

Burlington City Hall
300 N. Pine Street
Burlington, WI 53105
262.342.1161



CITY OF BURLINGTON
COMMON COUNCIL

Jeannie Hefty, Mayor
 mayor@burlington-wi.gov
 (262) 342-1161

First District Aldermen

Ed Johnson
 finn1116@icloud.com
 (262) 763-8321

John Ekas
 jekes@wi.rr.com
 (262) 763-8646

Second District Aldermen

Ruth Dawidziak
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 (262) 763-3965

Bob Grandi
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 (262) 767-0912

Third District Aldermen

Tom Vos
 Council President
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 (262) 763-2213

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Fourth District Aldermen

Tom Preusker
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Todd Bauman
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Announcements and Events

December: Santa's Chalet will be open the first three weeks of December on Fridays from 6-8 p.m., Saturdays from 2-4 p.m. and Sundays from 2-4 p.m. in Wehmhoff Square Park.

December 17: Burlington Ice Festival - On Saturday, December 17, the City will be hosting their first ice sculpting contest in Wehmhoff Square Park. There will be eighteen ice blocks placed around the park. Carving should begin around 9 am and conclude at 2 pm.

Mid December: 2016 Real Estate and Personal Property Tax bills to be mailed. First installment payments are due by January 31, 2017. If you want to claim a deduction on your income taxes, you must pay by December 31, 2016.

December 23, 26, 30 and January 2 and 16: Non-emergency City offices will be closed for the holidays.

March 11: The Annual Home Show & Chocolate Extravaganza will be held on Saturday, March 11 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Burlington High School, 400 McCanna Parkway.

March 31: Last day to license a dog or cat at City Hall without a late fee.

CITY STAFF DIRECTORY

City Hall
300 N. Pine Street - 342-1161

Jeannie Hefty	Mayor
Carina Walters	City Administrator
Megan Watkins	Director of Administrative Services
Steve DeQuaker	Treasurer/Budget Officer
Diahnn Halbach	City Clerk
Gregory Guidry	Building Inspector

Fire Department
165 W. Washington Street - 763-7842

Alan Babe	Fire Chief
Wes Miner	Fire Inspector

Public Library
166 E. Jefferson Street - 342-1130

Gayle Falk	Library Director
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Police Department
224 E. Jefferson Street - 342-1100

Mark Anderson	Police Chief
Brian Zmudzinski	Lieutenant

Public Works - Streets/Parks/Water
2200 S. Pine Street - 539-3770

James Bergles	Public Works Director
Aaron DeGrave	Park Foreman
Tom Koch	Street Foreman
Glenn Harjes	Water Foreman

Public Works - Wastewater
2100 S. Pine Street - 539-3646

James Bergles	Public Works Director
Don Hefty	Wastewater Foreman

Municipal Court
300 N. Pine Street - 342-1129

Kelly Iselin	Municipal Court Judge
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Recycling Collection Schedule

- Week of December 12 - 16
- Week of December 26 - 30
- Week of January 9 - 13
- Week of January 23 - 27
- Week of February 6 - 10
- Week of February 20 - 24
- Week of March 6 - 10
- Week of March 20 - 24

December Meetings

- | | | |
|-------|-----------|-----------------------|
| 12/6 | 5:30 p.m. | - CDA |
| 12/6 | 6:00 p.m. | - Police & Fire Comm. |
| 12/6 | 6:30 p.m. | - Common Council |
| 12/13 | 6:30 p.m. | - Plan Commission |
| 12/15 | 6:30 p.m. | - Park Board |
| 12/20 | 6:30 p.m. | - Common Council |
| 12/27 | 4:30 p.m. | - Library Board |
| TBD | 6:30 p.m. | - HPC |
| TBD | 6:00 p.m. | - Airport Committee |

January Meetings

- | | | |
|------|-----------|-----------------------|
| 1/3 | 5:30 p.m. | - CDA |
| 1/3 | 6:00 p.m. | - Police & Fire Comm. |
| 1/3 | 6:30 p.m. | - Common Council |
| 1/10 | 6:30 p.m. | - Plan Commission |
| 1/17 | 6:30 p.m. | - Common Council |
| 1/19 | 6:30 p.m. | - Park Board |
| 1/24 | 4:30 p.m. | - Library Board |
| 1/26 | 6:00 p.m. | - Airport Committee |
| 1/26 | 6:30 p.m. | - HPC |

