



City Manager's Report

with John Weidl

3/17/2026





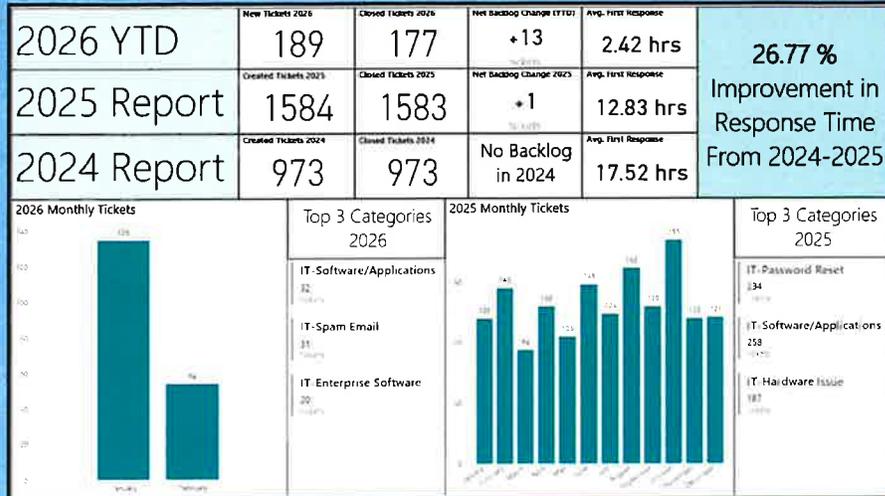
Highlights

For the second week in March, the Street Department crews were called in February 28 to plow and salt streets. Crews worked on clearing brush and trees from the Old Mill dam to meet compliance with the DNR. Other work included street sweeping, school crossing timer repair, reworking compost piles, removing incorrect website information from Business Park signs, street light repair and replacing a bench near Rosa's on Main Street.

In the Water Department staff is working on the Consumer Confidence Report. Once completed it will be posted on the website. Other work included collecting raw and finished water samples, setting new water meters, backwashing wells and locates. The contractor for the Well 7 modification project began painting Well 5 as part of the project.

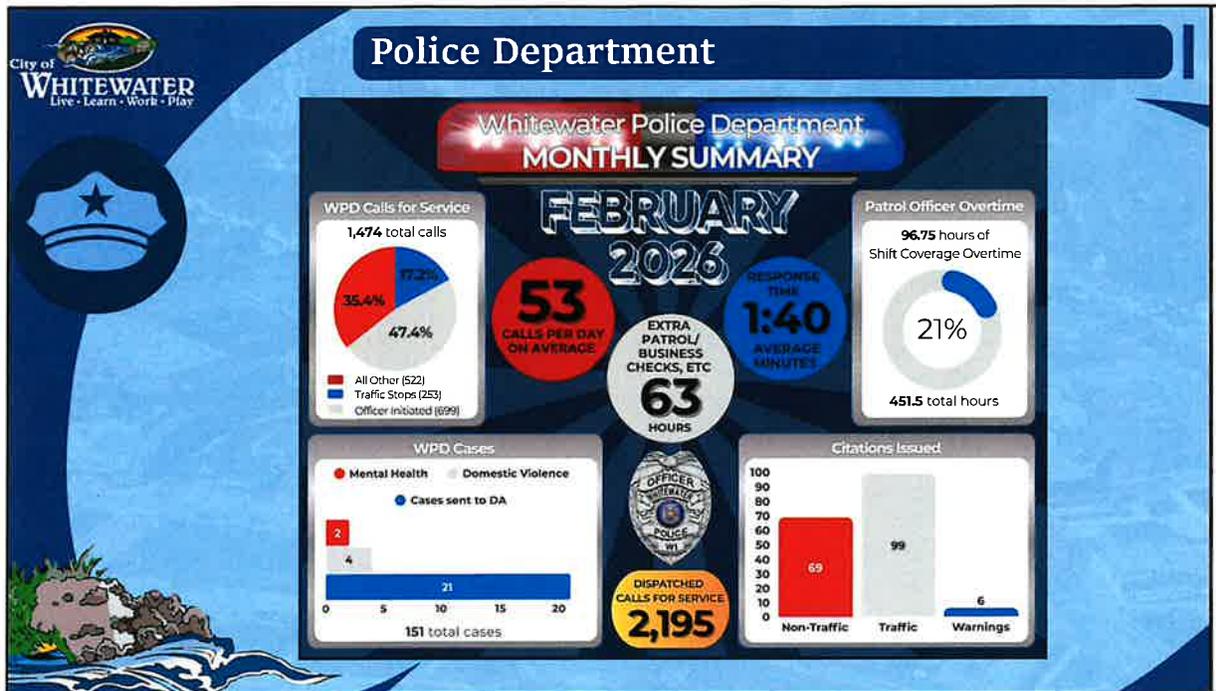
In the Wastewater Department the contractor was at the Vanderlip Pumping Station taking care of some punch item work. Staff is getting ready for Proficiency Testing for annual lab certification. Other work includes fixing a biosolid pump inhouse and reviewing quotes from contractors for collection maintenance work.

