



The Community Informer

608.764.5404 * www.deerfieldwi.com * 23 W. Nelson St., PO Box 66 Deerfield, WI 53531

Village Board Officials

President, Greg Frutiger 608-764-5505
 Trustees:
 Tessa Dunnington 608-335-6508
 Arnold Evensen 608-764-5520
 Gary Wieczorek 608-764-3122
 Scott Tebon 608-764-2710
 Kerri Hewitt 608-354-4232
 Tracy Curtis 414-688-5973

Village Meetings

A schedule of Village meetings can be found at the Community Calendar on the Village’s website.

Village Closings

The Village Hall and Public Works offices will be **CLOSED** on the following days in 2024:

- Monday, January 1
- Monday, May 27
- Thursday, July 4
- Monday, September 2
- Thursday, November 28
- Friday, November 29
- Tuesday, December 24
- Wednesday, December 25

Department Hours and Phone Numbers

Deerfield Village Hall 764-5404
 Hours:
 M - Th 7:00a - 4:30p
 Fridays 7:00a - Noon

Public Works/Water Utility 764-5497
 Sewer Utility 764-5820
 After Hours Emergency 209-0572
 Hours: M – Th 7:00a - 4:30p
 Fridays 7:00a - 11:00a

Building Inspector 576-6371
 Cable Commission 764-2514
 LRS Disposal 608-580-0580

Deerfield Public Library 764-8102
 Hours: M 12:00p - 7:00p
 T 10:00a - 6:00p
 W, TH 10:00a - 7:00p
 F 10:00a - 5:00p
 Saturdays 9:00a - 1:00p

The Library is closed Sundays

Community Center 764-5935
 Web Site: <http://www.dccenter.org>
 School Year hrs.: M-F 7:00a - 4:00p
 Summer hrs.: M-F 7:00a - 3:00p

Deerfield Food Pantry @ DCC
 Hours:
 By appointment (608-316-5213)
 Every Wednesday 9:00a-2:00p

Fire Department 764-5343
 Police (non-emergency) 764-5626

Village Trustee Positions up for Election in 2023

Three (3) Trustee positions will appear on the ballot for the April 2, 2024 Spring Election. If needed a Primary will be held February 20, 2024. Trustees serve for a two-year term. If you are interested in becoming a candidate, please contact the Village Clerk. The final day for filing nomination papers is 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, Jan. 2, 2024 at the Village Hall.

Tree and Brush Pick-up

Tree and Brush pick-up is on the 2nd and 4th Thursdays of each month, year-round.

President’s Message

Greetings Village of Deerfield citizens!
 We are once again back with winter upon us, so it is my time again to remind everyone what is expected of them after a snow event. Property owners are required to keep sidewalks and handicap approaches clear of snow and ice, also if there is a fire hydrant on your terrace it will aid the Fire Department if you would also keep it clear of snow. This year we moved into the new Village Hall, and the Historical Society and Chamber OF Commerce are in the old Village Hall. They are making some renovations and plan on opening soon. On the 1st of May Amy Posner started at the front desk as Deputy Clerk/Utility Clerk and is doing a great job. John Doyle the Director of Public Works retired this summer and we promoted Nathan Paoli as the new Public Works Director Nathan has been with the department for over 25 years and is doing a great job at his new position plus running the Waste Water Treatment Plant. Later this year we also hired Chuck Krause as a labor for the Public Works Department he comes to us with a strong mechanical back round which is a great asset to the Village. I would once again like to Thank the Village Hall staff, Public Works staff, the Village Board Village Committee and Commissions, Members of the Deerfield Volunteer Fire Department, Deer-Grove EMS, and our Police Department for their dedication to the citizens of the Village of Deerfield.



