



City of  
**WHITEWATER**  
Live • Learn • Work • Play

# **CITY MANAGER'S REPORT**

**WITH JOHN WEIDL**

**March 18, 2025**



**Neighborhood Services maps are in progress, with several already completed.**

# POLICE DEPARTMENT



On February 24<sup>th</sup>, Detective Anthony Heilberger(Hile-ber-ger) pictured above received the Commander's Commendation Award during briefing. This award was received for his outstanding dedication to a child sexual assault investigation he was the lead investigator for. Detective Heilberger uncovered and located over a dozen other juvenile sexual assault victims from one suspect that spanned into multiple counties and states. Detective Heilberger (Hile-ber-ger) coordinated the investigation with all the different Law Enforcement Agencies along with the subsequent arrest for the sole male suspect who is presently confined in the Walworth County Jail for these violations.

- Command Staff completed the final round of Community Service Officer Interviews and moved two candidates into the background phase. These background investigations span weeks to complete and is handled by our Detective Bureau.
- PD staff had coffee with community members at Jessica's for the "Breakfast with the Badge" event.
- Captain Taft led a Spring Splash law enforcement planning meeting involving assisting law enforcement agencies.
- SRO Garcia, Officer Ellis(El-iss) and Officer Kozlowski (Koz-Lah-Skee) read to two

**classrooms at Lincoln Elementary for the Kiwanis Cops 'N Kids reading program. Each student was provided a free book. (pictured above)**

- **The PD was notified that it was approved to receive federally-funded human trafficking training later this spring. Once a date and time are confirmed, we'll be reaching out to surrounding agencies to offer any additional seats in the class.**

## FIRE DEPARTMENT



**For the week of Feb.20<sup>th</sup>- Feb.26<sup>th</sup>- Staff responded to 26 calls for service, making the daily average 3.71 calls for service each day. 2 calls for service required POC response. Average POC response for All Calls was 2.0 per call. Mutual Aid was requested once from Whitewater during this time.**

- **Friday, February 21<sup>st</sup>, Chief Freeman and Assistant Chief Dion attended the funeral visitation for Melvin “Sliver” Storck. Melvin honorably served the community as a firefighter for 26 years before retiring. In recognition of his service and dedication, the fire department will present Melvin’s family with a personalized memorial flag case as a tribute to his contributions.**
- **Friday, February 21<sup>st</sup>, Tower 121 responded to Lake Mills for a working structure fire. Tower 121 was staffed with 2 from the Duty Crew and 1 POC. 2 additional POCs responded to back staff the station.**
- **Monday, February 24<sup>th</sup> Chief Freeman and Chief of Staff Becky Magestro participated in delivering meals for Meals on Wheels.(pictured above)**
- **Monday, February 24<sup>th</sup> AC Dion provided referendum information during the Whitewater Unified School District School Board Meeting.**
- **Tuesday, February 25<sup>th</sup> Chief Freeman met with a vendor for Bunkroom furnishings. Bunkrooms are expected to be finished late April/early May.**

- **Wednesday, February 26<sup>th</sup> an All Call, call for service was paged for a vehicle fire in the Walmart parking lot. Captain Beckman responded from the DPW and 1 additional POC responded.**
- **It is with mixed emotions that we announce the resignation of Firefighter/Paramedic Riley Walters. Riley has accepted an offer of employment with the City of Milwaukee Fire Department—a lifelong dream of his. While we are sad to see him go, we are incredibly proud and excited for this new chapter in his career. We thank Riley for his dedication and service and wish him nothing but the best in his future endeavors!**

**For the week of Feb.27-March 5<sup>th</sup>- Staff responded to 44 calls for service, making the daily average just over 6 calls for service each day. 6 calls for service required POC response. Average POC response for All Calls was 1.0 per call (this average excludes Chief Freeman & AC Dion's response to 4 of these calls after hours). Mutual Aid was requested 1 time from Whitewater during this time.**

