



# NORTH BAY NEWS

**DECEMBER 2023**

December 1st, 2023

## Newsletter Index:

**Treasurer:** 2024 budget; 2023 property tax bill; lottery & gaming credit; dog licenses  
**Letter from the President**  
**Spring Elections**  
**Public Works:** Snow removal  
**Water/Wastewater:** Sanitary sewer, what not to flush  
**Village Hall:** Upcoming meetings

**TREASURER** | Robert E. O'Brien

## **NEW PROPERTY TAX PAYMENT PROCESS THIS YEAR!**

Treasurer O'Brien sadly announced that, after decades of providing complementary tax collection service, Johnson Bank discontinued collecting or processing tax collections for Racine County municipalities. Johnson Bank diligently sought a replacement provider, but none materialized. The Village is grateful for their past service. Information on how to pay the tax bill will appear on the tax bill insert and the Village website. A few key points appear below.

- **New tax payment mailing address: Village of North Bay, 3615 Hennepin Place, Racine, WI 53402.**
- Taxpayers requiring receipt of payment are encouraged to use Racine County's MyTaxBill web app or provide an email address with payment.
- Copies of tax bills can be obtained online using [Racine County's MyTaxBill](#) web app.
- Tax payments will show up in the Racine County system as soon as they are receipted.
- For questions on tax bills or payments, please contact the Village Treasurer, Robert O'Brien at 262-681-0898 or [vnbtreasurer@northbay-wi.us](mailto:vnbtreasurer@northbay-wi.us).

**2024 VILLAGE BUDGET APPROVED** | [Click here](#) to review the 2024 Budget.

**2023 TAX BILL** | The 2023 property tax bills are expected to be mailed to North Bay property owners in the next few days. The Village 2024 Budget, approved Monday November 27, 2023, reflects a 4.5% increase from 2023, principally from inflation, anticipated loss of interest earned from reserve funds and the potential of a sanitary sewer lining project.

The overall tax bill, on average, reports a 6.8% increase, due primarily to the full effect of the \$1.1 Billion Racine Unified School District referendum passed by voters in 2020. That referendum expires in 2051.

[Click here](#) to review a report that compares all municipal levies and Mill rates between the years 2023 and 2022.

Please email Treasurer O'Brien ([vnbtreasurer@northbay-wi.us](mailto:vnbtreasurer@northbay-wi.us)) if you have questions on the tax collection process or details behind the Village Budget.

**LOTTERY & GAMING CREDIT** | If your North Bay home was your primary residence as of January 1, 2023, look at your tax bill to verify the credit was applied or check the [Lottery Credit Finder](#). The 2023 Lottery & Gaming Credit can only be claimed for one property and cannot be claimed by renters or on business property, rental units, vacant land, garages or other property that is not the primary residence of the owner. To add or remove the credit from the 2023 tax bill, contact the Village Treasurer at [vnbtreasurer@northbay-wi.us](mailto:vnbtreasurer@northbay-wi.us) or 262-681-0898 no later than January 31st, 2024.

**DOG LICENSES** | All dogs in Racine County are required to obtain rabies vaccinations and a dog license. If you recently moved to North Bay and your dog is licensed in another community, please provide the Treasurer with a copy of your license. Dog license applications were mailed with your property tax bill. You may also [click here](#) to download it.

## **LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT**

*Hello North Bay Neighbors,*

*In next April's election, the role of Public Works Trustee will be open as Rich Schmitt has decided not to run for reelection. Ahead of that, there is a village caucus on January 8, for others to announce their candidacy for this position. I urge those who have any interest in serving on the board in this capacity to contact a board member to learn more and consider running. Since 1951, sustainability of our unique community government has relied on residents generously committing their time and talents. But frankly, in the last few years, enthusiasm for serving on board has waned. As demands for our time have increased so has the difficulty of balancing community service with family and jobs but equally so is the satisfaction of accomplishing it. In my short time on the board, I've experienced some of the most rewarding moments in my life. It's been fun and fascinating. I've strengthened relationships with long-time neighbors and established new ones. As a newly elected president, the awkwardness of being in an unfamiliar position dissipated immediately through the support and encouragement of my fellow board members; another wonderful North Bay tradition. Even if you are only mildly intrigued, I hope you will reach out to one of us.*

*For Village related emails, please direct messages to: [ynbpresident@northbay-wi.us](mailto:ynbpresident@northbay-wi.us). For all phone calls, please call my home number: 262-681-9353.*

*Thank you!*

*Sincerely, President Mark J. Schall*

## **SPRING ELECTIONS**

**SPRING PRIMARY ANTICIPATED** | If a spring primary is necessary, it will occur at Village Hall on Tuesday, February 20th, 2024.

**3 VILLAGE OFFICES UP FOR ELECTION** | The Village offices that are up for election on April 2nd, 2024, appear below. Each position serves two years. Both Trustee Cermak and Treasurer O'Brien intend to seek reelection.

