

CITY OF FOND DU LAC – Council Communications

City Manager

Date: April 29, 2025
To: City Council
From: Joe Moore, City Manager
Re: Council Communications



1. Fond du Lac Fire/Rescue Monthly Report
2. Department of Community Development Monthly Report
3. Fond du Lac Police Department Monthly Report
4. City Attorney/Human Resources Monthly Report
5. Department of Public Works Monthly Report
6. Department of Administration Monthly Report
7. Fond du Lac Public Library

CITY OF FOND DU LAC – Council Communications

Fire Rescue

Date: April 7, 2025
To: Joe Moore, City Manager
From: Erick Gerritson, Fire Chief
Re: Fond du Lac Fire Rescue Monthly Report for March 2025



...Acting to Save

Types of Calls	March 2025	March 2024	Year to Date (2025)	Year to Date (2024)
Alarms Involving Fire	12	7	23	23
Fire Mutual Aid Given	1	1	1	4
Fire Mutual Aid Received	0	0	0	0
Other Calls (False Alarms, Service Calls, etc.)	96	100	306	299
Emergency Medical Calls	563	533	1695	1607
Paramedic Intercepts	1	6	7	14
Interfacility Transports	16	18	44	65
TOTALS	671	640	2024	1929
Fire Inspections Completed	274	201	695	726
Defects found during Fire Inspections	78	99	218	386

TRAINING

- Training with Eden Fire Department EMR's
- HazMat Outreach Training with Mt. Calvary, Calumet and St. Cloud Fire Departments
- Training at Public Safety Training Center with Town of Fond du Lac and North Fond du Lac
- LifePak 35 Training
- Tech Team training at Kiekhaefer Park

COMMUNITY EVENTS

- SMSA Cub Scouts tour and general fire safety education
- Led the St. Patrick's Day Parade
- Eagles Club appreciation breakfast
- Girl Scout Troop First Aid Training
- Booth at the Home and Garden Show
- Judged Chili Cook Off at the Eagles Club
- Knights of Columbus Public Service Night
- FDL School District 4K tour

OTHER

- Chaplain Grant Baumgart lunch and conversation with the Crew
- Walleye Weekend Concession Stand meeting held at Station 1
- Envision FDL hosted an information meeting at Station 1 on city Council and School Board candidates.
- FDL High School Media Students toured the Station for media project
- Hosted the Wisconsin Fire Service Administrative Association at Station 1
- Several car seat installations
- Chief Gerritson to Fondy High for a mock interview session with students
- Pinning Ceremony for new Assistant Chiefs, Division Chief, Lieutenants

CITY OF FOND DU LAC – Council Communications

Department of Community Development

Date: April 29, 2025
To: Joe Moore, City Manager
From: Dyann Benson, Community Development Director
Re: Monthly Report for March 2025



1. Statistics are attached for housing starts, inspections, downtown parking, the Senior Center, etc.
2. Three (3) site plans were reviewed in February. Staff reviewed a 4000 sq ft storage building for West Shore Group at 1209 Industrial Parkway. A 5300 sf building addition for St Mary's Springs Academy was reviewed. A 7400 building addition at Twohig Family Dentistry at 211 S National Avenue was reviewed.
3. There are several construction projects underway in the City. Projects include: The project has transitioned to the second phase within the new Froedtert/Thedacare micro hospital on West Johnson Street and framing is in progress. Finishes continue at the new Fond du Lac Beer Company at 21 4th Street. Framing continues for a new addition for Wrihway Home Improvements at 235 W Scott Street. Finishes are in progress for the buildout of the new private ambulance service, Superior Air Ground Ambulance Service, Inc. on Kohlmann Road. Footings are in for the third phase of the Riverwood Development on South Main Street.
4. Board of Appeals approved a setback variance for the Cutler development on North Bell Street. A variance for a monument sign was approved for the Waterworks Business Office. Setback variances and a fence height variance was approved by the Board of Appeals for the new field/stadium improvements at St Mary's Springs Academy.
5. The Downtown Architectural Review Board (DARB) approved exterior façade alterations to Victoria's Pet Nutrition at 14 North Main Street. An updated exterior façade design was approved for Focus Hobby at 75 South Main Street.
6. The Historic Preservation Commission discussed the May as Historic Preservation Month activity.
7. The Center partnered with the Police Department to offer the Civilian Response to Active Shooter (CRASE) training for our participants. The program was extremely popular and will be offered again in May.
8. The Center began an Adult Children of Aging Parents series with two programs this month – What If My Parent Has Dementia, and Role Reversal – Where Do We Start on This Aging Journey.
9. The Basic Self Defense Class continues to fill up and we are thankful to Mike of Downtown Mixed Martial Arts and Molly of Knockouts Women's Kickboxing for sharing their knowledge with our participants.

