

THE WIRE



VOLUME 7, ISSUE 1 • JANUARY / FEBRUARY / MARCH 2020

IN THIS ISSUE

- 2 From the President
- 3 Administrator's Update
- 5 Christmas Tree Pick-Up
- 6 Driveway Snow Removal Tip
- 8 Election News
- 11 2020 Parks Information



*Happy
New Year!*

The Wire newsletter is distributed every 3 months.

FROM YOUR PRESIDENT

By Wally Sparks, Village President



On November 6, 2019, the Village of Weston hosted a meeting with representatives from other local communities to discuss consolidation and cooperative efforts. The communities represented were Weston, Schofield, Rothschild, Kronenwetter, Rib Mountain, Wausau, Town of Weston and the Town of Mosinee. This initial meeting was to have an open discussion on shared services to determine if there were areas of service where we could work together to maintain service levels with ever decreasing revenues that have been capped and/or reduced from the State. The ultimate goal being the reduction of costs through economies of scale along with shared capital equipment and facilities to avoid duplication of services and specialized equipment. The basic purpose of local government is to provide services to our taxpayers and that should be done through cooperation, not competition. We were able to identify some areas to explore at this first meeting and we will be having another meeting, early in 2020, to continue these discussions, and we are hopeful that these efforts will eventually bear fruit and enhance our services to the greater metro area.

We made some major strides in our planning and zoning codes and procedures in 2019 through continued conversations with our business community and residents. We have made changes to our zoning code and started to rebuild our trust with businesses and residents and we are seeing significant interest from developers wishing to work in Weston. We recently completed a housing study (that was mandated by the State for communities over 10,000 population), which is available on our website. The findings show that the Village of Weston lacks both affordable housing options along with current lack of rental options, as vacancy rates in Weston are near zero. We have also been hearing from our local business owners that they cannot find affordable housing for their employees. The study also showed that the Village of Weston will have the largest growth in Marathon County for the next few decades. With that in mind, the village will be taking steps to update our comprehensive plan to address these issues.

In the past couple of years, there has been some considerable change on the Board of Trustees and on many of our committees / commissions. I believe that new faces and new ideas are a good thing and that has resulted in many positive changes for the village. I believe the current Board is more engaged; is seeking more information from staff; and is questioning and sometimes challenging what has been the status quo for many years. We have had some great meetings with residents regarding issues like our TIF financing, which has led to further educating Board members, community members and staff as we seek to understand why some past decisions were made and avoid making some of the same mistakes of the past. Unfortunately, I think that too many decisions were just rubber stamped by previous Boards with some members not engaged enough to set the appropriate direction and establish priorities based on our taxpayers. I believe it is incumbent upon the board to have a "trust, but verify" mindset and to fully vet decisions to make sure we are properly representing the majority of our residents.

On that note, the Board of Trustees recently completed Administrator Donner's performance evaluation and one thing that really stood out from the trustees was the honesty and integrity that Administrator Donner has. The position has been a learning curve for Keith as he took over in mid-2018, but he has adjusted well and his hard work coupled with his humble demeanor has earned him the respect of the Board, staff and community. It is often challenging to decipher the collective thoughts and directions from a group of seven elected officials, but he has done a very commendable job with that. Having an administrator with his level of honesty and integrity allows the board to make informed and accurate decisions. But, even with that, it is still incumbent on the Board to always trust, but verify, because we are accountable to you, our residents and taxpayers.

As we look forward to 2020, I would encourage you to become more involved in local government this year. It can be as simple as attending some meetings or perusing through meeting agendas and minutes to educate yourself on how local government operates. If you have more time, please consider applying for a committee or commission vacancy or go "all in" and run for an elected position. I believe that serving in local government for a short time is a great community service. If you have any questions on anything, please feel free to reach out to me or any of the other Board members and we will do our best to answer your questions or address your concerns.

I wish you all a very Blessed and Prosperous New Year!

Wally Sparks – Village President

UPDATE FROM YOUR ADMINISTRATOR

By Keith Donner, Administrator



The Administrator's office has been rather quiet over the past year and a half. This has been due to understanding my new role, the Village's challenges, needs, and opportunities. Here are some of my perspectives for the coming year – and beyond:

VILLAGE LEADERSHIP

In May 2018, 3 new members were elected to the Board of Trustees – Wally Sparks, Mark Maloney, and Yee Leng Xiong. I began serving as interim Administrator in July 2018 and continued until being appointed full-time in February 2019. In May 2019, another new member was elected to the Board of Trustees – Nate Fiene – along with the election of our new and current President, Wally Sparks. Former President Barb Ermeling was elected to a Trustee position. This change in the makeup of our Board also extended to committee assignments. These changes emphasize the need to be prepared to provide information to our new board members and our taxpayers about issues facing the Village.

