

February, 2024
City of Two Rivers
Newsletter



**TWO
RIVERS**
WISCONSIN

2024 CITY BUDGET INVESTS IN CAPITAL PROJECTS

The 2024 City Budget includes funding for all City operations, as well as capital investments in city infrastructure, facilities and the vehicles and heavy equipment needed to deliver important services.

Such capital investments are for long-lived assets, so debt financing is often the funding source—just like most households use loans to purchase their homes and vehicles. Most City borrowing is for a term of 10 years or less. The City also actively seeks grants to help pay for local projects and major purchases.

Major projects planned for 2024 include:

- Reconstruction of Roosevelt Avenue from 6th Street to 12th Street, with replacement of all underground utilities (including about 50 lead water service laterals), a \$5 million project
- Replacement of about 200 lead water service laterals at other locations around the city (funded in part with Federal American Rescue Plan Act monies), a \$1.5 million project
- Extension of Brown's Drive in the Woodland Industrial Park, to serve a new building to be constructed by Athens Development, the truss division of Braun Building Center; a \$200,000 project funded through TID 14
- Concrete pavement replacement, scattered locations including downtown crosswalks: \$135,000
- Replacement of defective sidewalks, scattered locations: \$50,000
- Construction of a new, 10-foot wide bicycle/pedestrian facility on the Washington Street Bridge, to provide a safer connection across the bridge for Mariners Trail traffic. This \$455,000 project, is to be completed in 2024, in advance of WisDOT-funded resurfacing of Memorial Drive and re-decking of the traffic lanes on the bridge in 2025. Funded through TID 12.
- Continued improvements at Neshotah Park, consistent with the park master plan approved in 2023: \$120,000
- Replacement of two DPW dump/plow trucks (both 2007 models), funded partly 2023, partly 2024: \$500,000 total
- Replacement of the City's 2013 street sweeper, borrowing to be repaid from the storm water utility: \$275,000
- Replacement of two police patrol cars: \$120,000



WELCOME NEW TOURISM DIRECTOR JOE METZEN!



Joseph Metzen began his duties as Tourism Director on January 15, 2024.

In that position, he will work with the board of directors of Explore Two Rivers in developing and carrying out strategies to further promote and develop tourism in our community.

Prior to coming to this position, Mr. Metzen served at the Hamilton Wood Type and Printing Museum as Development and Finance Officer since March 2021 and as Associate Executive Director at the Manitowoc-Two Rivers YMCA from 2011 to 2021. He has an extensive track record of community involvement, including a key role in creating the Spirit of the Rivers Monument.

The budget for the City's Tourism Office and Explore Two Rivers, Inc. is funded fully by room tax dollars collected from local lodging establishments.

For complete and up-to-date information on Two Rivers events and attractions, go to exploretworivers.com. To contact Joe directly, call 920-793-7200 or e-mail joemet@two-rivers.org.

City Council Meetings: View Them In-Person, Via Live Stream or on Spectrum Cable

Just a reminder that all regular City Council meetings (first and third Mondays of the month, at 6:00 PM) and the monthly work session (last Monday of the month, at 6:00 PM) can be viewed:

- In person (meetings are held in the third floor Council Chambers at City Hall)
- On the Two Rivers City Hall Facebook page (streamed live or viewable after-the-fact)
- On the City of Two Rivers YouTube channel on the web (live or after-the-fact)
- On Spectrum Cable Channel 993 (live broadcast only)

Agenda packets for Council meetings are posted to the City's website, www.two-rivers.org, generally by 4:30 PM on the Friday prior to the meeting



Racine North Beach (Photo by Swim Smart Warning Systems)

Room Tax Funds to Pay for New Beach Warning System

Another capital project planned for 2024 is installation of an automated beach hazard warning system.

Signs connected to the National Weather Service will provide beachgoers with information about beach conditions in real time. Signs are planned at Neshotah Beach and at the "new beach" near the north pier.

This \$30,000 project is being funded from room taxes, administered by the Room Tax Commission.

SPRING ELECTION APRIL 2, 2024

TWO RIVERS CITY COUNCIL MEMBER VOTE FOR 3

CANDIDATES ON BALLOT:

- DOUG BRANDT
- ANDREW QUACKENBUSH
- SHANNON DERBY
- JEFF DAHLKE
- MARK BITTNER



FOR MORE INFORMATION:
WWW.MYVOTE.GOV