

# West Burlington City Newsletter

March 2005



## Local News and Update by City Administrator Gregg Mandsager

This spring the City of West Burlington will enter the third year of an aggressive street improvement program that aims to upgrade or reconstruct many of our local streets. We were able to do this without assessing property owners by taking advantage of low interest rates and bonding for \$3 million dollars. All of these improvements were made possible through our Tax Increment Financing (TIF) district. We certainly appreciate your understanding and cooperation during the construction season, and hope that the benefits that these new streets and sidewalks provide outweigh the inconveniences you experience during construction.



In an effort to improve the street construction process, the City Council recently met with our engineers, the Concrete Paving Association, and representatives from the local concrete industry to discuss quality assurance, testing, and other construction issues. As part of our efforts to shorten the construction period and lessen the inconvenience for our residents, we are going to try a new method to set contract completion. In recent years we have used a "contract completion date" where the City sets an actual date whereby the work needs to be completed. This allows the contractor the most flexibility in completing the work and hopefully allows for a good contract price, but it does allow for the contractor to start and stop work more often as long as the work is completed by the completion date. This coming construction year, we intend to use what is called a "working day" format for our contracts. The contractor will be given a late start date and a certain number of working days to complete the project. This number will be fair, but we will use the shortest timeframe possible to hopefully keep the contractor working continuously. Each week we will determine the number of days that could qualify as working days by IDOT (Iowa Department of Transportation) standards, and those days that qualify will count against the total number of working days allowed per the contract. Hopefully, this will keep the contractor on site and the project flowing more smoothly from our resident's viewpoint.



### *Special points of interest:*

- Information regarding West Burlington Drinking Water
- Leaf burning information
- City Ordinance Quotes
- Mayor Minute
- Fire Department
- Spring Clean Up
- Police Chief
- Permits

Our tentative plan for the construction season calls for reconstruction of; Broadway Street from Glasgow Street to Van Weiss Street; reconstruction of Glasgow Street from Winter Street to West Burlington Avenue; and repair and improvements to N. Gear Avenue from North of Brushtown Road to the North Corporate limits. If you have any questions before or during construction, please do not hesitate to call City Hall. As always, please feel free to call or stop in with your questions or comments.



Our new drive - up utility payment drop box is available for your convenience. The drop box is located in the new parking lot behind the new City Hall building. Please use the drop box for your water utility payments and parking tickets.

## IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER

West Burlington Municipal Water Has Levels of Total Trihalomethanes\* Above Drinking Water Standards



Our water system recently violated a drinking water standard. Although this is not an emergency, as our customers, you have a right to know what happened, what you should do, and what we are doing to correct the situation.

We routinely monitor for the presence of drinking water contaminants. Testing results we received on December 20, 2004 show that our system exceeds the standard or maximum contaminant level (MCL), for total trihalomethanes. The standard for total trihalomethanes is 0.080 mg/L. The average level of total trihalomethanes over the last year was 0.122 mg/L.

**What should be done? You do not need to use an alternative (e.g., bottled) water supply.** However, if you have specific health concerns, consult your doctor.

**What does this mean?** This is not an immediate risk. If it had been, you would have been notified immediately. However, some people who drink water-containing trihalomethanes in excess of the MCL over many years may experience problems with their liver, kidneys or central nervous system and may have an increased risk of getting cancer.



**What happened? What is being done?** Currently, we are working with our water supplier, Burlington Municipal Water Works, along with the Engineering firm Snyder & Associates to rectify this situation. We anticipate resolving the problem within 6-12 months.

\*Trihalomethanes (THMs) are DBPs that are formed when chlorine used to control bacteria in drinking water reacts with natural organic matter (i.e., decaying vegetation) in the source water. The THMs are chloroform, bromodichloromethane, dibromochloromethane, and bromoform. The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) set the maximum allowable annual average level of all the THMs combined (total THMs or TTHMs) in a public water system at 80 parts per billion.



Please share this information with all the other people who drink this water, especially those who may not receive this notice directly ( for example, people in apartments, nursing homes, schools and businesses.) You can do this by posting this notice in a public place or distributing copies by hand or mail.

For more information, please contact City Administrator Gregg Mandsager at (319) 752-5451.

This notice is being sent to you by the West Burlington Municipal Water Supply PWSID # 2985002

### IS YOUR STREET LIGHT OUT?

To report a street light outage, Please directly call Alliant Energy at 1-800-255-4268. This insures proper location and information to those servicing the light.



### Missed the City Council Meeting?

West Burlington City Council meetings are now televised on Wednesdays and Fridays at 9 a.m. and again at 7 p.m. on Channel 18



Leaf Burning  
on **Wednesdays**  
and **Saturdays**  
only

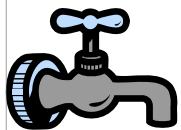
**April 1-21**

Reminder: No burning on asphalt  
or  
sealcoated streets

## CITY CODE “QUOTE”

### Water Service

**92.05 Service Discontinued** Water service to delinquent customers shall be discontinued in accordance with the following:



1. Notice. The city shall notify each delinquent customer that water service will be discontinued if payment of the combined service account, including late payment charges is not received by the date specified in the notice of delinquency. Such notice shall be sent by ordinary mail and shall inform the customer of the nature of the delinquency and afford the customer the opportunity for a hearing prior to the discontinuance.

