Burlington City Hall
300 N. Pine Street
Burlington, WI
53105
262.342.1161

CITY OF BURLINGTON COMMON COUNCIL

Robert Miller, Mayor
(262) 342-1161

First District Aldermen

Bob Prailes
(262) 763-5194

Ed Johnson
(262) 763-8321

Second District Aldermen

Peter Hintz
(262) 763-7063

Ruth Dawidziak
(262) 763-3965

Third District Aldermen

Tom Vos
Council President
(262) 763-2213

Jon Schultz
(262)757-8580

Fourth District Aldermen

Tom Preusker
(262) 661-4488

Todd Bauman
(262) 210-9257

Announcements

December: Santa's Chalet will be open the first three weeks of December on Fridays from 6-8 p.m., Saturdays from 2-4 p.m. and Sundays from 2-4 p.m. in Wehmhoff Square Park.

Mid December: 2013 Real Estate and Personal Property Tax bills to be mailed. First installment payments are due by January 31, 2014. If you want to claim a deduction on your income taxes, you must pay by December 31, 2013.

December 24, 25, 31 and January 1: Non-emergency City offices will be closed for the holidays.

January 16: The Annual Chamber of Commerce Dinner and Auction will be held at Veterans Terrace, 589 Milwaukee Avenue starting at 6 p.m. to celebrate our 70th year as Burlington Area Chamber of Commerce. Call 763-6044 for more information.

March 22: The Annual Home Show & Chocolate Extravaganza will be held on Saturday, March 22 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Burlington High School, 400 McCanna Parkway.

April 1: City Compost Site opens. Call the Department of Public Works at 539-3770 for specific hours.

CITY STAFF DIRECTORY

City Hall
300 N. Pine Street - 342-1161

Robert Miller	Mayor
Kevin Lahner	City Administrator
Megan Watkins	Director of Administrative Services
Steve DeQuaker	Treasurer/Budget Officer
Patrick Scherrer	Building Inspector
Diahnn Halbach	City Clerk

Fire Department
165 E. Washington Street - 763-7842

Perry Howard	Fire Chief
John Niederer	Fire Inspector

Public Library
166 E. Jefferson Street - 342-1130

Gayle Falk	Library Director
Joy Schupp	Youth Services Director
Carole Rybarczyk	Adult Services Director

Police Department
224 E. Jefferson Street - 342-1100

Peter Nimmer	Police Chief
Mark Anderson	Lieutenant

Public Works - Streets/Parks/Water
2200 S. Pine Street - 539-3770

Craig Workman	Public Works Director
Dan Jensen	Supervisor - Streets & Parks

Public Works - Wastewater
2100 S. Pine Street - 539-3646

Craig Workman	Public Works Director

Municipal Court
300 N. Pine Street - 342-1129

Marvin Daniel	Municipal Court Judge

Recycling Collection Schedule

- Week of December 8 - 14
- Week of December 22 - 28
- Week of January 5 - 11
- Week of January 19 - 25
- Week of February 9 - 15
- Week of February 23 - March 1
- Week of March 9 - 14
- Week of March 23 - 28

December Meetings

12/3	6:30 p.m.	Common Council
12/4	6:30 p.m.	Police & Fire Comm.
12/10	6:30 p.m.	Plan Commission
12/17	4:00 p.m.	Library Board
12/17	6:30 p.m.	Common Council
12/19	6:30 p.m.	Park Board
12/19	6:30 p.m.	HPC
TBD	6:00 p.m.	Airport Committee

January Meetings

1/7	5:30 p.m.	CDA
1/7	6:30 p.m.	Common Council
TBD	6:30 p.m.	Police & Fire Comm.
1/14	6:30 p.m.	Plan Commission
1/16	6:30 p.m.	Park Board
1/21	6:30 p.m.	Common Council
1/23	6:00 p.m.	Airport Committee
1/23	6:30 p.m.	HPC
1/28	4:00 p.m.	Library Board

February Meetings

2/4	5:30 p.m.	CDA
2/4	6:30 p.m.	Common Council
2/5	6:30 p.m.	Police & Fire Comm.
2/11	6:30 p.m.	Plan Commission
2/18	6:30 p.m.	Common Council
2/20	6:30 p.m.	Park Board
2/25	4:00 p.m.	Library Board
2/27	6:00 p.m.	Airport Committee
2/27	6:30 p.m.	HPC

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Inside Burlington

Volume 23 / Winter 2014

The City's Official Newsletter

City of Burlington
300 N. Pine Street
Burlington, WI 53105

2014 Real Estate Taxes

It's that time of year again where the days get shorter, the temperatures cooler and thoughts and plans of family get-togethers begin. This is also the time of year when the City of Burlington gears up for the winter and completes its annual budget for the upcoming year.