IT Department



Highlights

From 2024 to 2026, both service levels and response times have improved. In 2024, 973 tickets were opened and closed with an average first response time of 17.52 hours. In 2025, ticket volume increased to 1,584 opened and 1,583 resolved, while the average first response time improved to 12.83 hours. As of 2026 year-to-date, 189 tickets have been opened and 177 resolved, with a significantly faster average first response time of 2.42 hours. Ticket trends have also shifted: password resets were the primary driver in 2025, while 2026 requests are more focused on software/application support and spam-related issues. Automation and process improvements are being evaluated to reduce recurring requests. Response time metrics include all submitted tickets, even those entered on weekends and holidays, while urgent issues are escalated immediately.



Highlights

Recently officers formed Community Impact Team met to discuss the implantation of a domestic violence prevention program which is one of the team’s first priorities. The program will emphasize the use of a lethality assessment program as well as follow-up meetings with victims of domestic violence. Ultimately the goal is to prevent deaths associated with domestic violence, educate victims of the resources available to them, and reduce instances of domestic violence in our community.

Hiring updates: The application process for the Patrol Lieutenant opening closed on March 3rd. A total of four internal and two external applicants applied. Interviews will be held on March 19th. Our detective bureau is completing background investigations for our patrol officer applicants.

Details

Our detective bureau is completing background investigations for our patrol officer applicants. We are still hiring patrol officers! If you or someone you know wants an exciting and fulfilling career opportunity, check out the city website for more information on how to apply. Applications are due March 31st at 7am.

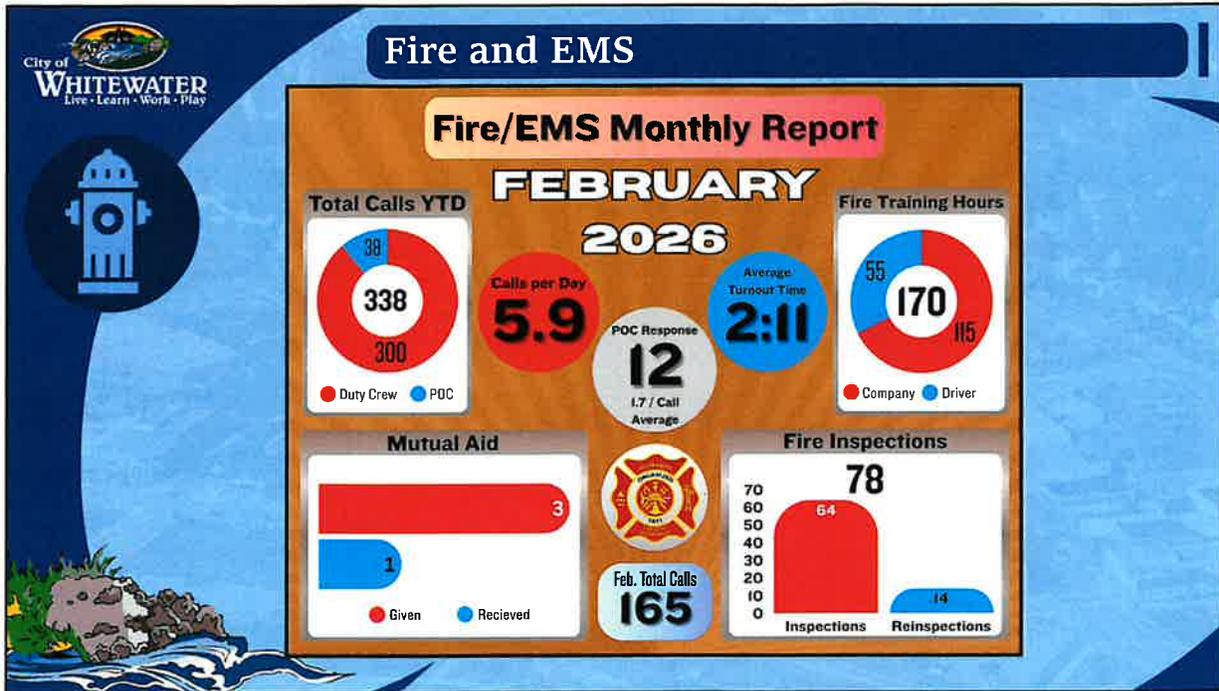
PD supervisory staff met for our bi-monthly staff meeting.

