

October 2025 Mayor's Report

Budget Update for 2026:

As we work through the 2026 budget, I want to provide an update on where we stand today. Over the past few weeks, we have received additional figures from the state and our insurance carriers. Unfortunately, our projections for next year's insurance costs were significantly underestimated, leaving us about \$80K over budget. If we do not make some necessary adjustments, we risk serious penalties from the state in the form of reduced shared revenues. I am still anticipating a modest tax increase of 1.5%, or roughly nine cents per thousand on the mill rate. The council will be adjusting, so we will have a clearer picture of the final tax rate in the coming weeks.

Winter Parking & Snow Removal:

As we prepare for the winter months, we must address how we can better accommodate residents who park on the streets during snow events. The City Council will be discussing the introduction of a winter parking permit process that will allow us to gather necessary information for the Mayville PD and DPW. The permit will include a small seasonal fee and an application process, helping us ensure smoother operations during winter weather.

Support for the Ted and Grace Public Library:

The new Ted and Grace Public Library continues to serve our community, with a substantial portion of its funding coming from the City and Dodge County. One key measure of the library's service to the public is the number of active library cards. If you have not renewed your library card yet, or if you need a new one, it is a simple five-minute process. This helps secure funding for the library, ensuring that it can continue to serve future generations. Do not forget, the library now offers much more than books—check out their expanding programs and resources!

Audubon Days Recap:

A few weeks ago, our community celebrated Audubon Days, complete with a variety of events and a parade. This year's event was another enormous success, and I would like to extend my heartfelt thanks to all the volunteers who made it

possible. Special thanks go to Kristen Schafer for her outstanding work in coordinating the event. I look forward to next year's festivities!

League of Municipalities Annual Workshop:

This month, I had the opportunity to attend the League of Municipalities annual executive workshop in Milwaukee. This two-day event provided valuable insight into the challenges facing municipalities and offered strategies for reducing the tax burden on our cities. It is an important event that helps to keep me informed on best practices and solutions for our community.

City Website Redesign:

The Community Development Authority has narrowed down its search for a new vendor to redesign the city website. They are currently reviewing two finalists to determine the best option for a more user-friendly, accessible online experience for our residents. We will have more information to share soon.

Accountability in City Government:

When I was elected as your mayor, I made a commitment to always prioritize accountability in our government. Whether it is contractors, vendors, city staff, or businesses, I believe the public has the right to know that their tax dollars are being used responsibly. Holding people accountable is not always the most popular path, and it can lead to political or social challenges. But it is a commitment I stand by. If you feel strongly about a different direction for our city, we have an election coming up this spring, and I encourage residents to get involved, whether by running for office or supporting candidates who share your vision.

As always, I look forward to seeing you around town!

Mayor Rob