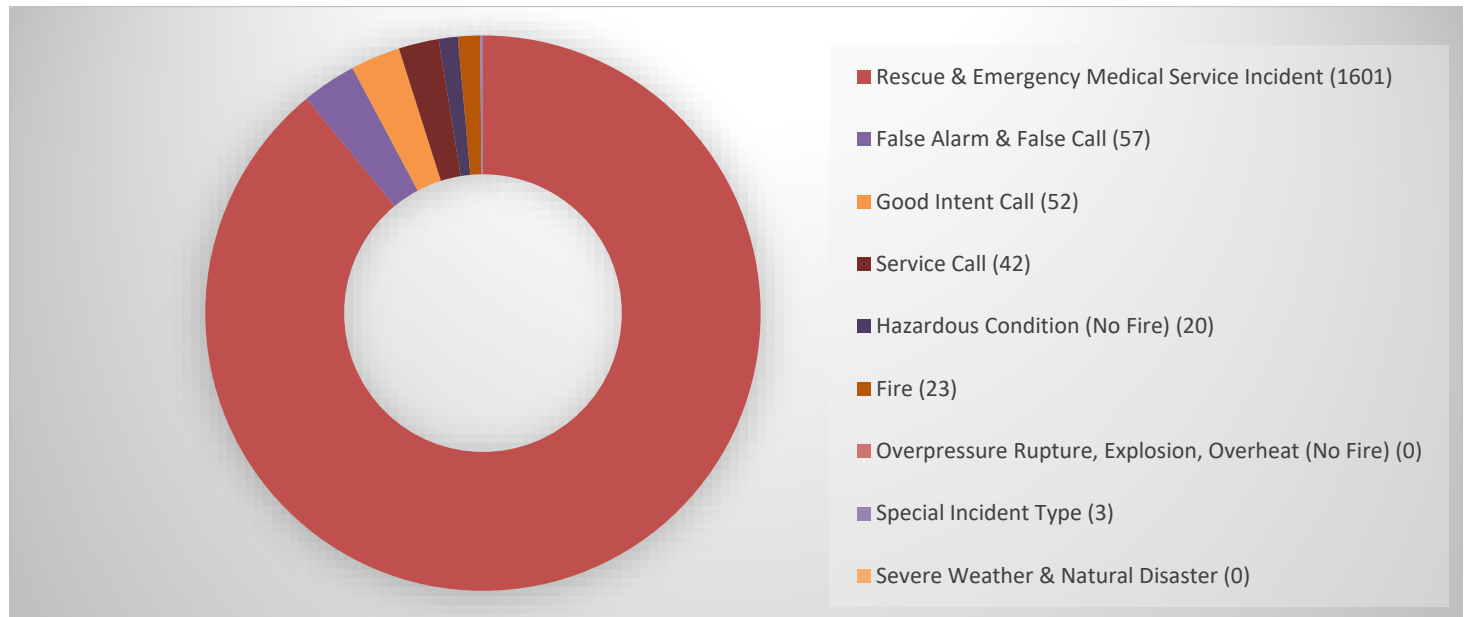
**Significant Fire Events:**

Date	Address	City	Incident #	Type
1/2/2024	152707 South Mountain Road	Rib Mountain	F24000016	Building fire
1/6/2024	1819 Stewart Avenue	City of Wausau	F24000035	Cooking fire, confined to container
1/8/2024	1016 Evergreen Road	Wausau	F24000040	Building fire
1/8/2024	903 South 60th Avenue	City of Wausau	F24000047	Outside rubbish, trash or waste fire
1/14/2024	530 Evergreen Road	Wausau	F24000078	Passenger vehicle fire
1/14/2024	1327 North 2nd Street	City of Wausau	F24000081	Building fire
1/14/2024	1321 North 2nd Street	City of Wausau	F24000081	Building fire
1/24/2024	1240 Merrill Avenue	City of Wausau	F24000149	Cooking fire, confined to container
1/27/2024	2101 Nehring Street	City of Wausau	F24000166	Outside rubbish, trash or waste fire
2/1/2024	1200 West Wausau Avenue	City of Wausau	F24000198	Outside equipment fire
2/1/2024	1323 South 11th Avenue	City of Wausau	F24000200	Trash or rubbish fire, contained
2/6/2024	500 West Campus Drive	City of Wausau	F24000221	Grass fire
2/17/2024	1300 North 9th Avenue	City of Wausau	F24000285	Cooking fire, confined to container
2/21/2024	163080 Ross Avenue	Village of Weston	F24000306	Building fire
2/25/2024	2515 Elmwood Boulevard	City of Wausau	F24000337	Passenger vehicle fire
2/26/2024	6400 State Highway 29	City of Wausau	F24000347	Passenger vehicle fire
2/29/2024	1300 North 9th Avenue	City of Wausau	F24000361	Building fire
3/4/2024	425 North 1st Street	City of Wausau	F24000383	Trash or rubbish fire, contained
3/12/2024	3104 West Wausau Avenue	Wausau	F24000430	Brush or brush-and-grass mixture fire
3/12/2024	406 Elm Street	City of Wausau	F24000432	Building fire
3/19/2024	1101 Elm Street	City of Wausau	F24000474	Building fire
3/26/2024	107 Everest Avenue	Village of Brokaw	F24000507	Building fire
3/31/2024	1500 North 1st Street	City of Wausau	F24000535	Building fire

**Monthly NFIRS Incident Comparison:**

	2024	2023	2022	2021	% Of Change from 2023 to 2024
January	646	579	591	502	11.57%
February	597	506	507	456	17.98%
March	555	551	540	497	0.73%
April		527	498	503	
May		574	574	556	
June		553	590	583	
July		679	531	587	

August		571	600	577	
September		548	524	525	
October		616	545	552	
November		624	574	562	
December		623	612	590	
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>6951</b>	<b>6686</b>	<b>6490</b>	



### Responses by Municipality (All NFIRS Reports):

City	# of Runs	% of Runs	# of Runs - YTD
City of Abbotsford	1	0.06%	1
City of Antigo	0	0.00%	0
City of Colby	0	0.00%	0
City of Merrill	0	0.00%	0
City Of Mosinee	0	0.00%	0
City Of Schofield	0	0.00%	0
City Of Wausau	1,694	94.22%	1,694
Clark County	0	0.00%	0
Oneida County	1	0.06%	1
Rosholt	0	0.00%	0
Taylor County	0	0.00%	0
Town of Bergen	0	0.00%	0
Town Of Berlin	8	0.44%	8
Town of Bern	0	0.00%	0
Town of Bevent	0	0.00%	0
Town Of Cassel	2	0.11%	2
Town Of Elderon	0	0.00%	0
Town Of Emmet	0	0.00%	0
Town of Frankfort	0	0.00%	0
Town of Franzen	0	0.00%	0
Town of Halsey	0	0.00%	0
Town Of Hamburg	1	0.06%	1

Town of Harrison	0	0.00%	0
Town Of Hewitt	6	0.33%	6
Town of Hull	1	0.06%	1
Town of Johnson	0	0.00%	0
Town of Knowlton	0	0.00%	0
Town Of Marathon	1	0.06%	1
Town Of Mosinee	0	0.00%	0
Town of Norrie	0	0.00%	0
Town Of Rib Falls	1	0.06%	1
Town Of Rietbrock	0	0.00%	0
Town of Ringle	0	0.00%	0
Town Of Stettin	0	0.00%	0
Town Of Texas	12	0.67%	12
Town Of Wausau	26	1.45%	26
Town Of Weston	1	0.06%	1
Town Of Wien	1	0.06%	1
Village Of Athens	0	0.00%	0
Village Of Brokaw	0	0.00%	0
Village Of Edgar	1	0.06%	1
Village of Hatley	0	0.00%	0
Village Of Kronenwetter	0	0.00%	0
Village Of Maine	31	1.72%	31
Village Of Marathon City	3	0.17%	3
Village Of Rib Mountain	4	0.22%	4
Village Of Rothschild	0	0.00%	0
Village of Stratford	0	0.00%	0
Village Of Weston	3	0.17%	3
Wittenberg	0	0.00%	0
Wood County	0	0.00%	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,798</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>1,798</b>

### **Activity/Incident Hours Committed:**

Category	Time Committed
NFIRS Incidents	559:50:07 Hours
EMS Incidents	2719:18:39 Hours
Non-Incident Activities (Station Maintenance, Vehicle Check-off/Fire Pre-plan, Hazmat Outreach, Administration duties, Public Education, Committee and Staff Meetings)	2,889.40 Hours
Training (including Wellness)	4,319.05 Hours

### **Aid Responses:**

Type of Aid	# of Runs
Mutual Aid Given – EMS	9
Mutual Aid Given – Fire	6
Automatic Aid Given – EMS	56
Automatic Aid Given – Fire	1

Mutual Aid Received – EMS	0
Mutual Aid Received – Fire	0
Automatic Aid Received – EMS	0
Automatic Aid Received – Fire	3
Other Aid Given – EMS	0
Request for EMS from Other Agencies to the City of Wausau (not Aid)	5
Request for Fire from Other Agencies to the City of Wausau (not Aid)	2
Total Non-Aid Incidents (outside City with no other agency response)	21

EMS Division by EMS Division Chief Jared Thompson

EMS Patient Experience  
The EMS Division would like to share our patient care experience report from December 2023 to March 2024.

