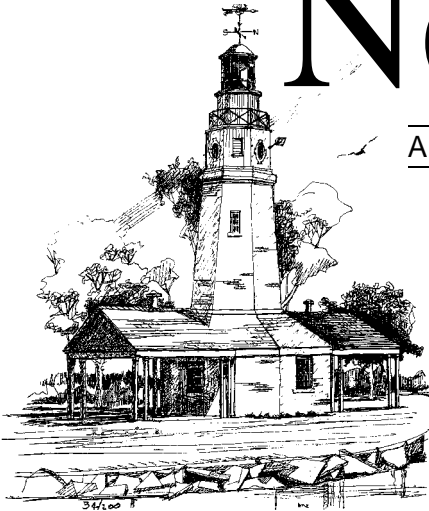


Neenah Notes

A City of Neenah Publication

Winter 2001/2002, Volume 3, Number 2



Mayor

Ken Harwood 751-4604

City Assessor

Jack Ophoven 751-4610

City Attorney

Jim Gunz 751-4606

City Clerk

Jean Moxon 751-4602

Community Development Director

Bob Buckingham 751-4660

Finance Director

Michael Easker 751-4642

Fire Chief

Len Vander Wyst 751-4700

Health Department Director

Judy Crouch-Smolarek 751-4650

Information Systems Manager

Joe Wenninger 751-4714

Library Director

Steve Procs 751-4722

Parks and Recreation Director

Eileen McCoy 751-4614

Police Chief

D.J. Forcey 751-4677

Public Works Director

Tim Hamblin 751-4625

Water Works Director

Larry Wattering 751-4620

Aldermanic District 1

Jim Hemes 729-1289

Mark Lange 729-0831

Aldermanic District 2

Mike Faulks 722-2685

Don Winter 725-1520

Judy Zaretske 722-1291

Aldermanic District 3

Bruce Rhoades 727-0243

George Scherck (Pres.) 725-3279

Todd Stevenson 722-5440

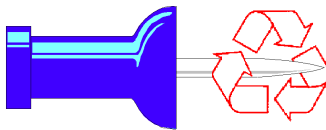
Happy Holidays!

This is the sixth City of Neenah newsletter. I cannot believe how fast the time has gone. This year, we have seen the completion of the Main Street Overpass and the development of new housing, retail and office properties. Our staff remains focused on good planning and quality development. Our elected officials remain committed to the oversight that keeps progress on track. Our citizens remain willing to provide direction and insight that allows us to focus on the quality of life we enjoy in Neenah.

We have also seen changes in our world that will affect the way we live and think forever. The thing that impresses me most about Neenah is not the flags, or the new enthusiasm as we recite the pledge before a council meeting, but rather the respect people are showing for each other. It seems of late, we have a great deal more acceptance of our neighbors, colleagues, and our family. We listen to each other hoping for a better understanding of what is happening around us. We are bonded by common goals and the uncertainty of our futures. I hope, as we “get back to normal”, we will keep this one change, this bond, this simple understanding that we are in this together.

Working together we can do great things.

Ken Harwood
Neenah Mayor



This newsletter is being mailed with our 2002 Refuse and Recycling Guide. Please keep the Guide so that you may refer to it throughout the year. In the interest of reducing your tax dollars, the guide is only mailed once a year. Additional copies are available at City Hall.

“I like the dreams of the future better than the account of the past.”
Thomas Jefferson



The City Web Site can be found at:
www.ci.neenah.wi.us

211 Walnut St., P.O. Box 426, Neenah, WI 54957-0426

Tax Bill 2001 - 2002

City of Neenah taxpayers will see an increase in real estate taxes when they receive their property tax bills this month. Please remember the City is only responsible for a portion of the total bill. As the table below indicates, Winnebago County is responsible for the largest increase (13.33%), followed by the State of Wisconsin (8.55%), the Fox Valley Technical College (7.68%) and the Neenah Joint School District (6.09%) The City of Neenah share of the increase was the lowest of all taxing jurisdictions (4.32%). Below is a property tax comparison for the average home in the City of Neenah:

