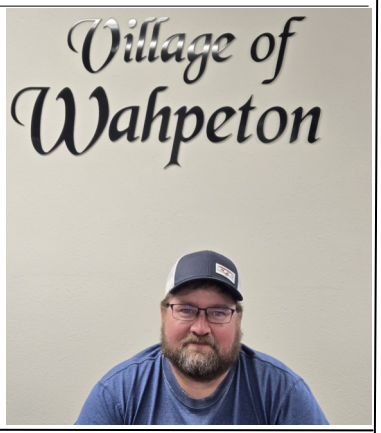
Fall

Issue 85

SEPTEMBER 2026

Welcome Our New Staff Member!

We are excited to welcome Tony Gray to the Village of Wahpeton as a Water Plant/Public Works staff member. Tony brings a wealth of knowledge in the Water Department and is eager to serve the residents of Wahpeton. Please give him a warm welcome when you see him around City Hall or out in the Village.



Thank You & Best Wishes to Roger Mouw!

The City of Wahpeton extends its sincere gratitude and appreciation to Roger Mouw, Chairman of the Wahpeton Board of Adjustment, who has announced his retirement from the board effective November 1st, 2026.

Thank you, Roger, for your exceptional service, guidance, and dedication to our city. We wish you the very best as you step back to enjoy your next chapter!

In Remembrance & Gratitude: Bill Doornink

The City of Wahpeton expresses its heartfelt gratitude and deepest sympathies following the recent passing of Bill Doornink.

Bill was a valued member of the Planning & Zoning Commission. He will be deeply missed. We extend our warmest condolences to his family and loved ones.

Interested in Serving Your Community?

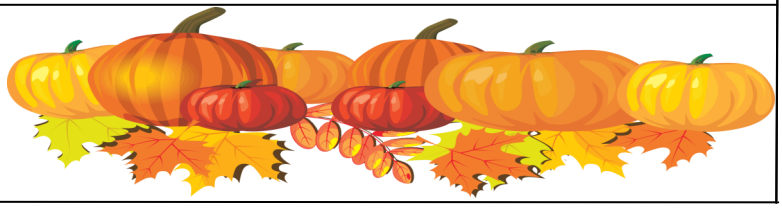
With Roger's upcoming departure and the loss of Bill Doornink, an opportunity opens for residents interested in serving on the Board of Adjustment or the Planning & Zoning Commission. If you are passionate about the future of Wahpeton, please contact City Hall at 712-337-3522 or stop in to learn more about volunteer opportunities!

With Gratitude to Deb Lenz!

The City of Wahpeton extends a warm and heartfelt **Thank You** to our former Office Assistant, Deb Lenz, for her dedicated service to our community over the last few years.

Deb played a vital role behind the scenes, keeping city operations running smoothly, assisting residents with care and efficiency, and helping keep our village on track through numerous projects and daily administrative needs. Her hard work, kindness, and commitment to Wahpeton have made a lasting impression on city staff and residents alike.

Thank you, Deb, for your years of service and dedication!



CITY OF WAHPETON

Mayor:
Phillip Johnson

Councilmembers:
Brad Jones
Holly Mead
Merlyn Kruger
Harold Prior
Lois Benson

City Administrator:
Carrie Funk

Water Superintendent/Public Works:
Darin Peterson

Plant Operator/Public Works:
Brandon Berning
Tony Gray

City of Wahpeton
1201 Dakota Drive
Wahpeton
Milford, IA 51351
712-337-3522
www.cityofwahpeton.com
Monday—Friday
8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

City Council Meetings:
2nd Monday of each month at 5:00 p.m.

Agendas & Minutes

Agendas and Minutes are published in the Dickinson County News, Posted at City Hall and Miller's Bay Loft. Complete copies are available at City Hall or on our website at:
www.cityofwahpeton.com

WANT TO GET NOTIFICATIONS

DickinsonAlert is an Emergency Notification System that serves Dickinson County, Iowa. You can sign up at www.dcem.us to receive messages for emergencies in Wahpeton for such things as boil advisories and many other important notifications.

