



# The Village Bulletin

The Village of Shorewood Hills

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Shorewood Hills League Bulletin

## VILLAGE RECOGNITION COMMITTEE SEEKING AWARD NOMINATIONS BY JANUARY 16

Do you know someone who deserves recognition for their efforts to make a positive impact on our community?



The Village Recognition Committee is now accepting nominations of Village residents and businesses that deserve recognition for past efforts to make the Village of Shorewood Hills a better place (submission deadline: January 16 (extended)). The recipients selected by the Committee will be recognized at the Annual Village Recognition Dinner on Friday, March 14, 2025.

The Recognition Committee consists of Village President John Imes who serves as Chair and a number of other resident peers. The Committee will meet once or twice in January to review nominations and make selections.

The following Awards may be considered by the Committee each year: Distinguished Service Award, Good Samaritan Award, Community Builder Award, Leading Light Award, Heavy Lifter Award, Teamwork Award, and other such awards on a case by case basis.

The deadline for your nominations is Thursday, January 16. You are encouraged to nominate a deserving Village resident or business for an Award. Nominations can be made on the Village website by going to [www.shorewood-hills.org/awards](http://www.shorewood-hills.org/awards) and filling out the online form. Nominations will require the

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## Next Bulletin Deadline: Monday, January 20

### CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Meetings will be held virtually or in a hybrid format. Check the agendas for details.

#### JANUARY

7	Personnel Committee .....	8:00 am
TBD	Ad hoc SHPD Recruitment & Retention Committee .....	12:00 pm
9	Public Health & Safety Committee .....	7:00 pm
13	Municipal Court (Initial Appearances) .....	5:00 pm
13	Pool Committee .....	5:30 pm
13	Recreation Committee .....	7:00 pm
14	Public Works Committee .....	5:30 pm
14	Plan Commission .....	7:00 pm
21	Board of Trustees .....	7:00 pm
27	Finance Committee .....	7:00 pm
28	Parks Committee .....	5:30 pm
28	Ad hoc McKenna Park Master Plan Committee .....	7:00 pm

*\* The calendar includes all meetings and events scheduled at the time of publication. Meeting dates or times are subject to change. Check the [Village's website](http://www.shorewood-hills.org) or call the Village Hall for confirmation.*

JANUARY 2025

### MLK, Jr. Holiday

January 20, 2025 is the Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday. Village offices will be closed, but Pellitteri will still be picking up trash & recycling.

**HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE DECEMBER 17, 2024 BOARD MEETING**

*The highlights of the Board meeting are in no way comprehensive. The intent is to give residents and interested parties a sense of the actions taken by the Board at its last meeting. The official meeting minutes will be available on the Village's website once they have been approved by the Board.*

The hybrid in-person/virtual meeting was **Called to Order** at 7:00 pm.

Board members present at the meeting were President John Imes, Shabnam Lotfi, Mark Lederer, Dietmar Bassuner, Carol Barford, Robb Stankey and Bob Falk. Also in attendance was Village Administrator Brian Mooney and Clerk-Treasurer Julie Fitzgerald.

**Public Comment:** A resident expressed his continued concern about “No Right Turn” signs near BRT stops, concerns about the facilities study, encouraged development of garden homes and other measures to increase Village revenues, suggested waiting until the State legislature decides on shared revenue amounts or removing levy limits before the Village decides to go to referendum to exceed levy limits, and was happy that Lt. Weitzel is being recommended for promotion to Police Chief.

In an effort to expedite meetings, items on the **consent agenda** are considered as a group and are adopted with one motion. Any Trustee may unilaterally remove an item from the consent agenda if he or she believes it needs discussion. Items on the consent agenda included approval of the November 25, 2024 Board meeting minutes.

The **2025 Board Meeting Dates** were removed from the consent agenda for discussion. The meetings for 2025 were all tentatively scheduled for the third Tuesday of each month. The February 18, 2025 date has a potential conflict, if the Village needs to hold a primary election in February. The Board approved all of the dates with the February 18 meeting moved to Tuesday, February 25, 2025.

President Imes read and the Board approved [Resolution R-2024-09](#) Recognition of Service for Chief Jeff Pharo who retired from his position on December 10, 2024.