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Captain Taft assisted the Watertown Police Department as a panelist for their

Captain promotional hiring process.

PD staff met with Jefferson County staff at their firing range to evaluate the use of the facility due to current constraints at the Walworth County range facility.



Highlights

Week of Feb. 5th -11th

Staff responded to 39 calls for service, making the daily average of 5.5 calls for service each day.

1 call for service required POC response. Average POC response for All Calls was 2.0 per call.

Mutual Aid was not requested from Whitewater during this time, and we did not request Mutual Aid.

Week of Feb. 12th-18th

Staff responded to 41 calls for service, making the daily average of 5.8 calls for service each day.

3 calls for service required POC response. Average POC response for All Calls was 3.3 per call. The average POC response was abnormally high due to a structure fire call for service during Aerial class while additional staff were on site.

Mutual Aid was not requested from Whitewater during this time, and we requested Mutual Aid once.

Week of Feb. 19th -25th

Staff responded to 37 calls for service, making the daily average of 5.2 calls for service each day.

3 calls for service required POC response. Average POC response for All Calls was 1.3 per call.

Mutual Aid was requested once from Whitewater during this time, and we did not request Mutual Aid.

Week of Feb.26th – March 4th

Staff responded to 50 calls for service, making the daily average of 7.1 calls for service each day.

9 calls for service required POC response. Average POC response for All Calls was 1.5 per call.

Mutual Aid was requested twice from Whitewater during this time, and we did not request Mutual Aid.

- **The DNR conducted the FFP grant audit and that grant has been successful awarded and completed.**
- **The staff attended the quarterly operational meeting. Please accept our sincere apologies for the smell throughout City Hall during the day due to cooking corned beef and cabbage.**
- **The new Ladder Truck went into service. The old truck will be listed for auction on WI Surplus.**
- **Whitewater responded to Fort Atkinson with a Chief and a Tender for a brush fire.**
- **Whitewater were requested to Fort Atkinson with a Chief and a UTV for a brush fire. Both units were cancelled enroute.**
- **Whitewater responded to Elkhorn with a Truck and a Chief for a working structure fire.**

Details

2 staff members attended a career fair at Gateway Technical college for staff recruitment

AC Dion attended a meeting at Walworth Co regarding the G2 Station alerting addition to the radio project.

