

# LONGFELLOW NEIGHBORHOOD

# February



Happy Valentine's Day

WELCOME TO OUR NEIGHBORHOOD!  
February, 2023

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

Wausau Police Department Community Room, 6:30 PM

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### Agenda

- Welcome remarks from Longfellow Neighborhood President – Brooke Mueller
- Wausau Police Department – Briefing Sheet (with Q & A)
- Wausau District 2 Alderperson – Michael Martens (with Q & A)
- Marathon County District 2 Supervisor – Ann Lemmer (with Q & A)
- Guest Speaker – No guest speaker scheduled

### Dates to Remember

- January 28: Winter Fest – 11:00 AM – 1:00 PM; downtown Wausau
- February 2: **Happy Groundhog Day**
- February 6: **Longfellow Neighborhood Meeting**
- February 14: **Happy Valentine's Day**
- February 20: **President's Day**
- February 21: Primary Election – Justice of the (State) Supreme Court

*Wausau Winter Market – Saturdays, 8:00 AM – Noon, Whitewater Music Hall*  
*Marathon County Historical Society History Chats – Thursdays at 12:30 PM; livestreamed on Facebook and YouTube*

### Minutes from the January 2, 2023 Meeting

Officer Shawn Meyer discussed several topics in the absence of a Briefing Sheet.

- There have been 3 Department retirements with more scheduled. Currently, 6 new recruits are participating in the 16 week 4-phase field training program; with 2-3 more new hires expected in the next few months. Trainees have 20 shifts (4 hours per shift) in phases 1-3 and 5-6 shifts in phase 4; each phase is led by a different officer. During the next 3-4 months, residents will see 2 officers in each squad car. Recruits are required to complete 60 credits in the police academy and come from a variety of backgrounds.
- A question was asked regarding how what shift an officer works is determined. Officer Meyer shared that shift choice is based on seniority.

Ann is serving on the Finance and Property (F&P) and Human Resources (HR) committees.

- The F&P Committee will review potential funding from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), opioid and the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) sources. They will also be looking at tax delinquent properties, office consolidations and divesting of unneeded buildings to reduce overall costs.
- The HR Committee will review how to broaden cultural competencies as well as Health Department priorities (mental health, substance use and abuse (nicotine and alcohol) and health disparities).

Michael had just a few items for us this month.

- The new water treatment plant is fully functioning with PFAS levels in City drinking water at almost undetectable levels using a temporary ion filtering process; the filter must be replaced

periodically at a cost of about \$800,000 each time. A permanent solution uses a granulated activated carbon (GAC) system; the City is looking at grants and subsidies to help reduce the cost for taxpayers and utility users.

- Wausau has hired a new Human Resources Director.
- Wausau also has approximately 6 new firefighters coming on-board.

Tammy Stratz, Community Development Manager, spoke about Workcamps and the COPs house.

- Workcamps is a one-week program offering free home repairs (July 23-29) using high school students supervised by adults. They hope to complete 30-40 houses during their week in Wausau including porch repair/construction, step repair, exterior and interior painting, weatherization, wheelchair ramp repair/construction, mobile home skirting, minor roofing (no full replacement), and fencing. Eligible homes must be located in the City of Wausau and owner-occupied. Applications must be submitted in spring 2023 and can be found online at: [www.wausaudevelopment.com/GroupWorkcamps.aspx](http://www.wausaudevelopment.com/GroupWorkcamps.aspx); a copy of the application is attached.
- The City received a grant to plan for a Community Oriented Policing (COP's) house. It can either be an existing house (remodeled as needed) or built on a vacant lot; a location on Jefferson Street is being considered. An officer would work out of the house and the building could function as a safe space in the neighborhood (especially for children). Final approval of the project must go through the City Council.

### **Our next meeting is scheduled for Monday, February 6, 2023**

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

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

#### Michael Martens, Wausau District 2 Alderperson

As you've most likely heard by now, Wausau's water has tested as PFAS free. This is great news and the result of our new water treatment plant going online. But there have been some questions that persist.

- What should I do with the water pitchers if I don't need them? The pitchers are yours to keep. You are free to continue using the pitchers if you wish, although they are no longer necessary for individual household PFAS removal.
- I used the tester that came with my water pitcher and it is still reading above zero. Why is that? The testers only measure dissolved material in the water and cannot test for PFAS. That can only be done in a lab. The indicator is measuring trace minerals that are naturally found in our water supply. The tester is just an indicator that the filter pitcher is working.
- What is happening next with the water treatment plant? The City will be improving the treatment process by adding a granulated activated carbon (GAC) filter. The current treatment process is expensive and not a good long-term solution. Adding the GAC filter is a long-term sustainable process for PFAS removal.

#### Ann Lemmer, Marathon County District 2 County Supervisor

Since February is the month of love, I will focus on one of my loves, reading. And we have a wonderful place to go if you are like me--our Marathon County Public Library. There are eight branches along with the main building in Wausau, which translates to hundreds of thousands of choices. If you are NOT a reading fan, fear not--there are hundreds of other reasons to love our library. If ancestry is your love, there is an Ancestry Library. If you have a love/hate relationship with your electronic device, there is technology assistance. If you are looking for a new job to love, they have a Job Connection and Job-related proofreading. You can get tax forms there, assistance with research, and even official docs notarized--for FREE! What's not to love about that? Folks, this is the tip of the iceberg in what the library has to offer. Stop in for a tour, (if you are homebound, they can come to YOU!) or hop over to their website to view other services, resources, and events. There is literally something for everyone! <https://mcpl.us/>.

Neighborhood/Community Businesses

Acro Plumbing	904 Sumner Street	715-842-9425
Bull Falls Brewery	901 East Thomas	715-842-2337
Cveykus Law Office	301 Grand Avenue	715-842-5205
Distinctive Treasures (seasonal)	701 Prospect Avenue	715-842-7739
Forward Electronics	115 Prospect Avenue	715-845-4355
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
Meverden Chiropractic	215 Grand Avenue	715-848-4088
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
Subway	601 Forest Street	715-848-1930
Townline Market	916 Townline Road	715-842-5201
True North Counseling & Wellness	207 Grand Avenue	715-370-8863

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**NEED TO KNOW NUMBERS**

**LONGFELLOW NEIGHBORHOOD PRESIDENT:**

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

**NEIGHBORHOOD ALDERPERSON:**

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

**WAUSAU MAYOR:**

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

**MARATHON COUNTY DISTRICT 2 SUPERVISOR:**

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

**SECRETARY/NEWSLETTER EDITOR:**

JOY FOYE 715-842-9197

**POLICE DEPARTMENT:**

NON-EMERGENCIES 715-261-7800

**NEIGHBORHOOD LIAISONS:**

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

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

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

**ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER:**

ASHLEE BISHOP (ashlee.bishop@ci.wausau.wi.us) 715-261-7842

**COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT:**

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

**INSPECTIONS DEPARTMENT:**

Uncut grass 715-261-6780

**ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT:**

Unshoveled sidewalks 715-261-6740

**STREET CONSTRUCTION & MAINTENANCE:**

Missed by snow plows 715-261-6960

**FIRE MARSHALS OFFICE:**

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

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