Administrator Mooney recapped the hiring process for Police Chief and reported that Lt. Jaime Weitzel was selected for the position. He recommends appointing her as Police Chief as of 12/15/2024. Mr. Lederer asked about the staffing of the Police Department after this appointment. Mr. Mooney indicated that the Lieutenant's position will be posted internally the next day. Officer Taylor Hamm has finished the police academy and will be starting field training next week. Current CSO Brady Phillips will begin attending the police academy in January. The Board unanimously approved the **appointment of Jaime Weitzel as Village of Shorewood Hills Police Chief** retroactive to December 15, 2024.

Ms. Barford provided an overview of the hiring process for the Village Forester. Patrick Finnegan has been the interim forester since June 2024. The Forestry Department will be developing a horticulturist position to work with the Forester. The Board unanimously approved the **appointment of Patrick Finnegan as Village of Shorewood Hills Forester** retroactive to December 15, 2024.

Mr. Falk (Public Health & Safety Committee) reported that the Village has been awarded a \$150K grant (80% federal / 20% local) for a **Safe Streets for All (SS4A) Action Plan**. He and Mr. Stankey (Public Works Committee) are proposing they co-lead an ad hoc committee to contract with a consultant to develop an action plan related to project to improve the safety of bikes, pedestrians and vehicles on Village streets. A plan must be in place before the Village can apply for larger grants to implement the plan projects. Part of the planning process can include “demonstration projects”, for example, the purchase of temporary speed bumps that could be used on Lake Mendota Drive (or other streets). The Board approved a motion to establish a Safe Streets for All ad hoc committee with co-chairs Falk and Stankey, and to open requests to Village residents interested in participating on the committee.

**Village Facilities Study Update:** Mr. Imes, Ms. Lotfi and Mr. Falk recently met with the Village's contractor FGMA. Mr. Imes provided a recap of the facilities study process to date. He indicated plans, measurements and facilities studies would be received in weeks, rather than months. The Village should get an appraisal of

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current property to take into consideration when determining the finances of possible improvements.

**Village Website Contract:** Administrator Mooney provided a staff review of the two proposals for updating the Village’s website. The Board approved a motion to authorize the Administrator to sign a contract with Catalis for an upgraded website design and hosting utilizing the designated funding within the 2024 Budget.

**Village President’s Report:** Mr. Imes reported that Robb Stankey has decided not to run for reelection and indicated he would be missed. He also noted that page two of the President/Administrator’s letter accompanying the tax bills was not included in the mailing. The full letter will be posted online and sent out via a Nixle alert.

**Administrator’s Report:** Mr. Mooney highlighted two items from Chief Pharo’s last memo to the Board. Sgt. Dodsworth deescalated a situation with someone threatening to stab people. Ofc. Maginot has been focusing on OWIs and has already made 30 arrests since June of 2024. He also noted that Det. Dostalek provided assistance at the Abundant Life Christian School incident. Mr. Mooney noted that CP2 is planning on providing a report at the Board’s January meeting. The Village should also have the final numbers for the University Avenue Reconstruction project, which will give us a better idea of how it will impact TID #3.

**Committee Reports:** The ad hoc McKenna Park Master Plan Committee is resetting its timeline to allow more contact with the First Nations community. Ms. Barford indicated potentially four native nations have lived on the shores of Lake Mendota. They are trying to have a conversation with each of them.

The meeting was **adjourned** at 8:54 pm.

*continued from page 1*

nominator’s name, nominee’s name, address, suggested award and an explanation of why they are deserving of the award. The explanation should include complete descriptions of the person’s activities and actions that deserve recognition, the more detailed the nomination the better! Alternatively, put all that information in an email and send it to [info@shorewood-hills.org](mailto:info@shorewood-hills.org). All nominations will be acknowledged. Nominees selected for a Village award will be notified and invited to the Village Recognition Dinner.

**2025 BOARD MEETING DATES**

- Tuesday, January 21, 2025
- Tuesday, February 25, 2025
- Tuesday, March 18, 2025
- Tuesday, April 15, 2025 (Reorganizational Meeting)
- Tuesday, May 20, 2025
- Tuesday, June 17, 2025
- Tuesday, July 15, 2025
- Tuesday, August 19, 2025
- Tuesday, September 16, 2025
- Tuesday, October 21, 2025
- Tuesday, November 11, 2025 (Budget Public Hearing)
- Tuesday, November 18, 2025
- Tuesday, December 16, 2025

All regular Board meetings will be hybrid format. Special-called board meetings not included on this schedule may be hybrid or virtual only at the discretion of the Village President.

This schedule may be reviewed at the reorganizational meeting on April 15, 2025.