Patient Experience Report

December 1, 2023 to December 31, 2023

Your Score	Your Patients in this Report
93.38	25
	Total Patients in this Report
	4,240
	Total EMS Organizations
	228

Patient Experience Report

January 1, 2024 to January 31, 2024

Your Score	Your Patients in this Report
94.16	39
	Total Patients in this Report
	5,945
	Total EMS Organizations
	228

# Patient Experience Report

February 1, 2024 to February 29, 2024

Your Score

**93.06**

Your Patients in this Report

**28**

Total Patients in this Report

**5,517**

Total EMS Organizations

**228**

## Current Initiative

EMS Division has been moving towards its new initiative to become a **HEARTSafe Community!** We have teamed up with the Marathon County Parks department to implement the first phase of our initiative, which is to place public access AEDs outside our fire stations, in some parks, pools, and the 400 Block. We have submitted our funding requests for this initiative through the Community Foundation.

SaveStation was founded by a group of likeminded individuals who saw the need to work together to create an easy-to-identify AED housing station so that the PUBLIC could quickly find any AED.



Please stay tuned as this initiative moves forward!

## New Initiative

Another initiative is called Project **ADAM**. I am very excited about this initiative! Project ADAM began in 1999 in Wisconsin after the death of Adam Lemel, who was just 17-years-old when he collapsed and died while playing basketball. Adam suffered a sudden cardiac arrest (SCA), in which ventricular fibrillation occurred, a condition in which the ventricles cannot pump blood into the body. Defibrillation, or an AED, could have saved his life. Adam's parents, Patty and Joe, teamed up with Children's Wisconsin to create Project ADAM.

While sudden cardiac arrest is uncommon in young people, it sadly does happen. And it's exactly that — sudden and unexpected. But, immediate CPR and the availability of an AED can double or triple a person's chance of survival. So while you can't predict when one might strike, you can plan your response. That's where Project ADAM is making a difference.

*Project ADAM is a nationwide initiative that has saved the lives of more than 200 children, adolescents and adults who went into sudden cardiac arrest. Today, there are 38 Project ADAM affiliated sites in 29 states.* I will be reaching out to the Wausau School District Superintendent to see how the fire department can assist them in becoming a Heart Safe School.



### New Piece of Equipment

We have just completed our initial in-house training on our new Sapphire IV Pumps. Our paramedics have the ability to initiate and manage different IV infusions to support blood pressure, relieve chest pain, and manage different emergent obstetrical emergencies. These new IV pumps are smaller and easier to work with. All four of our fully equipped advanced life support ambulances have a dedicated IV pump.



### New Ambulance Status

It has been a while since our new ambulance was mentioned in our reports. It is almost at its completion.



We are in the process of making arrangements to complete the final inspection in the first week of April at the manufacturer in North Carolina.



### **Responses by Municipality (EMS Patient Care Reports):**

City	# of Reports	% of Reports	# of Reports – YTD
City of Abbotsford	1	0.06%	1
City of Antigo	0	0.00%	0
City of Merrill	0	0.00%	0
City of Mosinee	0	0.00%	0
City of Schofield	0	0.00%	0
City of Wausau	1,543	94.14%	1,543
Clark County	0	0.00%	0
Oneida County	1	0.06%	1
Other	0	0.00%	0
Town of Bergen	0	0.00%	0
Town of Berlin	8	0.49%	8
Town of Bevent	0	0.00%	0
Town of Bern	0	0.00%	0
Town of Cassel	3	0.18%	3
Town of Elderon	0	0.00%	0
Town of Emmet	0	0.00%	0
Town of Frankfort	0	0.00%	0
Town of Franzen	0	0.00%	0
Town of Hamburg	1	0.06%	1
Town of Halsey	0	0.00%	0
Town of Harrison	0	0.00%	0
Town of Hewitt	6	0.37%	6
Town of Hull	1	0.06%	1
Town of Johnson	0	0.00%	0
Town of Knowlton	0	0.00%	0
Town of Marathon	1	0.06%	1
Town of Mosinee	0	0.00%	0
Town of Norrie	0	0.00%	0
Town of Rib Falls	1	0.06%	1
Town of Rietbrock	0	0.00%	0
Town of Ringle	0	0.00%	0

Town of Stettin	0	0.00%	0
Town of Texas	12	0.73%	12
Town of Wausau	26	1.59%	26
Town of Wien	1	0.06%	1
Village of Athens	0	0.00%	0
Village of Edgar	1	.06%	1
Village of Hatley	0	0.00%	0
Village of Kronenwetter	0	0.00%	0
Village of Maine	28	1.71%	28
Village of Marathon City	3	0.18%	3
Village of Rib Mountain	2	0.12%	2
Village of Rothschild	0	0.00%	0
Village of Stratford	0	0.00%	0
Village of Weston	0	0.00%	0
Wittenberg	0	0.00%	0
Wood County	0	0.00%	0
<b>Total</b>	1,639	100.00%	1,639

## Fire Training Division by Training Division Chief David Briggs

First quarter scheduled Fire/Rescue training:

- Annual Respiratory Fit Testing
- Declaring a Mayday
- Hearing Conservation
- Fall Protection
- Scene Resource Management
- Haz-Mat with State Hygiene Lab (Inservice)
- Elevator Operations
- Minor Equipment Maintenance
- Air Management
- Coaching and Mentoring V2
- Line of Duty Death Case Study – Nathan Flynn and Capt. Josh Laird
- Emergency Vehicle Operations Course (EVOC)
- Search and Rescue

Each month, our members are assigned specific training drills for safety, efficiency, and to provide functional service to the community and visitors. These assignments are also to meet state statute and National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) requirements. Topics range from basic firefighting tasks to equipment maintenance, or even Hazardous Materials Response. Some of the assignments are mandated to address physical and mental health and safety requirements such as our breathing apparatus fit testing, hearing conservation, and fall protection.

### Health and Safety

This quarter, all members of the department were assessed for proper fit and function of our breathing apparatus and masks. This is required by Statute, NFPA, and federal regulations. If any deficiencies are found, our in-house breathing apparatus technicians address the equipment issues and members seek medical consultation if it is a medical concern. The issues discovered are generally minor and equipment related. Hearing Conservation and Fall Protection are also mandated training. Members receive a refresher on when and how to use hearing protection whenever possible. Our profession is extremely noisy at times and the ability to preserve our hearing is crucial. Fall protection is self-explanatory. However, we are often put in positions required by our profession that do not allow for general industry type fall protection. We are unable to use fall restraint when transitioning from a ground ladder to a roof, or when entering a window to perform



a search. However, when we can, we utilize fall protection lanyards, ladder belts, and other means to protect ourselves from avoidable falls.

### Firefighting

As the Fire Training Division Chief, I would like to say that we see a lot of fire and we all have extensive experience. However, that is simply not true. 85% + of our job involves EMS. Plainly stated, we acquire far more EMS experience in a short period of time than we have, or can, with firefighting as a member of the Wausau Fire Department. What we can not obtain through experience, we must address in training. This is not always easy since the nearest purpose-built training facility is in Merrill. However, we make the best of what we do have.

We often utilize our own stations to simulate training environments. This may include placing ground ladders, pulling hose lines through the apparatus bays, entanglement drills, basic hi-rise firefighting, and a few other concepts.

The few acquired structures we have had in the past four years are limited in duration, limited in what we may do with them, and if we can burn in them at all. These acquired structures are second to none when it comes to the reality our firefighters face. They are often unknown, unfamiliar, and thus, most like a home they may face when called for a fire or emergency.

Luckily in this current quarter of 2024, we have been blessed with two different structures. One was provided by the Hagar House for a few weeks. This collaboration provided an unknown structure and the ability to perform skills essential to the fireground, but also destructive in nature. Our crews were able to search unknown spaces, breach walls as if we were checking for extended fire, cut the roof to simulate releasing hot gases and smoke, and even rescue firefighters from the basement in the event they were trapped.

The second structure is on the corner of North 2<sup>nd</sup> and Bridge Street. This building is planned to include live-fire training following the other uses just described. Performing live-fire training takes weeks of planning and special certifications to conduct according to state statute. We have the equipment and staff to make this a highly beneficial training event for the Wausau Fire Department. The live-fire training is scheduled for the first week in May.





### Hazardous Materials

Over the past few months, we have had multiple opportunities to train in various aspects of hazardous materials. As the city team, the county team, and a level two response team for the State of Wisconsin, we must make every attempt possible to remain proficient.

The Wisconsin Lab of Hygiene was gracious enough to come to Wausau for three days and provide training. Each shift received brief lectures and hands on training regarding substance classification, identification, and evidence collection. Everyone was trained on the state protocol to transfer evidence from a scene to the state lab in Madison.