As in the last three years, the City held the Citizen Budget Partners (CBP) process again this year in an effort to maintain transparency, keep the public informed of City operations and to seek input from residents on policies and budgetary items that will be affecting the City in the next fiscal year. The CBP was a huge success again this year. The City gained valuable input on a number of issues and items related to the 2014 Budget. All of this is important as the Budget is directly related to the Levy that is needed to fund the programs for 2014. The Levy is what generates the tax bills to the property owners in the City of Burlington.

Your tax bill is made up of a number of parts. There are six taxing bodies in the City of Burlington: the State of Wisconsin, County of Racine, Burlington Area School District, City of Burlington, County of Racine Handicap (Disability and County provided Human Services), and Gateway Technical College. All of these taxing bodies provide the City with a levy that is used to calculate the overall tax charged to property owners in the City of Burlington. In addition to the taxes charged by the taxing bodies, First Dollar and Lottery Credits are also available. The State of Wisconsin also provides a small of amount of tax credits which are automatically deducted from the levy from each taxing body – typically called State Credits.

The total levy, in combination with the overall assessed value of the city, creates the MIL rate which is what is used to generate the individual tax bills. In 2013, the City rate was $7.81 per $1,000 of value. The overall Tax rate in 2013 for the total bill was $21.80 per $1,000, less Lottery and First Dollar Credits.

Real Estate Tax Bills

Real Estate tax bills are prepared and mailed on or about December 15. Please contact City Hall if you do not receive your tax bill or if you have any questions regarding your tax bill. City Hall and the participating banks listed to the right will accept checks, money orders, bank checks or cash. This year the City is again partnering with Official Payments (www.officialpayments.com) for online credit card or e-checks to pay your taxes. There is a service fee of 3% added to your tax payment amount to use this service.

First installments are paid to the Municipality in which you live. City Hall is a collection point for other municipal tax payments in Racine County but only for past due taxes and second installments. First installment checks should be made payable to "City of Burlington Treasurer". If you are bringing in an escrow check make sure you endorse the check. If it is made out to two parties and the City, both parties must endorse the check. It is your responsibility to make sure your escrow agent/mortgage company receives a copy of the tax bill if you are escrowing your taxes. We will apply the full amount of your escrow check, not a portion of it to your tax bill.

To have your tax payments credited in 2013 you must pay in person by December 31; or if you are mailing your payment to City Hall, envelopes must be postmarked by December 31, 2013 to be applied to 2013. We cannot apply payments to 2013 after December 31st in accordance with state statute.

If for some reason you cannot pay your taxes when they are due, you are encouraged to contact the Racine County Treasurer's office for help. They can explain the requirements and laws regarding assistance and late payments. The County Treasurer recommends that you should pay as much as you can by the due dates to avoid 18% penalty and interest on late amounts. She also recommends that if you use your credit card, even thought there is 3% fee to you, it is still less expensive than the 18% annual penalty and interest fee.

When in doubt, you can always call the City Treasurer's Office with questions at (262) 342-1170.

Make Payments at These Convenient Locations

CITY HALL

300 N. Pine Street • Burlington, WI
Monday – Friday : 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Closed on Saturday & Sunday

Also Closed: December 24st, 25th, 31st & January 1st

www.OfficialPayments.com
**A small fee is charged by Official Payments*

FOX RIVER STATE BANK

241 E. Jefferson Street • Burlington
Monday – Thursday 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Friday – 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Saturday – 8 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Open on December 24th & 31st until 12 p.m.

