City of Port Washington

February 2024

# Newsletter





## **ATTEND A REFERENDUM INFORMATION SESSION**

The Premier Community on the Great Lakes

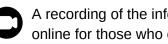
The City of Port Washington will host information sessions in February and March to provide residents an opportunity to learn more about the need for the upcoming fire/EMS referendum and to ask questions of local officials.



Thursday, February 29 - 5:30 pm Monday, March 11 - 1:00 pm



W.J. Niederkorn Library Community Room 316 W. Grand Ave



A recording of the information sessions will be available online for those who cannot attend in person.

**CITY OF PORT WASHINGTON** FIRE/EMS REFERENDUM





DATE: Friday, February 16th START TIME: 6:00pm LOCATION: Library Community Room Discussion to follow

Rated PG-13

Popcorn and refreshments will be provided. Food and beverage carry-ins are welcome.

IBRARY

#### AHOY...MARINA NEWS AHEAD

Even though boating is taking the winter off, the Marina staff is not! They're busy prepping for the 2024 season. On December 14, the Marina was named as Marinas.com Elite Fleet Boater's Choice Award recipient for 2023. This coveted recognition is a testament to the exceptional experiences the Marina provides to the boating community. This award is a celebration of the Marina staff's hard work and outstanding customer service which is consistently provided.





## **Attention Pet Parents!!**



<u>Cats, dogs & pot bellied pigs must be licensed</u> <u>every calendar year</u> (City code Ch.141.1). Purchase the license (\$6 [spayed/neutered]/\$11 [nonspayed/neutered]) in the Finance Office at City Hall. License must be purchased by March 31, 2024 to avoid the \$5 late fee. Bring a current rabies certificate from the vaccinating veterinarian for each pet. Winter Parking Rules DECEMBER 1 APRIL 1



During the winter months, beginning December 1, there is **"No parking on any** street within city limits between the hours of 2:00am and 6:00am". This includes the evening of April 1st. (<u>Ch. 400-13</u>).



### PROPERTY TAX PAYMENT REMINDER

- As of Thursday, *February 1 all property tax payments are made to the Ozaukee County Treasurer*, 121 W Main St.
- 2nd Installment payment of annual property tax bill is due to the Ozaukee County Treasurer Wednesday, July 31.

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# **"Bee"come a Member**

Are you an adult age 55 or better? Perhaps you're seeking a place for engagement, encouragement, and enhancement of your unique talents and interests? **"Bee"come a member of the <u>Port</u>** <u>Washington Adult Community Senior Center</u>. Member benefits include special events, programs and classes for healthy living and technology, games, groups and leagues, community engagement and special events. Annual memberships available (Jan - Dec).

- Individual Resident (City & Town of Port/Village of Fredonia) \$25
- Couple Resident (City & Town of Port/Village of Fredonia) \$35
- Individual (Non-Resident) \$45
- Couple (Non-Resident) \$72
- Newsletter Only \$20
- Resident Associate Membership (less than 55 yrs) \$40
- Non-Resident Associate Membership (less than 55 yrs) \$50



Village of Saukville Residents are reimbursed the difference between resident/non-resident by the Village of Saukville. Town of Saukville Residents - Scholarship options are available.



**Senior Center**, 403 W. Foster St. **262-284-5821** 

Email: <u>ckiener@portwashingtonwi.gov</u>



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1 Never leave a car running in an enclosed space (like a garage) to "warm it up," even if the garage door is open



**3** Never run a generator inside! Keep it outside, at least 20 ft. from your home



Make sure your

vehicle's tailpipe is

4 Install CO detectors in your home and check them regularly

When winter temperatures plummet and home heating systems run for hours, the risk of carbon monoxide (CO) poisoning increases. This odorless gas can be a silent killer. Have your furnace inspected regularly by a professional and install carbon monoxide detectors on every level of the home and check them regularly.

#### License Plate peeling, illegible, hard to read?

If this is you - the vehicle owner is responsible to keep their license plates legible and undamaged. To **avoid a potential citation**,

visit the <u>Wisconsin DMV</u> website (replacement plates will arrive by mail) or visit a DMV Customer Service Center to begin the replacement process.





If you received a Water Utility **Water meter "change-out" letter** and have not scheduled the appointment, please **contact the Water Utility to schedule the appointment.** 

- 262-284-2172
- <u>Email</u>

   A typical water meter
   "change-out" takes
   approximately 15-30

   minutes to complete. There

   is NO COST to the
   homeowner.