A TRADITION OF SERVICE SINCE 1939



**RECYCLING TIPS – WINE BOTTLE PREPARATION**

Recyclers like Pellitteri are finding that the aluminum sleeve around the neck of a wine bottle is trapping good recyclable glass inside of them as they go through the recycling process. Pellitteri’s tip is to slide off the foil before you de-cork the bottle.

To watch a short video on recycling wine bottles (and other recycling tips) go to: [www.shorewood-hills.org/pellitteri](http://www.shorewood-hills.org/pellitteri)

## PROPERTY TAX PAYMENTS

If you haven't already paid your 2024 property taxes, this is a reminder that at least the first installment of your tax payments must be paid by January 31, 2025 to avoid penalties and interest. Below are some helpful tips to ensure you make a timely payment:

- Paying in-person – The Village Hall open hours are 8:00 am to 4:00 pm, Monday-Thursday and 8:00 am to noon on Fridays. The deadline for in-person payments is Friday, January 31, 2025 at Noon.
- Village 'Drop Box' – If you can't make it into the office before closing time, you may leave your payment in the Village's secure 'Drop Box' in the Village Hall parking lot. The payment will be considered timely if received by midnight on January 31.
- Payment sent by U.S. Postal Service (USPS) – Payments postmarked on or before January 31, 2025 are considered timely and even if they are received from USPS in the office a few days after the end of January.
- Payment sent by FedEx, UPS or similar carrier – The Dane County Treasurer's office does not accept any service date stamps besides U.S. Postal Service postmarked mail. Therefore, payments sent by FedEx, UPS, etc. must be in-hand at the Village Hall before closing on Friday, January 31 (Noon) to be considered timely.
- Electronic Checks – If you arrange for your bank to send the Village an electronic check, please be aware that e-checks often take 7-10 business days to be delivered. The e-checks are typically sent by USPS and must be postmarked by January 31, 2025 to be considered timely.
- Online payments – The Village accepts property tax payments online via our third-party payment processor Payment Service Network (PSN). Online tax payments must also be received by January 31 to be considered timely. To make a tax payment online go to: [www.shorewood-hills.org/payments](http://www.shorewood-hills.org/payments) (convenience fees apply to all online transactions).



If you have questions about property taxes when the bill arrives, please contact the Village Hall.

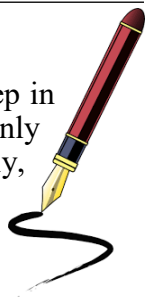
## CANDIDATES FOR VILLAGE OFFICES

Candidates interested in running for Village Offices this year (president and trustee) must now file nomination papers which include signatures of electors from the community. Some deadlines for candidates to keep in mind are:

- Candidates can begin circulating nomination papers now,
- Nomination papers must be filed with the Village Clerk by Tuesday, January 7, 2025,
- If a primary is necessary, it will be held on Tuesday, February 18, 2025,
- The selected candidates will appear on the ballot for the Spring Election on Tuesday, April 1, 2025.

## RESIDENTS SIGNING NOMINATION PAPERS

As candidates for Village offices begin to circulate nomination papers, Village residents should keep in mind that there is a limit to how many nomination papers can be signed for each office. You can only sign nomination papers for the same number of candidates you can vote for in an election. Usually, that means just one candidate's nomination papers since you typically can only vote for one candidate at an election. But, for Village Trustee, residents are allowed to vote for up to three candidates, so you could sign up to three candidates' nomination papers, if you so choose.



## UTILITY BILL AUTO PAY

Are you tired of writing a check each month for your utility bill? If so, you should consider ACH or "AUTO PAY" through the Village. It is a FREE service where the monthly bill is directly debited from your checking account on the 20th of each month. Late fees will be a thing of the past if you sign up for the Village's ACH system. Go to: [www.shorewood-hills.org/water](http://www.shorewood-hills.org/water) to download the ACH form.



Contact the Village Hall if you have questions or need assistance. Your bill will be e-mailed to at the beginning of each month.

**WANTED: RESIDENTS FOR AD HOC SAFE STREETS FOR ALL (SS4A) COMMITTEE**

Attention Shorewood Hills Residents: We are looking for committee members to help address Village-wide vehicle, bike, and pedestrian safety. The VOSH has won a Federal DOT grant as part of a Safe Streets for All (SS4A) initiative and will be developing a VOSH "Safety Action Plan" over the course of the next year. We are forming an ad hoc committee to address the objectives of this grant and are looking for a few more resident committee members who are committed to helping us address Village-wide pedestrian, bike, and traffic safety issues. Note that this is the planning stage, not actual construction.

