



11333 N. Cedarburg Road
Mequon, WI 53092-1930
Phone: 262/242-3100

www.cityofmequonwi.gov

Office of the City Administrator

PUBLIC WELFARE COMMITTEE
Regular Meeting
Tuesday, February 10, 2026 - 5:15 PM
South Conference Room

Agenda

- 1) Call to Order and Roll Call**
- 2) Approval of Meeting Minutes**
 - a) Meeting minutes of January 13, 2026
- 3) Ordinances**
- 4) Resolutions**
 - a) **Resolution 4261** - A Resolution Authorizing Renewal of an Application with Bird City Wisconsin and Observing World Migratory Bird Day in Conjunction with Arbor Day
 - b) **Resolution 4262** - A Resolution Designating Mequon, Wisconsin, as a Bee City USA
- 5) Discussion Items**
 - a) Deer population management
- 6) Informational Items**
- 7) Work Plan**
 - a) 2026 Work Plan
- 8) Adjourn**

DATED: February 10, 2026

/s/ Dale Mayr, Chair

Notice is hereby given that a quorum of other governmental bodies may be present at this meeting to present, discuss and/or gather information about a subject over which they have decision-making responsibility, although they will not take formal action thereto at this meeting. Persons with disabilities requiring accommodation for attendance at this meeting should contact the City Clerk's Office at 262-236-2914, twenty-four (24) hours in advance of the meeting. Any questions regarding this agenda may be directed to the City Clerk's Office at 262-236-2914, Monday through Friday, 8:00 AM – 4:30 PM.



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**PUBLIC WELFARE COMMITTEE
Regular Meeting
Tuesday, January 13, 2026 - 5:30 PM
South Conference Room**

Minutes

1) Call to Order and Roll Call

The meeting was called to order by Chair Mayr at 5:30 p.m.

Present: Chair Mayr, Alderman Bach, Alderman Parrish

Also present: Assistant City Administrator Jessica Wolff, City Clerk Caroline Fochs and Executive Assistant Beth Kong.

2) Approval of Meeting Minutes

- a) Meeting minutes of December 9, 2025

MOTION:	Motion to approve the meeting minutes of December 9, 2025
MOVER:	Alderman Brian Parrish
SECONDER:	Chair Dale Mayr
AYES:	Chair Dale Mayr, Alderman Brian Parrish
ABSTAIN:	Alderman Gregg Bach (Not present at December meeting)
RESULT:	Approved by Voice Acclamation

Alderman Parrish thanked City staff for sharing information about radon awareness month in January based on the discussion at the last meeting.

3) Resolution

- a) A Resolution Consolidating the Pieper Power Education Center Polling Site and the Weyenberg Library Polling Site into One Location at Mequon City Hall for the February 17, 2026 Primary Election

City Clerk Fochs explained that only two voting districts (Wards 8, 9 and 11 which are part of

Districts 3 and 4) will have a February Primary Election in 2026. This resolution would consolidate the Library and Pieper Power polling sites into City Hall for all voting for the February Primary Election. This consolidation is a more effective use of resources for this smaller election. Alderman Parrish was in favor of the consolidation and asked City Clerk Fochs to see if there would be a way to create a continuing resolution for future elections to have the flexibility necessary for staff to administratively consolidate polling sites.

MOTION:	Motion to approve Resolution 4255
MOVER:	Alderman Gregg Bach
SECONDER:	Alderman Brian Parrish
AYES:	Chair Mayr, Alderman Gregg Bach, Alderman Brian Parrish
	Approved by Voice Acclamation

4) Discussion Items

Chair Mayr asked the Committee to consider projects for 2026 when the Work Calendar is discussed in February. Chair Mayr suggested that there be an overall review of the various Boards, Committees and Commissions. This was done a few years ago as an opportunity to confirm the vision, goals and purpose for each. It would also be an opportunity for members to suggest changes or improvements for their respective board, committee or commission.

5) Adjourn

MOTION:	Motion to adjourn at 5:40 p.m.
MOVER:	Alderman Brian Parrish
SECONDER:	Alderman Gregg Bach
AYES:	Chair Dale Mayr, Alderman Gregg Bach, Alderman Brian Parrish
	Approved by Voice Acclamation

Respectfully Submitted,
 Beth Kong, Executive Assistant - Communications



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Administration

TO: Public Welfare Committee
FROM: Jessica Wolff, Assistant City Administrator
DATE: February 10, 2026
SUBJECT: A Resolution Authorizing Renewal of an Application with Bird City Wisconsin and Observing World Migratory Bird Day in Conjunction with Arbor Day

Background

The City of Mequon was first designated as a “Bird City” under former Mayor Nuernberg in 2010 and has been renewed annually ever since. In 2015, the application renewal process was updated to require the adoption of a resolution annually by the Common Council. A draft resolution is attached.

