



# City of Lake Winnebago, MO Monthly Newsletter

## Mayor's Corner



- Doug Lennie**  
Mayor
- Nick Lombardo**  
Ward 1 Alderman
- Steve Stephan**  
Ward 1 Alderman
- Don Davis**  
Ward 2 Alderman
- Craig Brandon**  
Ward 2 Alderman
- Kathy Ray**  
City Clerk
- Steve Besermin**  
Public Works Director
- Michael Mrachek**  
Police Chief
- Barbara Aaron**  
Court Clerk
- Krista Meinders**  
Assistant Clerk

It was an honor to serve this community as your mayor over the past 6 years. Congratulations to our new mayor, Doug Lennie. I wish you all the best!

Thank you to all the city staff and Alderman for working with me. Together we accomplished a lot and the future of LW looks very bright. We have grown tremendously over the past few years, and our staff has done an excellent job adhering to all the changes.

The partnership between the city and the HOA has never been stronger and I am sure under Mayor Lennie it will continue to prosper. It has been a pleasure working with so many various board members and their staff.

Thank you to my wife Theresa for her continued love and support of all my endeavors.

Finally, to all the great residents of Lake Winnebago, you have been very supportive of me from my days as HOA President, Lake Expansion Chair, and Mayor. I am appreciative of all of you & feel privileged to get to know so many of you. Look forward to seeing you on the lake or at the Yacht Club.

## *Lake Winnebago Police Department Update*

LWPD continues to receive reports from Residents about on-line scams and fraudulent on-line activity. Law enforcement and/or the courts will NEVER use a text message in an attempt to obtain a bond or execute an arrest warrant. Please report all such incidents to LWPD and do not provide any payment, including payment by gift cards, to these actors. These fraudulent attempts to collect payments are not exclusive to any age group.

As the summer season quickly approaches, I am particularly concerned with the operation of electric bikes, scooters, and other similar modes of transportation by our youngsters. Please provide appropriate advice and supervision for any child that will be utilizing such methods of transportation. I plan to work with members of the community to organize a safety workshop session for our youth in the near future.

Construction-related parking, as well as general city street parking, continues to be an issue. Please acknowledge the "No Parking" signs and avoid parking directly across the street from another vehicle. We had a recent issue where a school bus attempted to squeeze through an opening on a city street and ultimately scraped the side of an illegally parked vehicle.

As always, please email, call, or stop down at the department with any issues or concerns. Our goal is to keep everyone safe.