In March, the Wisconsin 54<sup>th</sup> CST (Civil Support Team) joined the Wausau Fire Department in a collaborative exercise that included a makeshift lab being discovered with materials that resembled higher risks than “normal.” The practical scenario began with the WFD performing reconnaissance and then calling in the specialists of the CST to assess and mitigate CBRN (Chemical, Biological, Radiological, or Nuclear) threats. This exercise concluded when the substances were identified, and the area was made safe for cleanup. The location for the exercise was another aspect of collaboration with the City of Wausau Wastewater Treatment Plant. They have been instrumental in this exercise, as well as other training with the WFD over the past year.

One more hazardous materials training in March was the WAHMR (Wisconsin Association of Haz-Mat Responders) conference in Stevens Point. Members of the WFD attended the conference to learn from state and national experts and vendors with emerging products on the latest and greatest in hazardous materials response. Unique this year, was a presentation by WFD Lt. Ambrosius and Training Division Chief Briggs on how to create and implement a hazardous materials training program. Lt. Ambrosius is the Assistant Coordinator for the Wausau FD Hazardous Materials Response Team. The presentation was given to team members, team leads, chemists, county emergency managers, and others on the content we should be training on related to hazardous materials response. It was very well received.





### Crew-Initiated Training

Throughout the year, company and crew officers train and assess their members for proficiency in all aspects of fire, rescue, and EMS. As areas needing improvement are discovered, the officers and crew instructors conduct the required training to ensure all members can perform our essential duties. This training is in addition to the pre-scheduled training that is issued department wide.



### Grant Writing/Grant Management

Grant writing is not exactly a training function. However, when you have experience in it, you assist where

needed. In the first quarter, a grant was submitted for the AAA Auto Club Grant for the purchase of fire suppression blankets and Electric Vehicle (EV) Emergency Plugs to utilize during vehicle fires and incidents involving “EVs.” This request was placed after performing company-level walk throughs of apartment buildings with EV charging stations and below-grade parking for electric vehicles. These vehicles have been identified as posing a far different hazard to responders in the event of a collision or fire.

Another grant activity this quarter included educating members on the grant process. Grant writing, management, and grant closeout can be a difficult task considering all the detailed criteria put in place by the entities that offer the opportunity. This training will continue to pay dividends in the future as we continue to submit for all grants that we find applicable to serving the community.

Type of Training	# of Hours	% of Hours	# of Hours -YTD
Company Training	2301.30	68.22%	2301.30
Driver/Operator Training	123.75	3.67%	123.75
Facilities Training	6	0.18%	6
Hazardous Materials Training	570	16.90%	570
Misc Training	113	3.35%	113
Officer Training	133.75	3.96%	133.75
Specialty Training	125.50	3.72%	125.50
Total	3373.30	100.00%	3373.30

*Training Categories:*

*Company Training – General firefighting training*

*Officer Training – Included leadership, management, supervision, and tactical considerations*

*Driver/Operator Training – Operation of fire apparatus*

*Hazardous Materials Training – How to mitigate the leak or spill of hazardous substances*

*Specialty Training – Rope, confined space, trench, collapse, ice, water, and other special rescues.*

*Facilities Training – Training at a live-burn facility (may include off-duty time)*

*Misc Training – Any other training category such as software, administrative, etc.*

Type of Training	# of Hours	% of Hours	# of Hours -YTD
Admin Training	33.50	3.54%	33.50
EMS Training	755.25	79.86%	755.25
Fire Instructor Training	157	16.60%	157.00
Fire Prevention Training	0	0.00%	0
Investigation Training	0	0.00	0
Total	945.75	100.00%	945.75

## Fire Prevention Division by Fire Marshal Brian Stahl

**Inspections:** Throughout the first quarter of 2024, we inspected 874 public buildings and places of employment. We performed 799 inspections that passed, and we had 75 properties with Fire Code Violations. 78 of the 799 inspections were follow-up inspections from previous violations. The failed inspections were primarily comprised of overdue fire extinguisher annual maintenance, overdue vent hood cleaning service, and Fire alarm annual maintenance. These properties will require follow-up inspections to confirm compliance. We conducted 19 consultation inspections for the quarter. These entailed consulting for Fire Alarm Systems, Knox Box updates, and new construction. We also received and reviewed 420 reports through the Compliance Engine for services and maintenance of Fire Protection Systems at various businesses.

**Investigations:** There were 3 fire investigations performed during the first quarter of 2024. Two of these fires originated on the exterior of residential housing properties. Both were determined to be started from careless use and disposal of smoking materials. The third originated in the kitchen of a residential housing property. This was the result of a stovetop burner being accidentally turned on. The burner was unintentionally turned on and there was a cardboard moving box left on top of the burner.

**Public Outreach:** Throughout the first quarter we had several outreach opportunities. We performed a Fire Safety Outreach Program for 34 special needs adults. New smoke and CO detectors were placed 6 different times in private residences with a total of 17 smoke detectors and 4 CO detectors placed.

**Education:** There were no formal education classes completed or available for the first quarter of 2024. The Prevention Division utilized this time to complete department benchmarks for equipment usage. This entails getting fit tested for the use of SCBA & N95 masks. Ensuring our respirators for fire investigation are up to date and functioning properly. Maintaining and ensuring we have the proper protective equipment and clothing to safely perform our job.



**Prevention Division Activities:**

Inspections Completed	Quarterly	Year to Date
Routine Fire Inspections	777	777
Re-inspections	78	78
All other Inspections (Consults/burn complaints,etc)	19	19
<b>Total Inspections</b>	<b>874</b>	<b>874</b>
Fire Investigations	3	3
<b>Inspection Department Activities</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>YTD</b>
Public Engagement Activities	14	14



# WAUSAU PD OPERATIONS REPORT

1<sup>st</sup> Quarter 2024



## Deputy Chief's Message

The Wausau Police Department began this year with an eventful first quarter. As part of our ongoing personnel changes, we said goodbye to a couple of long-time supervisors. Lieutenant Mike Felder and Lieutenant Bill Kolb both retired in the first half of January 2024 after 30-year careers in law enforcement. They leave big shoes to fill – their knowledge and leadership will be missed. To help fill that void, we were happy to recognize several of our staff as they reached milestones in their law enforcement careers: Officers Joe Kaetterhenry and Mason Hagenbucher – 5 years; Officer Dale Zander, Officer Nathan Porath, and Lt. Jill Kurtzhals – 20 years; Lt. Nathan Pauls – 25 years. We are grateful for their years of dedicated service to the community.

The newly hired officers that were sworn in on January 18, 2024, are progressing well in their training. One of them has completed his field training and will work his first shift of solo patrol on April 22, 2024. The others will soon join their peer as they complete their recruit training and embark on their field training phase soon.

Multiple K-9 assisted drug investigations led to the seizure of sizable amounts of methamphetamine meant to be distributed to citizens in our community. Our Community Resource Unit, K-9 assisted officers, and patrol bureau continue to work hard to identify illegal drug distribution activity and take appropriate steps to curb this problem and the associated issues.

In February, the department was proud to be recognized for another three years as an accredited agency with the Wisconsin Law Enforcement Accreditation Group (WILEAG). Less than 10% of Wisconsin law enforcement agencies are accredited by WILEAG. WILEAG accreditation ensures an agency is following best practices to better serve their community. This is an important piece of fulfilling our vision to “be regarded as the standard of excellence in policing.”

As the department continues to move forward with our mission of “...[enhancing] the quality of life” in Wausau, we have been working to understand and compassionately address the challenges associated with a growing unhoused population. This has recently generated much discussion and debate. We are grateful to have received city council authorization and local foundation funding support to hire two additional sworn officers to assist us in offering a more focused approach to this issue. Through engagement, empowerment, and enforcement, we are confident we can make a positive impact in this area.

We are optimistic about the coming months and look forward to embracing the challenges and opportunities that lie ahead as we partner with our community to keep Wausau a wonderful place to be!