Analysis

In 2026, Bird City activities will be observed in conjunction with the City of Mequon’s Arbor Day festivities, and City staff will provide public information about migratory bird conservation as noted in the resolution.

Fiscal Impact

The Mequon Nature Preserve and City staff work closely to coordinate Bird City activities that are primarily education-based. The application renewal fee of \$175 is paid for by Mequon Nature Preserve.

Recommendation

A recommendation is forthcoming from the Public Welfare Committee on February 10, 2026.

Attachments:
None

COMMON COUNCIL
OF THE
CITY OF MEQUON

RESOLUTION - 4261

Resolution 4261 - A Resolution Authorizing Renewal of an Application with Bird City Wisconsin and Observing World Migratory Bird Day in Conjunction with Arbor Day

RECITALS

- A. Migratory birds are some of the most beautiful and easily observed wildlife that enhance the Mequon community.
- B. Local residents recognize and welcome migratory songbirds as symbolic harbingers of spring and enjoy all the opportunities they have to engage in great recreational endeavors such as birdwatching and nature photography.
- C. Migrant bird species also play an important economic role in the community, controlling insect pests and generating revenue related to bird watching activities.
- D. Public awareness and concern are crucial components of migratory bird conservation where residents can directly contribute to maintaining healthy bird populations.
- E. Since 1993, World Migratory Bird Day (WMBD) has become a primary vehicle for focusing public attention on the nearly 350 species that travel between nesting habitats in the City of Mequon and throughout North America and their wintering grounds in South and Central America, Mexico, the Caribbean and the southern United States.

BASED UPON THE FOREGOING RECITALS, IT IS RESOLVED by the Common Council of the City of Mequon, Wisconsin that:

1. World Migratory Bird Day will be celebrated and observed in conjunction with the City of Mequon's Arbor Day Festivities on April 26, 2026, and public information will be provided about migratory bird conservation and the importance of taking action to protect and conserve migratory birds and their habitats throughout the community.
2. The City, in conjunction with the Mequon Nature Preserve, has submitted an application and associated fee to Bird City Wisconsin, allowing the City of Mequon to maintain its "Bird City" designation.
3. These actions will continue to enhance the City's reputation for leadership in protecting the natural environment and bird habitats, while recognizing the interest of many of its residents in bird conservation.

Approved by: Andrew Nerbun, Mayor

Date Approved: February 10, 2026

I certify that the foregoing Resolution was adopted by the Common Council of the City of Mequon, Wisconsin, at a meeting held on February 10, 2026.



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Administration

TO: Public Welfare Committee
FROM: Jessica Wolff, Assistant City Administrator
DATE: February 10, 2026
SUBJECT: A Resolution Designating Mequon, Wisconsin, as a Bee City USA

Background

The Mequon Nature Preserve, on behalf of the City of Mequon, is working on renewing the City's Bee City USA application for 2026. The City was first designated as a Bee City upon Common Council approval of Resolution 3370 on April 12, 2016. The renewal process requires a resolution to be adopted by the Common Council. The attached draft resolution was prepared in accordance with Bee City USA guidelines and has a significant amount of required text.

Analysis

In 2006 when honeybee colonies started disappearing, later dubbed "Colony Collapse Disorder," beekeepers and non-beekeepers alike became very concerned. After all, one in every three bites of food that is consumed is courtesy of insect pollination. Equally important, 85% of flowering plants and trees rely on pollinators for the survival of their species. While less is known about native bees and other pollinators, entire species are disappearing as they battle most of the same enemies as honeybees - loss of habitat essential for food and shelter, inappropriate pesticide use, diseases, and parasites. Launched in 2012, the Bee City USA program endorses a set of commitments, defined in a resolution, for creating sustainable habitats for pollinators, which are vital to feeding the planet. Cities, towns, and communities across America are invited to make these commitments and become certified as a Bee City USA affiliate.

Fiscal Impact

The Mequon Nature Preserve staff will take the lead on any associated activities and publicity efforts. The application renewal fee of \$300, which is based on the population size of Mequon, is paid for by the Mequon Nature Preserve.

Recommendation

A recommendation is forthcoming from the Public Welfare Committee on February 10, 2026.