Wishing everyone a safe and Happy Holidays.
 Respectfully
 Greg Frutiger Village President

Snow and Ice Reminders

Here are some winter weather reminders to all Village residents:

- The Village plows during snow events of 2 inches or more.
- Ice and snow needs to be removed from sidewalks and walkways by 5:00 pm on the day after an event. If your sidewalk or walkway is not cleared by that time, the Village will remove it and charge you for the labor, with a minimum charge of \$80.00.
- It is illegal to shovel, plow or blow snow into or across any Village Street. Violators will be ticketed.
- Residents that have a Hydrant located on their property are responsible for keeping the Hydrant free of snow in a four-foot radius from the hydrant. Hydrants free of snow allow quick access in case of an emergency.

Review the Deerfield Village Code (28-9) for all related information on snow removal requirements in the Village. With everyone’s cooperation, we can enjoy a safe winter season!

Parking Regulations – Winter and Alternate Side Parking

Starting November 15 thru April 15 alternate side parking regulations are in effect. Between 1:00 a.m. and 7:00 a.m. all vehicles using street parking must park on the even side of the street on even dates and the odd side of the street on odd dates. Specifically marked streets are excluded from the alternate parking. Vehicles found parked illegally will be ticketed and/or towed at the owner’s expense.

*****Parking regulations are enforced regardless of weather conditions*****

No parking is allowed on Main Street between 2:00 A.M. and 6:00 A.M. from November 15 through April 15. If you have questions regarding alternate side parking or any other winter rules, please contact the village office.

Deerfield Library Update from the Librarian’s Desk
 By Leah Fritsche, Deerfield Public Library Director



From the Library Director’s Desk!

Wow! What an amazing 2023 we have had at the library. As I started to reflect on the past year for this newsletter, I was kind of blown away by how many regular and special events we offered the Deerfield Community. First, patrons had fun with all the polls, puzzles and prizes we offered. The “This or That” weekly polls were fun to answer and fun to see the answers to. We also had a few Take and Make crafts for both adults and families, along with some crafting ideas to do on your own and some seasonal bingos to try out. We had a successful Summer Library Program including the highest adult SLP participation we have ever had! We also enjoyed two author events this year. We had our virtual visit from Shelby Van Pelt to talk about her book ‘Remarkably Bright Creatures’ (and we enjoyed a free taco bar!) for our first ever Deerfield READS program. We also had a visit from the author Tea Krulos from the Milwaukee area who writes about haunted Wisconsin lore and stories. Music was a part of library programming as well, with a performance by Gaelic harpist Jeff Pockat and the ragtime duo Cherry and Jerry. Finally, we celebrated books by participating in the Dane County/Beyond the Page Banned Books Con, launching our 1000 Books Before Kindergarten program, offering regular storytimes and holding several book discussion groups on various topics throughout the year. And thank you to everyone who enjoyed Dinovember, with a focus on all things dinosaurs throughout the month of November. Thank YOU for participating in any or all of these fun and educational programs throughout the year, along with taking full advantage of all the services the library provides such as books, music, and movies to checkout, databases to search, copying and printing services, faxing and scanning services, computers and wifi, meeting space and help with your questions. We appreciate YOU and the wonderful community that is Deerfield!

VOTER REGISTRATION!

To ensure you are properly registered or to apply for an absentee ballot, please visit myvote.wi.gov or contact the Village Hall. MyVote is a great way to review your voter information, register to vote or to request an absentee ballot for the 2024 Election Cycle after January 1, 2024. Also check our new polling location at 23 W. Nelson St.!

Utility Payments

There are several options available provided to you when paying a Village utility bill. You can drop your payment off at the Village Hall, use the Automatic Payment Option that is internally processed at the Village Hall or mail it. **If you mail your payment, it must be in our hands on or before the 25th to be considered timely.** Another option is to sign up with Payment Service Network (PSN) to pay online, please see their terms and conditions.

Get more information at our website www.deerfieldwi.com or call our office at 608-764-5404 ext. 101.

Election Dates for 2024

NEW POLLING LOCATION:

23 W NELSON ST.

- February 20 – Spring Primary
- April 2 – Spring Presidential Preference
- August 13 – Partisan Primary
- November 5 – General

Community Development Trust Fund

Applications

CDTF applications are available at the Village Hall and are due by February 1, 2024.