	Tax Year 2000	Tax Year 2001	\$ Increase (Decrease)	% Increase (Decrease)
Property Values				
Average Home Assessment	\$ 101,500	\$ 101,500	0	0
Property Taxes on Average Home				
Neenah Public Schools	\$1,028.20	\$1,090.83	62.64	6.09%
City of Neenah	970.34	1,012.23	41.89	4.32%
Winnebago County	522.73	592.43	69.70	13.33%
Fox Valley Technical College	192.85	207.66	14.81	7.68%
State of Wisconsin	20.30	22.04	1.74	8.55%
Gross Taxes	\$2,734.41	\$2,925.18	\$190.77	6.98%
State School Credit	(172.55)	(162.80)	(9.75)	-5.65%
Taxes Before Lottery Credit	\$2,561.86	\$2,762.38	\$200.52	7.83%

Community Development Block Grants

The Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program is a federal program that provides annual grants to cities. The City of Neenah has received the grant since 1984 using the funds to provide multi-faceted programs for low and moderate-income households, meeting community development needs, and redevelopment of the central city. The CDBG grant for 2001 was \$263,000, and a similar amount is expected for 2002.

Early each year, the community is invited to propose uses for the CDBG funds. The Common Council then reviews and approves programs that comply with U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development regulations. Activities that have been funded through the program include housing rehabilitation, shelters and emergency housing, first time homebuyer assistance, job training and job creation, nutrition services for the elderly, redevelopment of Downtown & Doty Island, and comprehensive planning.

Parks & Recreation Summer Part-time Job Openings

Applications available at the Parks & Rec Office, 211 Walnut St., Neenah High Student Services or www.ci.neenah.wi.us

Deadline for accepting applications is Friday, February 8, 2002.

**COLLEGE STUDENTS!!! Apply now for Christmas
Vacation Interviews**

Jobs open to 15 year olds through adults

Recreation Instructors: Archery, Baseball, Tot Lot, Crafts, Playgrounds, Drama, Nature Force, Gymnastics, Tennis, Golf, Soccer, and Tot Sports.

Swimming Pool Jobs: Lifeguards, Lesson Instructors, Concessionaires, Slide Attendants, and Admission Controllers.

Other: Softball Scorers & Officials.

Jobs open to 17+ year olds

Parks & Cemetery Maintenance Workers

**Competitive Wages & Excellent Work Conditions
Call 751-4614 for more information**



Great Northern A Great Gift

*If only children had as much public space as cars,
most cities in the world would become marvelous.*
– Enrique Penalosa, Mayor of Bogotá, Colombia

Your Parks & Recreation Department agrees, and thanks to a most generous gift, Neenah is becoming an even more marvelous place to live. Our friends, Bob Brown and Jim Davis have purchased 10.5 acres, known as the Kensington Property, from the School District and have given this land to the citizens of Neenah for use as a park.

Great Northern Park will become our 22nd city park. Plans call for sports fields and open play areas, a picnic shelter with rest rooms and a brand new playground. City crews will do much of the work, but we need the community's help to build the playground.

HERE'S HOW YOU CAN HELP – \$30,000 is needed for playground equipment and we also need volunteers to help on the build day next August. Call us at 751-4614 if you would like to help build the playground. Donations may be sent to Parks & Recreation Playground Trust, PO Box 426, Neenah WI 54957-0426.

As Henry Ford once said, "Coming together is a beginning; keeping together is progress; working together is success." Join us and be part of our success!

Your Tax Dollars At Work

The City offers free monthly collection for large items and metal items. Large items may include: furniture (sofas, chairs, tables, etc.), TV's, mattresses and box springs, carpeting, doors, windows, other furniture items and small amounts of lumber. **This collection does not include appliances.** The large item and metal collection day is a certain Wednesday of each month depending on the area you live in. The Recycling and Refuse Guide lists the dates of these collections. The Guide also outlines the procedure to dispose of an appliance. If you have any questions regarding the appliance or large item pickup, please contact the Public Works Department at 751-4625.