Closed: December 25th and January 1st

** Tax payments will not be accepted at bank drive-up windows.*

BMO HARRIS BANK

1000 Milwaukee Avenue • Burlington
Monday – Thursday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Friday – 9 a.m. – 6 p.m.
Saturday – 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Open on December 24th & 31st until 1 p.m.

Closed: December 25th, January 1st & January 20th

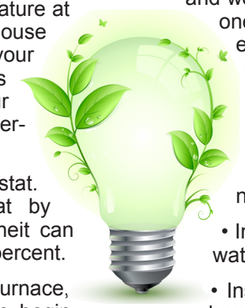
** Tax payments will not be accepted at bank drive-up windows.*

Save Energy Costs This Winter

Properly preparing your home for cold weather can save energy, help keep your winter energy bills under control, and keep you and your family warm when temperatures drop.

Heating

• Install a programmable thermostat and set it to lower the temperature at night and whenever the house is unoccupied. Lowering your thermostat by 10 degrees at night can reduce your heating bill by 10 to 20 percent.



• Lower your thermostat. Lowering the thermostat by just one degree Fahrenheit can reduce energy use by 3 percent.

• If you have a forced air furnace, inspect your filters at the beginning of the heating season and monthly during the season and replace them if there is significant dust build up.

• Install foam insulation gaskets behind electric outlets and switch plate covers.

Windows and doors

• Install do-it-yourself plastic-film storm windows.

• Open south-facing window curtains, drapes and blinds during the day. Close window coverings at night to keep the heat in.

• Check window frames for cracks and fill them with caulk that contains silicon and save you up to 5 percent on your energy bill.

• Check all exterior doors for air leaks and weatherstrip and caulk as needed. A one-eighth-inch gap around a door is equivalent to a 6-inch-square hole in the side of your house and causes a lot of energy loss.

Water heater

• Make sure the water heater is set no higher than 125 degrees.

• Install a water heater blanket if your water heater is older than 5 years.

• Insulate the pipes around the water heater with inexpensive, easy-to-install pipe insulation.

Fireplace

• Never use a traditional fireplace for supplemental heating. A fireplace sucks heated air out of your home to fuel the fire and exhausts it through the chimney, and then your furnace has to turn on to replace that warm air.

• Close the fireplace damper and seal the opening shut when not in use.

• Replace older or loose fireplace dampers. Have a sheet-metal insert installed, which will prevent some heat loss and help reflect heat from the fireplace back into the room.

Special tips for holiday lighting

• Dispose of older incandescent lights and buy new LED holiday lights. Older strings of incandescent holiday lights can use up to 99 percent more energy than new LED light strings.

• Turn on your holiday lights for no more than 6 hours per day. Purchase a lighting timer to turn lights on and off automatically.

• Always unplug holiday lights before going to bed or leaving the house.

• Don't overload your circuits. Check your fuse box or circuit breaker panel to see how much load you can add to your house, stay within these limits to reduce the risk of fire.

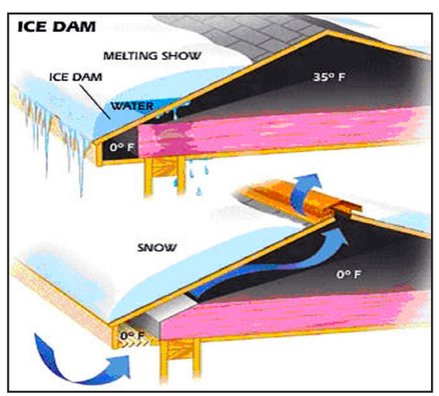
Learn More

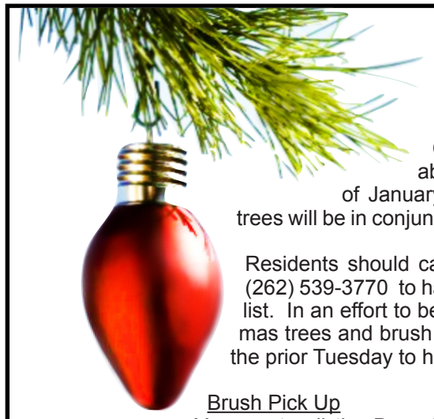
To learn more, visit Focus the Energy website at www.focusonenergy.com or call 1.800.762.7077. Focus on Energy is Wisconsin's statewide energy efficiency program. Since 2001, the program has worked with residents and businesses to install cost-effective energy efficient projects.