10. Winter Sowing and Microgreens 101 both offered our participants information in how to kick off the spring growing season with healthy home gardening ideas.
11. Pi Day was celebrated on 3.14. It's always great to give our participants an opportunity to get together and socialize – especially when there is pie involved!
12. The Center's movies were very popular this month – both the recently released “Wicked” and the Friday Throwback Fun Flick, “Pillow Talk”

CITY OF FOND DU LAC
DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
Month: MARCH 2025

Category	This Month	Same Month Last Year	Total This Year	Total By Same Period Last Year
I. DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITY (CITY)				
Residential Construction (Permits Issued):				
# New Single-Family Residential Units	1	1	3	4
# New Duplex Residential Bldgs/Units	0	0	0	0
# Residential Alterations/Additions	73	82	145	170
# New Multi-Family Residential Bldgs/Units	1(8)	0	1(8)	0
# Total New Residential Bldgs/Units	2(9)	1(1)	4(11)	4(4)
\$ Total Value New Residential Construction	1,269,652	975,000	1,745,652	1,469,700
\$ Total Value Residential Alterations/Additions	1,676,226	1,330,336	2,902,283	2,682,895
Commercial/Industrial Construction (Permits Issued)				
# New Commercial/Industrial Structures	1	1	2	4
# Commercial/Industrial Additions/Alterations	13	8	24	28
\$ Total Value New Commercial/Industrial Construction	2,400,000	150,000	2,529,932	24,940,712
\$ Total Value Commercial/Industrial Additions/Alterations	2,951,246	2,725,805	7,194,257	6,106,091
General:				
# New Site Plans Reviewed	2	1	7	2
# Rezoning/Special Use Permits	0	0	1	1
# Variances	3	3	3	3
# New Lots/Parcels Created [CSMs & Final Plats]	0	0	0	0
II. FIELD INSPECTIONS, CONSULTATIONS & PUBLIC CONTACTS	488	549	1,418	1,486
III. HOUSING CODE ENFORCEMENT				
# Complaints Filed	39	51	119	133
# Follow-up Inspections	141	188	439	434
# Complaint Cases Closed	31	52	105	109
IV. HOUSING REHABILITATION LOANS				
# Loans Approved	0	1	0	1
\$ Amount of Rehabs Approved	0	35,000	0	35,000
# Dwelling Units to be Rehabbed (Approved)	0	1	0	1
V. SENIOR CENTER				
# Volunteers/Hours	50/321	42/290	67/818	60/713
# Contacts	18,820	14,893	46,289	50,663
VI. DOWNTOWN PARKING				
\$ Revenue	18,740.69	19,110.53	56,053.80	56,653.47

CITY OF FOND DU LAC – Council Communications

Police Department

Date: April 10, 2025
To: Joe Moore, City Manager
From: Aaron Goldstein, Chief of Police
Re: Monthly Report for March 2025



Patrol Division

Resident of Maplewood Commons robbed at gun point.

17 year old female took a bunch of pills and was admitted at the hospital, female was later transported to Willow Creek in Green Bay.

Female feeling suicidal and going through a tough time, safety plan in place

Assisted county with pursuit SB on I 41. County had a successful spike of the vehicle and it became disabled in North Fond du Lac.

Edwin Maradiagaflares assaulted his girlfriend and was arrested on scene for DV DC, and Battery.

Ref an assault that is alleged to have occurred a year ago between a 16 yr old male/suspect and a 15 yr old/victim. Interview with victim set up for Saturday.

Found a bag of suspected drugs at 63 W Merrill Ave, item tested and was positive for cocaine and was inventoried.

