

# WEST BURLINGTON

## Newsletter

### City Council Meeting:

First & Third Wednesday  
of every month at 6 p.m.



live broadcast on  
Facebook

[facebook.com/WestBurlington/](https://facebook.com/WestBurlington/)



### Contact Information

[www.westburlington.org](http://www.westburlington.org)  
West Burlington City Hall  
122 Broadway Street  
West Burlington, IA 52655  
(319)752-5451

### ELECTED OFFICIALS

Effective January 1st, 2022

#### MAYOR

Ron Teater -  
[teater@westburlington.org](mailto:teater@westburlington.org)

#### CITY COUNCIL

Therese Lees -  
[leest@westburlington.org](mailto:leest@westburlington.org)  
Andy Crowner -  
[crownera@westburlington.org](mailto:crownera@westburlington.org)  
Melanie Young -  
[youngm@westburlington.org](mailto:youngm@westburlington.org)  
John Johnson -  
[johnsonj@westburlington.org](mailto:johnsonj@westburlington.org)  
Kathy Newberry -  
[newberryk@westburlington.org](mailto:newberryk@westburlington.org)

## MESSAGE FROM MAYOR TROUSIL



*Farewell, Au Revoir, Auf Wiedersehen, Goodbye*

As I am writing this for the last time as Mayor of this beautiful community, I am so thankful to you, the residents who have supported me in letting me be your Mayor for the last 28 years. Our community has grown and prospered while keeping that small-town feeling. My job has been made easy by the excellent staff and employees of the city. I have had the pleasure of working with numerous elected and appointed officials that have served our community throughout the years, and I thank each one of them. My greatest supporters, my family, especially my wife Deb, I can not thank enough for the encouragement and love they have given me.

I congratulate Ron Teater and wish him the best as he takes over as Mayor. Deb and I will be traveling to visit grandchildren more often in the future, and maybe some out-of-country trips will also be in the plans.

Thank you,

*Hans K. Trousil, Mayor*



Please join us to bid farewell to our long time Mayor, Hans Trousil & City Council Member, Royce Heitmeier.

## OPEN HOUSE

December 15th, 2021 3-6 p.m.  
West Burlington City Hall  
122 Broadway Street

Then help us welcome newly elected officials Ron Teater, Mayor & City Council Members Melanie Young, Kathy Newberry, & John Johnson.

*Light refreshments will be served. We hope to see you there!*

# 'Tis the Winter Season



Snow and ice on sidewalks can be slippery and dangerous, not only to mail carriers and other delivery people but also to senior citizens, children, and the public in general. With winter approaching, we would like to remind residents and property owners that it is your responsibility to keep sidewalks adjacent to your property free and clear of snow and ice. City Code states that sidewalks must be cleared within 48 hours after the end of a snowfall. Properties that do not remove the snow or ice accumulations from their sidewalk may be subject to a fine of \$150 per removal, and the city may choose to perform the work and assess the costs against the property.

In best efforts for plows to remove accumulation effectively and efficiently after a winter storm, please try to keep parked vehicles off streets. This practice allows the snowplows to clear the streets quicker and with fewer passes. With everyone's cooperation declaring a snow emergency is unnecessary, as it can be costly and inconvenient for everyone.

Ultimately, the city cannot prevent snow from being pushed into your driveway apron by plows. Please be mindful of City Code when clearing paths. It is unlawful to throw, push, or place any ice or snow from private property, sidewalks, or driveways onto the street or alley. Residents may find it less frustrating to wait until plows have completed their street before clearing the end of their driveways.

The Public Works Department appreciates your cooperation and patience during snow removal.



## NEW

to

[WWW.WESTBURLINGTON.ORG](http://WWW.WESTBURLINGTON.ORG)



The City of West Burlington is adding a new feature to the city's website for residents seeking to privately hire landscape and snow removal services for the 2021- 2022 season.

If you or your business is interested in having your contact information published online, please stop by City Hall and fill out a registration form.