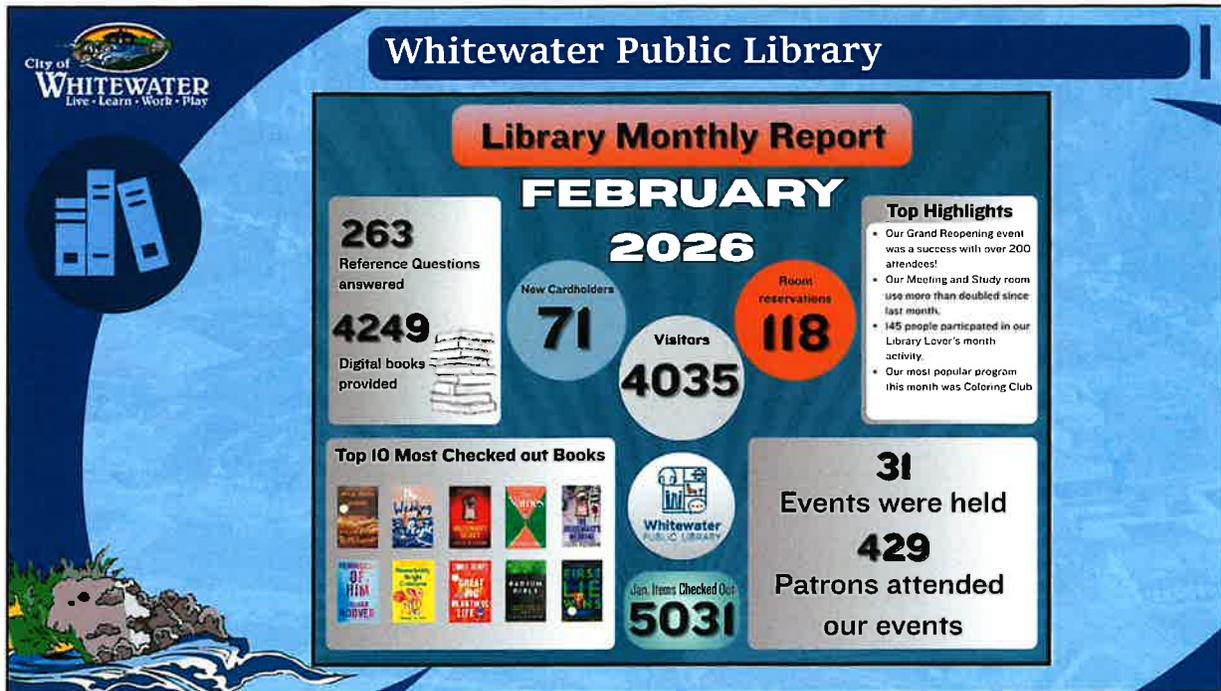
Whitewater responded to Fort Atkinson with a Chief and a Tender for a brush fire. Monday, March 9th Whitewater were requested to Fort Atkinson with a Chief and a UTV for a brush fire. Both units were cancelled enroute.

FF/Paramedic Alex Rohde worked his last shift as an FF/Paramedic for Whitewater FD. Alex will be moving to the Lacrosse area where he will continue his career in EMS as a Paramedic for a private ambulance service.

Chief Freeman attended the Rock Officers/MABAS 104 meeting at Rock Co communication center

Miranda Jasperson resigned from the position of FF/Paramedic. We wish Miranda the best in her futures ventures. A conditional offer was extended to a candidate from the eligibility list.

AC Dion attended an ISO class at Waukesha FD.



Highlights

The Whitewater Public Library saw strong engagement in February 2026, welcoming 4,035 visitors, adding 71 new cardholders, and recording 118 room reservations. Staff answered 263 reference questions, provided 4,249 digital books, and 5,031 items were checked out. The library hosted 31 events with 429 attendees, highlighted by a grand reopening with over 200 participants, increased meeting room use, and strong participation in Library Lover's Month activities. Overall, the month reflected high community use of library services and programs.

The library now has an expansive seating area located in the main aisle of the library. This area is located between the adult area and the children's area. This is a great place to sit, relax, and watch the various activities happening in the main part of the library.

We were excited to welcome back the Itty Bitty Art Show. We had to take a break from this annual community art activity during construction. We had such a great response this year, 48 applicants, that we had to utilize both display cases. We have a very talented group of individuals in Whitewater.

Stop by the library during March and see for yourself.

Thanks to a grant from the Whitewater Community Foundation the library has added two sensory kits to the collection. One kit is for use within the building, and the second kit can be checked out with a valid library card.