STAFFING

With, yours truly, the former Director of Public Works & Utilities, moving into the Administrator role, Michael Wodalski, Deputy Director of Public Works was promoted to the Director of Public Works role in March 2019. This promotion was one of 6 which occurred in 2019 due to the re-shuffling of the Department of Public Works and the departure of 2 other employees. These promotions also led to our filling of 4 openings for new employees. One full-time position was eliminated with duties added to an existing position. Two new positions were filled in 2019 as well

– Utility Superintendent (a position which had been unfilled since 2007) and Economic Development Coordinator (a position recommended through a Planning & Development Department audit in 2018).

We are noting difficulty in recruiting qualified applicants for our positions across the board. The number of applicants are down. We are finding the labor climate to be very much a “sellers” market and it seems there is pressure to increase compensation due to the competition for talent. This situation seems to be true not only for local governments but, also for private sector employers throughout the area. With current tax levy restrictions for operational needs, it will be increasingly challenging to recruit and retain the staff needed to maintain service levels for those activities funded by the general tax levy; e.g., Public Safety, Street Maintenance, Snow Plowing, Parks; without realizing significant new growth.

WHAT LIES AHEAD

COMPREHENSIVE PLAN UPDATE

There has been an extended lull in activity by the Village in many respects for the past 10 years, primarily due to economic conditions. With the recent leadership and staffing changes it is important for the Village to revisit its Comprehensive Plan which was originally adopted in 2016. Interest in development seems to be picking up so, it is important for staff, elected officials, and our citizens to be involved in setting the direction for the Village's future.

The issues which are most important to the Village's future and quality of life should be represented in the Comprehensive Plan. It becomes evident that many of the topics are inter-related. Public infrastructure is necessary for public health, public safety, a healthy economy, etc.,

making it desirable to live in places where all these elements are taken care of. Zoning codes and site plan standards provide for orderly development and protection of property values.

REDEVELOPMENT PLANS

Among items included in the Comprehensive Plan are specific plans providing a vision and direction on redevelopment of County Road X (Camp Phillips Road) and Schofield Avenue. The latter is still in draft form however, both plans have similarities in that there are opportunities to combine existing smaller properties to redevelop as mixed commercial and residential uses, creating more opportunities for people to live, work, and enjoy leisure activities in a more compact area. With the Schofield Avenue Corridor, west of Birch Street, being within the Village's Tax Increment District (TID) #2, and County Road X from Weston Avenue to Schofield Avenue being within TID #1, Tax Incremental Financing becomes a tool for the Village to partner with developers to facilitate redevelopment in these corridors for the next 6 years.

TAX INCREMENT DISTRICTS

TID#1 has received some recent interest from residents due to the special legislation adopted by the State Legislature in 2015. The Village sought the special legislation because between 2009 and 2012 the equalized value of property in TID#1 and the tax increment available for debt repayment dropped by 12% and 13% respectively. The special legislation allowed the Village to extend the life of TID#1 through 2031 thereby allowing the existing debt to be refinanced through 2031 as well. Without the special legislation, it would have been necessary to repay the debt in TID#1 through the general tax roll.

Along with the time extension, the Village also adopted an amended TID#1 project plan and added the County X Redevelopment area in 2018. The project plan does not commit the Village to undertake any of the projects identified but, by including projects they become eligible for future consideration to use tax incremental financing. Projects included in the plan include Camp Phillips Centre, County Road X corridor improvements, and Weston Avenue corridor improvements.

CAMP PHILLIPS CENTRE

With respect to Camp Phillips Centre there has been no news to report while the project remains in a state of review for wetlands disturbance permits, from the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps). The DNR has required the project to be constructed in phases, rather than as a comprehensive development on the entire 140 or so acres. An additional hang-up is the DNR's requirement for written commitments with the eventual site occupants to build. Identity of the site occupants is something that has not been revealed to anyone aside from the developer, Forward Development Group. The latest twist was the DNR indicating they would accept a development agreement between the Village and Forward Development Group to partially satisfy the commitment and allow the permit application to be declared, complete. The Village and Forward Development Group have just begun to discuss how a development agreement can even be drafted with many unknowns yet. It would seem there should be consideration for the location of the property at an interchange with a state highway and county highway and other existing public infrastructure. We hope to be able to reach a conclusion about the project early in 2020.

WESTON AVENUE CORRIDOR

While the Camp Phillips Centre project waits, the Village plans to perform a corridor study for Weston Avenue. This corridor has potential for development but, rather than be reactive, it would be wise to determine proper right-of-way width, provide for orderly street access, and utility service.