- **Friday, February 28<sup>th</sup> Whitewater responded to a MABAS call in Palmyra with a Tender for a Brush Fire.**
- **Wednesday, March 5<sup>th</sup> AC Dion attended a referendum Q & A at Fairhaven.**

# IRVIN L YOUNG LIBRARY



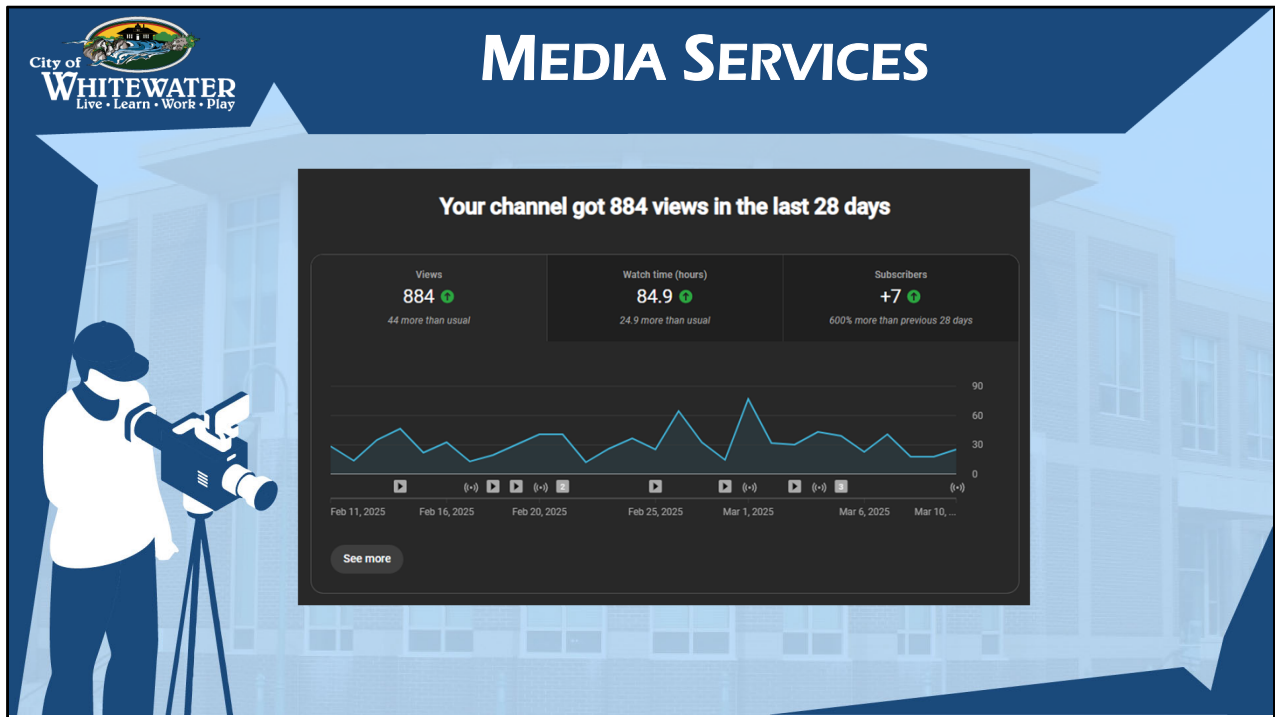
- The Library Expansion is progressing despite winter weather. Brickwork is nearly done, roofing wraps up soon, and interior work, including drywall, is underway. The addition feels surprisingly spacious! (pictured above)
- Library Director, Diane Jaroch, completed the 2024 Annual Report for the Wisconsin DPI and will now process adjacent county funding paperwork. She received a CVMIC plaque for completing the Emerging Leader Program and earned my Public Librarian Certificate, valid through 2030 with ongoing education.
- Upcoming library programs include Community Helpers Storytime on March 12 at 9:30 a.m. featuring a farmer at Cravath Lake Community Center. On March 18, Tea of the Month Club participants can pick up Tulsi (Tool-see) tea at the library. On March 26 at 1:00 p.m., Embracing Our Differences will offer stories, art activities, a collaborative mural, and watercolor painting in partnership with Be Kind Whitewater, with snacks provided.



