# City of Kewannee Newsletter August 2025

City Hall Hours: Mon-Wed: 9:00-3:00

Thurs: 8:00-4:00

Fri: Closed

24 hour drop box available

### **Property Reassessment**

The City of Kewaunee is currently going through a comprehensive, City-wide reassessment of property. This reassessment is being done because State law requires municipalities to be within 10% of market value (90-110%) to be compliant. The City of Kewaunee was at 73.1% as of 2024. This is because houses in Kewaunee are generally selling for more than the assessed value. Homeowners received letters this month with the new assessment.

If homeowners have concerns about the assessment, the first step should be to call Accurate Appraisal at 920-749-8098. If you have copies of comparable home sales or an appraisal done in the last year, please share it with Accurate.

Residents who were unable to make Open Book meetings held on August 18-19 or still want to challenge their assessment value further are encouraged to stop at City Hall and pick up a copy of the 2025 Wisconsin Department of Revenue's Guide for Property Owners and a PA-115A form to fill out to challenge the draft assessment; copies are printed and available for pick up at City Hall. The Board of Review is the final step to challenge an assessment. To attend the Board of Review, please register at City Hall. The Board of Review meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, September 24, 2025 starting at 4:00 p.m. at City Hall, and is scheduled to be held for a minimum of two hours.

The impact of the assessment on property taxes will not be known until later this fall when we have the tax levies for the County, City, Kewaunee School District and NWTC. Once those levies are known, the mill rate will be set. Typically, in years of a reassessment the mill rate falls, which means some homeowners will see a decrease in property taxes and some will see an increase. However, please note that there will be some level of tax increase due to the approved School Referendum in the Spring Election and a recently completed General Obligation borrowing authorized by the Common Council.

### Calendar

Sept. 8, 2025 - 6:00 PM - City Council Meeting Sept. 24, 2025 - 4:00 PM - Board of Review

## Alderperson Vacancy

There is an Alderperson vacancy in the Fourth District. If you are interested in serving, please submit your resume to City Administrator Heath Eddy.

## Subscribe

If you would like to subscribe to updates from the City of Kewaunee, please go to https://cityofkewauneewi.gov/subscribe

## Future Newsletters

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



# Hydrant Flushing NOTICE

The City of Kewaunee Water Department will be conducting routine hydrant flushing in your area to ensure the continued quality and safety of your water supply. This will take place on **Mondays-Thursdays** beginning in September. During the flushing process, you may experience temporary water discoloration or pressure drop. This is a normal and expected occurrence. If you notice any discoloration in your water, we recommend turning on the faucet and letting it run for a few minutes until the water is clear.

# <u>August Council Meeting Recap</u>

The August City Council meeting included a presentation of the 2025 Housing Study by the Kewaunee County Economic Development Corporation (KCEDC). The study indicates that the top challenge for local businesses is employee recruitment. Limited housing availability is directly tied to this problem. The number of new units needed and the type of units recommended were included in the study. A link to the study is found on the City website. The City Council also approved an ordinance clarifying solid waste rules. The key provisions of the new ordinance include: waste may be placed at the curb no earlier than 7:00 a.m. on the day before collection and that containers should be removed from the curb no later than 5:00 p.m. on the day of collection. The ordnance also made clear that garbage and recycling collection is a mandatory service and cannot be opted out of.

The City Council also approved the 2025-2029 Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan, roof replacement for the water department and an agreement for cost-sharing engineering for repaving of State Highway 29, which will begin construction in 2032-2033.

#### CITY GARBAGE AND RECYCLING TIPS

In addition to serving as District 3 Alderman, Scott Oftedahl works part-time as a garbage truck driver. Here are his tips for residents to help keep Kewaunee clean.

- 1.On pickup days, always place your garbage containers so that the handle is away from the road.
- 2.Maintain a minimum of 24-36 inches of space between containers so drivers can pick up one container without knocking over the second.
- 3.Do not overfill your container. Contents should allow the lid to close. Long objects such as a mop handle sticking out are generally OK, but items too large for a container tend to jam up the opening between the truck's hopper and storage body. If in doubt, drivers will pull them out of your container and leave them on the curb.
- 4.Items that should never be placed in your container include hazardous waste, lithium batteries, and warm ashes from woodstoves, fireplaces, cooking grills, or firepits. These items start fires inside a truck or a transfer station.
- 5.On extremely windy days, place a brick or medium rock on the lid to reduce litter or a partially-filled container from blowing away. If your recycling container is less than a quarter full, consider waiting for the next pickup day before putting it out.
- 6.Disassemble and flatten boxes larger than 12 inches before placing in your recycling container
- 7.Large, flat pieces of cardboard should be oriented front to back, not side to side. A side-loading garbage truck's forks often squeeze cardboard sheets in place and they get left behind in your container.
- 8. Place small and lightweight pieces of paper inside of a plastic garbage bag and place in your garbage can. This is especially true for paper shredder contents. This prevents strong winds from blowing them around when emptying your container.
- 9.If you store containers outside where raccoons are a problem, store the containers at least 3 feet away from anything a raccoon can climb on. Raccoons have learned how to open a container when standing on an adjacent container, but cannot open one from the ground level.
- 10.Occasionally scheduling or mechanical issues delay the pickup of your recycling or trash. If you are unsure whether you were missed or the truck is only delayed, call the phone number printed on your garbage can. Provide the customer service agent with your name, city, and address and they can typically let you know when your containers will be serviced. If you were missed, they will try to make arrangements for your container to be serviced before the next scheduled pickup.
- 11. For more information about resource recovery, sign up for the quarterly Waste Not newsletter from Brown County Recycling at https://www.browncountyrecycling.org/newsletters. It is filled with information about recycling and waste management in Northeast Wisconsin.

## JOIN OUR TEAM

The City of Kewaunee is recruiting for a

#### CLERK/TREASURER & DEPUTY CLERK/TREASURER

to provide full-time coverage at Kewaunee City Hall.

HTTPS://CITYOFKEWAUNEEWI.GOV/EMPLOYMENT/

920-388-5000

The City of Kewaunee offers competitive wages, participation in the Wisconsin Retirement System, State Health & Dental Insurance, and paid vacation, holidays, and sick time.