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS

As you may imagine, the Village Comprehensive Plan attempts to identify priorities in all areas of the Village's services – Parks, Utilities, Transportation, Public Safety, etc. Related to all these services, the Village has not formally adopted a Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) since 2011. The CIP has been drafted and discussions have been taking place in the Park and Public Works Committees. Currently projects are being prioritized. A few things to point out with respect to capital project needs in the Village:

- The Village has deferred capital projects for several years and needs are becoming more apparent.
- Deferring projects does not make them go away, it just kicks the solutions down the road.
- We need to replace and improve our public infrastructure for the overall quality of life in the Village.
- The Village has the financial capacity to take on debt for public projects but, we cannot expect that costs will not increase over time.

Some of the projects included in the CIP include:

- Upgrades to the Aquatic Center equipment and structures
- Manganese removal for the water utility at Well 5 and Well 1
- Well Number 7
- A 2nd water and sewer main crossing of the Eau Claire River

from Ryan Street

- Street reconstructions in neighborhoods such as the Weston Elementary School Addition, and Crestwood Acres
- Replacement of the municipal facility

HOUSING NEEDS

A current challenge referenced earlier is attracting workers to our area. All employers in our area need to attract workers to fill available jobs. To accomplish this there needs to be affordable housing and activities for people to do outside of work. The Village just completed a Housing Affordability Study which discusses the need for more multi-family options and mid-range priced housing. Our comprehensive plan needs to be amended to include the concepts included in this study.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL COOPERATION

Weston is in position to help provide the area's housing needs and we are willing to examine our zoning code and development policies to facilitate development. Here again, is an area where there are inter-relationships in Weston and with all our neighbors – we share similar challenges and goals. By being more like each other, we eliminate undesirable competition and the risk of cannibalizing each other. Intergovernmental partnerships are another element of our Comprehensive Plan and we continue to explore areas where we can partner on service delivery to use resources more effectively. As we consider replacing our municipal facility, we have approached other local governments as to their interest in sharing parts of a new facility. There are other areas of interest including sharing technology services capability, salt storage, utility service inter-relationships, even providing health insurance for our work force. We plan to continue to work with our neighbors and business partners to make Weston a desirable place to live, work, and play.

REFUSE & RECYCLING

You should have received your 2020 Refuse & Recycling Guide, which we ask that you keep as a reference for the entire 2020 year. However, if you do accidentally “recycle” your guidebook, you can contact us to have a new copy sent, or better yet, you can find an electronic version on our website: www.westonwi.gov/RefuseRecycling-Guidelines.

By Valerie Parker, Planning Technician



CHRISTMAS TREE PICK-UP

Advanced Disposal will be picking up Christmas trees that are set out for disposal during the month of January. **Trees should be cut so that they are no more than 4 feet in length and placed on their side within reasonable reach of Advanced Disposal’s driver.** Trees will be collected on your regular garbage pick-up day. We encourage residents to get their trees out for collection within the first few weeks of January to guarantee that they will be picked up.

NOTE: When drivers collect trees, they will use your emptied garbage cart as a tool to load your tree into the truck. First, your garbage cart will be emptied. Then, the driver will get out of the truck and place the pieces of your tree into your empty cart. Next, the driver will lift your cart using the truck’s mechanical arm to empty the tree from your cart into the top of the truck. Thus, **if you do not place your garbage cart out, your tree CANNOT get collected.** (This is often why trees may not get picked up the first week or two that they are placed out.)

If you do not want to wait for Advanced Disposal’s driver to pick up your tree, you can:

- Deliver your tree directly to Advanced Disposal during their office hours (only during the month of January)
- Deliver your tree directly to Marathon County Solid Waste during their office hours (year-round)



LET’S MAKE RECYCLING MORE SUCCESSFUL BY “RECYCLING RIGHT”!

NEVER EVER place the following in your recycling cart:

- Garbage
- Plastic bags or film
- Grease-soaked or soiled paper products
- Large plastic items
- Batteries, light bulbs, or waste oil
- Household hazardous waste

ALWAYS check the Village’s Refuse & Recycling Guide for a list of items required to be recycled (available at: www.westonwi.gov/RefuseRecycling-Guidelines).

IF IN DOUBT: Call the Marathon County Solid Waste & Recycling Information Line: 877-270-3989, Advanced Disposal Services: 715-359-6637, or the Village of Weston 715-359-6114.

REMINDER: The yard-waste site is located at 8200 Ryan Street, Weston, or you can contact Advanced Disposal for a dedicated yard-waste recycling cart (at a cost).