February Meetings

- | | | |
|------|-----------|-----------------------|
| 2/7 | 5:30 p.m. | - CDA |
| 2/7 | 6:00 p.m. | - Police & Fire Comm. |
| 2/7 | 6:30 p.m. | - Common Council |
| 2/14 | 6:30 p.m. | - Plan Commission |
| 2/16 | 6:30 p.m. | - Park Board |
| 2/21 | 6:30 p.m. | - Common Council |
| 2/23 | 6:00 p.m. | - Airport Committee |
| 2/23 | 6:30 p.m. | - HPC |
| 2/28 | 4:30 p.m. | - Library Board |

Inside Burlington



Volume 35 / Winter 2017

The City's Official Newsletter

2016 Real Estate Taxes

The Common Council has approved the 2017 budget. Property tax bills are prepared and will be mailed around the week of December 12, 2016. Contact City Hall at 342-1161 first if you do not receive your tax bill OR if you have any questions regarding your tax bill.

Assessment & Bill Calculations

2016 Property Taxes and Personal Property Taxes are calculated on the assessed value of your property as of January 1, 2016. Property Assessments are handled by Accurate Appraisal. Contact them directly at (800) 770-3927 if you have any questions regarding the assessed value of your property. All Personal Property Taxes are based on forms received by Accurate Appraisal completed by the owner of the personal property. Even if you rent space in a building, you may be subject to Personal Property Tax.

Paying Your Tax Bill

The first installment of your tax bill is due no later than January 31, 2017 and can be paid at City Hall, Fox River State Bank, by mail, or online at www.paymentservicenetwork.com. The City will accept checks, money orders, bank checks, credit card (fee added) or cash. If you are mailing your tax payment, the envelope MUST be postmarked January 31, 2017. The check should be made payable to "City of Burlington Treasurer". Envelopes with postmarks after January 31, 2017 are considered late by the County Treasurer.

The City contracts with Payment Services Network to accept credit cards or electronic checks for your taxes. You may also use your credit card at City Hall or click the link on the City website under the Budget & Finance/Taxes page, or call (866) 917-7368 (option 1). A fee of 2.75% will be added to your credit card for tax payments online or at City Hall.

Make sure you look at your tax bill closely. The accuracy of your tax bill is your responsibility. If you have a change of address or an error in your property tax description, please come to City Hall and we will prepare the necessary forms, or put you in contact with the proper County department.

Lottery and First Dollar Credits

If you own property in Wisconsin you are eligible to receive the Lottery Credit. If you own multiple parcels, you may only take the credit on your primary Wisconsin residence, or one parcel only. You may also be eligible for the First Dollar credit if you have improved property. First Dollar Credit does not apply to vacant land. Both of these items should be listed on your property tax bill. If you feel you are entitled to the Lottery Credit, but it does not appear on your tax bill, please bring your bill and payment to City Hall where you can fill out the proper Lottery Credit form. We can then apply the credit at the time of payment. Neither Fox River State Bank, nor Payment Services Network can apply a lottery credit to your bill. This must be done at City Hall.

Make Payments at These Convenient Locations

CITY HALL

300 N. Pine Street • Burlington, WI
(262) 342-1161
Monday – Friday : 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Closed on Saturday & Sunday
Also Closed: December 23rd, 26th,
30th, January 2nd and 16th

FOX RIVER STATE BANK*

241 E. Jefferson Street • Burlington
763-8600
Monday – Thursday 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Friday – 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Saturday – 8 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Open on December 24th & 31st
until 12 p.m.

Closed: December 25th and
January 1st

* No credit cards. Tax payments will not
be accepted at bank drive-up windows.

www.paymentservicenetwork.com*
ID: RT20230
Click "Search", Click "Make Payment"

*A fee of 2.75% is charged

Are You Interested in Running for Alderman?

As the city's legislative body, the members are responsible for the implementation of programs and services provided by the city. The Council has appointment authority for positions such as the City Administrator and City Attorney, and also appoints citizens to various advisory committees.

As the Legislative Body, the Council has the responsibility of passing ordinances, resolutions, orders and motions for the City's government. Along with those responsibilities, the council also is in control of the City's property, finances, and appropriation of all money spent on behalf of the taxpayers.