Vehicle slip into a pole at 1050 E Johnson St/N National Ave and knocked it over. Driver cited.

Criminal Investigative Division

The Detectives cleared **13** cases in the month of **March 2025**. Of those cases **0** were closed with arrests or referrals to the DA's Office for charges. There were **11** new cases assigned in the month with a total case load of **77** active cases as of this report. Detectives are currently working **11** ICAC Cyber Tips.

Mental Health Co-Response

Mental Health Assessments (Behavioral health crisis (MH or AODA) requiring assessment of safety, symptoms, and functioning: **17 Adults and 2 Children**

Records Bureau

Open records requests processed (all other reports): **210**

Open records requests processed (traffic related - crash reports): **15**

Records processed to be sent to outside criminal justice agencies/departments (DSS, P&P etc.): **94**

Public Record Requests Processed – Total: **319**

Property and Evidence Control Unit

Property/evidence items processed: **337**

Training Unit

Mental Health Spring Summit Six officers attended

OWI refresher N. Defatte completed

Sniper FBI School (Willman)

Rifle In-service completed

Report Writing School (Delveaux)

Sovereign Citizen School (Gill)

Officer Eckes is on her own now.

Recruitment and Selection

Facilitated several ride-alongs with potential candidates

New hiring process completed

Community Service Officer Unit

Parking tickets: **242**

Had several hiring processes

Finger printing twice a week

Downtown parking

CITY OF FOND DU LAC - Council Communications

City Attorney/Human Resources Department

Date: April 1, 2025
To: Joe Moore, City Manager
From: Deborah Hoffmann, City Attorney/Director – Human Resources
Re: Monthly Report – March 2025



MUNICIPAL COURT

	March	YTD
Traffic Safety Program Participants	6	9
Municipal Citations	335	1,133
Juvenile Hearings held at the High School/School District	85	344
Trials to the Court	1	13
Pre-trials Conferences	32	112
Fines/Forfeitures collected	\$33,027.08	\$76,662.87

HUMAN RESOURCES

	March	YTD
New Hires	3	11
Promotions	2	11
Transfers	0	3
Retirements/Attrition	3	14
Recruitments	3	9
Current Vacancies	17	N/A

CITY OF FOND DU LAC – Council Communications

Public Works Department

Date: April 17, 2025
To: Joseph Moore, City Manager
From: Paul DeVries, Director of Public Works
Re: Department of Public Works Monthly Report



ENGINEERING AND TRAFFIC DIVISION

- Contractor, Don E Parker Excavating is preparing the schedule for the 2025 Utility & Street Reconstruction Project. The Contractor is preparing to start reconstruction the week of April 21 on N Butler Street between Division Street and Russell Street.
- Contractor, Al Dix Concrete is preparing the schedule for the 2025 Sidewalk Program. Inspection reports have been prepared and mailed April 16, 2025.
- Contractor, Fahrner Asphalt Specialists, was awarded the 2025 Bridge Deck Sealing Project. Staff will be working with the contractor to schedule a preconstruction meeting.
- Promen Drive Bridge in Lakeside Park is scheduled to begin June 16th, 2025. The current bridge will be demolished and Lunda Construction will construct a new bridge and approaches.
- The City continues to work with MSA on various upcoming projects. The projects include:
 - Forest Ave Bridge Replacement - The WI DOT along with the City of Fond du Lac are designing the replacement of the Bridge.
 - Oven Island - Fountain Island Pedestrian Bridge Replacement – Lunda Contractors placed the bridge structure.
- Staff continues working with Kunkel Engineering on the 2025 Mill & Overlay Program and 2025 Concrete Rehabilitation Program. The 2025 Mill & Overlay Program will advertise April 23 and bid opening is scheduled for May 8th. Included in the Mill & Overlay Program is reconstruction of the Lakeside Park Pavilion Parking Lot and new asphalt trail throughout Taylor Park.
- Contractor, Northeast Asphalt was awarded the 2025 S. Main Street Resurfacing & Court St Project. The project will include complete mill and overlay of Main Street from Merrill Avenue to 5th Street, curb ramp replacement, spot curb and gutter replacement, water main replacement on the south end of the project. In addition to the resurfacing project lead services throughout the downtown are scheduled to be replaced along with installation of new fiber. Work is already underway for these two projects.
- Staff is working with consultants Excel Engineering and JE Arthur on the design and construction of two subdivisions. Hidden Valley Subdivision Phase 1 will be constructed north of Eastwind Lane and west of Country Road K. Eastern Ridge Phase 2 will extend Lynn Avenue to County Road K in the northeast part of the City. Both projects are currently out for bids with bid opening scheduled for April 24.
- Staff is working RA Smith to design and bid out the extension of new utilities to Reinhardt Road. The project includes boring water main under Hwy 151 and construction of a new sanitary lift station for future development.
- Reviewed site plans for Erosion Control and Stormwater Management and Drainage Plans for newly constructed homes.
- Reviewed and approved seven Excavation in the Right of Way Permits.