**Michael Mrachek**

**Police Chief**

**[mgmrachek@lwpd.org](mailto:mgmrachek@lwpd.org)**

**816-537-7900**

## *Congratulations Mayor Lennie!*



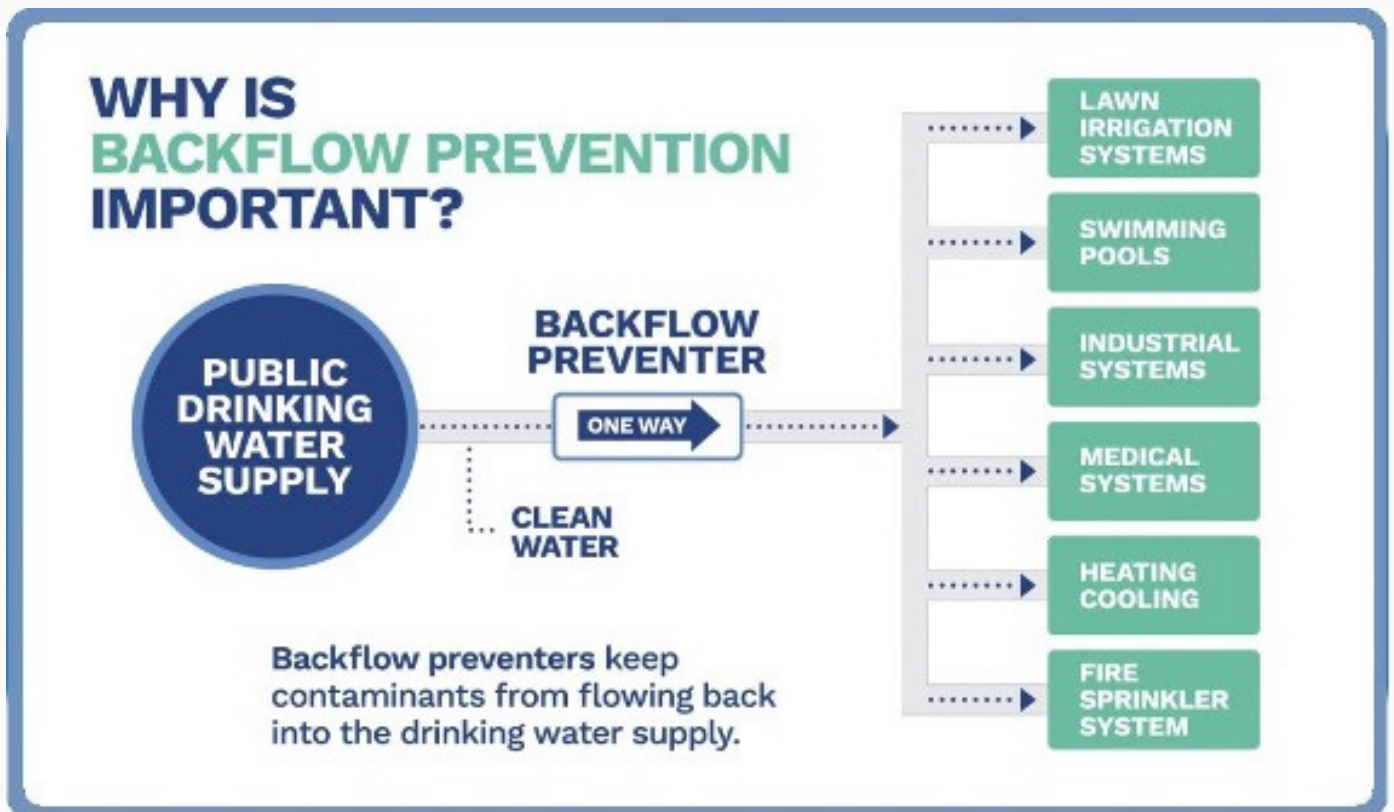
**New Mayor Doug Lennie and re-elected Alderman Steve Stephan & Don Davis were sworn into office on April 29<sup>th</sup>.**

## *Backflow Certifications*

**Reminder Backflow Certificates need to be turned into City Hall every year.**

Do you irrigate with city water? If so, you are required by the Missouri Department of Natural Resources to have a backflow prevention device installed and have it tested every year. If you are not compliant your water can be turned off by MDNR. Please email your current backflow certificate to [asstclerk@cityoflakewinnebago.com](mailto:asstclerk@cityoflakewinnebago.com)

For more information, please visit MDNR <https://dnr.mo.gov/water/business-industry-other-entities/permits-certification-engineering-fees/public-drinking-water-systems/construction-engineering-permit-dispense/backflow-prevention>



# *Lawn Watering Tips*

by Travis Hogan

Chiefs Head Groundskeeper

Travis Hogan is the Andy Reid of growing grass. He started working for the Chiefs in 1998. Throughout the late 1990s and early 2000s, he also maintained the turf at a few of our nation's top golf courses, including Pebble Beach. Travis was promoted to Heads Groundskeeper for the Chiefs organization in 2016 and has been managing the crew that is responsible for Arrowhead's immaculate turf. He is viewed throughout the NFL as one of the best there is. We had the opportunity to interview Travis to get his recommendations for keeping your lawn healthy and beautiful all season.