Common Council members, as elected officials, are entrusted with the duty to

provide the ways and means to ensure the safety and security of citizens of the City of Burlington and work to maintain and/or enhance a high quality of life.

The Offices for each of the four Aldermanic Districts will be included on the ballot. If you are interested in seeking an Aldermanic office, you may obtain Candidacy and Nomination papers from the City Clerk at City Hall, 300 N. Pine Street, Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

December 1, 2016 is the first day to circulate nomination papers and the final day for filing nomination papers is 5:00 p.m., Tuesday, January 3, 2017.



The Spring Election is scheduled for Tuesday, April 4, 2017. In the event a primary will be necessary, the Primary Election will be held on Tuesday, February 21, 2017.

Stay Safe this Season with Candles

Candles may be pretty to look at and may make your room smell good, but they are a cause of home fires and home fire deaths. Remember, a candle is an open flame, which means that it can easily ignite anything that can burn.

If you do burn candles, please make sure that you:

- Use candle holders that are sturdy, and won't tip over easily. Put candle holders on uncluttered surface.
- Keep candles at least 12 inches away from anything that can burn.
- Never use a candle if oxygen is used in the home.
- Blow out all candles before leaving a home, or going to bed. Avoid the use of candles in the bedroom and other areas where people may fall asleep.

- Don't burn a candle all the way down, put it out before it gets too close to the holder or container.

- Light candles carefully. Keep your hair and any loose clothing away from the flame.

- Never leave a child alone in a room with a burning candle.

- Have flashlights and battery-powered lighting ready to use during a power outage.

On average, a candle fire in the home is reported to a U.S. fire department every 34 minutes. Thirty-eight percent of home candle fires started in the bedroom. More than half of all candle fires start when things that can burn are too close to the candle. Consider using flameless candles in your home. They look and smell like real candles.



Winter Pedestrian Safety

In the winter months, many sidewalks become covered with snow and ice, please use extra caution when you are out and about. Below are safety tips for pedestrians and drivers during the winter season.

Pedestrians

- Cross the street at marked crosswalks and intersections ONLY
- Before crossing, look left, right, then left again
- Use pedestrian pushbuttons
- Begin crossing the street on "Walk" signal
- Wear bright colored clothing, as dim, winter light hampers visibility
- Dusk and dawn are the most dangerous times of the day for pedestrians
- If walking or jogging, make sure you walk against the traffic and remember reflective clothing

Drivers

- Be alert to pedestrians around snowpiles, corners and areas where snow is covering lanes
- Stay in the confines of your lanes as much as possible
- Stop for pedestrians at crosswalks
- Slow down and obey posted speed limits
- Look before opening your vehicle door
- Use caution when passing stopped vehicles

2017 Pet Licenses Available Jan. 1

State and municipal law dictates that all dogs and cats 5 months and older be licensed with the City by March 31 of each year. City of Burlington tags will be available January 1st at City Hall for 2017.

If you are licensing your pet for the first time or you have recently vaccinated your pet, a rabies certificate must be presented at the time of licensing.

Residents that move to the city or have a pet that reaches 5 months of age after

the deadline date will not be charged the late fee. A move within the city does not qualify for this exception. Not only is licensing your pet a requirement of the city, the tag numbers are listed with the Burlington Police Department. If your pet were to stray, the tag is a valuable resource to bring them back home quickly.

The city is proud to offer low cost fees for licensing as listed below:

- Dogs & Cats: (Spayed/Neutered) - \$6
- Dogs & Cats: (Non-spayed/neutered) - \$10

After March 31 a \$10 late fee is added to the cost of the tag.





**Burlington
Ice Festival!**

Saturday, December 17th
All Day
Downtown - Wehmhoff Square Park
355 N. Pine Street

Live ice sculpting around the park!
There is no cost to attend this all-day event. Please spend the day with us viewing the artists in action and also exploring our wonderful downtown!

Snow Removal Guidelines



Streets

During round-the-clock snow and ice control operations, the City's goal is to keep streets passable and safe. Main arterial streets are the first to be plowed, followed by collector streets, then parking lots and alleys. To accomplish this goal effectively and efficiently, community cooperation is required. Residents are asked to stay informed of the status of snow operations and parking restrictions through the City's website and social media pages.

for walking, but also required by City Ordinance. As the owner, occupant or person in charge of a residence(s) in the City, you are responsible for the removal of any snow and ice that has accumulated on the sidewalk in the front of the residence(s) within 18 hours of the snowfall. Any ice that has formed on the sidewalk must be treated to prevent the area from being dangerous. Failure to maintain the sidewalk within this 18-hour timeframe may result in the Street Department cleaning your sidewalk and billing the property owner.