CORRECTION TO 2020 RECYCLING CALENDAR

Following the publication of the 2020 Refuse/ Recycling Newsletter, which you would have received in the mail around the 2nd week of January, it was noticed there was an error on the Recycling Calendar (June and November recycling weeks).

We have inserted a corrected 2020 Recycling Calendar within this newsletter.

Thank you for your attention, and we apologize for any inconvenience this may cause.

PUBLIC WORKS & UTILITIES

By Michael Wodalski, Director of Public Works & Utilities AND Dan Raczkowski, Deputy Director of Public Works & Utilities



SNOW FILLING UP THE END OF YOUR DRIVEWAY

One frequent complaint the Village receives is about the amount of snow that gets left at the end of the driveway after the street is plowed. This happens for several reasons:

- The plows on the trucks are angled to clear snow from left to right in order to not plow snow into oncoming traffic. This makes it as efficient as possible to drive up and down the road without leaving a trail of snow along the centerline of the road.
- Due to the design of plowing snow to the right, plow drivers cannot avoid plowing snow into the end of driveways.
- As winter continues and snowbanks build up along the road edge, snowplows tend to catch some of this snowbank as they travel along the road in addition to the snow from the street. When there is an opening in the snowbank, typically at driveway openings, this snow will fill up the end of the driveway.

STREET PRIORITIES

The Village is broken up between major roads and local roads primarily. The goal is to have the major roads passable. This means neighborhood streets may get snow covered and packed down before a plow is able to get to them. The plow routes are designed such that residents should only be about 2 streets away from a well cleared major road. Neighborhood streets are typically only salted at intersections and on hills and curves.

SALT VS. SAND/SALT

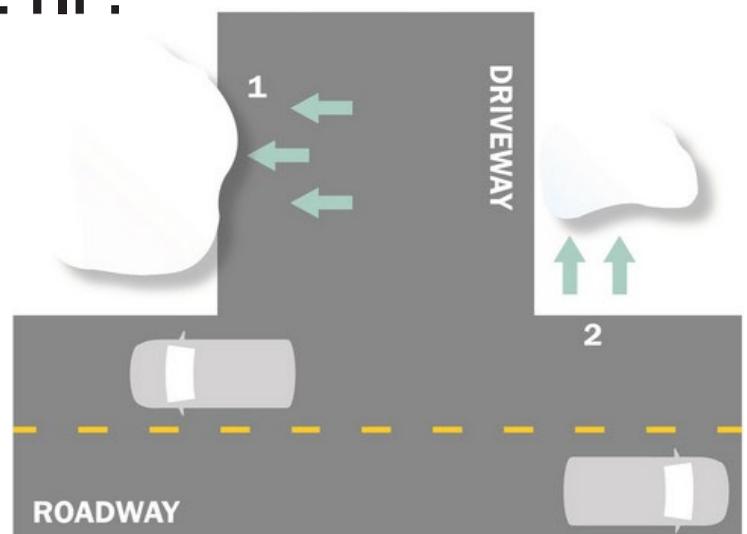
Air temperature, pavement temperature, snow moisture content, humidity, wind and other factors all determine what techniques are necessary to keep streets open and safe for travel

- **SALT** - Salt is most effective for melting snow when pavement temperatures are around 20° F or above.
- **SAND/SALT** - At colder temperatures, sand/salt is spread over the snow and ice-covered roads to provide better traction for vehicles. Areas with significant snow and ice buildup can only be effectively cleared after temperatures warm back up.

DRIVEWAY SNOW REMOVAL TIP:

To help reduce the amount of snow that ends up at the end of your driveway, property owners can:

- Clear out a section of the road to the right of your driveway when facing the house (Upstream). When the plow comes by (going Downstream) the snow will dump in this clear area, reducing the amount left in your driveway.
- Additionally, try to shovel and stack snow on the left side (Downstream) of your driveway when facing the house as this will reduce the chances of the plow hitting the snow bank and pushing more snow into the end of your driveway.



SNOW AND ICE REMINDERS

Village staff receives numerous calls regarding snow and ice response and staff also makes observations while they're out on the road. Below are a few of the most frequent observations and questions staff receives.

Most importantly, please remember when pavement is snow covered to Slow Down and give yourself extra time to reach your destination safely.