Do:

- Water about every other day for 10 minutes between 5:00-8:00am. If needed, adjust the time up or down by as much as 5 minutes. Three to four waterings per week is sufficient.
- During hotter periods in July and August, water in the afternoon for no more than 3 minutes at a time. It is better to water twice than one long watering. Travis suggests 3:00pm and again at 6:00pm but only if needed. This is only to cool down the soil, not hydrate your lawn.
- Mow your grass taller in the summer, to a height of 3½ to 4 inches. This protects grass roots from summer heat by maintaining a cooler soil temperature.
- Always put your grass to bed dry. This helps avoid diseases and keeps the roots healthy.
- Monitor your lawn's moisture by looking for spots that are squishy or stay wet.

Don't:

- Avoid overwatering. Homeowners often run their watering cycles too frequently and/or for too long. It is one of the biggest mistakes made when trying to grow a lush, healthy lawn. This actually promotes diseases that can make your lawn look like it needs more water instead of less. It also does not allow for proper root development. Shallow roots make your lawn more susceptible to summer heat.
- Avoid mowing your grass too short. Cool season grasses such as fescue and bluegrass need to be mowed longer than warm season varieties like bermuda and zoysia. This makes cool season grass more tolerant to heat and protects against weeds.

– City of Lake Winnebago and Lake Winnebago Homeowners Association

## *Dog Licenses*

Current dog licenses expired on December 31, 2025. You may pick up your 2026 dog tag at City Hall. The cost is \$3.00 per animal and you will need to bring a current vaccination shot record showing the date of the last rabies shot. All dogs over six months old are required to be licensed in the city.



## *City Stickers*

All motor vehicles that are parked or garaged at Lake Winnebago are required to have a 2026 City Sticker. Current City Stickers expired 12-31-25. You will need to bring your 2025 paid personal property tax receipt to City Hall to pick up your City Sticker. If your sticker was not paid for on your 2025 personal property taxes, the fee is \$7.00 per vehicle.



## *Tickets for April 2026*

**Total: 55 tickets**

**Collected \$8,934.22 for April 2026**

- Drivers' License - 2
- No Insurance - 4
- Registration - 26
- Speeding - 8
- Passing - 1
- Parking - 1
- Defective Equipment - 2
- Accidents - 2
- Careless & Imprudent - 2
- Property Damage - 1
- Stop Sign Violations - 5
- Following too close - 1

## *Warnings Written for April 2026*

**Total: 7 warnings**

- Stop Sign Violations - 2
- Defective Equipment - 5



**City Hall 816-537-6778**

**Police non-emergency 816-537-7900**

*Want to receive the monthly Cliff Notes Newsletter?*

**If you would like to stay up to date on current happenings at Lake Winnebago and would like to receive the monthly Cliff Notes, please send your email address to [asstclerk@cityoflakewinnebago.com](mailto:asstclerk@cityoflakewinnebago.com). We promise your email will be used for City Business only.**