Protect Your Home From Ice Damming

Ice damming occurs when snow and ice collect in a certain area of the roof. Some roofing configurations are more prone to ice damming than others. Melting snow on the upper portion of the roof cannot drain properly as it is trapped behind the ice dam. If the dam is large enough and sufficient water collects, it will back up under the shingles and leak into the eaves or worse, into the exterior walls of the building interior.

Ice dams are most common on low slope roofs or roofs which change from a high slope to a low slope. The largest dams tend to form over unheated areas, such as porches, and attached garages. Ice damming problems do not necessarily occur every winter. They normally occur after periods of heavy snowfall when daytime temperatures are at or slightly above freezing while nighttime temperatures are below freezing. Effective solutions to ice damming problems are increased attic insulation and ventilation. These two measures reduce the air temperature in the attic so that there is less tendency for snow to melt over the heated portions of the house. Also, protection should be provided beneath the shingles for a distance of at least 2.5 feet beyond the interior of the exterior walls. Heating cables can also be used, however, they are considered to be a less desirable approach. Heating cables must be turned on prior to the accumulation of snow and ice. In some cases, they can aggravate a situation rather than improve it if they are turned on after the ice dam has formed.





Christmas Tree Collection

Christmas tree collection will be available the second and fourth Wednesdays of January and February 2014. Pick up of the trees will be in conjunction with brush pick up the same days.

Residents should call the Department of Public Works at (262) 539-3770 to have their address placed on the pick up list. In an effort to be cost effective, we only pick up Christmas trees and brush that has been called in. Please call by the prior Tuesday to have your address added to the list.

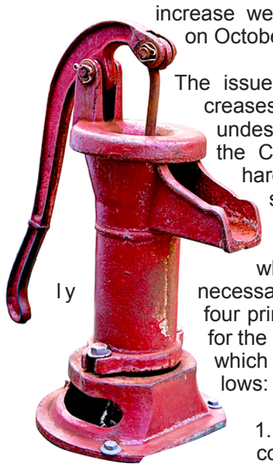
Brush Pick Up

You must call the Department of Public Works and have your address placed on the Brush Pick Up List. If you do not call in your address, your brush will not be picked up. In an effort to be cost effective, we only pick up brush that has been called in. Brush pick up continues to be on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of the month, weather permitting, and needs to be called in by the prior Tuesday.

Water Rate Increase

The Burlington Municipal Water Utility has filed an application with the Public Service Commission of Wisconsin for the authority to increase water rates. Rates for general service will increase 3%. This increase is necessary to reduce the existing deficiency in present rates. The request is being made under Wis. Stat. 196.193. Rate increases granted under this statute do not require a public hearing.

Public Fire Protection and Wholesale rates will also increase 3% and this rate increase went into effect on October 1, 2013.



The issues of rate increases are always undesirable and the City tries very hard to make sure that increases are only made when absolutely necessary. There are four primary reasons for the rate increase, which are as follows:

1. Operational costs are increasing as a result of increases in energy costs, increases in chemical and supply costs, and due to the new radium removal systems in place. We need to increase our cash flow in order to cover these costs.

2. There are major capital needs in the water department on the horizon. The maintenance of the standpipe on Dunford Drive and the elevated tank on Origen are at the top of the list. In addition, improvements are needed in our water distribution system, including costly water main improvements on Kendall Street and others.

3. When we completed the Comprehensive Rate Case in 2011, we increased rates more than 30 percent. At this time, our rate consultant recommended regular small increases under a simplified rate case situation as opposed to large increases several years apart.

4. Our auditor, Pat Romensko, has recommended increasing rates due to low cash reserves.

If you have any questions about the rate increase request, please call the Burlington Municipal Water Utility at (262) 342-1173.

Free Smoke Detectors

In an effort to reduce the number of fatalities in home fires, the City of Burlington Fire Department is recommending that homeowners make sure they have the appropriate number of working smoke alarms in their homes, and to make sure they are installed for proper operation and maximum efficiency.