- Keep A 200 FT Gap Between You and Snowplows.** Snowplows will **frequently stop and back up** to clear intersections. When following a plow make sure to give them plenty of room at intersections. If you can no longer see the plow truck's mirrors, remember they can no longer see YOU!
- Never pass a snow plow on the right.** The Village has several streets that are plowed in a series working from the left lane(s) into the right lane. If you try to pass a snow plow on the right side, you will quickly be blinded by the snow spray on your windshield, assuming the extra snow from the plow hasn't prevented you from passing to begin with. For everyone's safety, **never pass a snow plow on the right side.**
- Keep snow on your property.** When clearing sidewalks and your driveway, remember that it is against Village Ordinance and State Law to blow, plow or shovel snow onto or across public roadways. After your street has been plowed it may be several days before any more plowing occurs due to another snowfall or to clean up the roadway. If snow is deposited back onto the roadway, it can create dangerous conditions – especially near intersections – by reducing vision for drivers and creating windrows of snow/ice on the pavement.
- Garbage and Recycling Container Placement:** Please keep all garbage and recycling containers out of the roadway (**place container in driveway at least 3' behind the curb or back edge of street**). Many Village streets are narrow, and the plows are not able to maneuver around containers in the road if there is oncoming traffic. This results in containers being hit by the snow coming off the plow or being hit by the plow itself. The driver's do their best to miss them, but in some cases, it is impossible. If drivers are forced to plow around the carts, the drivable path tends to shrink as the roadway doesn't get cleared to its full width.

WATER RATE UPDATE

On August 14, 2018, the Public Service Commission (PSC) issued its rate order for the Weston water utility to increase water rates in a two-step process. The Step I increase went into effect on September 1, 2018. The Step II rate increase will go into on January 16, 2020 to match the beginning of the billing cycle. The typical residential customer who uses between 12,000 and 17,500 gallons will notice an increase of \$3.10 on their quarterly water bill.

The WATER rate increase was highlighted throughout 2018 in the January/February, July/August, and September/October issues of the "Weston Wire" which can be found at: www.westonwi.gov/Newsletters. The Village's docket number with the Public Service Commission is 6420-WR-103 (www.westonwi.gov/6420-WR-103) where you can learn more about the rate implementation process with the PSC. Additional information is also available on the Village's website at www.westonwi.gov/UtilityRates.

Village of Weston Water Utility				
Current and Step II Quarterly Water Rates				
Public Service Commission of Wisconsin Rate				
Docket 6420-WR-103				
Step II Rates will go into effect on January, 16, 2020				
METER BASE RATES (ALL USER CLASSIFICATIONS)			ADDITIONAL METER BASE RATES (ALL USER CLASSIFICATIONS)	
Meter Size	Water Base Rate		Water Base Rate	
	Current	Step II Increase	Current	Step II Increase
5/8" or 3/4"	21.00	24.00	10.50	12.00
1"	31.50	33.75	15.75	16.88
1 1/2"	69.00	75.00	34.50	37.50
2"	105.00	111.00	52.50	55.50
3"	192.00	204.00	96.00	102.00
4"	315.00	333.00	157.50	166.50
6"	648.00	684.00		
Residential Water Volume Charges				
			ALL RATES PER 1,000 GALLONS	
			Current	Step II Increase
First 10,000 gallons used per quarter			2.45	2.46
Next 20,000 gallons used per quarter			3.20	3.20
Over 30,000 gallons used per quarter			3.90	3.90
Non-Residential and Multi-Family Water Volume Charges				
			ALL RATES PER 1,000 GALLONS	
			Current	Step II Increase
First 30,000 gallons used per quarter			2.45	2.60
Next 470,000 gallons used per quarter			2.40	2.45
Next 500,000 gallons used per quarter			1.95	2.35
Over 1,000,000 gallons used per quarter			1.45	1.46

ELECTION NEWS

ATTENTION VOTERS!

By Sherry Weinkauf, Clerk



ABSENTEE VOTING

Any voter who prefers to vote by absentee ballot may request one by mail, email, or fax. Please visit www.gab.wi.gov/voters/absentee for more information.

ABSENTEE VOTING HOURS FOR THE FEB. 18 SPRING PRIMARY ELECTION

Monday, February 3 – Friday, February 14

(M – F, 8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.; Friday, Feb. 14 open until 5:00 p.m.)

VOTER REGISTRATION

Voter registration is required in Wisconsin. How do I register?

- **Online** during open registration (20 days or more prior to an election) at <https://myvote.wi.gov>. Must have a current and valid Wisconsin Driver License or Wisconsin State ID card.
- **By mail** during open registration (20 days or more prior to an election).
- **In the Clerk's office** (up until the Friday before the election by 5:00 p.m.).
- **In person** at your voting location (on Election Day).

You **MUST** provide **proof of residency** when registering to vote by mail, in the Clerk's office, or at your voting location. To see which documents are acceptable for proof of residency, please visit <https://elections.wi.gov/publications/voter-guides/proof-of-residence>.