Applications must be for long-term projects benefiting the Village.

The CDTF Committee reviews applications with recommendations made to the Village Board for approval. Call the Village Hall for more information.

Building Permits

Building Permits can be obtained from the building inspector, Chris Butschke. Contact Chris at 608-576-6371 or visit him on Thursdays from 11am-Noon at Village Hall. Blank Building Permit Forms can be found on the website.

Attention Dog and Cat Owners!



Dogs and cats are required to be licensed in the Village. 2024 Licenses should be obtained by March 29. At Village Hall for the amounts below:

- Spayed and neutered \$20 each
- Unaltered \$25 each
- Late fee (after 3/31) \$5.00
- *Late fees are charged to any licenses after March 29 (New pets excluded)

Dog Park Licenses

\$20 each
\$35 for owners with more than one (1) dog residing at same address

Please let us know if your pet has passed away, so we can update our system.

DO YOU HAVE CHICKENS?

Chicken licenses expire December 31. Renew your license before March 31 to avoid a late fee.



Reminder...

Discharge of fireworks is not permitted Per Village Ord. Sec 22-72

Compost Site Hours

- Jan, Feb, Mar, & Dec: Closed
- April: Saturdays only 8:00 AM – 12:00 PM
- May: Saturdays only 8:00 AM - 12:00 PM
- June: Wednesdays 5:00 PM - 8:00 PM & Saturdays 8:00 AM - 12:00 PM
- July: Wednesdays 5:00 PM - 8:00 PM & Saturdays 8:00 AM - 12:00 PM
- August: Wednesdays 5:00 PM - 8:00 PM & Saturdays 8:00 AM - 12:00 PM
- September: Wednesdays 5:00 PM - 8:00 PM & Saturdays 8:00 AM - 12:00 PM
- October: Wednesdays 5:00 PM - 8:00 PM & Saturdays 8:00 AM - 12:00 PM
- November: Wednesdays 5:00 PM – Dusk & Saturdays 8:00 AM – 12:00 PM

***November’s schedule is from Nov. 1 thru Nov. 16**

Budget numbers for 2024 and Mill Rate for 2023 tax bills

The Village Board approved its local 2024 budget on December 4, 2023, resulting in a general levy for of \$1,477,241.38 and an est. mill rate of \$5.79. This, along with the budgets from other taxing authorities less the State School Credit, will result in an est. total mill rate of \$21.07; an increase from 2023 of \$1.77 per \$1,000 of assessed property value.

| | 2023 Levy | 2024 Levy | Difference | % of Total Taxes | 2023 Mill Rate | 2024 Mill Rate | Decrease/ increase in cents |
|--------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|------------------|--------------------|--------------------|-----------------------------|
| STATE | \$ 0.00 | \$ 0.00 | \$ 0.00 | 0% | \$ 0.00000 | \$ 0.00000 | \$0.000000 |
| COUNTY | \$ 814,904.27 | \$ 952,310.02 | \$ 137,405.75 | 2.33% | \$3.235482 | \$ 3.735695 | \$0.5002668 |
| VILLAGE | \$1,412,239.40 | \$1,477,241.38 | \$ 65,001.98 | 1.1% | \$5.607131 | \$ 5.926399 | \$0.319268 |
| MATC | \$ 216,463.02 | \$ 228,515.61 | \$ 12,052.59 | .2% | \$0.0859441 | \$.0896415 | \$0.0036974 |
| SCHOOL | \$2,787,703.40 | \$3,221,469.04 | \$ 433,765.64 | 7.3% | \$11.068249 | \$12.637087 | \$1.568838 |
| TOTAL | \$5,210,677.18 | \$5,879,536.05 | \$ 648,225.96 | 11% | \$20.770303 | \$23.195596 | \$2.2604985 |
| Less State Credit | | | | | \$1.700243 | \$2.124370 | .424127 |
| NET MILL RATE | | | | | \$19.070060 | \$21.071226 | \$2.001166 |

The lottery credit for 2024 will be \$312.53 (for those who occupied their **primary residence as of January 1, 2023**) and the First Dollar Credit will be \$83.96. The assessed value of the Village increased to \$252,615,800 for 2023 which is an increase of \$3,240,200 over the 2022 value of \$249,375,600. This increase is attributed to the new housing and apartment projects in the village.