The City of Burlington Fire Department was awarded a grant for smoke detector installations from the Focus on Fire Prevention Foundation (FFPF). This grant awards the Fire Department 150 to 300 smoke detectors for installation in residential dwellings within the city, including ionization, photo-electric and special detectors for the hearing or visually impaired.

Residents can apply to have a trained City of Burlington Fire Department personnel install the detectors from November 1, 2013 to April 30, 2014. Applications can be picked up at the Fire Station, 165 W. Washington Street, City Hall, 300 N. Pine Street or on the City website at www.burlington-wi.gov.

Can You Help?

Are you a resident with a fire hydrant in front of your home? Please help us by keeping the hydrant clear and visible. Clear about 3 feet in all directions from the hydrant and have a path available to the street. Keep the snow banks around the hydrant low to improve visibility of the hydrant. A few minutes of your time will aid the fire department in the event of an emergency.

On behalf of all of us from the City of Burlington Fire Department we wish you a safe and happy holiday season!

Know What To Do When It Snows

It's that time of year again! The City of Burlington Police Department and Department of Public Works want to remind you of a few things before Wisconsin winter strikes again. During snowstorms, the City of Burlington's primary goal is to provide for the safe and orderly movement of emergency equipment and the traveling public. Ice control and snow clearing operations are hindered by on-street parking.

Streets

City crews make every effort possible to safely remove snow from all streets in a timely manner after a snowfall. State highways are the first streets to be plowed, followed by the main (arterial) streets, side streets, and then parking lots and alleys.

Please remember that snow removal in front of a mailbox is the property owner's responsibility. City crews will make every effort to plow as close to the mailbox as possible.

Any concerns/questions regarding snow plowing can be directed to the Department of Public Works at (262) 539-3770.

Sidewalks

Keeping the sidewalks clear of snow and ice is something that is not only a courtesy to other people in your neighborhood for walking, but also required by City Ordinance. As the owner, occupant or person in charge of a residence(s) in the City, you are responsible for the removal of any snow and ice that has accumulated on the sidewalk in the front of the residence(s) within 18 hours of the snowfall. Any ice that has formed on the sidewalk must be treated to prevent the area from being dangerous.

Failure to maintain the sidewalk within this 18-hour timeframe may result in the Street Department cleaning your sidewalk in which case the City will bill the owner (cost of labor, equipment usage and administrative fees).

All reports of unshoveled or icy sidewalks after the 18-hour period should be directed to the Department at (262) 342-1100.

Winter Parking Regulations

Winter is officially here and the snow season is quickly approaching. There are several parking restrictions that may take effect when the snow falls. The restrictions are in place to ensure the streets can be efficiently and completely cleared of snow. It should be noted that alternate side parking (see ordinance 293-3) remains in effect year round, with two exceptions, 1) A Declaration of Snow Emergency, or 2) Winter Restricted Parking.

Winter restricted parking automatically goes into effect when 3 inches or more of snow accumulates in 24 hours or less, or snow has fallen or been blown in such a manner as to produce a congestion of traffic or a traffic hazard. Parking is prohibited between 10 p.m. and 6 a.m. This will remain in effect for 48 hours or until plowing is completed.

Declaration of Snow Emergency applies to more severe conditions that may be caused by snow accumulation. These emergency conditions will be declared by the Common Council and/or the Mayor and will be broadcasted to the general public. When such an emergency is declared, parking is prohibited at all times on city streets, alleys and public parking lots where the emergency situation exists for the duration of the emergency declaration. Two hours after this is broadcasted, the Police Department may remove any vehicle parked in violation of emergency declaration.

Any vehicle parked in violation of either of the two above ordinances may be towed at the owner's expense and will be ticketed for illegal parking. Please help our Department of Public Works this winter by keeping your vehicle off city streets during any snowfall but certainly when there is 3 inches or more.

Snowmobiling in the City

The policy of the Burlington Park Board does not allow snowmobiles to operate in the City of Burlington parks except on designated snowmobile trails. The DPW Supervisor and the Park Board must approve locations of snowmobile trails in the city parks. Trails must be clearly marked (by trail users) and such markings are to be kept in good repair.