Once you are registered with the city, your information will be posted for the public to contact you directly. There will be a \$5.00 annual fee to be listed.

*The city will not coordinate services and is not responsible for the quality of work.*



# Water Tips for Cold Temperatures

PREVENT HOME WATER LINE FREEZE-UPS



Each year, homes in West Burlington may experience frozen water lines. Not only are they inconvenient, but they can cause extensive water damage when pipes burst.

*Tips to help you prepare your home for an Iowa winter:*

- If the water meter is in a crawl space, closet, or enclosed area of your home, be certain that heat and ventilation are adequate to prevent freeze-ups.
- Cracks and holes in outside walls should be sealed with caulking or spay-in foam to prevent cold air from reaching nearby pipes.
- Furnaces should be checked regularly, and doing so can prevent frozen pipes and is a safety measure. If your home is unoccupied, have a friend or neighbor check regularly, especially if the furnace is turned off or at a very low setting.
- Shut off water valves to outside faucets.
- All water leaks should be repaired immediately. Even a small leak can cause extensive water damage to your home and furnishings. In addition, the cost of leaking water is reflected on your bill.
- If a water pipe bursts, turn off the water at the main inside shut-off valve, typically located near the water meter.
- Do not try to thaw a pipe with an open flame. This can damage more than just the pipe; it may also start a fire.

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## Alternative Utility Payment Options:

- ON-LINE payments - [www.westburlington.org](http://www.westburlington.org)
- DROPBOXES - located at the front entrance and in the parking lot behind City Hall. The secure payment boxes are monitored by a surveillance camera & checked daily.
- DIRECT PAYMENT PLAN (AKA ACH payments) - Payments will be taken directly from a bank account around the 12th of every month. We ask that you complete a sign-up form before your first payment.

# Winter Driving

*From Chief Logan*



Another winter driving season is just around the corner. West Burlington Police would like to remind you of some simple tips to help keep you and your loved ones safe.

Make sure your vehicle is in good working order. Listed are items that, if not maintained properly, can cause issues or breakdowns on winter roads.

*Take the time to:*

- Check Tire pressure
- Change worn out wiper blades
- Check the battery condition
- Check fluid levels
- Clean off the windshield before driving
- Check the serpentine belt
- Keep your fuel tank at ½ tank or above

**Watch for approaching winter storms.** When we experience a severe winter storm, travel only if necessary. Check [511ia.org](http://511ia.org) for road conditions and weather closure before heading out.

**Slow down and pay attention!** Wet, icy, and or snow-packed roads can easily double the amount of space required to adequately stop your vehicle once you apply the brakes. Pay close attention to changing road conditions and traffic while you are driving.

**Stay in your vehicle.** If you are involved in an accident, and it is feasible, move to a safe location and call 911. Staying inside your vehicle is a much safer place to be rather than standing on the side of the road where other vehicles might hit you.

**Carry a simple winter kit.** A kit can be made from times you have in your home already. Place a tote containing a shovel, blanket, first aid kit, phone charger, and a small bag of kitty litter to help assist in case of an emergency.

# Boards & Commissions



The City of West Burlington has several opportunities for you to get involved. There are several Boards and Commissions to help make decisions and guide what the future of our community should look like. We are often looking for volunteers to fill these positions. Volunteering allows you to connect to your community and make it a better place to live, work, and play. Helping out with the smallest tasks can make a real difference to the lives of people, animals, and organizations in need. Volunteers are often the glue that holds a community together. The most significant benefit of getting involved and volunteering is the impact a group of dedicated volunteers has on the community.