CONSTRUCTION & MAINTENANCE DIVISION

- Repaired six sanitary sewers and four storm sewers
- Repaired multiple potholes, other asphalt failures, and continue with citywide street sweeping
- Clearwater staff continue to televise/inspect sanitary collection system
- Conducted multiple interviews for vacant positions within the division
- Staff addressed several minor winter weather event
- Winds caused several downed trees, requiring staff to address storm damage
- Staff Provided barricade support for St. Patrick's Day Parade
 - First implementation of Phase I of the Modular Vehicle Barriers
- Continue to work with Police Department to craft full implementation of Modular Vehicle Barriers for special events
- Staff completed annual ice cutting efforts on the Fond du Lac Rivers
- Assisted Water Utility with general and emergency operations
- Staff picked up salt/sand boxes and snow fence throughout city
- Staff continued terrace tree removals
- Staff completed gravel alley grading throughout city
- Epoxy Floor was installed in the Office/Administrative areas at the Municipal Service Center
- Received final Salt orders to wrap up annual Wisconsin DOT salt contract quantities
- Completed survey to identify failed areas on concrete roads for bi-annual concrete rehab projects
- Sign Shop Staff received training on new sign cutting plotter and software
- Created PowerPoint Presentation to be used for recruitment purposes
- Began assessing roadways for 2025 crack sealing
- Established 2025 service date for staff to procure safety footwear
 - Part of Department Safety Program
- Began reaching out to seasonal employees to coordinate their return.
- Staff participated in Excavation safety training "Diggers Hotline"

ELECTRICAL DIVISION

- March 502 locates were called in, 110 had to be field located
- Six after hours call in: Two street light knockdowns, one power outage involving traffic signals, and three traffic light issues, including one traffic cabinet being hit and damaged during an accident.
- Repaired two street lights as a result of accidents: 91 S Main St. and Fond du Lac Ave in the roundabout at National Ave
- Repaired one traffic signal on Division St. at SSM entrance damaged by a large truck
- The traffic cabinet at Division St and Park Ave was damaged from an accident and will need to be replaced. It is still functional for the time being.
- Thirteen streetlights were upgraded to LED as part of the DOT grant
- Repaired 45 street lights
- Repaired a wiring issue at Peters Ave and Arndt St causing a large street light outage in the area
- Repaired a conduit on Reid Terrace due to some damage during a water main break

FLEET DIVISION

- Serviced, inspected, and repaired summer equipment for all departments
- Utility bucket truck inspections and repairs for Electrical and Parks departments
- C&M line sprayer #142 – Rebuilt paint sprayers and pump
- C&M MVB (motor vehicle barricade) trailers #168, 169 – Set up new trailers for hauling MVB's
- C&M 10 yard dump truck #40 – Replaced faulty water pump and repaired power steering leak