- Deputy Chief Todd Baeten



Crime Counts - Wausau PD  
January 2024 - March 2024

Group A Crime Counts by Incident/Arrest Date

January 2024 - March 2024

<u>Crime Category</u>	<u>Offenses</u>	<u>Victims</u>	<u>Clearances</u>	<u>Adult Arrests</u>	<u>Juvenile Arrests</u>	<u>Total Arrests</u>
<b>Total Crime</b>	<b>420</b>	<b>426</b>	<b>237</b>	<b>170</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>181</b>
<b>Crimes Against Persons</b>	<b>99</b>	<b>99</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>59</b>
Murder & Non-Negligent Manslaughter	0	0	0	0	0	0
Manslaughter by Negligence	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sex Offenses	11	11	8	8	0	8
• Rape	6	6	4	3	0	3
• Sodomy	0	0	0	0	0	0
• Sexual Assault w/Object	0	0	0	0	0	0
• Fondling	5	5	4	5	0	5
Sex Offenses - Nonforcible	2	2	0	0	0	0
• Incest	0	0	0	0	0	0
• Statutory Rape	2	2	0	0	0	0
Assault Offenses	78	78	55	44	5	49
• Aggravated Assault	20	20	15	11	2	13
• Simple Assault	48	48	36	30	3	33
• Intimidation	10	10	4	3	0	3
Kidnapping/Abduction	8	8	4	2	0	2
Human Trafficking	0	0	0	0	0	0
• Human Trafficking, Commercial Sex Acts	0	0	0	0	0	0
• Human Trafficking, Involuntary Servitude	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Crimes Against Property</b>	<b>164</b>	<b>170</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>31</b>
Robbery	0	0	0	0	0	0
Burglary	9	9	3	1	0	1
Theft/Larceny	80	83	21	19	0	19
• Theft - Pocket-Picking	0	0	0	0	0	0
• Theft - Purse Snatching	0	0	0	0	0	0
• Theft - Shoplifting	28	28	10	9	0	9
• Theft From Building	7	7	0	1	0	1
• Theft From Coin-Op. Machine	0	0	0	0	0	0
• Theft From Motor Vehicle	5	5	0	0	0	0



## Crime Counts - Wausau PD January 2024 - March 2024

• Theft of Motor Vehicle Parts	2	2	0	0	0	0
• Theft - All Other Larceny	38	41	11	9	0	9
Motor Vehicle Theft	5	5	1	1	0	1
Stolen Property Offenses	1	1	0	0	0	0
Arson	0	0	0	0	0	0
Counterfeiting/Forgery	8	8	1	1	0	1
Fraud Offenses	24	24	3	1	0	1
• Fraud - False Pretenses	12	12	1	0	0	0
• Fraud - Credit Card/ATM	6	6	0	0	0	0
• Fraud - Impersonation	0	0	0	0	0	0
• Fraud - Welfare	0	0	0	0	0	0
• Fraud - Wire	0	0	0	0	0	0
• Fraud - Identity Theft	6	6	2	1	0	1
• Fraud - Hacking/Computer Invasion	0	0	0	0	0	0
Embezzlement	1	1	0	0	0	0
Extortion/Blackmail	0	0	0	0	0	0
Bribery	0	0	0	0	0	0
Destruction/Vandalism	36	39	12	8	0	8
<b>Crimes Against Society</b>	<b>157</b>	<b>157</b>	<b>129</b>	<b>85</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>91</b>
Weapon Law Violations	17	17	15	6	0	6
Prostitution Offenses	0	0	0	0	0	0
• Prostitution	0	0	0	0	0	0
• Prostitution - Assisting	0	0	0	0	0	0
• Prostitution - Purchasing	0	0	0	0	0	0
Drug/Narcotic Offenses	135	135	112	78	6	84
• Drug/Narcotics Violations	74	74	59	57	5	62
• Drug Equipment Violations	61	61	53	21	1	22
Gambling Offenses	0	0	0	0	0	0
• Gambling - Betting	0	0	0	0	0	0
• Gambling - Operating	0	0	0	0	0	0
• Gambling - Equipment Violations	0	0	0	0	0	0
• Gambling - Sports Tampering	0	0	0	0	0	0
Pornography	4	4	2	1	0	1
Animal Cruelty	1	1	0	0	0	0





## Crime Counts - Wausau PD

### January 2024 - March 2024

### Group B Arrests by Arrest Date

January 2024 - March 2024

<u>Crime Category</u>	<u>Adult Arrests</u>	<u>Juvenile Arrests</u>	<u>Total Arrests</u>
<b>Total Crime</b>	<b>218</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>229</b>
Bad Checks	0	0	0
Curfew/Loitering/Vagrancy	2	0	2
Disorderly Conduct	47	1	48
Driving Under the Influence	55	1	56
Family Offenses, Nonviolent	1	0	1
Liquor Law Violation	6	2	8
Peeping Tom	0	0	0
Trespass of Real Property	21	0	21
All Other Offenses	86	7	93

#### Counting Rules

Counts on this page are based on the month of the incident or arrest, rather than the month the incident was submitted. If the incident date is unknown, the report date is used. Counts are subject to change as data are updated.

Offense counts are calculated based on the number of offenses for each victim (per incident) for Crimes Against Persons and the number of unique offense types (per incident) for Crimes Against Property and Crimes Against Society. For burglary and motor vehicle theft, offense counts are based on the number of premises entered and the number of vehicles stolen, respectively.

Victim counts are calculated based on the number of victims connected to each unique offense type in an incident. For Crimes Against Persons, the number of victims will be equal to the number of offenses. Victims will be counted more than once if they are connected to multiple offenses.

Arrest counts are calculated based on the number of arrestees listed on a Group A or Group B incident. Each arrestee is counted only once per incident.

Arrests are categorized based on the specific Group A or Group B arrest code submitted by the agency, rather than the incident offense code. Since agencies only submit the most serious arrest charge for each arrestee on an incident, arrest counts are not indicative of the number of charges.

Incidents are cleared in one of two ways: by arrest or by exceptional means. Clearance counts are based on the number of offenses cleared in a given month regardless of when the offense occurred, and can therefore be greater than the number of offenses in a given month. In incident-based reporting, the first arrest on an incident, or an exceptional clearance, will clear all offenses associated with the incident.

## Investigations Bureau

Detectives

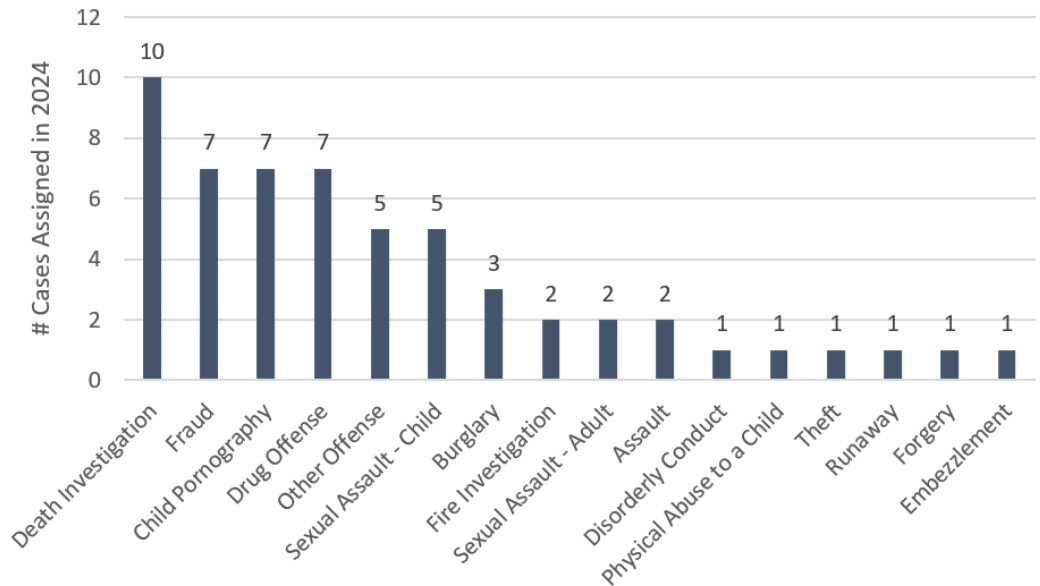
School Resource  
Officers (SRO)

Victim Resource  
Unit (VRU)

## Public Health & Safety – Investigations Bureau Update

This report provides a snapshot of major cases

### Detective Case Load by Crime Type



	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
Cases Assigned	16	16	14									

### 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter Convictions

#### William McDonald

Guilty 1<sup>st</sup> Degree Sexual Assault of a Child  
7 years Prison; 8 years Parole

#### Brian Penny

Guilty 2<sup>nd</sup> Degree Reckless Endangerment  
5 years Prison; 5 years Parole

#### Pao Ge Vang

Guilty 2<sup>nd</sup> Degree Reckless Endangerment  
7 years Prison; 5 years Parole