The DPW Supervisor will have the authority to close snowmobile trails when, in his judgment, there is insufficient snow cover or when he feels the use of snowmobiles has become abusive to the parks or to the general public in any way.

In general, the City ordinance states that snowmobiles cannot operate on highways or streets, and can only operate on the "Official Snowmobile Routes", between the hours of 9 a.m. to 11 p.m. from November 15th to March 15th. The routes are to be marked every 100 feet and are marked to prohibit travel at speeds greater than 15 mph. The official Snowmobile Trail map can be found on the City's website at www.burlington-wi.gov under the Maps page.

Winter Fun at the Library!

Programs for Children

Wii Gaming
Tweens, come game on Thursdays at the library from 3:30-4:30 p.m. No registration necessary.

Story Time with Ms. Joy
Come listen to books, learn finger plays and rhymes, and sing and dance! Children ages 3 and up are invited to attend on Tuesdays in the Meeting Room at 10:30 a.m., Dec. 3 and 10; Jan. 14, 21, 28 and Feb. 4, 11, and 18. No registration is necessary.

Lap-Sit with Ms. Jane
Finger plays, bouncing movements, rhythmic play and stories are the core of this program for toddlers ages 2 and under and their caretakers. We will meet in the Children's Room on Tuesdays at 10:30 a.m. Dec. 3 and 10; Jan. 14, 21, 28 and Feb. 4, 11, and 18. No registration is necessary.

Building Blocks
Play and learn with Linda Breuer from Love, Inc.'s Family Smart/Kid Friendly Partnership. This program of musical activities, books and social play is for babies and toddlers up to age 4 and their families. This session runs Wednesdays, Dec. 4 and 11. Register onsite in the library Meeting Room.

ABC, Music and Me
Linda Breuer from Love, Inc. hosts this program which highlights musical activities featuring Kindermusik for children 2-4 years old and their parents/caretakers. This session runs Wednesdays, Jan. 15, 22, 29 and Feb. 5, 12, and 19 from 9:30-10 a.m. There is no cost; for more information and to register, contact Linda Breuer, Children's Resources at Love, Inc., 763-6226 ext. 107.

WannaWatchaMovie?
Come watch a recently released movie at the library! Monday, Dec. 30, at 1:45: Universal Pictures presents this sequel to the wildly successful 2010 animated picture, "Despicable Me," following Gru (voiced by Steve Carell), the ex-scheming evildoer-turned-parental figure. Rated PG; 98 minutes. Check the library web site, www.burlingtonlibrary.com, for the movie title scheduled for Tuesday, Jan. 21, at 1:45. Register at the Circulation Desk or call (262) 342-1130. Everyone who signs up gets a free treat!

The Library will be closed December 24, 25, 31 and January 1 for the Holidays.

In case of threatening weather, please call the library at (262) 342-1130 to see if we are open and programs are not canceled. We alert Channels 4, 6 and 12 when the library is closed due to bad weather.

Programs for Adults

Life Writing
2nd & 4th Thursdays at 10:30 a.m.

This informal writing group meets to share stories and practice writing. You don't have to be a great or even a "good" writer to work on your memoirs and family history--you just have to be interested in chronicling these valuable stories for all time.

Members are inspired to gather their own memoirs and to collect family stories. No registration required. No charge. You are not required to attend every meeting. Bring pen or pencil and paper. For more information contact Carole Rybarczyk at (262) 342-1130 or crybarcz@burlington.lib.wi.us

Afternoon Book Club

Thursday, January 9 at 1 p.m.
Where'd You Go Bernadette
by Maria Semple

Thursday, February 13 at 1 p.m.
The Astronaut Wives Club
by Lily Koppel

Evening Book Club

Monday, January 27 at 7 p.m.
One Last Thing by Jonathan Tropper

Monday, February 24 at p.m.
Cellist Of Sarajevo by Steven Galloway

Remember Pedestrian Safety

Even in the colder winter months, it is important to remember the laws and rules as they apply to pedestrians and drivers. When operating a motor vehicle, the driver must yield to pedestrians who have started crossing at an intersection or crosswalk on a "walk" signal or green light if there is no walk signal. The driver must yield to pedestrians who are crossing the highway within a marked or unmarked crosswalk (at an intersection where there are no traffic control signals). As you travel through the City of Burlington you will notice several crosswalk signs in the middle of the roadway. When pedestrians are waiting to cross, drivers must yield and allow the pedestrians to cross. Pedestrians should always be diligent and take extra care in the evening hours. Never assume driver's can see you and obey traffic rules to reduce the chance of being struck by a motor vehicle.