2002 Elections

Dates:	February 19, 2002	Primary (if needed)
	April 2, 2002	Spring
	September 10, 2002	Fall Primary
	November 10, 2002	General

Because of the recent redistricting of the City of Neenah, it may be possible that your voting location has been changed. If there is a primary election, the City Clerk's Office will notify affected registered voters in February. If there is no primary, notification will be sent in mid-March for the April election. The notification will advise you of your new voting location. If you do not receive a notification, you are not affected and will still vote at your present location. If you have any questions on this subject, please feel free to contact the City Clerk's Office at 751-4602.

Please note: If you receive an absentee ballot by mail for each election, you will not be sent a notification. If you are affected, your change will be handled administratively to make sure you receive the correct ballot.

Immunization Clinics

The Neenah Department of Public Health offers monthly immunization clinics to the citizens of Neenah (routine vaccines for children and Tetanus for adults). Below is the 2002 Immunization Clinic Schedule. Please call the Neenah Department of Public Health at 751-4650 for further information and to schedule an appointment.

January 17, 18, and 24, 2002	March 14, 15, and 21, 2002	May 16, 17, and 23, 2002
February 14, 15, and 21, 2002	April 18, 19, and 25, 2002	June 20 and 21, 2002

Families living outside the Neenah city limits should contact the Winnebago County Public Health Nurses for information on obtaining immunizations.

Please keep our **Neenah Restaurant Guide**, featuring smoke-free dining opportunities, as a year round reference.

Office Hours

City Hall

Mon - Fri 7:30 AM - Noon & 1 PM - 4 PM

Treasurer's Office, Community Development, Health, Parks and Rec & Water Departments are open during the noon hour.

Police & Fire Departments

Mon-Fri 8 AM - 4 PM (Records/Office)
Everyday 24 Hrs. (Lobby)

Neenah City Parks

Everyday 4 AM - 10 PM



May I park on city streets overnight during the winter?

City ordinance 5.09 (5)(a) prohibits parking on City of Neenah streets overnight from November 1st to March 31st. This, of course, is to avoid conflict if our crews need to plow.

Meetings

Common Council First and third Wednesday of each month 7:00 PM

Finance & Personnel Committee Monday in week preceding council mtg. 7:00 PM

Public Works & Services Committee Tuesday in week preceding council mtg. 7:00 PM

Plan Commission Tuesday in week preceding council mtg. 4:15 PM

Several additional committee and board meetings are scheduled each month. The agendas for these meetings are posted in City Hall and at the Library. A directory of all committee members and regular meeting times is available in the City Clerk's office.

A schedule of meetings is also available on the Internet at:

www.ci.neenah.wi.us/schedule

Municipal Court








The Cities of Neenah and Menasha have recently created a Joint Municipal Court to handle all municipal ordinance violations. Previously, all ordinance cases were handled in the Winnebago County Circuit Court. The new Joint Municipal Court is designed to make the Court process less intimidating, simpler, quicker, and in most cases, less costly for those involved.

The new Court will take effect on May 1, 2002 and the election of the Municipal Judge will take place on April 2, 2002.

Winter Dates

Spring Elections	February 19 April 2	Primary General	Please Remember To Vote
Ambassadors Dance Band	February 24	2:30 PM	Pickard Auditorium
Community Band Spring Concert	March 17	2:30 PM	Pickard Auditorium
City Wide Clean Up Day Sponsored by FNI And the Neenah Neighborhood Groups	May 4	Morning	Call 722-1920 For Details Or to Volunteer