- Solid Waste truck #201 – Lost hydraulics and electrical system for side loader arm, replaced blown fuse inside of console
- Solid Waste truck #202 – Removed packer assembly, packer tracks and packer hydraulic cylinders, rebuilt packer panel, welded in new packer tracks and scraper, and replaced worn hydraulic cylinders
- Parks Department bucket truck #304 - Replaced worn upper and lower ball joints on both sides of front suspension, worn tie rod on the left driver's side, lubed brake caliper slides and front suspension parts
- Water Department hydro excavator #452 – Replaced broken high pressure pump belt
- Water Department truck #456 – Replaced damaged fuel tank, driver's step, and fuel primer housing which was causing a no start condition
- Water Department mower #474 - Replaced engine and serviced mower
- Fire Department ladder truck #660 – Replaced torsion bar wrap which was damaged, adjusted latch and door striker to repair driver's door, replaced leaking air fitting on door step actuator
- Fire Department ambulance #676 –Diagnosed and replaced faulty driver's seatbelt pre-tensioner and cleared air bag codes in computer controller. Replaced a faulty NOX sensor in the exhaust system
- Police Department squad #697 – Rebuilt rear brakes which were making squeaking noises
- Police Department squad #683 - Service call dead battery, tested and replaced weak battery
- Transit bus #912 - Replace one blown coolant hose and several other worn hoses
- Transit bus #915 - Replaced two leaking coolant hoses, two other leaking hose clamps and rebuilt rear brakes

PARKS DIVISION

- Removed snow from park and city property as needed
- Continued fixing and painting picnic tables and benches
- Continued on tree pruning and hazardous tree removals throughout the city
- Continued removing ash trees throughout the city
- Continued to work on winter maintenance items at both pools
- Continued on dock inspections and maintenance
- Interviewed and hired several seasonal employees for the season. We are hopeful to have the positions filled soon.

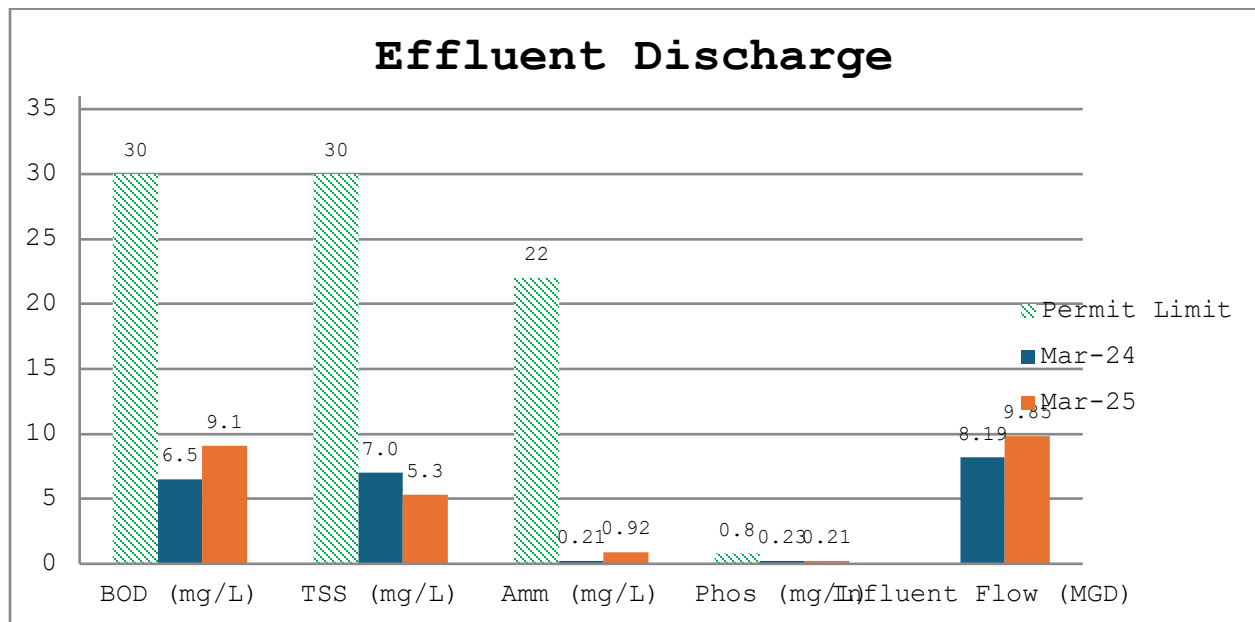
TRANSIT

- Four new buses have been built and are awaiting the final touches before they are ready for delivery. A trip was recently made to Gillig, our bus manufacturer in California, to inspect each bus. It is anticipated that these will be delivered at the end of April and put in service by the end of May. Once these buses are delivered, they undergo a final inspection by the manufacturer and additional equipment is installed that is specific to Fond du Lac Area Transit.
- A purchase order has been issued for a new paratransit vehicle for the Handivan service. This new vehicle will be a replacement for an older vehicle.
- All drivers participated in a special training session with the Police Department.
- Brian Kading recently completed two special multi-day FTA training sessions. These sessions included a comprehensive review of all necessary FTA compliance topics and effectively managing transit emergencies.
- We currently have open positions for a driver and a marketing intern.