WHERE DO I VOTE ON ELECTION DAY?

The Village has four voting locations. To be sure you go to the correct location on Election Day, please visit www.myvote.wi.gov and click on the "Where do I vote?" link.



2020 Election Dates

Spring Primary Election
Tuesday, February 18

Spring Election & Presidential Preference Primary
Tuesday, April 7

Special Election for Representative in Congress District 7
Tuesday, May 12

Partisan Primary Election
Tuesday, August 11

General Election
Tuesday, November 3

OFFICES TO BE ELECTED AT THE APRIL 7 SPRING ELECTION

- ✓ **Presidential Preference Vote**
- ✓ **Justice of Supreme Court**
- ✓ **Court of Appeals Judge**
- ✓ **Circuit Court Judge**
- ✓ **County, Municipal, & School District Offices**

OFFICE TO BE ELECTED AT THE MAY 12 SPECIAL ELECTION

- ✓ **Representative in Congress District 7**

PHOTO ID REQUIRED TO VOTE

If you have a photo ID, please visit bringit.wi.gov/do-i-have-right-photo-id to check if it's an acceptable form of ID.

If you do not have a photo ID, you can get a Wisconsin State ID card free. Visit bringit.wi.gov/how-do-i-get-free-state-id-card for details.



SAMPLE BALLOT

To see a sample ballot, please visit <https://myvote.wi.gov>.

BADGER BOOK ELECTRONIC POLL BOOK

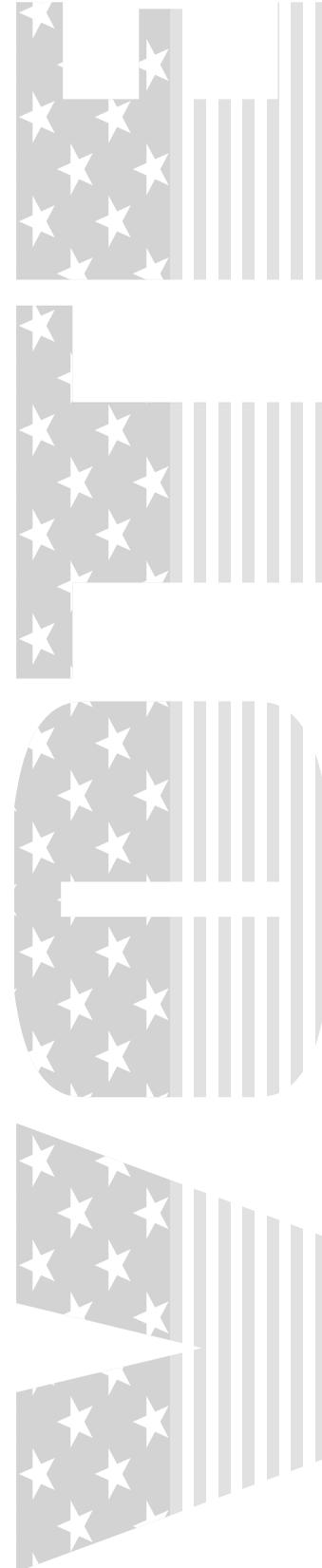
If you did not vote in the April 2019 election, the Badger Book may be something new you will see in 2020. The Badger Book is a poll book software that is specific to Wisconsin elections practices and statutes.

The Badger Book is primarily used to:

- Assign voter numbers
- Process absentee ballots
- Register voters on Election Day

The Badger Book electronically assigns the voter number, which eliminates manual tracking by election workers. Each of the above processes was chosen and designed based on feedback provided by clerks and election workers from across the state. After Election Day, a data file generated from the Badger Book is used to upload election participation results and Election Day Registration information into the statewide voter registration system.

The Badger Book is the only electronic poll book software created with direct integration to the statewide voter registration system. Badger Book does not use an internet connection.



EVERY VOICE MATTERS

FINANCE DEPARTMENT

VILLAGE ADOPTED 2020 BUDGET

By Jessica Trautman, Finance Director

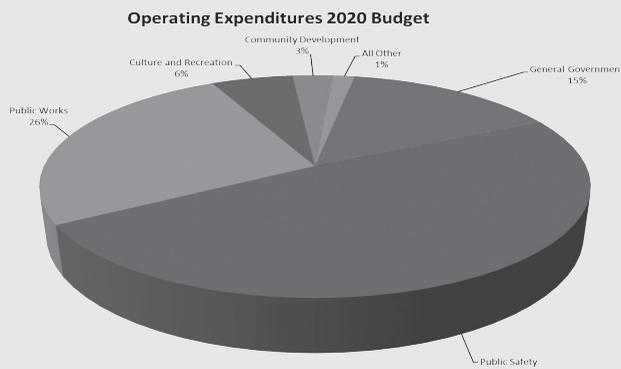


On November 18, 2019, the Village Board adopted the 2020 Operating Budget (General Fund) of \$7,768,015. This is a 2.30% increase compared to 2019. In preparing the budget, attention was given to not only 2020, but our needs and options for the future. Transportation aids continue to decrease, and other state revenues remain flat. With non-property tax revenues declining, and property tax increases for