### Major Cases (last quarter)

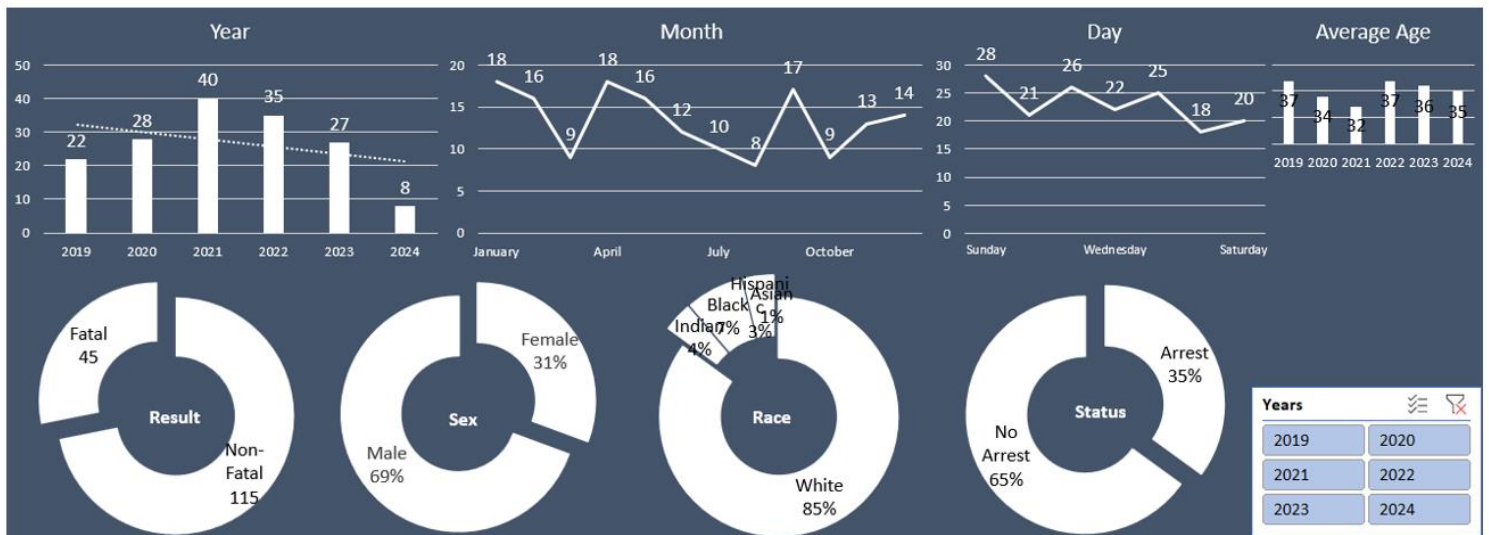
Date	Type of Investigation	Synopsis
2/7/2024	Death Investigation	<b>Overdose</b> 800 block Prospect Avenue 26-year-old male died by drug overdose <u>Mixed-toxicity</u> (novel psychoactive benzos + clonidine) Case Inactive
2/11/2024	Death Investigation	<b>Overdose</b> 100 block Ethel Street 39-year-old male died by drug overdose <u>Mixed-toxicity</u> (meth + fentanyl) Case Inactive
2/24/2024	Assault	<b>Criminal Trespass and Battery</b> 1500 block N 3 <sup>rd</sup> Avenue Individuals entered a home and battered an adult & <u>child</u> 2 arrests Case Open
3/12/2024	Death Investigation	<b>Suicide</b> 27-year-old female died by suicide Case Closed
3/20/2024	Death Investigation	<b>Overdose</b> 1200 block E Union Avenue 32-year-old male died by drug overdose Case Open
3/28/2024	Assault	<b>Fight &amp; Shooting</b> 900 block S 4 <sup>th</sup> Avenue Fight led to injury to an adult male and a firearm being discharged. No one injured by gunfire. 1 arrest Case Open

# Drug Overdoses

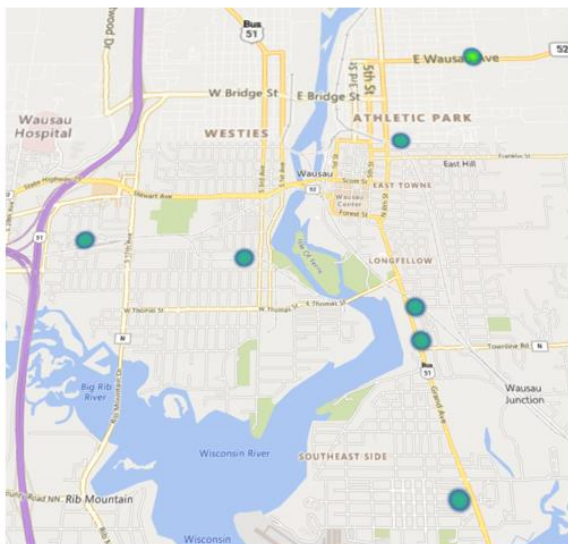
2024



2019-2024



## Overdoses by Location (current year)



## Summary

2021 had the highest number of police responses to drug overdoses in WPD history. That year, we responded to 40 overdoses, 12 of which were fatal.

In 2022, there was a 12% decrease in total overdoses (at 35). That decrease was primarily due to a drop in fatalities. 2022 saw 9 fatalities (down 25% from the previous year).

Overdoses continued to trend downward in 2023 (down 23% from the previous year). Although overdoses were down, the number of fatalities rose by one from the previous year. There was a total of 27 overdoses in 2023 (10 fatal, 17 non-fatal).

In 2024, current trends are up about 20% from 2023. In the first quarter, we've responded to 8 overdoses (3 fatal, 5 non-fatal).

# WPD CART QUARTERLY

January – March 2024

	# Mental Health CFS	# Welfare Check CFS	# 51.15 / 51.45 Detentions	# CART Responses to CFS
Jan – March 2024	301	424	36	138
2023 Total	1,219	1,913	117	640
2022 Total	930	1,874	126	583
2021 Total	910	1,886	160	357

51.15 by Type	Adults / Juveniles	Community / Facility
Jan – March 2024	25/11	20/16
2023 Total	90/27	80/37
2022 Total	102 / 24	84 /42

\*CART is a shared resource with MNSO; above data represents WPD jurisdiction activities only. WPD has one (1) CART Officer, on M-F day shift schedule. This position is not back-filled during the CART Officer's off-days. MNSO's CART Deputy also responds to relevant CFS in the City when available.

"CFS": Calls For Service (Officer initiated activities and calls received from Dispatch).

"Mental Health" and "Welfare Check" are the two most common types of CFS (coded by Dispatch based on the initial information reported) that involve individuals in crisis.

"Community" origin of 51.15 / 51.45: Law enforcement is called to a location in the community (*residence, business, public location*) in response to an individual in crisis (or incapacitated). De-escalation, safety planning, and/or diversion is not viable or is unsuccessful, resulting in 51.15 or 51.45 detention.

"Facility" origin of 51.15: While under care or custody of the Jail, NCHC, or medical facility; an inmate or patient is suicidal or otherwise assessed on-site by a Crisis Professional, and deemed in need of 51.15. Law Enforcement is then called upon to confirm and complete the 51.15 (as required by WI Stats.) **Lacks opportunity for diversion.**

"51.15": "Emergency Detention" under WI Statute 51.15. Law enforcement may take into custody an individual who is:

- (1) Mentally ill, drug dependent or developmentally disabled, and;
- (2) A substantial probability of physical harm to him/herself or others is evident by recent acts or omissions, attempts or threats.

"51.45": "Alcohol or Drug Detention" under WI Statute 51.45. "A person who appears to be 'incapacitated by alcohol or another drug' shall be placed under protective custody by a law enforcement officer."





# Records Bureau

Law enforcement would not be able to do its job successfully without access to data. The 80 sworn officers at the Wausau Police Department create a lot of data and paperwork, but it's only useful if it can be found when it's needed, and only if it gets to the correct people. We have one Office Manager, four Administrative Assistants that keep all of our processes moving. They receive information from the officers, be sure it is entered and properly cataloged, forward it to other agencies and departments, and then review and potentially release when requested. This includes paper reports, squad video and body worn camera, photos, and lost and found items.

This department is also the first point of contact for customer service for the public. They are a cheerful, resourceful group who go out of their way to be sure needs get met in as timely a manner as possible.

## Statistics for January 1 to March 31

	2023	2024
Incident reports	2226	2694
Arrest Reports	567	590
Accident Reports	260	206
Traffic Citations	811	774
Criminal Citations	169	140
Warnings	850	1299

Records Requests	493	518
Pages Released	4826	5551
Body Camera (BWC) Requests	73	77
Hours to prepare BWC for release	236	187