Your commitment will involve attending monthly meetings (1-2 hours via Zoom or in-person) and working with other committee members to help address the goals and objectives of the grant. We will be hiring a consultant to do much of the heavy lifting in forming and writing the Action Plan, but will need committed committee members to help identify and document traffic problem areas within the Village and help with developing solutions to the problems.

Bob Falk and Robb Stankey, trustees representing the Public Health & Safety and Public Works Committees, respectively, will be co-leading this ad hoc committee. If interested in helping out, please contact either Bob or Rob at: [bfalk@shorewood-hills.org](mailto:bfalk@shorewood-hills.org) or [rstankey@shorewood-hills.org](mailto:rstankey@shorewood-hills.org) and let them know in a few sentences why you would like to be on the committee and what Village wide traffic, bicycle, or pedestrian issues are of most interest to you. If you have specific experience in traffic issues that would be great, but not required.

**SAFETY FIRST**

A Public Safety Notice from the Shorewood Hills Public Health & Safety Committee

**PREVENTING SLIPS AND FALLS ON ICE**

"White lips, pale face, breathing in snowflakes." - Ed Sheeran

It's that time of year where walking outside can be treacherous. In our land of ice and snow, sprained ankles, bruised behinds, and worse are not uncommon from slips and falls. According to the CDC, slips on ice and snow account for a million injuries a year—and 17,000 deaths.

What can you do to keep yourself safe on our Shorewood sidewalks and streets this winter?

- Wear appropriate footwear
  - Shoes that provide traction on snow or ice are important. Lugged rubber soles with grip and texture can help keep you stable on ice and snow. Make sure your shoes fit properly and have low, wide heels. Avoid plastic or leather soles.
  - Slip-resistant cleats that attach to your walking shoes or boots are available and work well, such as STABLEicers, ICETRAX, Yaktrax, etc. You can also buy boots that have cleats built in, such as Icebugs. If you are on a budget and want to modify an old pair of running or walking shoes for icy traction, [check out this video](#). Note that while ice cleats are grippy on ice, they can actually be slippery on hard surfaces, such as tile or smooth concrete. Remove before going indoors.
- Keep your hands free! In cold weather, wear gloves to help keep your hands warm and out of your pockets. This way if you should fall you can better catch yourself using your hands or arms. Don't get distracted with a cell phone while walking in icy conditions.
- In slippery conditions, walk slowly using small, short steps for stability. If conditions are extra slippery, try shuffling along slowly without picking up your feet, in a gliding-type motion. If snow or grass is available walk on these textured surfaces instead of on slippery walkways.
- Use handrails. Having something stable to hold on to can make a big difference should you slip.
- Step down, not out, from your vehicle. When getting out of a vehicle, swing both legs out and place both feet flat on the ground before getting up. Using both feet will give you more stability than just one foot.
- Plan ahead. Give yourself plenty of time to get where you're going. When in a rush, chances of falling increase.
- Watch for slippery floors inside. In winter all kinds of water and ice can be found inside near entryways. Show caution and enter any building or your home by first taking a moment to look down to see if there is any hazard.

## VEHICLE REGISTRATION WHEEL TAX

Many municipalities have instituted a wheel tax when registering your vehicle, ostensibly to pay for road maintenance and improvements. The City of Madison has a \$40 wheel tax in addition to the DOT registration fee and Dane County wheel tax. Residents of Shorewood Hills are not subject to the City of Madison wheel tax but your registration must be filled out correctly.

When it is time to renew your vehicle registration, make sure the 'Vehicle Kept In' (VKI) field states "Shorewood Hills" not "Madison". The easiest way for Shorewood Hills residents to review and change the information in the VKI field is by renewing your registration online. The online renewal will automatically correct the amount due by removing the Madison wheel tax (if present).

If you are unable to renew your plates online, you can call the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) Helpline at 608-264-7447.

The same issue may arise when you purchase a new vehicle. Village residents should make sure the dealership enters "Shorewood Hills" rather than "City of Madison" in the VKI field when registering your vehicle with the DMV.