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# **Information & Opportunities**



"Squeeze" in a visit to the W.J. Niederkorn Library and help "Save The Day" by *Donating Blood* at the <u>Versiti Blood Center of Wisconsin</u> Blood Drive. Appointments are strongly encouraged and can be made by calling 877-232-4376 or online at: <u>donate.wisconsin.versiti.org</u>.



Wednesday, February 26, 2024 2:00 pm to 6:00 pm W.J. Niederkorn Library 316 W Grand Ave Community Room

### **Retirement Planning Class** PREPARE FOR YOUR FUTURE

Take ownership to prepare for your financial future with a Retirement Planning Class. This class includes a consultation and financial plan, as well as information regarding Social Security, estate planning, life planning, investments, and more. Each registrant may bring one guest (only the registrant will receive materials). Register <u>online</u> or at the Rec Department, 201 N. Webster St.

#### **Two Sessions Offered**

- Saturdays March 9-26 9:30am-12:00pm
- Tuesdays March 13-26 6:00-8:00pm



**\$59 -** Includes textbook & informational materials (For registrant only)

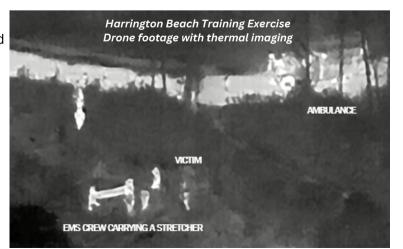
Instructor: Haly Besaw, CFP, ADPA, CRPC





INTERESTED IN JOINING THE FIRE DEPARTMENT TEAM? Learn more about the opportunities on their <u>recruitment page</u> <u>Fire | EMS | Dive/Rescue | Paid-On-Premise | Part-time</u>

The Fire Department recently placed its new **Unmanned Aircraft System (UAS/Drone)** into service. When equipped with thermal imaging capabilities (see photo to the right), UAS can detect heat signatures from hundreds of feet in the air. The department currently has two FAA-Certified drone pilots, with plans to add more this year. The drone program was implemented at no cost to the city by leveraging grant funding and donations from the Port Washington FIre/EMS Association. Drone footage with thermal imaging from a recent collaborative training with Belgium Fire Department/EMS crew at Harrington Beach State Park is pictured at right.



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# Port Washington Community Grief Support Group

Meets on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of the Month 4:00pm-5:30pm Community Room at W. J. Niederkorn Library

The Port Washington Community Grief Support Group is free to attend and open to anyone experiencing grief. The group is facilitated by Colson Leach, Bereavement Coordinator with Compassus Hospice. No registration required.

Questions? Email Colson at faithport@gmail.com or call the library at (262) 284-5031.









Thank you to the Port Washington-Saukville School District Student Artists for the creative art projects on temporary loan. These items are on display at City Hall! Pieces rotate several times throughout the year!

### Did you know...

You can report a street light out **or** request city services **or** report a variety of issues from the City's website? Click the "Service Request" button on the homepage to report a Street Light Outage, or any of the following items:

- Asphalt needed for driveway
- Brush pick-up
- Grass/weeds
- Plowing info/request
- Potholes reporting
- Salting info/request
- Tree status check





The warmer weather earlier this winter allowed for the Parks & Forestry Division staff to complete of synthetic turf installation at the Municipal Baseball Field. The Engineering Division will be completing installation of fencing in the first quarter of 2024.



Port Washington Youth Baseball Registration is now open! Kids Ages 3 - 10

Register online or at the Rec Dept. office, 201 N Webster St.

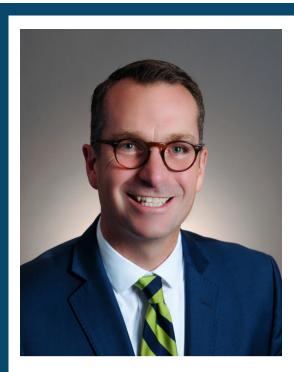


#### 2024 ROAD IMPROVEMENTS UPDATE

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WE Energies will begin installation of new gas main and replacement of some gas service laterals on
February 15 (weather permitting). The construction will occur on Scott Rd, Norview Cir, and E. Antoine Dr.
Visit the <u>Engineering Dept. webpage</u> for full details.

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Mayor Ted Neitzke IV 262-483-3997 tneitzke@portwashingtonwi.gov



February is a month that I need to request a favor from my fellow citizens. You see, this is one of the toughest months for our community's small businesses. Having lived here my entire life, I can remember a time before big box stores existed. Port Washington had a downtown populated with multiple drugs stores, a sporting goods store, a shoe store, a hardware store, an appliance and electronics store, a baker, a men's and women's clothing store, and so much more. I also remember the 1990's and early 2000's when many downtown storefronts were empty.