# Year-to-Date Traffic Totals 2024

Traffic Stops

1606

Citations

579

Warnings

1015

Operating While  
Intoxicated

57

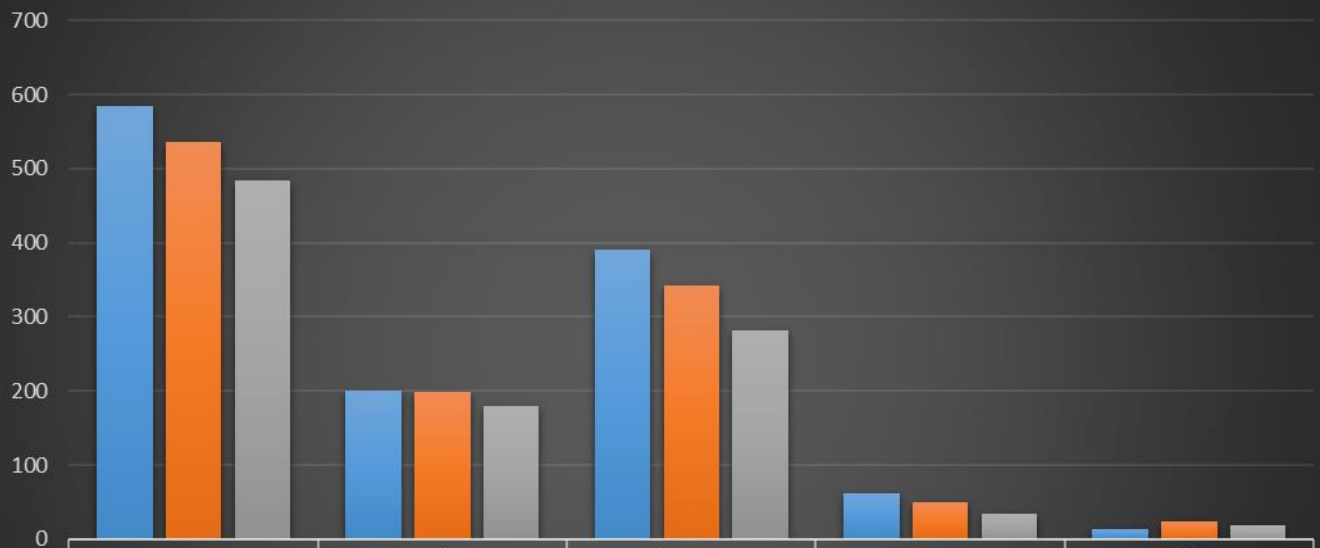
Traffic Crashes

146

Patrol Hours  
Worked

14690.75

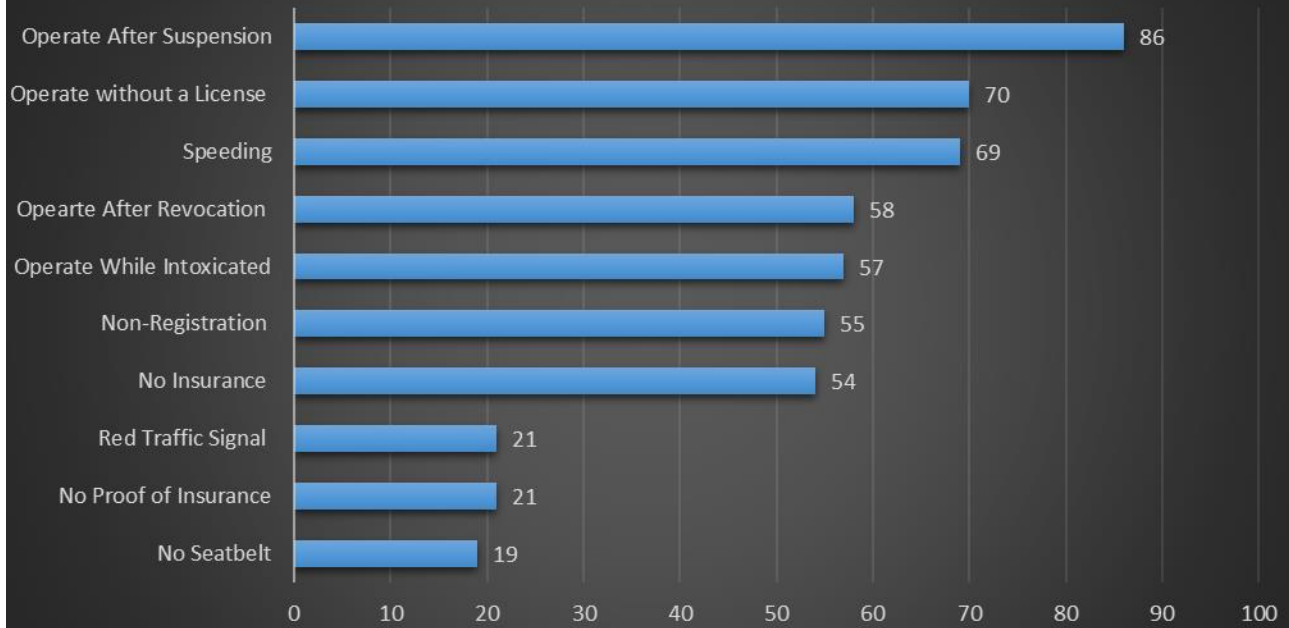
## Monthly Traffic Enforcement - First Quarter 2024



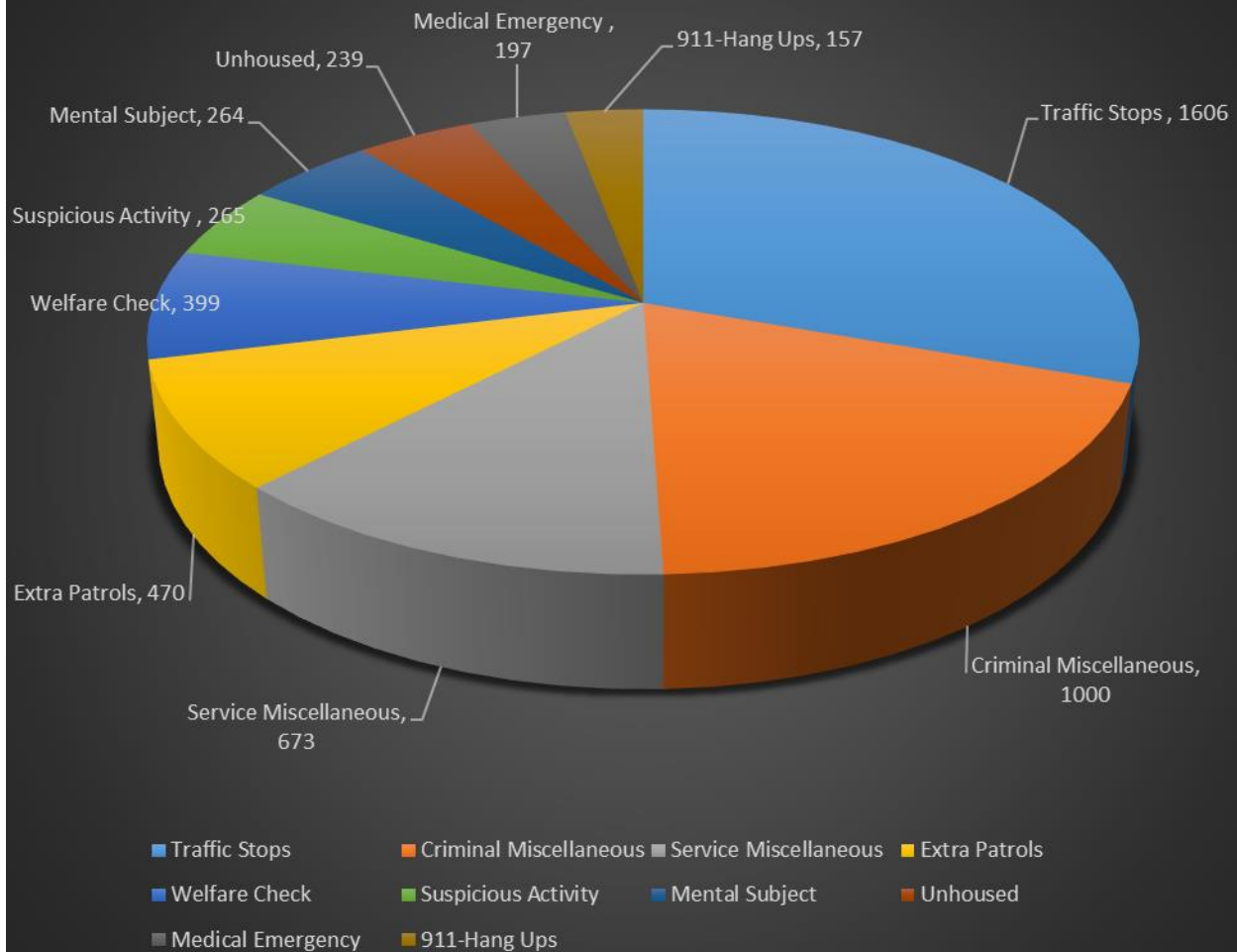
	Traffic Stops	Citations	Warnings	Crashes	OWIs
January	585	201	391	62	14
February	537	198	342	50	24
March	484	180	282	34	19

■ January ■ February ■ March

### Frequently Cited Traffic Violations - First Quarter 2024



### Top Calls for Service - First Quarter 2024





# Wausau Police Department

515 Grand Ave

Wausau, WI 54403

Ph. 715-261-7800

Date: April 3, 2024

To: Chief Barnes

From: Lt. Peter Fish

Subject: Tavern Report - March 1, 2024 – March 31, 2024

## ROUTINE TAVERN INSPECTIONS\*

TAVERN NAME	LOCATION	INSPECTION Y/N	VIOLATION(S)
Pregame Pub	2002 N 6th St	N	N
Bob & Randy's Bar	1515 N 6th St	N	N
Cop Shoppe Pub	701 Washington St	Y	N
Domino Bar	740 Washington St	Y	N
El Jalapenos	300 N 3rd St	N	N
Glass Hat	1203 N 3rd St	N	N
Hiawatha Restaurant & Lounge	713 Grant St	Y	N
Intermission	325 N 4th St	N	N
Limerick's Public House	121 Scott St	Y	N
Loppnow's Bar	1502 N 3rd St	N	N
Malarkey's	412 N 3rd St	N	N
Oz	320 Washington St	N	N
Polack Inn	1206 N 3rd St	Y	N
Timekeeper Distillery	607 Grant St	Y	N
Wausau on the Water (WOW)	1300 N River Dr	N	N
Bull Falls Brewery	901 E. Thomas St	N	N
Kin and Kind	2108 Grand Ave	N	N
Chellis St. Pub	265 Chellis St	N	N
Christine's Bar	936 S. 3rd Ave	N	N
Denmar Tavern	601 W Thomas St	N	N
Eagle's Club	1703 S 3rd Ave	N	N
Jim's Corner Pub	1244 S 9th Ave	N	N
The Bar and Grill	1025 S 3rd Ave	N	N
Treu's Tic Toc Club	1201 W Thomas St	N	N
M&R Station	818 S 3rd Ave	Y	N
Days Bowl-A-Dome	1715 Stewart Ave	N	N
Hutch's Bar	4411 Stewart Ave	N	N
Whiskey River Bar & Grill	5512 Stewart Ave	Y	N