Post Publication Addition: The DMV Helpline recommends checking your VKI status online at <https://trust.dot.state.wi.us/vki/search>. The person a vehicle is registered to can enter some information to determine the **Vehicle Kept In** information and make a change if needed. If the DMV has a Shorewood Hills resident's vehicle listed as kept in 'Madison (C)', you should be able to change it to 'Shorewood Hills (V)'. That change should eliminate the Madison Wheel Tax the next time you renew your vehicle registration.

## NIXLE ALERTS

The Village sends out notices periodically about events or items of interest to Village residents. We utilize the Nixle Alert System, which is similar to those used on college campuses to notify people of weather or other dangers.

If you haven't already done so, there are three options to sign up for alerts: 1) text VOSH to 888777; 2) register at the Nixle website (<https://local.nixle.com/register/>); or, 3) use the Widget on the Village's website ([www.shorewood-hills.org/notifications](http://www.shorewood-hills.org/notifications)).

Editorial Staff: Brian Mooney, Village Administrator; Julie Fitzgerald, Clerk-Treasurer; David Sykes, Administrative Services Coordinator.  
Contributors: John Imes, Village President; Bob Falk, Trustee; Tary Handschke, Public Works Superintendent; Chrissy Kahl, Deputy Clerk-Treasurer; Chas Martin, League Bulletin; Annette Mahler, Garden Club News.



# JANUARY 2025 BULLETIN

Please join us for the first **Shorewood Hills Community League Meeting of 2025**. We will be discussing financials, volunteer opportunities and events for 2025.

Where: 3408 Circle Close  
When: January 7, 2025 at 12:00 pm

Please contact us at [shcleague@gmail.com](mailto:shcleague@gmail.com) with any questions.

## GARDEN CLUB NEWS

The Garden Club had a lively and well attended Holiday Gathering on December 17. Along with enjoying a great social evening, members also generously contributed \$2,100 of their personal funds to our annual collection to Second Harvest Food Bank.

The Garden Club also will be volunteering in-person at Second Harvest Food Bank for two 3-hour sessions, a morning session on January 7, and an afternoon session on January 8. **Anyone wanting to join either session should contact Diane Dempsey at [diane.dempsey@wisc.edu](mailto:diane.dempsey@wisc.edu).**

Looking ahead, the Garden Club will offer a program on container gardening at 7:00 pm on February 4 at the Village Hall featuring speaker Mary Collet. Everyone is welcome. Come mingle at 6:30 pm before the program begins.

*We mourn the loss of*

Pat Koval – *former Viburnum Drive Resident*

*The League would like to acknowledge births and deaths of Village residents. Please help by notifying us with such information: [shcleague@gmail.com](mailto:shcleague@gmail.com)*

## CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS

### **FOR SALE**

#### **Want to Sell?**

**Chas Martin**, your neighbor and top-selling Shorewood Hills agent knows Real Estate and knows Shorewood Hills. Give me a call if you want a market analysis or how we can help in your situation.

#### **Sold in '24:**

- 1124 Oak Way
- 3203 Topping Rd.
- 3407 Sunset Dr.
- 3420 Viburnum Dr.
- 2930 Harvard Dr.
- 3406 Viburnum Dr.
- 3419 Crestwood Dr.
- 1515 Sumac Dr.
- 3525 Blackhawk Dr.
- 1025 Columbia Rd.
- 3428 Sunset Dr.
- 1009 Edgehill Dr.
- 3405 Crestwood Dr.
- 3402 Sunset Dr.

Contact Chas at [Chas@SprinkmanRealEstate.com](mailto:Chas@SprinkmanRealEstate.com) or 608-334-9042 for a modern take on real estate.

### **LEAGUE BULLETIN ADVERTISING POLICY**

The Shorewood Hills Community League Bulletin accepts ads from Village residents and businesses. The League does not accept non-resident commercial ads. Non-residents wishing to buy or rent homes in the Village may place ads for such if they provide a Village reference. Limit ads to 150 words or less.

The Village staff manages the Bulletin advertising program for the League. If you would like to place an ad, contact **David Sykes** at: [dsykes@shorewood-hills.org](mailto:dsykes@shorewood-hills.org). Commercial ads are 50¢ per word. Other resident ads are 30¢ per word. Residents under the age of 18 may place ads at 10¢ per word. Deliver payment to the Village Hall, 810 Shorewood Blvd, Madison, WI 53705. Checks should be made out to: Village of Shorewood Hills or VoSH.

The Bulletin is published monthly. Ads are due by the 15th of each month. The League and the Village are not responsible for, nor do they endorse, the services advertised.