Helpful Information

Running for Office with the 2014 Spring Election

December 1, 2013 was the first day to circulate nomination papers for the 2014 Spring Election for the following offices: Mayor, First District Alderman, Second District Alderman, Third District Alderman and Fourth District Alderman. The final day for filing nomination papers is 5:00 p.m. Tuesday, January 7, 2014. The Spring Election will be held on April 1, 2014 and if a primary is necessary that date will be February 18, 2014. The terms for Mayor and Aldermen will begin on Tuesday, April 15, 2014. All terms are for two years unless otherwise indicated.

Election inspector terms run from January 1 of an even-numbered year (2014) through December 31 (2015) of the subsequent odd-numbered year. If you have an interest in being appointed as an election inspector at the polls, please contact City Hall and we will add your name to the list. The Common Council will be appointing election inspectors for the next two years at their December meeting. Election inspectors are paid an hourly wage and may choose to work the whole day or work a shift.

Pet Licensing Available January 1

State and municipal law dictates that all dogs and cats 5 months and older be licensed with the city by March 31 of each year. City of Burlington tags will be available January 1st at City Hall for 2014.

If you are licensing your pet for the first time or you have recently vaccinated your pet, a rabies certificate must be presented at the time of licensing. The city is proud to offer low cost fees for licensing as listed below:

Dogs & Cats (Spayed/Neutered) - $6
Dogs & Cats (Non-spayed/neutered) - $10
After March 31 a $10 late fee is added to the cost of the tag.

Residents that move to the city or have a pet that reaches 5 months of age after the deadline date will not be charged the late fee. A move within the city does not qualify for this exception. Not only is licensing your pet a requirement of the city, the tag numbers are listed with the Burlington Police Department. If your pet were to stray, the tag is a valuable resource to bring them back home quickly.

Lottery and Gaming Credit-Do I qualify?

Each year, the State of Wisconsin issues a Lottery and Gaming credit to tax payers. There are certain guidelines that must be followed in order to qualify. If there are ever any questions on whether or not your situation allows you to claim the Lottery & Gaming credit, contact the City Treasurer at (262) 342-1161 or stop by City Hall and pick up a Lottery & Gaming Credit Information pamphlet.

Who Qualifies
You must be a Wisconsin resident and the owner of the dwelling in which you resided as of January 1 of the year in which property taxes are assessed. Your home must also be your primary dwelling in which you lived at least 6 months.

I own multiple properties
Only your primary residence qualifies. You cannot claim vacant land, personal property taxes, rental units or vacation homes.

How do I know if I got the credit?
The credit will be listed on your tax bill and say Lottery & Gaming Credit. It should be listed near the Total (tax) and First Dollar Credit lines on the bill. If there is an amount listed on this line, you received the credit.

I haven't received the credit for years
You should come in to City Hall to pay your first installment after receiving your tax bill and fill out the Lottery Credit Form. The clerk taking your tax payment will subtract the amount from your tax bill. If for some reason you discover this after January 31 of next year, you will need to fill out a Late Lottery Credit form. This can be obtained at City Hall or online at the Wisconsin Department of Revenue (DOR) website. Late Lottery Credit forms are mailed by you directly to the Wisconsin DOR who will then send you a check. Late Lottery Credits must be filed before October 1. State law does not allow refunding of prior years unlcaimed lottery credits.

What if I sold my home?
The Lottery and Gaming Credit stays with the property. You should check the tax bill for your new home to make sure you have received the credit.

We make every effort to check your tax bill if you come in to City Hall to pay your taxes. All of the forms will be available at that time to take care of your situation.

Please remember that neither the banks taking payments, nor www.officialpayments.com can apply a lottery credit to your bill. This must be done at City Hall.