**Note: More than one person per household is allowed to sign up!**

# *Board of Alderman Meeting*

## **City of Lake Winnebago**

**Wednesday, April 29, 2026 at 7:00 p.m.**

1. CALL TO ORDER – Mayor Collar opened the meeting at 7pm.
2. ROLL CALL – City Clerk Kathy Ray took roll call. Members attending were Mayor Michael Collar, Aldermen Craig Brandon, Don Davis, Nick Lombardo and Steve Stephan, Chief Michael Mrachek, Officer Lavar, Lindsey Kolisch with Lauber Municipal Law, LLC, and Brandon Fell, HOA Liaison. Residents Theresa Collar, John Hawkins, Doug & Lake Lennie, Connie Stephan also attended. Steve Besermin, Director of Public Works, was absent. City Clerk Kathy Ray served as secretary.
3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES -Board of Aldermen Meeting Minutes 3-25-26 – Craig Brandon moved to approve the regular Board of Aldermen meeting minutes from 3-25-26, seconded by Don Davis. Passed unanimously.
4. MAYOR – the mayor shared the following updates: 1) He attended a luncheon with the city staff. He thanked the staff and the board of aldermen for the support during his time as mayor. 2) He will complete the city's May monthly communication "Cliff Notes".
5. BOARD OF ALDERMEN – None.
6. NEW BUSINESS - 1) Read the April 7, 2026, election results – Mayor Collar read the election results, Mayor Douglas Lennie 332 votes and John Hawkins 125 votes, Alderman ward 1 Steve Stephan 207 votes, Alderman ward 2 Don Davis 191 votes. Alderman Craig Brandon made a motion to accept the April 7, 2026, election results, seconded by Nick Lombardo. Passed unanimously. 2) Review of the request for a fireworks permit for the east side of 291 and 155<sup>th</sup> street, a new vendor, Pat Riots - Christian Jones has submitted a request for approval to submit a fireworks permit. All required documents have been submitted with the request; landowner approved, insurance, state and south metro applications complete. Alderman Nick Lombardo made a motion to accept the request for a fireworks permit, seconded by Don Davis. Passed unanimously. 3) Review the Board of Zoning Adjustment Committee members – Mark Tatum – The mayor informed the board that the Board of Zoning Adjustment committee is needing two additional members. He recommends Mark Tatum as an alternate open position. After discussion, Alderman Don Davis approved appointing Mark Tatum as an alternate for the Board of Zoning Adjustment committee, seconded by Nick Lombardo. Passed unanimously. 4) Review of the Final Docket of the Court, Fee Report and Court Bond Report for March 2026, the Mayor confirmed the Judge had signed the docket.
7. OLD BUSINESS - 1) Review the status of the G.O. Bonds issuance – the staff has been collaborating with Piper Sandler to successfully target the issuance of \$400,000 of street bonds at the May 2026 Board of Alderman meeting. The funds should be received by June 2026. 2) Status of the United States Postal Service zip code submission – the mayor informed the board that it should be active any day now and when an individual is purchasing items online the choice for the city should be either Lake Winnebago or Greenwood.
8. COMMITTEE REPORTS - HOA/LAND COMPANY – Brandon Fell – No Report. Alderman Stephan asked him when the amenities/pool will be open. The target date to open is on schedule for May or June. LEGAL – Lauber Municipal Law - Lindsey Kolisch Attorney – no report. FINANCIAL – Kathy

# *Board of Alderman Meeting*

## **City of Lake Winnebago**

**Wednesday, April 29, 2026 at 7:00 p.m.**

8. CONTINUED: Ray - Review March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2026, Financial Statements. Review March 2026 Check/Deposit Register - After review of the March 2026 check/deposit register Craig Brandon moved to approve the check register, seconded by Nick Lombardo. Passed unanimously. The city clerk also informed the board that the annual audit is on target to be finalized in May with no concerns to report at this time. The firm will present the 2025 audit to the board at the June 24, 2026, meeting. She also shared the annual employee benefits plan year July - June for health/vision/dental enrollment process is under way. The open enrollment meeting is scheduled for May 7, 2026. There was a three percent cost increase to medical and no change to vision or dental. She forecasted a five percent increase for 2026 budget. The annual workers compensation audit is underway and will be completed May 2026. The staff have been working on the utility billing software conversion, and everything is going well. Look for information regarding the new format and options. The mayor thanked the staff for all the additional activities that they have been managing in the last few months. POLICE, FIRE, CIVIL DEFENSE - Chief Mrachek - He introduced Officer Lavar that is one of the officers on staff. The department was approved on April 10, 2026, for the Blue Shield Program and expects funding in July. He also submitted a grant for KC Roadway for new equipment, and he is hoping to submit a grant for speed limit signs. Sergeant Totten is expected to return from medical leave on 4/27/26; he observed the new cadet at the academy; he's working with Public Works to increase no parking signs on Garage sale day at key locations for safety; working with HOA to gain access to the amenities/pool surveillance cameras and continue to understand the Flock license plate camera capture. Aldermen Stephan asked about the status of equipment and street safety session related to bikes, scooters and one wheels, which is in the planning stages. PLANNING AND ZONING - Don Davis - no report. WATER, STREETS, SEWERS - Steve Besermin absent, the mayor informed the board of the current street project the curb repairs have increased from the original scope, and the department will need to monitor the project to ensure they stay within the budget. The curb portion of the street project is expected to be completed by June, and the street paving is targeted for July.
9. OTHER BUSINESS - Mayor Collar thanked the board and the staff for all their support during his time in office. Mayor Pro-Tem Craig Brandon presented Mayor Michael Collar with a plaque and thanked him for everything he has accomplished for the community.
10. ADJOURN SINE DIE - the mayor adjourned sine die at 7:11 p.m.
11. OATHS OF OFFICE - the Mayor Collar performed the oath of office for Mayor Douglas Lennie and Alderman Steve Stephan ward 1 and Don Davis ward 2.
12. CALL TO ORDER ROLL CALL - Mayor Douglas Lennie called the meeting to order April 29, 2026, at 7:16 P.M. City Clerk Kathy Ray took the roll call. Members attending were Aldermen Craig Brandon, Don Davis, Nick Lombardo, Steve Stephan and Chief Mrachek, Officer Lavar, Lindsey Kolisch with Lauber Municipal Law, LLC., Brandon Fell, HOA Liaison. Residents Theresa Collar, John Hawkins, Lake Lennie, Connie Stephan also attended. Director of Public Works Steve Besermin was absent. City Clerk Kathy Ray served as secretary.

