

**City of Kewaunee Newsletter**  
**June/July 2025**

**City Hall Hours:**

Monday thru Wednesday - 9:00 to 3:00

Thursday - 8:00 to 4:00

Friday – Closed

24 hour dropbox is available

**July 14, 2025 Common Council Meeting**

On July 14, the Common Council heard a presentation on the results of The Community Gathering Space Vision Survey. The survey was posted March – May 2025 to get input and take comments about community services for all ages, including a possible new community/senior center and library. 269 people replied to the survey. The results can be found at this link:

<https://cityofkewaunee.wi.gov/community-center-survey-results/>

Next steps will include meetings with the senior center and library boards and a potential space needs study.

**June 9, 2025 Common Council Meeting**

At the June Council Meeting a number of issues related to city finances were considered. The 2024 audit results were presented to the council. Council members were informed that our unrestricted general fund balance grew – due to investment income, insurance claims and the closure of TIF district 2. We also have below average debt compared to other communities of this size.

The council also amended its budget to maintain compliance with the State Expenditure Restraint program. This will result in the city getting an additional \$36,000 in shared revenue for constraining spending to below a 3.5% increase in expenditures. The council also approved a payment of \$239,200 to acquire replacement docks in the marina from Pier and Waterfront Solutions to begin the marina refurbishment.

The council approved the 2024 Compliance Maintenance Report for its waste water treatment plant and subsequent submission of the report to the DNR. Our system is in compliance with all DNR standards.

Job descriptions and job postings were approved for a Clerk Treasurer and a Deputy Clerk Treasurer position. These positions, which are currently vacant, will remain posted until filled. In the meantime, the City of Algoma will continue to provide Clerk Treasurer services to Kewaunee. The council also approved an amendment to the contract with Algoma to include utility billing services.

The council authorized staff to proceed with sealcoating work for Second Street from Lincoln Street to Baumeister Drive and Scott Street from Second to First Street. For streets in need of minor repairs, this is a cost effective method to resurface.

Additionally, the city council approved various street closure requests for community events (See activities/announcements below).

### **May 12, 2025 Common Council Meeting**

At the May Common Council meeting, Mayor Vollenweider informed the Council that Kewaunee has once again been named an official 2025 Tree City by the National Arbor Day Foundation due to its efforts to maintain and protect the trees in our community. The Director Nathan Seiler and the entire Department of Public Works staff is commended for its work, especially in light of the wind storm in August 2024 and the invasive emerald ash borer, destructive to ash trees.

Mayor Vollenweider appointed John Mastalir as a member of the Marina Committee. Additional members include Tom Kleiman, Jed Pansier, Arthur Schiller, Alison Smith, John Blaha, and Paul Jirtle. The group will be working in coming months to develop a sustainable plan for upgrading and managing the marina for the future.

A request to use the Marina parking area on June 22 for the annual Waterfront Car Show was approved.

Several years ago, a section of dock was discovered floating in the harbor. It was removed and stored at the boat launch, and several attempts were made to locate the owner without success. Muskrat City Sportsman Club inquired about the dock and asked to take possession of it for use in a pond on their property. The dock would be used as part of their Learn to Fish programs and Muskrat City will transport the dock to their pond. The Council approved transfer of the dock without objection.

The City Campground is nearly booked for the entire season except for two sites without water and electricity. Manager Kinjerski approached the Council with a proposal to add water and electricity to one of the sites as a means of making it more appealing to visitors. The Council approved a bid for \$1480 for electrical work. Each filled site generates approximately \$1600 per year in revenue for the city so the return on the investment was clear.

### **Kewaunee Marina**

Kewaunee Marina is a hub of activity in the spring, summer and fall for the city of Kewaunee. It has 100 boat slips and 36 campsites available. Its infrastructure is aging and the council has discussed a number of initiatives to update the Marina over the years. The current docks are approximately 40 years old and require extensive repairs. In addition, dredging will be required because 26 of the slips are now too shallow to rent out.

Kewaunee has operated a city Marina for over 40 years. Initially the marina was leased out to a contractor to operate annually. The city now operates the Marina with city employees. At times the marina has been operated at a profit but in the past six years, the marina has operated at a deficit largely due to challenges with changing water levels, and the condition of

docks which resulted in customers docking in other places or cities. A marina fund was established in the past to assist with capital improvements and operations. At its high point the fund was at \$479,000, and it is now at \$49,000. Some of the marina funds were also used for the kayak launching ramp in the harbor during the seawall updates and to cover costs associated with closing the Marina during 2020. In the past six months, the council has taken actions to begin the process of updating the docks and bring the marina toward financial sustainability.

In April the Council approved the establishment of a Marina Committee. The committee will provide capital guidance to staff; coordinate capital improvements and asset rehabilitation to staff; provide fundraising coordination and revenue generation for the benefit of operations; and make recommendations to council concerning operational changes, fees, revenues and capital spending. The Marina committee will bring their recommendations to the common council for approval. The Members of this committee are city residents and others who have expertise in marina operations. The Committee has had only two meetings to date. More information will be provided as time goes on.

At the June council meeting, the city purchased used docks from Pier and Waterfront Solutions of Sturgeon Bay at a cost of \$239,000. These docks will replace all existing docks which are stationary and have been significantly impacted by ice in the winter. The new docks can be removed in the winter. These floating docks will be refurbished and a target date of 2027 was set for dock replacement. This will give the city and Waterfront Solutions approximately 2 years to put financing in order, and do any refurbishing needed to the used docks.

The Marina will require a substantial investment to modernize including new plumbing and water for the boat slips and dredging in the coming years.

#### **City Council meetings:**

All council meetings including committee and commission meetings are open to the public.  
Common council meeting August 11 6pm

#### **Job postings-**

The City of Kewaunee is seeking a clerk treasurer and deputy clerk treasurer. The city offers a competitive salary and full benefits. To apply see the following links:

[https://cdn.townweb.com/cityofkewauneewi.gov/wp-content/uploads/2025/06/Clerk\\_Treasurer\\_June\\_2025.pdf](https://cdn.townweb.com/cityofkewauneewi.gov/wp-content/uploads/2025/06/Clerk_Treasurer_June_2025.pdf)

[https://cdn.townweb.com/cityofkewauneewi.gov/wp-content/uploads/2025/06/Deputy\\_Clerk\\_Treasurer\\_June\\_2025.pdf](https://cdn.townweb.com/cityofkewauneewi.gov/wp-content/uploads/2025/06/Deputy_Clerk_Treasurer_June_2025.pdf)

In addition, there is an alderperson vacancy for the Fourth District. If you are interested in serving, please submit your resume to City Administrator Heath Eddy.

If you would like to subscribe to updates from the City of Kewaunee, please click on the following link: <https://cityofkewauneewi.gov/subscribe/>

If you have topics that would like to see explained in more depth in future newsletters, please send an email to Bobbi Jeanquart at [rjeanquart@cityofkewauneewi.gov](mailto:rjeanquart@cityofkewauneewi.gov)