Today, in 2024, we are back to a thriving downtown and the only way to help the momentum flourish is if we, as residents of Port Washington, support our local commerce in the "off-season." As we work to retain our great businesses and restaurants, we need to remember to choose local before running to a big box just to save a little bit. I have never met the Starbucks founders, but here in Port Washington, I have met the wonderful families, and the women and men who own our local businesses. I have seen them express their devotion to our city as they sponsor our non-profits, our sport teams, and our students. I have seen how they care for the community and their continued commitment to Port Washington's success.

My ask is simple, please support those that support us by frequenting our local businesses over these gray days of February. It will brighten the faces of our local businesses owners and staff and shine a bright light on our city's future.

I have a second ask this month as well. Each year I get to appoint Port Washington residents to our Boards, Commissions, and Committees (BCC'S). These BCC's are critical to our city and support all the working parts of our city government and administration. I am looking to continue to appoint members of our community that are representative of our community. I am looking for young members of our community, established members of our community and seniors to support our city.

If you are interested in serving on a BCC, please contact me. I am currently looking for representation on the Harbor Commission, Board of Review, Parks & Recreation Board (Student Rep), Zoning Board of Appeals (Alternate), Ethics Board (Alternate), and Business Improvement District.

Lastly, when you are looking for a special night out for Valentine's Day, please think first about visiting one of our local restaurants! Thank you.

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### City Clerk's Office - Election Information Spring Election - April 2, 2024 (No Spring Primary in February is needed)



Absentee Ballot Information

- Applications to receive ballots by mail for the April 2nd Spring Election can be submitted now through March 28th.
- Applications can be submitted through <u>MyVote.wi.gov</u> -*or* by mailing in an Absentee Ballot Application to the City Clerk, 100 W. Grand Ave. The Absentee Ballot Application can be obtained and printed from the City's website at <u>https://www.portwashingtonwi.gov/departments/city-clerk/elections/absentee-</u> <u>early-voting</u>.
- Note: Photo ID is required to receive an absentee ballot.

#### **Voter Registration**

- Voter Registration may be submitted by mail now through March 13th.
- Beginning March 14th the late registration period begins and voters must complete voter registration *In Person* at the City Clerk's Office.
- Voter Registration may also be completed on Election Day at your Polling Location prior to Voting.
- Voter registrations must include a Proof of Residency document such as WI Driver's License/WI ID, Utility Bill, Bank Statement/Credit Card Statement, Payroll Document, Real Estate Tax Bill, Document from a Unit of Government. There are additional approved document options which can be found on the City's website at <a href="https://www.portwashingtonwi.gov/departments/city-clerk/elections/voter-registration">https://www.portwashingtonwi.gov/departments/city-clerk/elections/voter-registration</a>.
- *Note:* There is a 28-day residency requirement prior to election day to be able to submit a Voter Registration Application.

#### Please contact the City Clerk's office with any questions or need for assistance

- 262-284-5585 ext. 1026
- <u>elections@portwashingtonwi.gov</u>

# Welcome City Administrator

On February 6, the Common Council approved the appointment of Melissa Pingel to the role of City Administrator. Melissa is anticipated to begin on March 18. Melissa is currently serving as the Waushara County Administrator. Prior to her tenure in Waushara County, she served Winnebago County as the elected Clerk of Circuit Court.

"I am grateful for the opportunity to join the City of Port Washington and am excited to get to work," Melissa said. "In researching and learning more about Port Washington, it is clear that this is a beautiful and well-run city with dedicated employees and elected leaders who take pride in their community. I look forward to working with all of them as well as the community to continue to bring to fruition the vision of making Port Washington the *Premier Community on the Great Lakes".* Welcome *a*board the city team, Melissa!



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### **Elected Officials**

DISTRICT 1 Deborah Postl 414-550-0034

**DISTRICT 2 Paul Neumyer** 262-689-2668

DISTRICT 3 Michael Gasper 262-235-2824 **DISTRICT 4 & 8 Dan Benning** 414-207-3487

DISTRICT 5 Jonathan Pleitner 219-793-2260

DISTRICT 6 Patrick Tearney 262-388-6697 **DISTRICT 7 John Sigwart** 920-946-0215



City Hall 100 W. Grand Ave. P.O. Box 307 Port Washington, WI 53074 Monday-Friday – 8:00 am to 4:00 pm Ph: 262-284-5585 Ph: 262-284-5585