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Chief

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Deputy Chief

Melinda Pauls  
Patrol Captain

Benjamin Graham  
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Nathan Cihlar  
Administrative Captain





# Wausau Police Department

515 Grand Ave

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101 Pub	101 N 3rd Ave	Y	N
After Shock Bar and Grill	1418 Lenard St	N	N
Callon Street Pub	209 Callon St	Y	N
Chatterbox Bar	102 S 2nd Ave	Y	N
4 Fathers Pub	1724 Merrill Ave	N	N
Labor Temple	318 S 3rd Ave	N	N
North End Pub	1002 N 3rd Ave	Y	N
Lickity Splitz	1709 Merrill Ave	Y	N
Newch's Eatery	1810 Merrill Ave	Y	N

\*During a routine tavern inspection, officers check for the following:

Sober, licensed bartender present.

Presence of underage persons.

Intoxicated persons being served.

Entertainment license posted if applicable.

In addition to the listed tasks, officers often conduct walkthroughs of taverns, especially when observing large crowds to establish a visible presence, aiming to discourage criminal activities and to encourage compliance with ordinances related to alcohol licenses.

## CONVENIENCE/GROCERY STORE INSPECTIONS

None.

## RESTAURANT INSPECTIONS

None.

## ALCOHOL COMPLIANCE CHECKS\*

None.

\*Alcohol Compliance Check Procedure: Police officers conduct alcohol compliance checks by deploying with underage volunteer(s) to taverns and other licensed establishments selling or serving alcoholic beverages to ensure compliance with ordinances related to alcohol licenses.

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# Wausau Police Department

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## ACTIVITY LOG

### Cop Shoppe Pub, 701 Washington Street

- (1) *Event #24027402, 03/02/2024 at 00:21 Hours, CRIMINAL MISCELLANEOUS:* Cop Shoppe Pub bartender reported a male came into the bar and got a drink. The male was causing a disturbance and then went outside with his alcoholic beverage. The bartender said they went outside and took the beverage from the male and told him he was not allowed back. The bartender returned to the bar and the male soon followed. The bartender reported the male grabbed a drink off the bar and threw it at them. The bartender said people in the bar tried escorting the male out of the bar, to include the male's friend. The male began a physical altercation with others; The male was arrested for Disorderly Conduct and was placed on a Probation Hold.
- (2) *Event #24032749, 3/14/2024 at 17:59 Hours, CRIMINAL MISCELLANEOUS:* An officer spoke to staff about their concerns over other staff members. The caller told officers they were hired by the owner to try and "Clean up" the Cop Shoppe due to the clientele. The caller (new employee) reported other staff members were not in favor of the new employee and they feared for their safety. The employee also reported there were concerns over drug use in and/or sales in the bathroom(s) and the locks have since been removed from the bathrooms as a deterrent. Officers provided extra patrol in the area and at the bar at 23:30 hours as well as the following day at 00:20 hours.

### M&R Station, 818 South 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue

- (1) *Event #24031094, 03/10/2024 at 23:37 Hours, CRIMINAL MISCELLANEOUS:* Officers responded to the report of a male who was causing a disturbance and would not leave and was armed with a stick. In-house records showed the male has violent tendencies and is on medication for diagnosed medical issues. The male refused to leave at the request of officers. Officers used completed non-compliant handcuffing and forcefully removed the male from the bar. The male was also found to be in possession of a THC vape device.
- (1) Officers responded to M&R Station on 3/19 and 3/26 in response to calls from FOXY Railroad reporting person(s) and/or vehicles interfering with the train and railway. It was reported on 3/19, bar patron(s) were climbing on the train. On 3/26 it was reported a vehicle leaving the bar caused the train to use its emergency brake. No one was located on either occasion. No enforcement action was taken.



# Wausau Police Department

515 Grand Ave

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## **WOW Family Entertainment Center, 1300 N River Drive**

- (1) *Event #24036266, 03/22/2024, at 14:21 Hours, FIGHT:* An officer responded to report of an employee who was fired and physically assaulted the manager. The employee was located and arrested from battery, criminal damage to property, and disorderly conduct.

## **Callon Street Pub, 209 Callon Street**

- (1) *Event #24033294, 03/15/2024, 22:10 Hours, CRIMINAL MISCELLANEOUS:* Officers responded to the anonymous report of underaged drinking. Officers checked the bar and did not locate anyone underage.

## **101 Pub, 101 North 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue**

- (1) *Event #24027370, 03/01/2024, 22:24 Hours, FIGHT:* Officers responded to the report of a fight. It was determined the owner attempted to confront patrons who left without paying. The patrons the initiated a physical altercation with the owner. Officers reviewed surveillance footage which confirmed the event. During the physical altercation, the owner requested someone to call 911. No charges were referred.
- (2) *Event #24031471, 03/11/2024, 20:15 Hours, CRIMINAL MISCELLANEOUS:* Officers responded to the report of a female who refused to leave who was talking about dead bodies and the CIA. Officers located the female who admitted to ingesting methamphetamine. The female was placed o a probation hold. It should be noted this was the same female who was the subject of similar incidents listed in the February tavern report.

## **Lickity Splitz Gentlemen's Club, 1709 Merrill Avenue**

- (1) *Event #24032871, 3/15/2024 01:13 Hours: CRIMINAL MISCELLANEOUS:* Officers responded to the report of a male violating felony bond conditions. As a result, a male was arrested for felony bail jumping.

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## DEMERIT POINTS ASSESSED

No demerit points were assessed during March. See the attached addendum detailing current demerit points.

On March 21, 2024, the Marathon County Health Department mailed letters to all the businesses in Marathon County holding an alcohol license. The letters aim to educate Marathon County license holders about underage drinking in our county and inform them how minimum legal drinking age compliance checks are conducted. The letter explains; underage adults between the ages of 18-20 years old will deploy to businesses to try to purchase alcohol products, such as beer, malt beverage, liquor, or wine. Officers and deputies will be working with these young adults and if a sale occurs, a citation may be issued to the server or clerk and the business may be reported to the local licensing committee. Along with the letter, educational resources were provided on how to check identifications as well as links to additional training resources for businesses to use with their employees.

Respectfully submitted,

Lt. Peter Fish



# Wausau Police Department

515 Grand Ave

Wausau, WI 54403

Ph. 715-261-7800

## ADDENDUM #1 of 1: CURRENT DEMERIT POINTS

TAVERN NAME	VIOLATION	POINTS ASSESSED	DATE
C&B Supermarket	Sale/Serve Underage	25	4/20/2023
Matt's 101 Pub	Sale/Serve Underage	25	4/20/2023
Christine's Bar	Leaving With Open Container	25	5/7/2023
Cop Shoppe Pub	Sale/Serve Underage	25	6/7/2023
Whiskey River Bar & Grill	Open After Hours	25	6/19/2023
Aftershock Bar & Grill	Sale/Serve Underage	25	6/27/2023
Kwik Trip #728 (Kent St)	Sale/Serve Underage	25	6/27/2023
Moua's Callon Street Pub	Sale/Serve Underage	25	6/27/2023
Wagner Shell Gas Station	Sale/Serve Underage	25	6/27/2023
Loppnow's Bar	Sale/Serve Underage	25	8/09/2023
Wausau On Water	No Licensed Bartender	50	8/19/2023
Denmar Tavern	No Licensed Bartender	50	9/19/2023
El Jalapeno's	No Licensed Bartender	50	9/19/2023
M&R Station	Disorderly Conduct W/Firearm	25	9/20/2023