Attachments:

None

COMMON COUNCIL
OF THE
CITY OF MEQUON

RESOLUTION - 4262

Resolution 4262 - A Resolution Designating Mequon, Wisconsin, as a Bee City USA

RECITALS

- A. The goal of the Bee City USA program is to promote healthy, sustainable habitats and communities for bees and other pollinators.
- B. Thanks to the tremendous diversity of wild native bees, along with honeybees that were brought here from Europe in the 1700's, the United States has very diverse dietary choices rich in fruits, nuts, and vegetables.
- C. Bees and other pollinators around the globe have experienced dramatic declines due to a combination of habitat loss, use of pesticides, and the spread of pests and diseases, with grave implications for the future health of flora and fauna.
- D. Communities have the opportunity to support bees and other pollinators on both public and private land.
- E. Supporting pollinators fosters environmental awareness and sustainability and increases interactions among community stewards such as commercial and backyard beekeepers, farmers, children, educators, Master Naturalists, Master Gardeners, plant nurseries, municipalities, neighborhoods, and garden suppliers and clubs.
- F. The economic benefits of (native and honey) bee-friendliness include:
- Healthy ecosystems - insect pollinators are required for pollination and reproduction of about 85% of flowering plants globally, plants that: 1) are vital for clean air and water; 2) provide food, fiber and shelter for people and wildlife; and 3) support the very insects that pollinate crops and form the basis of food webs.
 - Increased vegetable and fruit crop yields due to bee pollination.
 - Increased habitat for natural enemies of crop pests and therefore reduced need for and costs associated with pesticides.
 - Increased demand for pollinator-friendly plant materials from local nurseries and growers.
 - Income earned by beekeepers and others through the sale of bee products, beekeeping equipment and supplies, and hive rentals for pollination; and, heightened prestige and premium asking prices for place-based honey, which enhances the visibility and reputation of its community of origin.
- G. Mequon, Wisconsin should be certified as a Bee City USA community because:
- Community interest in supporting sustainable habitats for bees and other pollinators has grown as the decline in pollinator populations and habitat has received greater local and national media attention.
 - The Mequon Nature Preserve has become a trusted community resource and facilitator of honeybee education.
 - Resident participation in the local events sponsored by the Mequon Nature Preserve

has increased steadily, demonstrating the community's growing desire to learn about bees and share experiences.

H. Ideal pollinator-friendly habitats:

- Provide diverse and abundant nectar and pollen from plants blooming in succession.
- Provide clean water for drinking, nest-building, cooling, diluting stored honey, and butterfly puddling.
- Are pesticide-free or have pesticide use carried out in a manner to minimize effects on pollinators.
- Are comprised of mostly, if not all, native species of annual and perennial wildflowers, shrubs, trees, and grasses because many native pollinators prefer or depend on the native plants with which they co-evolved.
- Include, where possible, designated pollinator zones in public spaces with signage to educate the public and build awareness.
- Provide for safe and humane removal of bees when required.
- Provide undisturbed spaces (leaf and brush piles, un-mowed fields, or field margins, fallen tree and other dead wood) for nesting and overwintering for native pollinators.

I. In order to enhance understanding among local government staff and the public about the vital role that pollinators play and what each of us can do to sustain them, Mequon, Wisconsin agrees to meet the following commitments required of all BEE CITY USA communities:

1. Pass this Bee City USA resolution (which articulates these commitments).
2. The Mequon Nature Preserve is hereby designated as the Bee City USA sponsor and Kristin Thiel, Executive Director, as the Bee City USA "liaison" to encourage and coordinate local pollinator habitat and awareness activities. This body will serve as the intermediary between the citizenry and local government on matters of enhancing pollinator awareness, health, and habitat, fulfilling the following commitments:
 - a. Annually celebrate National Pollinator Week (third full week of June) or some other appropriate occasion with educational events, pollinator habitat plantings or restoration, proclamations or promotions that showcase the municipality's commitment to enhancing pollinator health and habitat.
 - b. Annually apply for renewal of the community's designation and submit a report of the previous year's Bee City USA activities following the format provided.
3. Publicly acknowledge the community's commitment by agreeing to:
 - a. Install/maintain at least one authorized Bee City USA street sign in a prominent location.
 - b. Create/maintain links on appropriate pages of the local government's website which includes, at minimum, links to a PDF of this signed Resolution and the national Bee City USA website, contact information for the local government's Bee City USA liaison and designated "facilitator commission or non-profit organization committee," and reports of the pollinator-friendly activities the community has accomplished in previous year(s).