Events at the Neenah Public Library

 Story Time(s) at the Library Great Programs for Youth and Families Special programs for all preschoolers	January 9 th through May 17 th Various Days and Times		Call 751-4722 Ext. 550 Or visit our Library For Details and Brochure
 Ten Days in Beijing	February 4	2:00 PM	A slide presentation by Paula Hayford
 Two pianos	February 17	2:00 PM	Linda Sparks and Nell Jorgenson Buchman play piano duets
 Great Pianists: Past & Present	February 24 March 10 March 17	2:00 PM	Performances with commentary by Lawrence University's Michael Kim
 Fox Valley Rosemalers & Decorative Painters	March 4	2:00 PM	A talk and demonstration
 Druid's Table	March 9	2:00 PM	Irish Music
 Visiting Midwestern Gardens	April 1	2:00 PM	A photo tour of five outstanding gardens

2002 Street Construction



The Common Council has established the street construction budget for the year 2002. Before any street work can proceed, a public hearing is held so property owners on the streets where construction is proposed can speak for or against the project. Curb, gutter and blacktop will be constructed on the following streets: Whitetail Drive (west of Pendleton), Kampo Drive, Spike Court, Fallow Drive, Bayview Road (S. Park to City limits), Greenfield Street, Union Street, Grant Street, Sherry Street (S. Lake to Slough), Wheeler Street, Meadowview Street, Hillcrest Place, Green Meadows Street, Lakecrest Drive and Harrison Street (Fairwood to Bell).

General street resurfacing (blacktop overlay) is scheduled to be done on Gay Drive (Tullar to Pendleton), Professional Plaza, Doctors Drive, Jackson Street (S. Commercial to Henry) Doty Avenue (Church to Main) Sherry Street (Van to Union) S. Lake Street (Main to Winneconne) and S. Commercial Street (Wright to Stanley).

Sidewalks or pedestrian trails are projected to be installed on Bayview Road (S. Park to City limits), Castle Oak Drive (both sides), and the easement to Olde School Road.

All property owners, who will be assessed for the street construction work, will be sent a letter by the Public Works Department prior to the public hearing date. The letter will outline the work to be done and have an estimated assessment cost. Following the public hearings, the Common Council formally approves the projects by passing a final resolution. All property owners are mailed a copy of the final resolution. The work will be done sometime during the summer, but a specific time cannot be determined until the Council approves the contracts. If you have any questions regarding the street construction projects, please contact the Public Works Department at 751-4625.

Water Utility Increases Security

Since September 11, we have received many telephone calls at the Water Utility concerning system security. We can assure you that in recent years our Utility has been one of the industry leaders in security, although previously the focus was on vandalism, not terrorism.

To address terrorism, the Water Utility has performed a system wide assessment to identify areas within the water treatment plant and distribution system that may be vulnerable to a terrorist attack. Because of this assessment, there have been or will be physical changes made at the plant, the elevated water tanks, and the reservoir. In addition, operating procedures have been modified which increase control of access to the facilities, and identify specific emergency actions, should they be needed.

We have discussed the relevant issues with the DNR, the PSC, the State Office of Emergency Government, the USEPA, many other communities in the State, and national water experts. Based on these discussions, we are confident that we are taking every reasonable precaution to make the Neenah water system less vulnerable to a terrorist attack.

Even with these precautions, we could still use your help. If you notice anything unusual occurring at the elevated tanks in the South Industrial Park or on Cecil Street, the reservoir and pump station on Cedar Street, the treatment plant on South Park Street, or even at a fire hydrant, please call the Water Utility or the Police so that we may investigate. Remember, we can discourage terrorism through vigilance.

Gypsy Moth Update

Gypsy Moths have arrived in the Neenah area. The primary infestation is in and around Riverside and Memorial Parks. The most important thing property owners can do to reduce the impact of the Gypsy Moth is to keep their trees as healthy as possible. The movement of the Gypsy Moth in the Neenah area is a serious concern, but not an insurmountable crisis. The Parks & Recreation Department will be treating infested areas within the city parks. If you have a concern about trees on your own property, call the City Forester at 751-4735.