operations being limited by the state, the Board prioritized funding for our core services. The total budget of the Village — including Tax Increment Financing (TIF), Debt Service, Special Revenue, and Capital Project funds — is \$23,489,473.

OPERATING EXPENDITURE SUMMARY GENERAL FUND 2019 – 2020

BUDGET CATEGORY	2019 Budget	2020 Budget	% Change
General Government	\$1,220,907	\$1,172,063	- 4.00%
Public Safety	3,673,075	3,792,251	+ 3.24%
Public Works	1,980,561	2,021,848	+ 2.08%
Health/Human Services	15,275	15,000	- 1.80%
Culture & Recreation	421,578	443,609	5.23%
Conservation & Develop.	213,818	220,168	+ 2.97%
Miscellaneous	68,509	103,076	+96.69%
TOTAL OPERATING BUDGET	\$7,593,723	\$7,768,015	+ 2.30%



2020 TOTAL BUDGET SUMMARY – ALL VILLAGE FUNDS

FUND TYPES	2020 Budget
General Fund	\$7,768,015
Debt Service Fund	5,959,816
Special Revenue Funds	8,534,799
Capital Projects Funds	1,226,843
TOTAL VILLAGE BUDGET	\$23,489,473

2019 – 2020 TAX SEASON

With the adoption of the budget, the Board also sets the levy to be collected for the 2019–2020 tax season. **The Village's levy was set at \$7,936,277, with a tax rate of \$6.89 — a 3.16% increase from the previous year's tax rate.** Of the total, \$4,837,344 is used in General Operations, \$40,000 is used for the Weston Aquatic Center, \$1,250,000 is used to pay debt, \$93,326 is used for Capital Improvements/Equipment, and \$1,715,607 is used for the Tax Increment Districts.

A summary of the Village's local assessed tax rates for the period of 2007–2019 is shown below:

Village of Weston Assessed Tax Rates/Levy Years:

2007	\$4.91	2015	\$5.76
2008–2010	\$5.08	2016	\$5.99
2011	\$5.10	2017	\$6.35
2012	\$5.16	2018	\$6.68
2013	\$5.31	2019	\$6.89
2014	\$5.57		

PROPERTY TAX COLLECTION

Property tax bills were mailed in early December. Please return the stub, along with payment, in the envelope provided.

The first property tax installment payments are due January 31, 2020, to the Village of Weston. Any balances due after January 31, 2020, need to be paid to Marathon County. No reminder notices will be sent.

The Village plans on continuing to send receipts for tax payments. **Due to rising postage costs, this practice may be discontinued in the future. All receipts can be viewed online at www.westonwi.gov/MCLandRecords.** All payments will also appear on this website as they are posted.

The Weston Municipal Center will be open to accept tax payments Monday – Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. **Tax payments can be dropped into the utility payment drop-box if the Village office is not open.**

The Village continues to work with Official Payments to accept credit card payments online and by phone for a 3% fee. The website to do so is www.officialpayments.com or you can call 1-800-2PAY-TAX; Village's jurisdiction code is 5840. Please call the Village office if you need assistance: 715-359-6114.

PARKS & RECREATION

By Shawn Osterbrink, Director of Parks, Recreation, & Forestry



2020 AQUATIC CENTER SEASON PASSES NOW AVAILABLE

Now is the time to purchase your Weston Aquatic Center season pass for the 2020 season. Family Season Passes are on sale now through Friday, May 22, 2020, at a reduced price. Season passes can be purchased online at www.westonwi.gov/PoolPass.

Please contact the Weston Municipal Center at 715-359-6114 with questions.

2020 SEASONAL EMPLOYMENT

The Village of Weston is currently accepting applications for Lifeguards, Head Lifeguards, Front Desk / Slide Attendants, and Seasonal Park Maintainers for the summer of 2020. Applications for all positions should be submitted by March 8, 2020. Applications are available at www.westonwi.gov/367/Employment.

Please contact the Weston Park Department at 715-359-9988 or sosterbrink@westonwi.gov with questions regarding these positions.