- |                                  |                              |
|----------------------------------|------------------------------|
| ★ Trustee #1 Public Works:       | Incumbent Richard D. Schmitt |
| ★ Trustee #3 Water & Wastewater: | Incumbent Rick Cermak        |
| ★ Treasurer:                     | Incumbent Robert E. O'Brien  |

**SEEKING CANDIDATE FOR TRUSTEE #1 PUBLIC WORKS** | Please see the Letter from the President article above.

## **VILLAGE CAUCUS - NOMINATION DAY! | 7:00 PM Monday, January 8th, 2024**

Every candidate for any elected Village office shall be nominated by caucus or by nomination of papers in accordance with the provisions of Section 8.05 of the Wisconsin Statutes. The Village Caucus and Board of Trustee meetings are open to the public.

If you are interested in running for one of 3 Board of Trustees positions on April 2nd, 2024, please review [Chapter 3](#) and plan to attend the Village Caucus. Duties of each position appear in [Chapter 2](#) of the Village Code of Ordinances.

To appear on the Ballot for the Village of North Bay Executive Board, candidates must be nominated by 2 eligible voting residents at the Village Caucus scheduled for 7:00PM on Monday, January 8th, 2024, which is also the first 2024 Executive Board Meeting.

Candidates are encouraged to attend the Caucus, however, if they are unable to attend, they may still be nominated and file the required Candidacy papers with the Village Clerk within 5 days of the nomination. Candidates may nominate themselves. Questions? Contact [Clerk Panthofer](#).

## **PUBLIC WORKS | Rich Schmitt**

### **Village of North Bay - Lakeshore Park restoration**

As you may have noticed, the Lakeshore park has begun an improvement project. In recent years the area had been taken over by many invasive species and had become unmanageable for the Village as well as our Contractors. In an effort to regain control of the area and provide ongoing maintenance it was determined that we take action. The first effort was to clear existing weeds, brush, trees and debris in order to assess the overall condition and develop a comprehensive plan of what issues need to be addressed to determine requirements for a new design allowing for long term beautification and maintenance for years to come.



#### Overall goals:

1. Eradicate invasive species to prevent spread and allow manageable ongoing maintenance.
2. Address any other immediate concerns noticed following access to review the grounds.
3. Provide easier Policing/Awareness of unwanted activities for our Law Enforcement partners
4. Overall Beautification for residents.
5. Allow easier access in order to continually monitor and address future required projects.

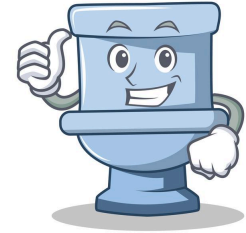
We are in the process of obtaining recommendations and design proposals for the redesign/plantings over the next few months to execute in the Spring. We will provide updates as information becomes available.

**2023-2024 SNOW REMOVAL** | Winter is upon us and the Village needs your help. To keep streets clear, please do not blow or plow snow into the street. If you have a snow removal contractor, please notify them. If a fire hydrant is on or near your property, please help keep it clear. The clear away zone is 3 feet around the hydrant with a clear pathway to the street so firefighters may access it.



## **WATER & WASTEWATER** | Rick Cermak

**SANITARY SEWER** | Did you know that the Village of North Bay is responsible for all expenses associated with maintaining the lift stations that pump waste from North Bay homes to the sewer below North Main Street? During a recent service visit, numerous items were detected in the pits of both lift stations that pump sewage out of the Village.



### **WHAT NOT TO FLUSH - 16 ITEMS FOR THE TRASH CAN (& NOT THE TOILET!)**

Please, will you help the Village limit costly repairs? Lower repair bills directly impact the Village budget and property taxes. Together, we can minimize costly repairs and extend the life of North Bay's lift stations. \* List source: [www.wastewaterts.com](http://www.wastewaterts.com) For general information about Racine Sanitary Sewers, visit [www.cityofracine.org/WasteWater/SanitarySewers/](http://www.cityofracine.org/WasteWater/SanitarySewers/)

***An easy rule of thumb: Do not flush anything besides human waste & toilet paper!***

Baby Wipes	Paper Towel/Tissues	Hair	Bleach
Diapers	Dental Floss	Medication	Cooking Grease
Menstrual Products	Gum	Cat Litter	Food
Condoms	Q-Tips & Cotton	Cigarette Butts	Fish

## **VILLAGE HALL** | Clerk Dori A. Panthofer

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETINGS** | Board of Trustee meetings scheduled as of this publication appear below. General meeting information may be found on the [Village Meetings](#). Please note, [Public Comment](#) may only be given orally and in person at the beginning of the regularly scheduled Board meeting.

Meetings are held at Village Hall located at 3615 Hennepin Place. Meeting notices and agendas are posted on the bulletin board at Village Hall and the Village website under [News and Announcement](#) at least 24 hours prior to the meeting.

### **Upcoming meetings:**

January 8th, 2024	7:00 PM - 2024 Village Caucus
	7:10 PM - Board of Trustees Meeting
February 12th, 2024	7:00 PM - Board of Trustees Meeting
March 11th, 2024	7:00 PM - Board of Trustees Meeting

### **CONTACT INFO**

Visit <https://northbay-wi.us/contacts/> for the list of Executive Board Members (Elected Officials), Appointed Officials and Service Providers.