# *Board of Alderman Meeting*

**City of Lake Winnebago**

**Wednesday, April 29, 2026 at 7:00 p.m.**

13. NEW BUSINESS - 1) Appointment Assignments of Aldermen – Mayor Lennie recommended the following appointments, Mayor Pro-Tem – Craig Brandon, Finance – Nick Lombardo, Planning and Zoning – Don Davis, Homeowner’s Association – Steve Stephan, after discussion, Alderman Craig Brandon made motion to accept the recommended appointments, seconded by Don Davis. Passed unanimously. Mayor Lennie appointed the following individuals in the assignments: Mayor Pro-Tem – Craig Brandon, Finance – Nick Lombardo, Planning and Zoning – Don Davis Homeowner’s Association – Steve Stephan. 2) Declaration of intent for Planning and Zoning Commission by Mayor and Aldermen Don Davis – Alderman Craig Brandon made a motion to accept the declaration for Planning and Zoning Commission, seconded by Nick Lombardo. Passed unanimously. 3) Review the Board of Alderman 2026 calendar - the city clerk reviewed the 2026 calendar with the Mayor and Board of Alderman. Alderman Davis confirmed he is unavailable for May 27, 2026, meeting. The other board members confirmed they were available for the May 27, 2026, meeting.
14. BILLS & RESOLUTIONS - 1) Resolution No. 561-26 - A Resolution allowing the deposit and withdrawal of the City funds in checking accounts at Arvest, and Equity Bank; investments of the City will be deposited at federally insured banking institutions offering the highest interest rate available. After Mayor Lennie read by title only Resolution No. 561-26, Alderman Nick Lombardo moved to approve Resolution No. 561-26, seconded by Don Davis. Passed unanimously. 2) Resolution No. 562-26 - A Resolution designating authorized check signers on the City of Lake Winnebago accounts. A Resolution designating authorized check signers on the City of Lake Winnebago accounts. After Mayor Lennie read by title only Resolution No. 562-26, Alderman Nick Lombardo moved to approve Resolution No. 562-26, seconded by Craig Brandon. Passed unanimously.
15. OTHER BUSINESS - Mayor Lennie shared a city communication infrastructure initiative for the board and staff to consider. He would like to discuss a branded municipal mobile platform for communication with the residents. He requested the topic be added to May 27, 2026, board meeting agenda.
16. ADJOURN BOARD - With no further business, Don Davis moved to adjourn, seconded by Craig Brandon. Passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 7:23 PM. The next Board of Alderman meeting is scheduled for May 27, 2026, at 7:00 p.m.