# PARKS & RECREATION



- Logan McCarley (Muh-KAR-Lee) Pictured above has officially joined the WAFC Staff. Logan joined the WAFC team in November as an employee of the State of Wisconsin through Opportunities Inc., an organization based in Oconomowoc that provides independent living skills to its clients. Logan will be assisting with cleaning at the WAFC a few days a week, and we are excited to have him on board!
- The WAFC has a new logo! It was created by a small business based in Madison, WI (pictured above)
- Community Survey- We Want Your Input! The Whitewater Parks & Recreation Department is looking for YOUR feedback on Recreation, Special Events, and the Senior Center! Your responses will help shape future programs and activities in our community. The survey is anonymous, but if you'd like a chance to win: \$50 in Chamber Checks, 10-pack of WAFC day passes
- A free hoodie. Simply enter your name & phone number at the end!
- It takes about 15 minutes – but your input is incredibly valuable!



- Media Services recorded seven events, including the LWV Council Candidate forum and Whitewater Chamber video. Met with TDS to discuss P.E.G. channel signal handoff. Installed a new webcam in the council chambers. Created TIF informational videos and graphics for 2025 city events. Upgrading OWLs in meeting rooms before the next council meeting.
- Above is our recent YouTube numbers for the last 28 days. We had 884 views which is 44 more than usual and welcomed 7 new subscribers.



- **Recruitment & Selection**

Seasonal job postings are now live on the City's website. If you know an individual looking for a summer job—or if you're encouraging one to start looking—please direct them to our jobs' website for current opportunities.

- **Benefits**

- Representatives from R&R Insurance, Self Fund Health, and Associated Bank joined staff for three informational and feedback sessions regarding the changes to our health insurance and flexible benefit accounts. A total of 42 employees participated, asking a range of thoughtful questions—from “Can I really get my prescriptions for free?” to “Can I use the Direct Care Providers for urgent care?” Staff plans to conduct a follow-up survey later this year to gather additional feedback.

- **Retention**

- On March 7, employees celebrated National Employee Appreciation Day with a fun and festive event featuring chocolate treats, cotton candy, and a variety of prizes. Highlights included cash awards, floating holiday hours, a dozen eggs, the book *HR Approved Ways to Say Things I Can't Say Out Loud at Work*, and the much sought-after screaming goat. (pictured above)





- In the Economic Development Department, Met with UW-W HR and Walworth County Housing Authority to discuss housing options in Whitewater. Attended Chamber and JCEDC Housing Committee meetings.
- In Neighborhood Services the Landmarks Commission and Starin Water Tower Community Committee met on March 4, the Public Art Committee on March 6, and PARC on March 10.
- Don't forget The City of Whitewater is calling on artists to help transform everyday infrastructure into vibrant works of public art through the 2025 Traffic Box Public Art Project, Artful Transformation. This exciting initiative will enhance the city's downtown area by turning eight traffic signal control boxes into unique, community-inspired pieces. Applications are due April 16<sup>th</sup> at [www.whitewater-wi.gov/618/Public-Art-Projects](http://www.whitewater-wi.gov/618/Public-Art-Projects)



## CHIEF OF STAFF



# Thank You!

**Becky Magestro**

Chief of Staff

262-473-0101

[bmagestro@whitewater-wi.gov](mailto:bmagestro@whitewater-wi.gov)

**Becky Magestro, Chief of Staff, can be contacted for any inquiries or issues.**

# CITY MANAGER



## Thank You!

John Weidl  
City Manager  
262-473-0104  
[jweidl@whitewater-wi.gov](mailto:jweidl@whitewater-wi.gov)

**As always, John Weidl, Thank you!**