Please remember that snow removal in front of a mailbox is the property owner's responsibility. City crews will make every effort to plow as close to the mailbox as possible. Any concerns/questions regarding snow plowing can be directed to the DPW at (262) 539-3770.

All reports of unshoveled or icy sidewalks should be directed to the Police Department at (262) 342-1100.

Use of Salt

The Department of Public Works encourages residents and businesses to not overuse salt on their sidewalks and parking lots. Use an amount that will allow the salt to melt the ice, but not so much that the salt is several inches thick. Please remember that the salt ultimately goes into our storm sewer system and waterways.

Sidewalks

Keeping the sidewalks clear of snow and ice is something that is not only a courtesy to other people in your neighborhood

The Police Department and Department of Public Works (DPW) want to remind you of the snow removal regulations before Wisconsin winter strikes again. During snowstorms, the City's primary goal is to provide for the safe and orderly movement of emergency equipment and the traveling public. Ice control and snow clearing operations are hindered by on-street parking.

Christmas Tree Recycling



Give your Christmas tree a second chance by recycling it! Christmas tree collection will be available the second and fourth Wednesdays of January and February. Pick up of the trees will be in conjunction with brush pick up the same days. Residents should call the Department of Public Works at (262) 539-3770 to have their address placed on the pick up list. In an effort to be cost effective, we only pick up Christmas trees and brush that has been called in. Please call by the prior Tuesday to have your address added to the list.

Park Pavilion Reservations Open January 3rd



Park Pavilion Reservations for 2017 can be made beginning on January 3rd. Reservations can be made for Bushnell, Devor, Echo, McCanna, Riverside and Wehmhoff-Jucker Parks. Pavilions may be reserved from May 1st through September 30th. All pavilions have electricity, water and tables and all associated parks have restrooms.

Reservation Fees

\$50 - Non Refundable/City Resident
\$100 - Non Refundable/ Non Resident
\$100 - Refundable Security Deposit is required.

Arrangements can be made by stopping at the Department of Public Works located at 2200 S Pine Street. Reservations are on a first come, first serve basis. Questions regarding park reservations can be answered by calling the Department of Public Works at 539-3770.

Stay Informed!

You can sign up to receive a text message and/or email when staff posts the following items on the website:

- Snow Emergencies
- Winter restricted parking
- News
- Updates to the website
- Agendas and minutes
- Press releases
- Requests for Proposals
- Employment opportunities

Simply visit the City's website at www.burlington-wi.gov, click on the "Notify Me" icon in the bottom left menu and sign up for each item you would like to receive. Let us bring the news to you!

Notify Me

Winter Parking Regulations

Winter is here and the snow season is quickly approaching. There are several parking restrictions that may take effect when the snow falls. The restrictions are in place to ensure the streets can be efficiently and completely cleared of snow. It should be noted that alternate side parking (see ordinance 293-3) remains in effect year round, with two exceptions: 1) A Declaration of Snow Emergency, or 2) Winter Restricted Parking.

Winter Restricted Parking automatically goes into effect when 3 inches or more of snow accumulates in 24 hours or less, or snow has fallen or been blown in such a manner as to produce a congestion of traffic or a traffic hazard. Parking is prohibited between 10 p.m. and 6 a.m. This will remain in effect for 48 hours or until plowing is completed.

Declaration of Snow Emergency applies to more severe conditions that may be caused by snow accumulation. These emergency conditions will be declared by the Mayor and will be broadcast to the general public. When such an emergency is declared, parking is prohibited at all times on city streets, alleys and public

parking lots where the emergency situation exists for the duration of the emergency declaration. Two hours after this is broadcasted, the Police Department may remove any vehicle parked in violation of emergency declaration.

Any vehicle parked in violation of either of the two above ordinances may be towed at the owner's expense and will be ticketed for illegal parking. Please help our Department of Public Works this winter by keeping your vehicle off city streets during any snowfall but certainly when there is 3 inches or more.



Winter Fun at the Library!

Programs for Children



Preschool Storytime

Monday mornings at 10:00 a.m. for 3, 4, and 5 year olds in the storytelling room. We will have fun while working on kindergarten readiness skills. Kids are encouraged to come into the room without their parents. No registration required.