- **Planning and Zoning Commission**—The Commission reviews and makes recommendations to the City Council on rezoning applications, subdivision plat approval, and amendments to the Zoning and Subdivision Ordinance. Commission members are responsible for reviewing zoning and subdivision applications regarding their impact on the neighborhood, community, environment, and the city's utilities and transportation systems. The Commission will be updating the city's 20-Year Comprehensive Plan over the next couple of years. The Planning and Zoning Commission meets quarterly or as needed.
- **Board of Adjustment**—The Board hears matters that could arise in conflicts on properties within the city, such as setbacks on lots or sizes of additions to current structures. The Board of Adjustment meets as needed.
- **Animal Hearing Board**—The Board consists of volunteer members, with at least one member representing the Humane Society and one representing the veterinarian profession. The Board conducts hearings and issues orders to abate animal nuisances and protect the community from dangerous animals. The Board also makes recommendations to the City Council and West Burlington Police Department concerning animal issues, including animal-related legislation, animal control regulations, and the Humane Society Animal Facility operation. The Board is not part of the Animal Control Enforcement Unit within the city but is an independent body created by this chapter. The Animal Hearing Board meets as needed.
- **Fire Department**—has openings for volunteers who are interested in joining. Applications can be picked up at WB City Hall.
- **Police Department**—has openings for reserve officers. Contact Chief Jesse Logan for more information.



## **West Burlington City Council is pleased to (re)introduce City Administrator Gregg Mandsager**

The City Council approved an employment agreement and announced the appointment of Mr. Gregg Mandsager during a City Council meeting on November 3, 2021.

Gregg may look familiar to you as he previously served as West Burlington's city administrator from 2000-2005. During his employment, the city benefited from significant housing and economic development.

Gregg brings with him the knowledge of nearly 25 years of experience in city government. He stepped into the role of interim city administrator in early summer 2021. Gregg has been busy working with the city council, city staff, and community members to prioritize the needs and wants of West Burlington.

*thank you*

## **To Those Who Have Served!**

During this time of year, the city would like to reflect and give thanks to all the volunteers, individuals, and organizations that continue to give back to our community.

A community is created by its people, and our city is grateful to those who continue to give their time unselfishly. We all have the opportunity to make the community what we want it to be, and together we will continue to do just that.

*A few of many thank you's for your service to the city!*

**Hans Trousil   Royce Heitmeyer   Ray Moad**  
**Bob Christy   Al Waterman   Kathy Christy**



CITY OF WEST BURLINGTON  
APPLICATION FORM FOR BOARDS/COMMISSIONS/COMMITTEES

Please Return To:

West Burlington City Clerk's Office, 122 Broadway Street

Phone: 319-752-5451

Throughout Iowa, cities use boards or commissions to handle a wide scope of important administrative duties. Additionally, board appointments are a great way to actively involve the citizens in the local governing process. Thank you for your interest in serving your community. Please provide the following information to help us find the perfect fit for you.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address \_\_\_\_\_

Cell Phone \_\_\_\_\_

**Select the City Board or Commission  
you are interested in serving on:**

- ☐ Planning & Zoning
- ☐ Board of Zoning Adjustment
- ☐ Animal Control Board
- ☐ Library Board Liaison
- ☐ Airport Authority Board
- ☐ Park Board

Are you currently a resident of West Burlington? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If so, how long have you lived in town? \_\_\_\_\_

Please describe why you are interested in serving on the selected Board or Commission:

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Have you previously served on a volunteer board or commission? If so, please explain your role.

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Please list your place of employment/or activities such as hobbies, volunteer work, etc. that you feel may help you succeed as a member of this board or commission:

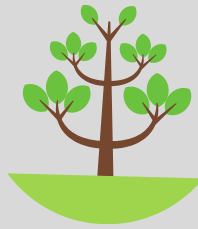
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Board and Commissions typically meet during the week, and meeting times vary by group. What time of day are you available to attend meetings? \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_



The city has awarded a grant to provide **FREE** trees to our residents! Saplings will be available in the spring of 2022 for residential use.

Call City Hall at 319-752-5451 to reserve your tree.

Trees will be reserved on a first-come, first-serve basis and in limited quantities.



City of West Burlington  
122 Broadway Street  
West Burlington, IA 52655

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## **Current West Burlington Resident West Burlington, IA 52655**

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