Property Tax Payment Information



Tax collection for December/January payments will be accepted at the Village Hall during normal business hours.

If you wish to pay your tax bill in December, payments will need to be received at the Village Hall before the close of business (12:00 p.m.) on December 29, 2023, postmarked before December 31, 2023, or **placed in the Village Hall drop box by 5:00pm Sunday, December 31, 2023**, to be credited in 2023.

* Note: The Village **cannot** start to process payments for Tax Bills until December 18, 2023.

For the two-installment payment plan, the first installment must be received before close of business (4:30 pm) on January 31, 2024, or postmarked January 31, 2024. Any payment received in the drop box or in person after 4:30 pm on January 31, 2024 will be considered late and late fees will be applied by Dane County. The second installment is due by July 31, 2024, to the Dane County Treasurer, and your bill will come directly from Dane County.

Open Burning Ordinance Updated

The Village updated its open burning ordinance (**Ch. 14, Sec. 14-50 Open Burning**). The Village still does not allow open burning (i.e. burn barrels, large bonfires, controlled burning) without a permit, but updated the code for exceptions for below-grade firepits, commercial manufactured outdoor fireplaces, and Certain cooking devices. Please review **Ch. 14, Sec. 14-50** if you have or plan to have any of the accepted methods for open burning in the Village to ensure it is compliant with the Village Code.

Comp Plan/Corp Update

The Planning Commission and the Parks Committee continue to work on the updated versions of the Village’s Comprehensive and Outdoor Recreation Plans. The goal is for these documents to be completed in spring/early summer to be used as guiding documents for the Village as planned or future growth happens. At the last meeting in November, the Committees discussed potential updates to various zoning texts, and a first look at the potential Future Land Use map. The next meeting for discussion on these documents will be held on **January 15, 2024 at 6:15 PM.**

Water Software

Over the last 6 months, the Village elected officials, water department, and staff have been working towards a much needed update to the Villages meter reading capabilities. In November, the Village Board approved the purchase of this new system which will reduce the amount of Village staff time to collect the water meter data. Included with this purchase, is a public portal system called Aquahawk. This system will be able to give residents real time readings on their monthly usage, estimates on usage, and notifications to residents if a leak or continuous running water is detected. More information on the meter reading system and public portal will be available as the Village gets closer to its go-live date. Watch the Village website for more information over the next couple of months. If you are interested in seeing how the public portal works or its capabilities, Aquahawk has some informational videos on YouTube.

Election Poll Book

The Village of Deerfield is excited to announce the new use of Electronic Poll Books, also known as Badger Books, for the upcoming 2024 Election Cycle. In 2017, Wisconsin Elections Commission (WEC) staff developed an electronic poll book system to be used in polling places in Wisconsin on Election Day. Enabled by Wis. Stat. § 6.79(1m), the Badger Book is the only electronic poll book authorized for use in Wisconsin elections..

Are Badger Books safe?

There are multiple layers of security to protect the system and voter information:

- BADGER BOOKS ARE NEVER CONNECTED TO THE INTERNET
- The data loaded onto Badger Books comes from WisVote, the secure statewide voter registration system
- Each Badger Book is password protected and each poll worker has their own user credentials to log in to the application
- Voter and participation data is encrypted and secure
- Badger Books communicate via a wireless router, but only within the polling place
- Like a paper poll book, only the data necessary to run an election is included, so no Personally Identifiable Information (PII) is accessible.

If you have any questions about the Badger Book program or would like to learn more, please contact the Village Clerk at: 608-764-5404 ext. 102