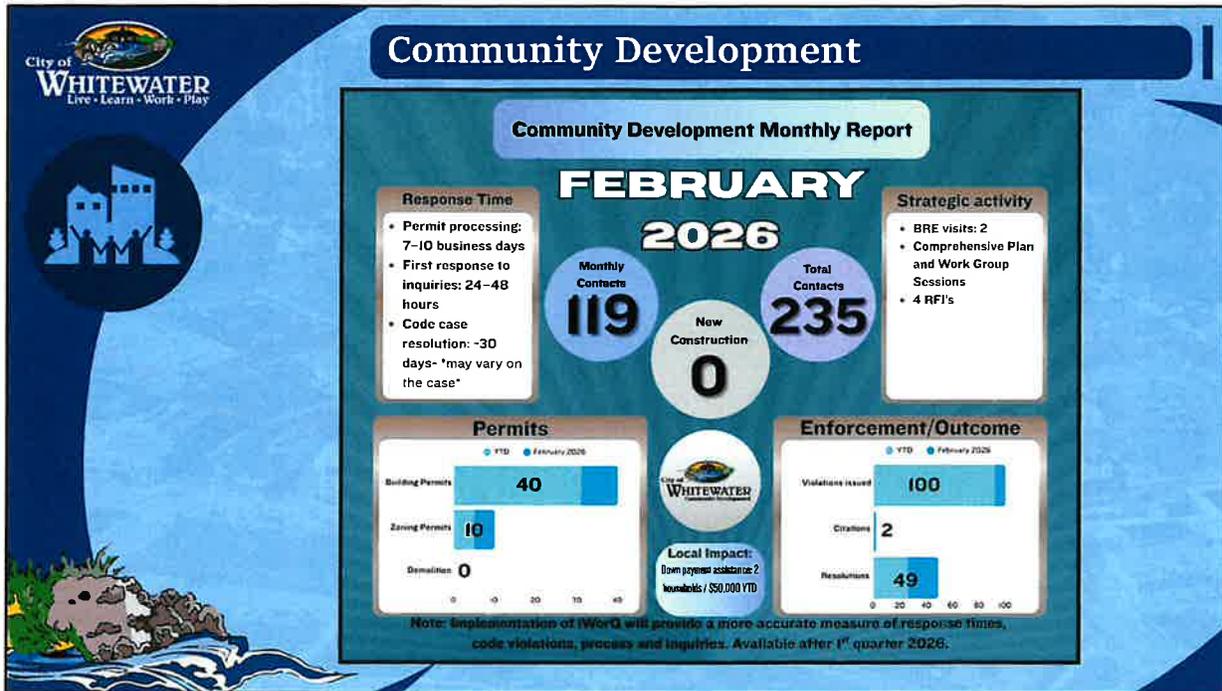
Details

On March 19 from 6:30-7:30 p.m. the library will host the First Gen Family Finance program offered in Spanish and facilitated by Fort Community Credit Union.

The library is also hosting the Nurturing Parenting program which meets every Wednesday from 5:00-7:00 p.m. through May 6. This program is offered in Spanish and is facilitated by Tree House Child and Family Center.

The Makerspace now has a full-sized loom for patrons to access. The loom was donated by Donna Benedict and belonged to her late husband, and local artist, Albert Benedict. Donna also donated one of her husband's sculptures that will soon be on display in the atrium area of the library.

Library staff will be participating in a Staff Inservice on March 13. Staff will be involved in various training sessions that will be led by both management staff and outside presenters.



Highlights

The Community Development Director and Whitewater Area Chamber of Commerce Executive Director conducted a Business Retention & Expansion (BRE) visit with Martin Brower on Executive Drive in the Business Park. The long-time Whitewater business distributes products for major clients including McDonald's and Chick-fil-A. The company noted it draws employees from across the region and is interested in expanding volunteer opportunities locally. The next BRE visit will be with Associated Bank's Whitewater branch later this week.