SWIM LESSONS!

The Weston Aquatic Center will be offering 3 sessions of swim lessons in 2020. Each session (for Levels 1–5) lasts 2 weeks, with an additional third week available for make-up classes.

- **Weston residents may register for 2020 swim lessons beginning April 13.**
- **Non-residents may register beginning April 27.**
- Cost: \$25 residents
\$ 30 non-residents

Registration will be available online at www.westonwi.gov/PoolPass. More information will be available in the April edition of the newsletter or by contacting the Park Office at 715-359-9988.



KENNEDY PARK ICE RINK

The hours for the Warming House at Kennedy Park during the 2019–2020 skating season will be:

- Monday through Friday
5:00 – 8:00 p.m.
- Saturdays, Sundays, & school holidays 1:00 – 8:00 p.m.

Questions? Call the Weston Park Department at 715-359-9988.



2020 PARK SHELTER RESERVATIONS

The Village of Weston is currently accepting reservations for 2020. Reservations can be made up to a year in advance. Shelters may be reserved for use from May through mid-October of each year. **There are 7 shelters available at 6 parks: Kennedy, Sandhill Meadow, Robinwood, Kellyland, Machmueller, and Yellow Banks** (2 shelters available here).

Amenities at each park include restrooms, water, electricity, and facilities for play and sports. Visit the Weston Municipal Center (5500 Schofield Ave.) between 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. to make your reservation. Questions? Call 359-9988 or visit www.westonwi.gov/facilities.

VILLAGE OF WESTON
 5500 SCHOFIELD AVENUE
 WESTON, WI 54476

PRST STD
 US POSTAGE
 PAID
 PERMIT #20
 WESTON, WI
 54476

POSTAL PATRON CUSTOMER
 CARRIER ROUTE PRESORT

Save the Date

- **FEBRUARY 6**
Community Blood Drive
- **FEBRUARY 18**
Spring Primary Election
- **APRIL 2**
Community Blood Drive
- **APRIL 7**
Spring Election &
Presidential Preference Primary
- **APRIL 10**
Village Offices closed
- **MAY 1 – 2**
Village-Wide Rummage Sale
- **MAY 6**
Electronic Recycling Event
- **MAY 12**
Special Election for
Representative in Congress District 7
- **MAY 14 – 16**
Spring Bulk-Item Drop-Off
- **MAY 25**
Village Offices Closed
Advanced Disposal Closed

CONNECT WITH US!

-  /WestonWisconsin
-  @WestonWI
-  /WestonWI
-  visit Nextdoor.com and sign up
-  Village of Weston

VILLAGE OF WESTON MUNICIPAL CENTER

Address: 5500 Schofield Avenue, Weston, WI 54476
Office Hours: 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. (Monday – Friday)
General Information: 715-359-6114
Website: www.westonwi.gov

ELECTED OFFICIALS



Wally Sparks, President
 715-298-3106
wsparks@westonwi.gov



Barbara Ermeling, Trustee
 715-359-4365
bermeling@westonwi.gov



Nathan Fiene, Trustee
 715-432-6791
nfiene@westonwi.gov



Mark Maloney, Trustee
 715-410-2756
mmaloney@westonwi.gov



Yee Leng Xiong, Trustee
 715-348-6214
yxiong@westonwi.gov



Hooshang Zeyghami, Trustee
 715-359-5145
hzeyghami@westonwi.gov



Jon Ziegler, Trustee
 715-241-9301
jziegler@westonwi.gov

IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

Advanced Disposal 715-359-6637
 Aquatic Center (Seasonal) 715-241-7946
 Assessor 877-687-3445
 Building Inspections 715-241-2613
 Fire EMS (Non-emergency) 715-355-6763
 Municipal Court 715-359-3333
 Parks, Recreation & Forestry 715-359-9988
 Police (Non-emergency) 715-359-4202
 Public Works 715-359-6114
 Planning & Development 715-241-2613
 Water & Sewer 715-359-2876



VILLAGE OF WESTON MEETING SCHEDULE

Board of Trustees 6:00 p.m. 1st & 3rd Monday of the month
 Community Development Authority 5:00 p.m. 1st Tuesday of the month
 Finance 6:00 p.m. 1st Monday of the month
 Human Resources 6:00 p.m. 4th Monday of the month
 Parks & Recreation 4:30 p.m. 4th Monday of the month
 Plan Commission 6:00 p.m. 2nd Monday of the month
 Public Works & Utility 4:30 p.m. 2nd Monday of the month

Meeting dates are subject to change; call the Village of Weston offices to confirm dates and times. Zoning Board of Appeals meets on an as-needed basis.