

Naturalist Report September 2022

Admin/Finance

- The budget process continues with the City. Our personnel request for changing the Administrative Assistant position to full-time was not included in the proposed budget. In lieu of full-time, .75 hours has been proposed for 2023. The other notable change for the 2023 budget is that the 1000 Islands operating budget will be merged into the City General Fund instead of our stand alone 201 fund. Details of this change will be discussed at an Administrative/Finance meeting.
- The Outagamie County 2023 proposed budget includes a \$10,000 contribution to 1000 Islands. This portion of the budget is scheduled for review on October 25.

Education

- Our first annual Focus on the Fox event was held on September 25th. Despite a cool day, the event went well. An estimated 250 people attended with the highlight of the event being the children's fishing activity and paper making. We had great media coverage before the event through WHBY, Fox 11's Good Day Wisconsin and WBAY's Local 5 Live. A meeting to debrief and plan for next year will be held on November 1 at 9:00 AM.
- 1000 Island staff will be a part of two new collaborative programs in 2023. We will be working with the Kaukauna Public Library, Grignon Mansion and Recreation Department to offer Winter Fest on February 11 from 1:00-6:00 pm at the Lower Grignon Park and Fall Fest on October 14 from 7:30 AM - 2:00 PM at the Farmer's Market and surrounding downtown areas.
- Our Fall goat browsing session went well without any major issues. The Post Crescent published an article that was picked up around the state and Spectrum News 1 stopped out to do a story on the goats as well.

Building & Grounds

- HVAC upgrades are complete. Electrical work is completed and both furnaces and A/C units are working as expected. We are getting used to the new system for the Conservation room and may make some adjustments or move the thermostat to make sure temperatures stay where we want them.
- Concrete Cutters were in and removed a 6' section of our concrete foundation. City Engineer Neumeier, Streets Superintendent Van Gompel and Street Foreman Nelson decided the best plan was to pour new concrete, pinning the new section to the existing sections. The broken concrete by the two posts could not be cut out as there was no footing underneath the posts for support. The concrete will need to be ground down prior to installing new flooring in order to level out the sections. The Street Department has a grinder, but does not have a dust collection system, so this work may need to be contracted out.
- Stump grinding is complete and two new trees have been planted. A sugar maple and red maple were donated by Ken Grode and planted by the Street Department. There are two additional trees that we would like to get planted.
- Payment has been made for the stairs project. The project payment was \$41,391.90 plus an additional \$4,379.50 for additional stone on the path and rip rap for channel erosion per Engineer Neumeier's request. There will be one final payment of \$418.10 after the grass is established.