

## Election News

### Do you know where your polling place is?

Polling places are being consolidated starting in 2022 to two polling places: Abundant Life Church (1969 Roosevelt Avenue) and St. Peter the Fisherman Parish Center (3201 Mishicot Road). This is a permanent change. You can find your polling place by visiting: <https://myvote.wi.gov/en-us/> and clicking “Find My Polling Place” or by contacting the City Clerk at 920-793-5526 or [jjackson@two-rivers.org](mailto:jjackson@two-rivers.org).

### Have you requested your absentee ballot for 2022 yet?

Starting on January 1, 2022, absentee ballot for 2022 elections can be requested by visiting: <https://myvote.wi.gov/en-us/> and clicking “Vote Absentee by Mail” or by contacting the City Clerk at 920-793-5526 or [jjackson@two-rivers.org](mailto:jjackson@two-rivers.org). Photo ID is required.

#### Two Rivers City Council Regular Meetings

January 3 & 17, 6:00 p.m. Livestreamed on Facebook



#### **NOTICE WINTER PARKING EFFECTIVE DECEMBER 1 TO MARCH 15**



Parking is prohibited on ANY PUBLIC STREET or in ANY MUNICIPAL PARKING LOT between 1:00 AM and 6:00 AM. Parking is limited to one hour between 1:30 AM and 6:00 AM on any public street in an area zoned business B-1, B-2 and B-3 or a nonconforming business use located in a residential district.

*Authority - Two Rivers Municipal Ordinance 8-2-4.*

**Enforcement of the parking ban MAY be suspended at various times during the winter, depending on current conditions, the extended weather forecast, and the status of City snow or ice cleanup activities following storm events. Watch the Two Rivers Police Department and Two Rivers City Hall Facebook pages for updates.**

## **Reminder: Sidewalk Snow & Ice Removal**

City Ordinances require that public sidewalks be kept clear of snow and ice by the abutting property owner.

Snow must be removed within 24 hours following the end of a precipitation event. If you own a corner lot, that responsibility extends to the gutter line at the end of any corner sidewalk ramps.

Failure to remove snow and ice on a timely basis can result in a fine and a bill from the City for the cost of clearing the sidewalk.



## 2022 Budget Maintains Services, Invests in Infrastructure and Quality of Life Assets, Holds the Line on Taxes and Fees

The 2022 City Budget was adopted by the City Council on December 6, following six review sessions by the Council Personnel & Finance Committee and summary review by the full Council. Taking all funds into account, the City of Two Rivers is a \$35 million annual operation.

Highlights of the 2022 Budget include:

**General Fund Budget** was approved at \$10.8 million, up 1.73% over 2021. This budget funds Police, Fire/EMS, Public Works, Parks & Rec, and administrative departments like City Clerk, Finance, Legal and City Manager. Total spending for these functions is up less than 12 percent from 12 years ago, reflecting sound budgeting and cost containment. Taxes in support of the General Fund saw no increase.

**Library and Debt Service Funds** received small increases in tax support. The Budget provides a \$24,000 lift in property tax funding for the Lester Library: up 4%, following a 2% cut in 2021 (total budget \$631,287). A small tax increase--\$75,000--was also required for the Debt Service Fund (total budget \$2,669,481), which funds principal and interest payments on past borrowings for capital projects. Taken together, these increases raised the City share of the property tax bill by 1.89%.

Utility Budgets (Water, Wastewater, Electric, Solid Waste and Storm Water), funded by user fees, total about \$16 million for 2022 (includes \$6.7 million cost for wholesale electric power, purchased from WPPI Energy). No utility rate increases are being pursued for 2022.

The Budget also funds continued investment in city infrastructure, redevelopment and the capital equipment needed to provide quality, reliable services. The \$5.5 million budgeted for capital projects includes:

- \$1.5 million to purchase the Hamilton property for redevelopment (carryover from prior year budget)
- \$1 million for street work, including reconstruction of 17<sup>th</sup> St. from East Park St. to Zlatnik Dr. and resurfacing of Zlatnik Dr. from 17<sup>th</sup> St. to Pierce St.
- \$775,000 for a new aerial platform truck for the Fire Dept. (in addition to \$400,000 down payment in 2021); replaces 30 year-old aerial ladder truck
- \$850,000 for the Central Park West project (\$250,000 in City borrowing; balance in grants and donations) (total project estimated at \$1.6 million; additional City and grant funding planned for 2023)
- \$242,000 to replace a large DPW snowblower
- \$45,000 for replacement Police Dept. patrol vehicle; \$51,600 for Police equipment
- \$130,000 for Parks maintenance equipment
- \$85,000 for completion of bike trail connection along East River St. from Washington to Jefferson



The budget also funds continued work to eliminate lead water service laterals (LSL's). 81 LSL's will be replaced in 2022: 31 as part of the 17<sup>th</sup> St. reconstruction, 50 at scattered sites. Estimated cost of \$729,000 will be paid from Federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding received by the City and County, plus DNR money that is expected to help property owners replace the "private side" of the laterals (portion lying on their property).

Using City ARPA funds plus matching ARPA funds being shared by Manitowoc County, the City expects to replace 330 to 350 LSL's over the next 3-4 years. There are about 2,000 total LSL's in the system.