

LONGFELLOW NEIGHBORHOOD



WELCOME TO OUR NEIGHBORHOOD!
October, 2023

Our next meeting is Monday, October 2, 2023

Wausau Police Department Community Room, 6:30 PM

Agenda

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

Dates to Remember

- September 25: Leaf Pick-up, Phase I begins; (see Michael’s article for more information)
- October 2: **Longfellow Neighborhood Meeting**
- October 7: Harvest Fest; 11:00 AM – 1:00 PM; 400 Block; multiple events for children
- October 9: **Columbus/Indigenous People’s Day**
- October 30: Leaf Pick-up, Phase II begins; (see Michael’s article for more information)
- October 31: **Happy Halloween**; 4:00 PM – 7:00 PM

Wausau Farmers Market – Wednesdays and Saturdays, 200 River Drive; 7:00 AM – Sold Out
Marathon County Historical Society History Chats – Thursdays, 12:30 PM; livestream on Facebook and YouTube

Minutes from the September 11, 2023 Meeting

Michael had several items for the group:

- There is a City Council meeting scheduled for tomorrow (9/12).
- Michael gave a status update on the former Wausau Center Mall property. The developer requested an extension for the start date to June, 2024 (about 9 months). An amendment to extend the start date was not passed at the meeting where it was proposed. Additional information from the developer regarding who is responsible for additional expenses caused by the delay will be discussed at a future meeting (possibly on 9/26). Numerous infrastructure changes/updates are occurring (including one-way street changes).
- Some changes to support for the unhoused in Wausau was discussed. The Open Door lost their Executive Director so they were unable to fulfill their duties with assisting the unhoused. As a result, their funding has been reallocated for another group to use to provide that service.
- Bull Falls remains in business; they will be holding an Octoberfest celebration.
- The City is looking at potential properties for the new Central Fire Station, including the old Wausau Floral location. Responding to a resident’s question, Michael said the Police Department could make use of the space the Fire Department now occupies.

Ann had the following items for the group:

- The County is still in the budget process.
- Ann also brought up a question that arose at a recent County Committee meeting. It regarded the behavior of a resident who spoke during a public comments portion of that meeting and at several community events (including the Festival of the Arts). As a result, a discussion regarding hate speech and Constitutional rights will be held on Monday, September 18, 2023

at the Center for Civic Engagement (at UW-Stevens Point at Wausau). Emily Davies (Investigative Reporter at WSAW, Channel 7) will moderate a panel discussion with participants including Attorney General Josh Kaul and Mayor Katie Rosenberg. Mayor Rosenberg, the Wisconsin Attorney General's office, the Wausau Police Department, the Anti-Defamation League, Mount Sinai, the Jewish Community Relations Council, and the Wisconsin Institute for Public Policy and Service are expected to have panelists at the meeting.

There were several questions from residents:

- A question was asked about the status of the Thomas Street/Grand Avenue Apartments. Michael shared that the developer is working on State tax credits (they didn't receive the credits in 2023 but are hopeful for 2024).
- A question was asked about which streets downtown are being changed from 1-way to 2-way.
- If you are having problems with skunks, you will need to contact a wild animal removal professional since the Humane Officer cannot do anything about "wild" animals. You can decrease the possibility of skunks on your property by not having trash out.

There was no report from the Wausau Police Department.

Our next meeting is scheduled for Monday, October 2, 2023

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

Hi everyone! Our next meeting will be on Monday October 2 at 6:30pm in the Community Room at the Wausau PD. As always, you can reach out to me with questions, issues, concerns, or recommendations for upcoming meeting topics at longfellowN2N@gmail.com. See you at the meeting!

Michael Martens, Wausau District 2 Alderperson

The leaves are turning color and there is a chill in the air, fall is definitely here. That also means it's leaf collection time. Fall leaf pickup is an important part of keeping our waterways clean as less organic material makes its way into the river. The city will be doing a two phase leaf pickup. The first phase, which starts the week of September 25 for the Longfellow neighborhood, involves the vacuum truck removing leaves from the boulevard and curb. If you want the vacuum truck to pick up your leaves, please rake the, to the cub but not into the street.

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

Ann Lemmer, Marathon County District 2 County Supervisor

It's budget season and as you know, the county government plays an important role in everyday life. How we use resources to run the organization plays a key role in local democracy. It's a complicated process, but has opportunities for citizen action. The budget has two parts: operating and capital. The operating budget funds ongoing expenses like staff, contractual costs, and ongoing department activities. Some examples are Marathon County Social Services Department, the Health Department, the Sheriff's Office, the Marathon County Public Library, or the Marathon County Parks, Recreation, and Forestry Department. The services they provide help us be the healthiest, safest, and most prosperous county in the state. The capital budget generally includes one-time costs like equipment, building, and improvements to properties. Both budgets are funded by property taxes, sales tax, grants, fees and revenues for services the County provides to local governments.

A general timeline of the process begins each spring when the county administrator and staff distribute budget guidelines to departments who prepare budget requests for the next calendar year. At the same time, standing committees consider any program modifications for the upcoming year. As the budget priorities are adopted, they are passed to departments along with

any modification recommendations. Most of the work has been done by department heads and staff to develop the budget requests, and when those are complete, the Administrator will develop the budget draft.

At the time of this writing, the plan is, the draft will be presented to the Human Resources, Finance, and Property (HRFP) and Full County Board on September 26. Amendments will be accepted and the HRFP will have its final review & recommendations in October. The Full Board will take another look at it on October 11, and then there will be a Public Hearing on November 2. Any changes will need to be finalized by November 9, when the County Board adopts it.

There are several ways you can get involved. First, learn about the process. Then, view the proposed budget online at marathoncounty.gov when it is published. Before that, attend an HRFP committee meeting (Oct. 11 or 24 @ 3 PM) or contact me or another member of the committee by phone or email with your questions, thoughts, or suggestions. You can also attend and speak at the Public Hearing on the budget on November 3 @ 7 PM. Democracy is not a spectator sport. I hope you will follow along and let your thoughts be known.

NEIGHBORHOOD/COMMUNITY BUSINESSES

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

NEED TO KNOW NUMBERS

LONGFELLOW NEIGHBORHOOD PRESIDENT:

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

NEIGHBORHOOD ALDERPERSON:

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

WAUSAU MAYOR:

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

MARATHON COUNTY DISTRICT 2 SUPERVISOR:

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

SECRETARY/NEWSLETTER EDITOR:

JOY FOYE 715-842-9197

POLICE DEPARTMENT:

NON-EMERGENCIES 715-261-7800

NEIGHBORHOOD LIAISONS:

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

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

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

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT:

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

INSPECTIONS DEPARTMENT:

Uncut grass 715-261-6780

ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT:

Unshoveled sidewalks 715-261-6740

NEED TO KNOW NUMBERS (continued)

STREET CONSTRUCTION & MAINTENANCE:

Missed by snow plows

715-261-6960

FIRE MARSHALS OFFICE:

BRIAN STAHL (brian.stahl@ci.wausau.wi.us)

715-261-7900