Lap-Sit with Ms. Jen and Ms. Jane

Twice a week now come listen to books, learn finger plays and rhymes, and sing and dance! Children ages 5 and under invited Tuesdays or Thursdays at 10:00 a.m. No registration necessary.

Sensory Storytime with Ms. Jen and Ms. Jane

Come and explore activities that involve your senses. Children ages 5 and under invited the first Thursday of the month at 10:00 a.m. No registration necessary.

STEAM

Friday, January 13 and February 10 at 10:00 a.m. Preschool children and older can come and have fun with some STEAM fun. No registration required.

Programs for Teens

Yarn Club

If you have an itch to stitch – crochet or knit – you are welcome to drop in on Mondays from 3:30-5 p.m.. Ages 13 through adult are welcome; no experience necessary. Beginners should bring one pair of size 15 needles, long or short; two skeins of super bulky yarn; and a crochet hook, size I or J. Hosted by instructor Lori Hintz.

Teen Advisory Board

Any teen 12 and up are invited to join our Teen Advisory Board. We will meet the first Wednesday of each month from 4 to 5 p.m. This is a great way to earn volunteer/community service hours every month. Teens will help with library programs and projects around the library. Snacks will be provided.

Programs for Families

Wednesday Game Nights

Join the fun on the fourth Wednesday of each month as we get together to play board games. We meet from 6:30 p.m. to around 8:00 p.m.. Bring your own favorites or use the library's! Be sure to put these dates on your calendar: December 28, January 25, and February 22.

Family Movies

Kids, join us on Tuesday January 24 at 1:00 p.m. for our next newly released film about ten-year-old Sophie who is in for the adventure of a lifetime when she meets the Big Friendly Giant. And on Tuesday, February 21 at 2:00 p.m. we can enjoy our time with a big group of pets. Check www.BurlingtonLibrary.com for details, then call or visit the Circulation Desk to sign up!

Blowing in the Wind

Thursday, January 26, 2016 at 6:30 p.m. Sing out your mid-winter doldrums with folk songs led by David HB Drake in this tribute concert from the days of "Make Love, Not War." These "dangerous" songs of love and peace along with anthems from when times were a 'changin' ring with a wisdom that still resonates today. David is a member of the group "Dangerous Folk," that has opened for the Kingston Trio and has headlined at performing arts centers and festivals across the Midwest. All are welcome with no registration to this FREE event!



Adult Book Clubs

Afternoon Book Club

December--No Book Club

Circling the Sun by Paula McLain

Monday, January 12 at 1:00 pm
McLain presents a contemporary historical novel about the life of free-spirited and unconventional pilot Beryl Markham, whose life plays out against the backdrop of Izak Denison's Africa. Markham is presented as a young woman intent on pushing back at the boundaries of society that get in the way of her living life by her own rules.

The Girl Who Wrote in Silk

Monday, February 9 at 1:00 pm
While visiting an island to see after the affairs of her deceased aunt, a young

woman discovers an elaborately stitched piece of fabric hidden on the estate. Her life becomes intertwined with that of the woman who created the design in the previous century as she discovers a hidden truth about her family and is forced to make a difficult choice. This debut novel is based on a true story.

Evening Book Club

December--No Book Club

Victoria, the Queen by Julia Baird

Thursday, January 23 at 7:00 pm
Author Baird offers the reader a page-turning biography that presents a well-researched portrait of Victoria as a real woman who dealt with many of the same issues with which today's women are

confronted. Newly published sources provide details about her relationship with her servant, John Brown as well as fascinating biographical information about her personal life.

A Mother's Reckoning by Sue Klebold

Thursday, February 27 at 7:00 pm
The mother of one of the two boys who orchestrated the Columbine attack in 1999 reaches out to other parents looking for clues about behavioral warning signs that might help prevent such a tragedy from occurring in their own lives. With unflinching honesty, Klebold employs personal journals, videos and writings her son left behind as well as understanding gleaned from interviews with mental health experts to chronicle the path she took in coming to terms with the heartbreak that followed her son's desperate act.

A Year in Review and Looking Ahead



The Common Council over the next several years will have tough decisions that need to be made. This means to continue to objectively and equitably differentiate between community/individual "wants" and "needs", and rationally allocate available resources to achieve the greatest common good.

