



Spring Issue

Issue 62

March 2020

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COVID 19 & CITY HALL

Yes, we too at City Hall are taking precautionary measures to prevent the spread of the virus. We are all still healthy but are keeping the doors locked at this time. We are available by phone, email or if necessary by appointment. Don't hesitate to call, we will get thru this pandemic, but it might just take a while and a little patience. Thank you.

Floodplain Maps

The Iowa DNR and FEMA recently had an informational meeting to allow citizens the opportunity to learn more about the potential change in flood risk and discuss flood insurance options. Maps can be reviewed at www.iowafloodmaps.org. There will be more meetings and no plans to implement any changes until sometime in 2021.

REMINDER TO CHECK INTO BUILDING PERMITS & ZONING ORDINANCES BEFORE YOU BEGIN A PROJECT.

As a reminder per Chapter 165.02.98 of the Wahpeton Code of Ordinances, residential homes in Wahpeton cannot be rented or leased for any period less than one month. To do so is a municipal infraction punishable by civil penalties, per Chapter 165.16.

LAKESIDE AVENUE WATERMAIN & STREET REPLACEMENT PROJECT

An early start date has been considered by the Wahpeton City Council for the Lakeside Avenue Project. Beck Engineering plans to take bids late April to early May, with plans to start as soon as possible with a completion date before the snow falls. The project will involve replacing a 6" water main with a 10" water main from Hwy 86 to Harpen Street. The water main will be located in the street, so with the extensive digging the street will also need to be replaced.

This is all part of the City Capital Improvement Plan to replace old brittle water mains from the 70's. The City replaced the 6" Harpen St. water main last fall with a 10" main and plan to replace Edgewood Drives 6" with a 10" water main next year. This will complete a loop of 10" water main to help supply the demand now needed in Wahpeton. Once this main branch of 10" main is in place the City will begin to replace the remaining water lines. This will be a lengthy process but is needed because of the number of water main breaks we are starting to experience.

With the construction will come some inconveniences. We ask that you please be patient and understanding and hopefully construction will be completed ahead of schedule.

Outdoor Warning Sirens

According to Michael Ehret, Coordinator of the Dickinson County Emergency Management, we will once again start testing sirens every Wednesday after April 1st. thru September 30th. All sirens are activated every Wednesday at noon unless the outside temperature is less than 45 degrees.

Check Your Toilets for Leaks

8 out of 10 complaints the City receives about high water bills can be traced to a leaking toilet in their home. Dye test strips are available at city hall.

COMPLETE AND RETURN YOUR CENSUS FORM

By April 1, 2020, every home will have received an invitation to participate in the 2020 Census. You will have 3 options for responding: on line, by phone or by mail.

As mandated by the U.S. Constitution, our nation gets just one chance each decade to count



Its population. The U.S. census counts every resident in the United States. It is mandated by Article 1, Section 2 of the Constitution. The data collected by the census determines the number of seats each state has in the U.S. House of Representatives (a process called apportionment). Responding to the census helps communities get the funding they need and helps businesses make data-driven decisions that grow the economy. Census data impacts our daily lives, informing important decision about funding for services and infrastructure in your community, including health care, senior centers, jobs, political representation, roads, schools, and businesses. More than \$675 billion in federal funding flows back to states and local communities each year based on census data. The first census took place in 1790, counting nearly 4 million people, and the country has continued the process every 10 years since then. This year, the census expects to count more than 330 million people in more than 140 million housing units. If every household completed the form and returned it, taxpayers could reduce the cost of taking the census by billions of dollars. Make sure those of you that claim Wahpeton as your permanent residence to use it when replying to the census. If you use Texas, Arizona or other states, they will receive the funding. The Census Bureau's mission is to "Count Everyone Once—And Only Once—And In The Right Place". If you haven't done so, return your census form today.

Council Clips:

Minutes are published in the Dickinson County News, posted at City Hall & Kazarelli's Restaurant . Complete copies are available from City Hall or on our Website at: www.wahpetonia.govoffice.com

January 13, 2020—Regular Session:

- Council reappointed Doug Westerman to the Board of Adjustment and Fran Parrish to the Planning and Zoning Commission for 5 year terms.
- Council reviewed and approved agreed-upon audit procedures completed by Winter, Stave and Co.

February 10, 2020 - Regular Session:

- Erin Reed, DCTB Executive Director, updated the council on progress with the proposed Edgewood Drive Trail and a trail along Hwy. 86th and 200th Street.