WASTEWATER

- The lowest daily flow occurred on the 3rd at 5.46 million gallons. The highest daily flow occurred on the 5th at 19.55 million gallons.
- Effluent permit limits and results for the WTRRF are as follows:

March 2025	<i>Unit of Measurement</i>	<i>Conc. entering the facility</i>	<i>Actual Discharge</i>	<i>Permit Limit</i>	<i>% Removal</i>
Biological Oxygen Demand (BOD)	mg/L	280	9.1	30	97
Total Suspended Solids (TSS)	mg/L	192	5.3	30	97
Ammonia (NH3)	mg/L	20.6	0.92	22	96
Total Phosphorus (TP)	mg/L	4.7	0.21	0.8	96



Operations:

- Staff are working with the DNR to get the Water Quality Trading Agreement approved. The approval is important to establish the amount of phosphorus credits that can be utilized towards compliance and to start the clock of the 10-year duration of credit value. Staff have provided follow-up documentation and an updated WQT Plan.
- Cody Schoepke met with Mark Stanek, Fond du Lac WTRRF's DNR Basin Engineer, to discuss permit issuance. Fond du Lac has been operating under an expired permit since March of 2023. The discussion focused on the timing of the WQT project and credit generation which would mean receiving the next permit sometime this fall.
- The Biosolids Dryer and RNG-Pipeline Injection Construction Bid was advertised. Bid Opening is scheduled for April 8th. Construction is expected to begin in June. Project substantial completion won't occur until sometime in the fall of 2026.

Administrative:

- The vacant WTRRF Treatment Specialist 1 position has been filled. Kaylee Tackett will begin at the end of May. What's unique here is that she was a previous intern for both the lab one summer and then returned as the operations intern the next summer. Staff look forward to bringing her on board. WTRRF is fully staffed with this hire.

CITY OF FOND DU LAC - Council Communications

Department of Administration

Date: April 17, 2025
To: Joe Moore, City Manager
From: Tricia Davi, Director of Administration
Re: Department of Administration Monthly Report



COMPTROLLER

- Auditors were on-site March 3rd through 7th for final fieldwork. After fieldwork is complete, they will begin preparation of the annual financial reports.
- Attended demos for third ERP software solution. Selection Committee narrowed the vendors down to two for the Discovery phase to be held in April.
- Attended strategy meeting with our benefits broker to discuss health insurance plan performance and other benefits.
- Participated in weekly meetings with the Archer Group for the wage study. The Archer Group sent out a survey to peer agencies in Wisconsin to establish benchmark data for use in their recommendation of the City's pay plan structure. Next steps involve analyzing that data, as well as reviewing job descriptions of City staff and applying their points evaluation system.

Department Statistics

Statistics	March	2025 YTD	2024 Totals
Accounts Payable Checks	500	1,456	5,832
Payroll Checks/Direct Deposits	790	2,885	10,920
Purchase Orders Approved/Issued	335	1,080	3,954
Utility Bills Processed	4,790	15,431	62,628
On-line utility payments	2,747	8,144	30,957
WebTrac on-line reservations/payments	135	321	567
Tax Refund Intercept/State Debt Collection	\$33,290.63	\$56,588.88	\$163,599.50

PURCHASING

- The following proposals/quotes/bids were opened, reviewed and/or awarded:
 - Storm Water Pump Maintenance
 - Public Tree Removal
 - Fire Station #3 Apparatus Doors
 - Street & Utility Construction
 - UPS Replacement
 - Sidewalk Management Program

CITY CLERK/CENTRAL SERVICES

Elections

- A total of 3989 absentee ballots were issued in the City of Fond du Lac for the April 1, 2025 Spring Election
- 2145 Absentee ballots were mailed
- 1594 people voted absentee in person at the City Clerk's Office
- 250 ballots were provided to voters in Nursing Homes by Special Voting Deputies

- The cut-off for voters to register through the mail or online was March 19, 2025. We had 45 people register to vote in the City Clerk's Office during late registration from March 20th-March 28th..
- Election Official training was provided to all election workers working the April 1st Election on March 27th in the Legislative Chambers.