The Community Development Department submitted an AARP Community Challenge Flagship Grant proposal to transform the vacant lot at 108 E. Main Street into a safe, accessible pocket park that supports walkability, social connection, and age-friendly public space. The department also coordinated with the UW-Milwaukee Community Design Center and the City's Parks and Recreation Department; a student will assist in developing conceptual plans for the site.

The Whitewater Unified School District has received building permits for

several capital improvement projects, including a new tech wing, kitchen upgrades, driveway reconfiguration, and parking lot improvements at the high school; a dedicated bus lane at the middle school; and a new parking lot with minor renovations at Washington Elementary. The department has worked with the district and its partners to advance these projects.



Highlights

The Wisconsin Lake Leaders Institute is a leadership program for a small group of individuals that enhances the skills and broadens the capabilities of people in our lake communities to champion effective and communicative collaboration with the goal of protecting and managing our lakes. To be part of the institute, individuals had to be nominated through a pretty lengthy process. Michelle Dujardin was nominated by Don Huntington (Hunt-ting-ton) and received an acceptance email to join Crew 16. Over the next 8 months by attending three hands on seminars, Michelle will gain a better understanding of communication strategies, lake ecology, and how to work with state and local governments to assure lakes get the attention they need.

Be Part of the Whitewater 4th of July Parade! The City of Whitewater Parks & Recreation is inviting local businesses, community groups, youth organizations, classic cars, horses, performers, and more to join the 2026 Whitewater 4th of July Parade as we celebrate America’s 250th Anniversary to register- today at: www.wwparks.org

WAFC Swim Lessons: Swim lesson registration for our upcoming 6-week

session is going strong! We're already at 81 participants registered, and spots continue to fill as families prepare for the next session

Save the Date: 2026 Food Truck Fest: The Whitewater Food Truck Fest is coming to Cravath Lakefront Park! Saturday, September 26, 11 AM – 6 PM. Enjoy a day at the lake filled with delicious food trucks, music, and family fun. Bring your friends, bring your appetite, and enjoy one of Whitewater's tastiest events! This is also the same day as our Cattail pulling event! Big day!

Facilities:

Details

Curious About Nutrition? Come Chat With Us!

Have questions about how to improve your health, eat better, or understand nutrition labels? Stop by and talk with our Nutrition Guide for quick tips and simple strategies you can actually use in everyday life.

No pressure

Friendly conversation

Practical tips you can start using right away

Whether you want to learn about portion sizes, healthy habits, or reading food labels, we're here to help!

Friday, April 3rd

9:00 AM – Noon

WAFC Lobby – [Whitewater Aquatic & Fitness Center](#)

Best part? It's completely FREE! Just stop by the lobby, ask a question, and leave with helpful ideas to support your health. We'd love to see you there!

Youth Cheer: Our Youth Cheerleaders performed at the final Whippet Basketball game of the season! They brought incredible energy, spirit, and enthusiasm to an already exciting matchup. We're proud of the hard work and positivity they brought to the court.



Highlights

As noted in the Council packet, the City of Whitewater has been recognized as a Gold Level Family Friendly Workplace by Family Friendly Workplaces, a Wisconsin nonprofit that certifies employers with policies and practices that support working families. The City received this recognition in part due to its health care options, flexible scheduling, and infant-to-work policy, which help employees balance work and family responsibilities. This designation highlights the City's commitment to supporting employees and promoting a healthy work-life balance. The City will also use this recognition in recruitment and communications to showcase Whitewater as an employer of choice.

HR is currently in the thick of performance review season, carefully navigating a sea of evaluations, questions, goals and rating scales!

Anniversaries

Retention



Highlights

Media Services would like to welcome Nayla Brunnbauer (Brunn- bauer) to the team. Nayla will be working in the Media Department and collaborating with the Chief of Staff on the City’s public-facing communications. Welcome, Nayla!



Contact Info



For Questions or concerns:
Becky Magestro
Chief of Staff
262-473-0101
bmagestro@whitewater-wi.gov

For questions or concerns- reach out to Becky Magestro, Chief of Staff, 262-473-0101 or bmagestro@whitewater-wi.gov



Contact Info



John S. Weidl
City Manager
City of Whitewater



As always, I am John Weidl, City Manager of Whitewater.