DickinsonAlert
Dickinson County Emergency Notification System
www.dcem.us

REGISTER NOW

Wahpeton Waterway Restoration Project Moving Forward

Great news on the Wahpeton Waterway Restoration Project! Dredging is scheduled to begin on or shortly after October 1st.

- Fundraising Progress: Thanks to the generosity of area residents, businesses, and local organizations, approximately $350,000 has been raised toward our $700,000 overall project goal.
- Phase 1 Priority: Initial efforts will focus on Paddler's Path, the vital waterway connecting the Turtle Lake and Wahpeton canal system with West Lake Okoboji.
- Scope of Impact: The project will enhance water flow, recreational access, water quality, and wildlife habitat across this DNR-owned system—including Paddler's Path, Joy Loy, and Wilderness Way near Gull Point State Park and the historic old Boy Scout camp area.

How You Can Help

With dredging equipment arriving soon, the next few weeks are critical to maximizing the work completed during this phase. Additional contributions of any amount ($25, $100, $500, or more) are greatly appreciated.

Tax-deductible donations can be made online through the Okoboji Foundation:

- **Website:** okobojifoundation.org/giveboji/
- **Designation:** Select Wahpeton Waterway Restoration Project when making your gift.

For questions or more details, contact Project Lead Tim Ireland at 712-229-1450 or tireland@iowalakes.edu. Thank you to everyone who has supported restoring these waterways for our community and future generations!

AUTOPAY

Never worry about paying your bill on time.

To create your online account and to set up AutoPay:

⇒ Visit the City of Wahpeton website : **www.cityofwahpeton.com**
⇒ Click on the **Wahpeton Frontdesk Gworks Portal**
⇒ Select ***Create Now*** below the login button to begin setting up your account.
⇒ When asked, ***Are you already receiving utility bills?,*** select ***Yes***.
⇒ Enter your Wahpeton Utility Account number and review your account info.

New Convenience Fees:

- **Credit/Debit Card:** 4% of the payment amount, with a **$3.00 minimum.**
- **eCheck:** Flat fee based on bill size: **$3.00** for bills up to $500 and **$4.00** up to $1000.

Water Plant Improvement Project Update

Woodruff Construction continues to make progress on the Wahpeton Water Treatment Plant project. The major concrete pours of the project are underway, with work ongoing to complete reinforcing steel, form work, and concrete placement for the remaining structural concrete. Subcontractor work includes underground utilities, electrical conduit, and plumbing.

Other upcoming work includes backfilling of the struture and masonry work. The contractor's objective is to complete the outer shell of the building by winter 2026 to have an enclosed space to begin assembly and construction inside the building.

The contractor has made efforts to minimize construction traffic on the streets in front of the water plant. However, increased truck traffic is anticipated during upcoming concrete pours. No road closures are expected.

2026 Street Improvement Project Update!

Work on the 2026 Street Improvement Project is actively underway.

Current Progress & Milestones

- Phase I (Kansas Avenue): The project is currently 20% complete.
- Phase I (west curve to the east side of Oak Street) began on August 24th. Watermain improvements in Phase I are expected to wrap up the week of September 21, followed immediately by storm sewer installation and grading.
- Phase II spans from the east side of Oak Street to the east end of Kansas Avenue.

Upcoming Schedule & Timeline

- Phase I: Work will continue through the second week of October.
- Phase II: Construction will begin as soon as Phase I residents have driveway access, continuing into mid-November.
- Oak & Hill Streets: Weather permitting, construction on Oak and Hill Streets is now expected to begin in the Spring of 2027.

Traffic Impacts & Resident Notices

- Kansas Avenue Closures: Phase I is closed to through traffic for the remainder of storm sewer and grading operations. Once Phase I is temporarily surfaced, work will move to Phase II, closing that section.
- Full Road Closure Notice: The full length of Kansas Avenue will be closed to all traffic for approximately two weeks when both sections are ready for paving, anticipated for late October.
- Oak & Hill Streets: Remain fully open to all traffic until construction begins in Spring 2027.
- While contractors are accommodating local residents for property access as much as practical, please plan travel routes accordingly.

If you have questions or concerns regarding the project, contact Brad Englund of Beck Engineering at 605-651-2986.