There is no question that some residents may feel impacted by our "belt-tightening" and question efforts to control operational costs. But they can never say that we did not take timely and responsible steps to address difficult budget situations. Staff and Council should continue to promote new thinking, new relationships and structures, and more realistic expectations in our delivery of services. Where the new leadership in the Whitehouse will take us is anyone's guess, but the City must continue to act conservatively to further position us to thrive, react responsibly and objectively plan for our future.

In January 2016, the Common Council approved the Strategic Plan outlining the city's five highest priority issues the city would be facing over the next three fiscal years (2016 through 2019) and beyond. Of the five strategic priorities the following strategic initiatives have been completed and/or implemented. This shows the community the city is aggressively and thoughtfully moving towards being a proactive community that hits such priority issues head on versus the phrase of "this is the way it has always been."

The five strategic priorities included:

1. Long Term Financial Stability

Long term financial stability of the city that support operations, long term revenue strategies that also support growth and overall expenditures.

As the future closing of Tax Increment District (TID) Number Three, which comprises approximately 24% of the equalized value of the City, is projected to close prior to 2018, the City's levy authority will be impacted in 2019. The City retained Ehlers, to develop a Financial Management Plan to guide future budgeting and financial decisions. The report focuses on the General Fund, Debt Service Fund, Water Utility, and Sewer Utility. The plan accomplished several goals of examining existing financial strengths and weaknesses, identifying the potential financial impact to tax payers to fund operation and capital needs, and

established financial guidelines related to debt management. This financial plan is a fluid document allowing for annual review in conjunction with the budget.

2. Economic Development

Economic Development that will create thriving retail areas, increased quality jobs that ultimately leading to an expanded tax base. The City has seen a flurry of new businesses open and/or blighted properties that have been purchased. The businesses that have located or relocated within the city include Musicology, Rukan's, Great Clips, AT&T, Athletico Physical Therapy, MPC Property Management expansion, B-Town Tanning Salon, Nobius Press, Oriental Healing Oasis and Jimmy Johns, increasing our overall assessed value to \$943,561,600 from \$822,137,100 in 2015.

The Community Development Authority finalized an offer to purchase with Burlington Core, LLC for the Dodge and Chestnut Street property. A developer agreement will be completed prior to January 31, 2017, which is the closing of said property.

3. Infrastructure Maintenance and Expansion

Infrastructure maintenance and expansion, which includes a comprehensive equipment (funded) and capital infrastructure improvement program (unfunded) of city owned facilities that will allow staff and Council to understand all needs; therefore, guiding staff to appropriately budget and prioritize capital expenses based on Council approval.

Staff completed the initial steps of selecting a comprehensive Capital Improvement (unfunded) and Equipment Replacement (funded) software program that will allow the Common Council to prioritize and identify long term funding strategies.

4. A Competitive Workforce

The Common Council has stated employees are the most important asset of the city. High quality employees that recognize and adhere to the overall mission of building and enhancing our community by safely, respectfully, proudly and effectively executing daily work activities. As an organization we are committed to continuous improvement.

The Common Council commissioned staff to hire Carlson Dettmann to complete a comprehensive employee compensation study in addition to evaluating employee benefits. The purpose of the study was to understand where the City of Burlington employees compare to both public and private sector companies with respect to pay and benefits where possible and make any adjustments as necessary. As a result of the study, staff will be placed on a competitive pay plan, as well as decrease overall city contribution to employee benefits resulting in a \$33,678 savings to the self-insurance fund.

5. Citizen Engagement

Citizen engagement to include better two-way communication, more citizen involvement, which may lead to increased volunteerism at city functions and services.

Looking Ahead to 2017

The above outcomes of the Strategic Plan will also allow staff to demonstrate how the 2017 Budget and beyond serves the four priorities:

1. Provide a basis of accountability to the taxpayers for the investment of their tax dollars.
2. Reflect Common Council policies as the elected representatives of the citizens of Burlington.
3. Provide fiscal policy direction to the city staff.

There has been so much change within the City, including staff, policies and best practices, which show a robust and steadfast cultural change. Such changes continue to show the City's commitment and strive to surpass the prior year's goals. The Council must continue to be engaged in accountability, transparency, and include its constituencies to be civic minded, as public service is the methodology to a better Burlington. We look forward to working with the community more and making Burlington the best it has been!