4. Fees. A Fee of twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) shall be charged before service is restored to a delinquent customer. No fee shall be charged for the usual or customary trips in the regular changes of occupancies of property.

### Canvassing and Peddling

**122.02 Registration.** Any solicitor or peddler in the City must register with the Police Chief and at the time of said registration must furnish the Police Chief with a brief statement of activity in which said person proposes to engage, including the nature of the item or items for which the said person is soliciting or which said person is peddling. The Police Chief may issue a registration card or permit to such solicitor or peddler. No charge shall be made for any permit so issued.

**122.03 Permit Required.** Any person engaged in soliciting or peddling in the City without first obtaining a permit, as

Please note: The above quotes are highlights from the ordinance chapter. Please contact West Burlington City Hall if you wish to review the full ordinance.



## Greetings from Mayor Trousil

We have been fortunate in the last few years to escape the Iowa winters with little to moderate snow and severe cold weather. In the past few winters we have been able to remove accumulated snow from our streets and alleys without having to declare snow emergencies. This is due to our Public Works Crews planning and anticipating when to get out to sand and plow the streets. Their continued dedication to put in long hours during snow falls is greatly appreciated. We also appreciate the cooperation of the residents within our community removing their vehicles from streets so that the plows can clean from curb to curb, during snow storms.



As elected officials, we will continue to work for our constituents in promoting our community to interested persons who, currently live within, or those who want to relocate or establish themselves in West Burlington. We look forward to the year 2005 to see more new homes and businesses being built in our community.

Volunteerism is a vital necessity to every community. Each and every one of us can be involved in our community. There are many ways to be involved. Our Planning and Zoning Board currently needs new members, the West Burlington Fire Department is actively recruiting new volunteer firefighter; and the West Burlington Police Department is in the process of looking for dedicated persons to help fill the rolls of Reserve Police Officers. The fourth of July celebration in 2004 was an excellent event in our city. Help is needed for future celebrations. If you are interested in serving our community, contact me at City Hall.





## West Burlington Fire Department

Throughout the month of January, the West Burlington Fire Department has been very busy due to the increase in Fire Department alarms and training. The West Burlington Fire Department completed an 8 hour Incident Command Class, visited the West Burlington Christian Church with the Royal Rangers, tested the ladder truck and all ground ladders, and started the EMT-B 24 hour recertification training.

Bi-Monthly meetings are an important aspect of the Fire Department. The West Burlington Fire Department members attend meetings on 1st and 3rd Monday evenings each month. The first meeting of the month is utilized by having a training session and discussing new/old business. The meeting on the third Monday is used for additional training and Firefighters Association Meeting. All meetings start at 6:30 p.m., and the meeting may last until 9:30 p.m. or so.

The West Burlington Fire Department is in need of help. More volunteer firefighters are needed. In 2004 the West Burlington Fire Department was staffed by 30-32 volunteers. Ideally, the Fire Department would like to have 38-40 volunteers.

The Department is committed to serving the City of West Burlington and the Rural townships it protects. If you are interested in joining the West Burlington Fire Department, please stop by City Hall and pick up your application.

The West Burlington Fire Department members approved the addition of Daniel Aney to the department pending city council approval.

The West Burlington Fire Department ended the 2004 year with 422 alarms.

| CITY                     |            | RURAL                     |            |
|--------------------------|------------|---------------------------|------------|
| Fire & Rescue            | 70         | Fire & Rescue             | 73         |
| EMS Calls                | 170        | EMS Calls                 | 109        |
| <b>Total City Alarms</b> | <b>240</b> | <b>Total Rural Alarms</b> | <b>182</b> |



**January 2005 proved to be an extremely busy month for the West Burlington Fire Department. The fire department responded to 59 calls in 31 days.**



### **Spring Clean – Up**

**April 18** Broadway and East

**April 25** West of Broadway

City crews **will** pick up the following:

**appliances, furniture, carpet, mattresses and other items LaVeines would not normally pick up.**

Crews **will not** pick up: tires, **hazardous materials or liquids, batteries, yard waste, household trash or demolition materials.**

All items must be curbside by 7 a.m. on your collection day.



### **4th of July Celebration**

The initial planning for the Second Annual City of West Burlington 4th of July Celebration has begun. Please contact City Hall if you are interested in becoming a part of the celebration. If you have any suggestions or thoughts regarding the celebration, please call 319-752-5451



## From the Desk of West Burlington's Chief of Police

As we head into Spring and Summer, we remind motorists to watch for children playing in or near our city streets. Young people often times do not pay attention to vehicle traffic as they are enjoying the outdoors with their friends and pets.