February 17, 2020 – Special Session:

- Public Hearing and approved Resolution 20-3 - A Resolution Approving the Maximum Property Tax Dollars for the Budget FY 20/21.
- Council approved Resolution 20-4—Setting Time & Place for a Public Hearing for the Proposed FY20/21 Budget.
- Approved Resolution 20-5—Setting Time & Place for a Public Hearing for the Current Budget Amendment for FY 19/20.

March 9, 2020—Regular Session:

- Council approved Resolution 20-6- Adopting the Budget for FY2020/21.
- Council approved Resolution 20-7— Adopting the Budget Amendment for the current FY2019/20.
- Council passed all 3 reading of Ordinance #177-Re-adopting the Wahpeton City Code.
- Council approved Resolutions 20-8A and 20-8B—Requesting assistance from NWIP&D to codify the city code books.
- Council approved a 28E Agreement for the Milford Fire Department.

March 17, 2020– Special Session:

- Council reviewed plans and funding for the Lakeside Avenue Water Main replacement and street project with Brad Beck from Beck Engineering.
- Council approved Resolution 20-9—A resolution to adopt the 28E Agreement with the City of Milford for Fire Protection and Emergency Response.
- Council discussed COVID-19 virus and voted to close city hall doors until further notice. Employees are still working and available by phone, email, or by appointment if necessary.

City Hall Information

1201 Dakota Drive
Milford, IA 51351

Email: wahpetonia@gmail.com

Phone: (712) 337-3522

Fax: (712) 337-0339

Web: www.wahpetonia.govoffice.com

REMINDER ABOUT NEW REGULATIONS AND REQUIREMENTS FOR LANDSCAPING IN WAHPETON

It is unlawful for any person to conduct landscaping activities without first making application for and receiving a landscaping permit from the City of Wahpeton.

A request for a landscaping permit shall be submitted by a written application, including a diagram or site plan of the parcel upon which landscaping activities are to take place, together with a diagram or illustration and a description of all contemplated landscape activities. The application shall set out the necessity for the proposed landscaping, as well as corrective measures proposed and materials to be used. Applications shall be reviewed by the City Zoning Officer who shall either issue, modify or deny a permit. Decisions of the Zoning Officer on a permit may be appealed to the Board of Adjustment.

No landscaping activity shall divert the flow of storm water from its natural course and no landscaping activity shall have the effect of increasing the volume or rate of flow of storm water over adjoining public or private property.

Silt mat or silt fence screening material must be used on any lot, regardless of the lot grade or elevation on which there is to be any excavating, earthmoving, or disturbance of the lot grade or ground surface cover.

City of Wahpeton Office Hours:

Mon – Fri 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

City Clerk/Administrator: Bonnie Tielbur

Supt. of Public Works: Doug Hanna

Zoning & Maintenance: Jess Radcliffe

City Council:

2nd Mon. of the month at 5:00 p.m.

Mayor: Phillip Johnson

Council: Brad Jones, Tom Rierson, Harold Prior, LeAnn Blau and Holly Mead

Board of Adjustment:

3rd Tues. of the month at 5:00 p.m.

Chairman: Dick Gauck Members: Jerry Edwards, Doug Westerman, Bob Koerselman & Larry Den Herder.

Planning & Zoning Commission:

2nd Tues. of the month at 6:00 p.m.

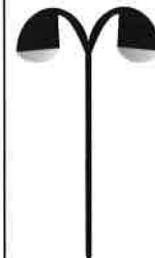
Chairman: Donna Harris Members: Fran Parrish, Mark Foss, Ann Meyer and Jack Jones

EFFECTIVE APRIL 17 THE RECYCLING SCHEDULE WILL CHANGE FROM THE 2ND & 4TH FRIDAYS OF THE MONTH TO THE 1ST & 3RD FRIDAYS. IN APRIL THEY WILL STILL PICKUP ON APRIL 10TH BUT THEN PICKUP AGAIN ON THE 17TH TO START THE CHANGE TO THE 1ST AND 3RD FRIDAYS.

Just a reminder to watch your speed on City Streets.

COUNCIL FINALIZES 2020/21 CITY BUDGET

The Wahpeton City Council approved the 2020/21 city budget at a March 17, 2020 special meeting. They continue to strive to keep the tax levy to one of the lowest in the state of Iowa. This year's levy is 3.14%. .13% is the debt service expenditure which pays the SRF loan for the new water tower. Most cities in Iowa are at the \$8.10/ \$1,000 taxable value or higher because of other levies available. Wahpeton is fortunate their infrastructure is in fairly good condition. However, the council has began implementing a 5-year capital improvement plan to replace many of the old water mains and repair or replace city streets that are in need of repair.



Contact City Hall to report street lights blinking or completely out. Please provide nearest address, cross street and /or pole number.