Department Statistics

Statistics	March	2025 YTD	2024 Totals
Park Facility Reservations	80	248	809
Dog Licenses	218	626	960
Cat Licenses	44	108	149
Print Shop Orders	110	282	1358
License Applications	25	49	897
Special Assessment Reports	56	180	886
Special Event Requests	18	37	142

ASSESSOR

- Assessment staff have completed real estate property valuations for changes that occurred during the 2024 calendar year. Staff has also met with owners who had requested our office to review the valuation of their residential or commercial properties for 2025. Walk through inspections of these properties are being completed at this time.
- Our office continues to process sales as there were 100 sales that were validated in March, which was 12 more than last year at this time. Our office also continues to stay current on entering building permits into our CAMA system, there were 171 new building permits that the City issued in March.
- Staff continues to work on the 2025 revaluation. The progression of this project is where we expect it to be, we do not expect any delays in sending revaluation notices.
- Assessment notices are scheduled to be mailed out on the 23rd of April. Open book is scheduled for the week of May 12th and Board of Review will be held on August 13th.

CITY OF FOND DU LAC - Council Communications

Public Library

Date: April 15, 2025
To: Joe Moore, City Manager
From: Jon Mark Bolthouse, Library Director
Re: Library Monthly Report



Solar Update

After nearly three years of work on the Library solar project, the Library can finally report some good news and progress. Two weeks ago, the solar contractor contacted us and asked whether they could come over in 48 hours and start installing the panels on the roof. They had a gap in installer schedules and felt like they could squeeze us in at the last minute. After a bit of hustling, we got everything prepared for them to arrive with 240 panels and a crane to get them to the roof. In the end, they were able to get all the panels in place on the roof and ready for a connection to our electrical system. That won't take place until very late April or early May. It's looking like we'll be solar powered by the start of summer reading.

Book Bike Update

A Leadership Fond du Lac cohort group approached the library looking for a project to take on and fund. We had sent a proposal for a library Book Bike to the teams and one of them picked it to take on. We are now on our way to have an electric bike with an attached structure as part of our outreach endeavors. The bike will be used to bring books, art supplies, and other materials to our outreach events. Our plan is to have it in possession and ready to use by the May 31 Farmer's market. That is where it would make its debut.

We're still working out the details with the team and internally in terms of where it would most be beneficial but we're excited to be part of Leadership FDL this year and look forward to introducing the bike to Fond du Lac.

Readalong Wonderbooks for Adults

The Library purchased several new Wonderbooks for Adults. Popular in the children's read along collection, these are standard books for adults with an electronic audiobook player attached to the inside front cover. They are great for struggling readers, English language learners, or anyone who wants to move between the audio and print edition of the book.



Community Style Drum Circle Event

We had 18 enthusiastic rhythm players join the library and Oshkosh Rhythm Institute for an hour of drumming on a Saturday morning. We had three generations of library users participate in this energetic intergenerational program. Participants commented on how calmed and connected they felt when making music together in a supportive environment.

Play With Your Food Event in Children's Department



March is National Noodle Month so, at Sarah's suggestion, we had an Iron Chef-style competition for teens. For the first challenge, teens could choose from several varieties of noodle - standard wheat semolina bowties, brown rice elbow macaroni, rice noodles, chickpea rotini, and hearts of palm spaghetti - and a selection of sauces, and had to incorporate a mystery basket ingredient (mostly leftover Anime Afternoon snacks) into their dish. Three chefs prepared dishes, and Sarah and Christine graciously volunteered their judging prowess. We then moved on to the dessert round, which was pretty special; teens still had to use noodles, but could select from sauces of the ice cream topping variety; the dessert round's mystery ingredient basket included chocolate chips, leftover dried fruit from the trail mix program, and leftover cookies from the Taylor Swift party. It was fun to see the chefs get creative and support each other. Only one of the chefs had attended a program at our library before, and we got to connect with one of their moms, who works at the Taycheedah correctional facility AND is very involved in 4H.