In the past few months, several people have expressed an interest in beginning or renewing the Neighborhood Watch program in their area. The West Burlington Police Department would be willing to assist neighborhoods in the community to form local watch groups. Neighborhood Watch is a program that brings neighbors together to protect themselves against crime and to allow people to get to know each other. When neighbors look out for each other, we are all safer in our homes and neighborhoods. If you are interested in forming a Neighborhood Watch Group, please contact the West Burlington Police Department at 754-8555 during regular business hours and ask for Officer Deb McCulloch or Chief Alex Oblein. We would be happy to help you get things started.

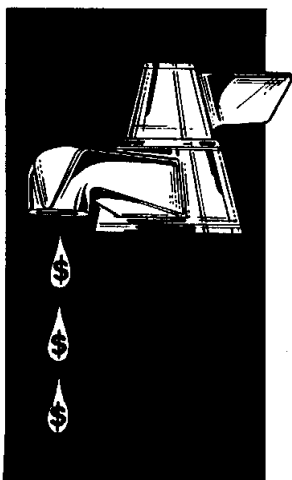
We have begun strictly enforcing fire lanes around schools and businesses in West Burlington. Fire lanes are parking areas set aside for emergency vehicles to respond to fire or medical emergencies. Fire lanes are usually marked with red painted curbs and/or red stripes on the road surface. Vehicles should not be stopped or parked in these areas. Violators may receive a citation if their vehicles are found parked in a marked fire lane.

The West Burlington Police Department would like to welcome a new officer to our ranks. Officer Al Waterman was hired in October after serving two years as a Reserve Officer for West Burlington. Officer Waterman attended the 201<sup>st</sup> session of the Iowa Law Enforcement Academy, graduating on December 17<sup>th</sup>, 2004. Al is married to Jeannett, who also serves West Burlington as a Reserve Police Officer. Officer Waterman is currently in a field-training program that should be completed by the end of March. We are extremely pleased to have Officer Waterman serving our community.



If you have any questions or concerns involving the West Burlington Police Department, don't hesitate to contact me during regular business hours at 122 Broadway Street or phone 754-8555. If you are the victim of a crime, see a crime taking place, or need the services of an officer, call 911.

Chief Alex Oblein



IF YOUR WATER BILLS SEEM HIGH don't blame the water meter or your department officials.

## STOP THE LEAKS!

You probably do not realize that a dripping faucet or other unsuspected leaks may be the cause.

### WATER WASTE AT 40 POUNDS PRESSURE

- a 1/32" leak wastes 170 gallons in 24 hours
- a 1/16" leak wastes 600 gallons in 24 hours
- a 1/8" leak wastes 2500 gallons in 24 hours

At \$1.00 per thousand gallons the smallest of these leaks will add over \$62.00 to your annual water bill.

### STOP THE LEAKS!



**BadgerMeter, Inc.** Utility Division  
4545 W. Brown Deer Road, P.O. Box 23099  
Milwaukee, WI 53223-0099 1-800-876-3837

S-3239

## Attention: Local Artists:

**City Hall  
would like to  
display your  
artwork on  
our walls. If  
interested, please con-  
tact Gregg Mandsager,  
City Administrator at  
752-5451.**



**BUILDING PERMIT REQUIREMENTS**

| <b>TYPE OF CONSTRUCTION</b>          | <b>PERMIT<br/>REQUIRED</b> | <b>FEE<br/>REQUIRED</b> | <b>COMMENTS</b>  |
|--------------------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------|--|
| 1. New Construction, Addition        | yes                        | yes                     |  |
| 2. Alteration & Repair               |                            |                         |  |
| Homes                                | yes                        | no                      |  |
| Garages, Residential                 | yes                        | no                      |  |
| Commercial/Industrial                | yes                        | yes                     |  |
| Stg. Bldgs. (shed)                   | yes                        | no                      | UP TO 100 SQ FT. OVER THIS A PERMIT<br>IS REQUIRED AND FEE CHARGED.  |
| 3. Remodel (interior/exterior)       |                            |                         |  |
| <b>RESIDENTIAL</b>                   | no                         | no                      | Permit required only when altering or effecting<br>Load bearing part of structure. PERMIT<br>REQUIRED AND FEE CHARGED. |
| <b>BUSINESSES ONLY</b>               | yes                        | yes                     |  |
| 4. Fences                            | yes                        | no                      |  |
| 5. Public Sidewalks                  |                            |                         |  |
| New                                  | yes                        | no                      |  |
| Repair                               | yes                        | no                      |  |
| 6. Driveways, including<br>curb cuts | yes                        | no                      |  |
| 7. Roof                              | no                         | no                      | PERMIT REQUIRED ONLY WHEN LOAD<br>BEARING MEMBERS ARE EFFECTED.  |
| 8. Siding                            | yes                        | no                      |  |
| 9. Decks                             | yes                        | no                      |  |
| 10. Patios                           | yes                        | no                      |  |
| 11. Swimming Pools                   | yes                        | no                      | WADING POOLS NOT INCLUDED  |
| 12. TV antenna, satellite            | yes                        | no                      |  |
| 13. Demolition                       | yes                        | no                      |  |
| 14. Moving of building               | yes                        | no                      | Permit obtained from Police Chief.   |