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Patrol Captain

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Detective Captain

Nathan Cihlar  
Administrative Captain

**To:** Public Health and Safety Committee

**From:** Tracy Rieger, Community Outreach Specialist

**Date:** March 18, 2024

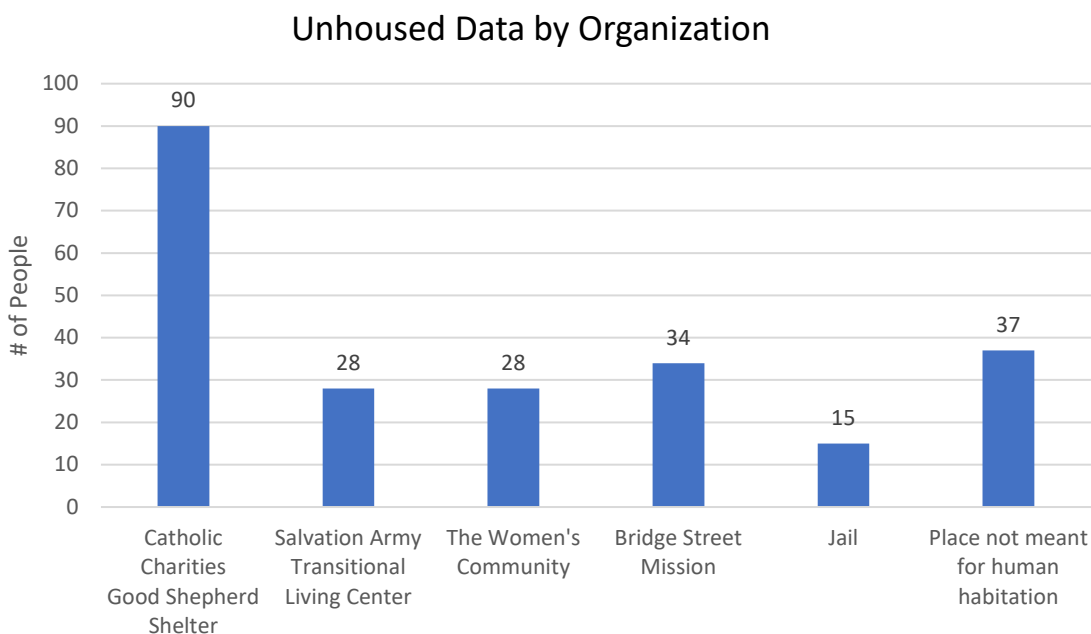
**Re:** Community Outreach Update



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## Unhoused Data

The following graph shows the number of unduplicated<sup>1</sup> persons housed by each organization in the previous month.



## Unhoused Data Summary

In March, data suggests there were approximately 232 unhoused individuals in Wausau. As indicated in the footnote, 232 is not the true number of unhoused. As of today, organizations do not cross-reference names when coming up with their unduplicated count. This means an unhoused individual may be part of more than one organization's count, thereby inflating the true number of unhoused. An example is provided in the footnote. This number also does not include those individuals who are considered "couch surfing".

---

<sup>1</sup> The numbers reflected do not eliminate duplicates across organizations. For example, a person who stays at Catholic Charities and the Salvation Army in the same month will count as 1 person for each organization.



In the graph above, 84 percent of the unhoused sought or received shelter in the month of March, 16 percent of the unhoused were living outside, or in places not meant for human habitation.

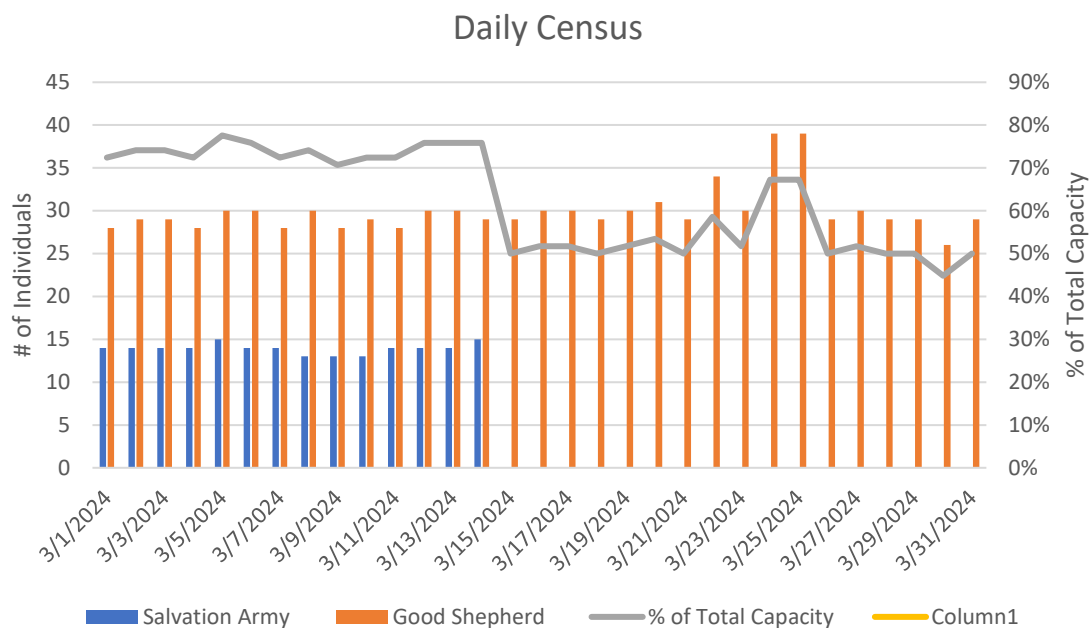
The Women's Community data includes crime victims who sought shelter because their home was unsafe. This number reflects both single females (13) and their children (15).

Bridge Street Mission includes individuals who have received shelter after release from jail/prison, drug rehab, or homelessness. In previous reports, the number reported to this committee only reflected a small number of individuals who sought shelter in preparation for being transitioned into the "apartments" on the main level of the building. The number reflected should include all individuals who are housed at Bridge Street Mission, because without this amazing program in our community, 34 (per this month's census) individuals would likely be unhoused in our community.

The Marathon County Jail includes individuals who identify as "homeless" or "unhoused" at the time of booking.

### Daily Census

We are working hard to collaborate with partner organizations to get a handle on shelter capacity in Wausau. It's important to know if we're meeting or exceeding capacity. The Salvation Army has a capacity of 28 (18 male bunks, 2 family rooms to equal 10 total bunks). Good Shepherd Shelter has a capacity of 30 but can expand to 40 when temperatures fall below 15 degrees or above 90 degrees. In sum, there is shelter space for 58 individuals on a given night between the 2 organizations.



## **Daily Census Summary**

On average, capacity was at 62 percent for the month of March. The Salvation Army did not report shelter data beyond March 14<sup>th</sup> but was not at capacity during the dates submitted. Catholic Charities was at or over their capacity a total of 14 days in the month of March.

Continued collaboration exists to ensure that the unhoused population have access to services.

We continue to work with our partner organizations to learn how many people are turned away each day. In addition to capacity, individuals are turned away for a variety of other reasons. The “turn-away” statistics for the month of February are as follows: Catholic Charities = 146 (all were turned away due to capacity) and Salvation Army = 7.

\*It is important to note that Catholic Charities does reserve beds for individuals that are working. When individuals do not show for their bed saves, it results in the shelter not reaching their 30-bed capacity for the night (as shown in the graphed data)

## **Outreach Update**

In March, outreach resulted in 0 individuals receiving housing. 12 individuals met with Outreach Specialist and were given resources and assistance with housing applications, etc. Year to date, 46 individuals have been assisted into stable housing. 12 of the 46 have re-entered homelessness due to eviction or mediated agreement to vacate the property.

In addition to assisting with housing, we have also provided additional aid like transportation to medical/psychiatric appointments, bus passes, medication management, collaboration with St. Vincent DePaul, Catholic Charities, NCCAP, Social Services, Probation/Parole, and CW Solutions (FSET). Assistance was also provided with obtaining identification, setting individuals up with additional services through the ADRC as well as Community Treatment through NCHC. Case Management is a service provided through both resources.

Collaboration with landlords and other non-profit agencies is on-going. Office hours at agencies throughout the city have proven beneficial in reaching the unhoused population.

## **Challenges and Opportunities**

While we celebrate every time an unhoused individual achieves stable housing, the work does not and cannot end there. Generally, the unhoused population is vulnerable. Without someone providing ongoing support, management, intervention, accountability, and aid, the chances of remaining housed wane dramatically. In other words, our work can and will be undone in short order without systems to sustain the work. Thankfully, there are systems in place, but there are also gaps. Where gaps in case management exist, we are filling that void. We recognize, however, that our time and resources are limited in this regard. As a result, we are working to improve our understanding and relationship with existing systems while also exploring solutions that not only bridge the gap to housing, but to the essential supports that will make housing permanent.

## **Housing Update**

As important as it is to report the numerous successes, it is equally important to report the failures. As individuals are placed into housing, a significant amount of time is spent connecting them to additional resources to ensure their success. Of the 46 individuals housed, only 9 have taken advantage of those offerings, which include: Case management through North Central Health Care as well as Inlusa or Lakeland (Managed care services) through the ADRC. Of those 9, 4 have successfully engaged in those services and are thriving. The remaining 5 are at risk of losing their housing within the next month. As per my earlier report, of the 46 housed, a total of 12, to date, have gone through the eviction process or the mediation process through the courts and are no longer housed. Overall, this is about a 74% success rate and although this is a positive number and has made a positive impact on our unhoused population, it is proving to not be the most effective strategy.

Housing these individuals would not have been possible without the close partnership with Schultz Property Management. They have worked compassionately and tirelessly to provide the unhoused with hope and to give them a second chance. It is disheartening and disappointing to learn that they are no longer able to take the risks associated with housing these individuals and are not able to continue to endure the negative financial impacts this has had on their business.

The stark reality of the situation is that housing individuals without intense wrap around services is proving to be ineffective. Although I understand there is not a viable solution to “fix” this issue, it truly is contributing to the number of unhoused back into our community.