BASED UPON THE FOREGOING RECITALS, IT IS RESOLVED by the Common Council of the City of Mequon, Wisconsin that the Mequon Nature Preserve is authorized to submit an application to Bee City USA on behalf of the City of Mequon to maintain Mequon's "Bee City" designation, and commits to the standards of Bee City USA.

Approved by: Andrew Nerbun, Mayor

Date Approved: February 10, 2026

I certify that the foregoing Resolution was adopted by the Common Council of the City of Mequon, Wisconsin, at a meeting held on February 10, 2026.

Caroline Fochs, City Clerk



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Administration

TO: Public Welfare Committee
FROM: Jessica Wolff, Assistant City Administrator
DATE: February 10, 2026
SUBJECT: Deer population management

Background

At the December 9, 2025 meeting, the Public Welfare Committee discussed information related to the white-tailed deer population following concerns from residents in District 8. Information on deer-vehicle collisions, WisDNR resources, past culling efforts by the City, and reasons for the increased population was presented. The Committee directed staff to gather additional information about potential services, level of impact, and public education and bring the item back for review.

Staff included information in the December 19, 2025 Bulletin regarding the impacts of baiting/feeding deer and safe driving practices.

Analysis

Staff reached out to the residents in District 8 who initially contacted Alderman Gebhardt. The residents, who live south of Mequon Road and east of I-43, report the following impacts from the deer population: eating and killing landscaping plants, shrubs, and young trees; impacts to lawns from droppings, deer gathering around and under trees, and making holes in the soft soil with their hooves; and disturbing pets while indoors by walking up to the house and windows. Large groups of deer (25+) have been observed. These residents tried deer repellent spray services but they were not effective.

WisDNR does not provide local municipalities with deer population survey/count or culling services. City staff was directed to contact the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) for assistance. The USFWS explained that they can conduct a drone survey in November/December of targeted areas (identified by the City) and produce a population estimate based on the survey. A similar survey was recently conducted for a nearby city at a cost of \$1,800. The City would then consult with a WisDNR biologist to determine a healthy population figure.

The USFWS also offers culling services. The City would get approval from WisDNR and USFWS staff would set up feeding site(s) and conduct culling operations at night. Safety is their first priority and all employees have annual training; USFWS staff are fully licensed and insured. A culling operation was recently conducted for a nearby city where 90 to 100 deer are harvested annually at a cost of \$35,000. This cost does not include deer processing.

The City may also establish a special hunting season and obtain special deer license tags from WisDNR to issue to residents. This is a low-cost option; however, the effectiveness of this approach is unclear since the interest level and participation by residents and property owners is unknown.

There are several companies in the area that provide deer repellent spray services. Staff contacted one company that estimated they have 220 customers in Mequon (growing at 5% per year) focused south of Mequon Road and east of I-43.

Fiscal Impact

The fiscal impact will vary based on the direction pursued.

Recommendation

Staff recommends the Public Welfare Committee review and discuss the merits of pursuing City involvement in local deer population management and provide direction on whether this is an initiative the Committee would like City staff to explore further.

Attachments:

None



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Administration

TO: Public Welfare Committee
FROM: Jessica Wolff, Assistant City Administrator
DATE: February 10, 2026
SUBJECT: 2026 Work Plan

Background

The Public Welfare Committee completed a wide variety of items in 2025 as listed below.

- Polling Site Locations.
- Bird and Bee City Designations.
- Structure Definition/Board of Appeals Case.
- Protest Petition Ordinance Amendment.
- Board of Appeals Ordinance Amendment.
- Showroom Sales Facilities Ordinance Amendment.
- Live Meeting Broadcast Pause Resolution.
- Committee Chair Selection.
- Chapter 58 Ordinance Amendment.
- Mid-Moraine Municipal Court Agreement Ordinance Amendment.

Analysis

Looking forward to 2026, staff has prepared the following draft Work Plan for consideration. Committee members should also bring suggestions for new items for discussion at the meeting.

Month	Agenda Item(s)
January	Meeting Canceled
February	Deer management Annual renewal of Bee and Bird City designations
March	Community Survey Results Analysis Sex Offender Registry
April	Boards, Commission, and Committees (continued)
May	Sister City with Dahlheim update (continued)
June	Chapter II, Article IV (Departments and Duties) Review (continued)
July	
August	
September	

October	
November	
December	

Fiscal Impact

The overall fiscal impact would vary depending on the projects undertaken and level of City involvement.

Recommendation

Staff recommends the Public Welfare Committee review and discuss the preliminary 2026 work plan items and provide direction to City staff on whether items should be pursued.

Attachments:

None