



# NORTH BAY NEWS

**JUNE 2025**

Thursday, June 5th, 2025

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## LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Hello North Bay Neighbors,

*I hope this letter finds everyone well after enduring one of the worst storms in North Bay history. In just a few minutes the landscape of our village was marred by dozens of shorn-off and uprooted decades-old trees. It will take years to restore the same aesthetic. However, during tours of the destruction, it was inspiring to hear from neighbors with damaged homes and destroyed vehicles that “we were lucky no one was hurt” and “it could have been worse”. Besides the obvious devastation there were also some distressing lessons learned that the village board will incorporate into a formal disaster plan. A key element will be to designate one elected official to be responsible for timely communications while others work on immediate response. Another will be to build upon the collaborative efforts of Wind Point and Racine County and establish a recovery plan replete with service level agreements.*

*In contrast to the savage winds and pounding rain, the morning following the storm was sunny and warm. I think that’s symbolic of how we will come away from this tumultuous event, looking forward to a bright future.*

For Village related emails, please direct messages to: [vnbpresident@northbay-wi.us](mailto:vnbpresident@northbay-wi.us). For all phone calls, please call my home number: 262-681-9353.

Thank you!

Sincerely, President Mark J. Schall

## PUBLIC WORKS | Paul Schroeder

### JUNE 14TH, 2025 IMPEDED ACCESS TO THE VILLAGE ANNUAL YMCA LIGHTHOUSE RUN

The Lighthouse Run race begins at 7:45 AM and ends by mid-morning. The route runs along Main Street, from the downtown Racine YMCA up into Wind Point. Residents who need to exit the Village during the race are encouraged to park their car(s) west of Main Street on Carlton or Kasper before the race begins. For more details, [click here](#) or visit:

[www.5kevents.raceentry.com/racine-family-ymca-lighthouse-run/race-information](http://www.5kevents.raceentry.com/racine-family-ymca-lighthouse-run/race-information)



## PLANNING COMMISSION & BOARD OF APPEALS | Mark Schall

### PLANNING COMMISSION | Mark Schall, Chairman Planning Commission

I am pleased and grateful to announce that Bill Cosban, Mark Hyde, Tom LaFave, and Kari McGauhey have agreed to serve another term as resident members of the Planning Commission. On behalf of the village board and all residents of North Bay, thank you for your continued service to our community.

**BOARD OF APPEALS | Mark Schall, Chairman Board of Appeals**

**Update on variance application BOA2025-1**

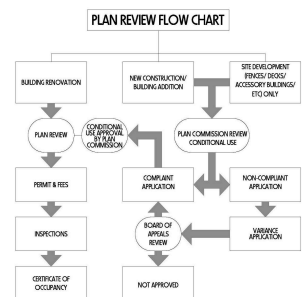
Some of you may be aware that Ben and Jen Rode at 3505 Chatham Street had applied for a variance to North Bay’s non-commerce ordinance so they could operate a family counseling business, however, there are many who are not. In addition, several important facts about the process were distorted so I’d like to provide an accurate summary of what transpired.

When Ben and Jen published a website announcing their counseling business, they were notified that this was a violation of our ordinance which states “No professional offices shall be established or maintained or operated within the village limits”. Consequently, since our ordinances assure that they are guaranteed due process and can appeal for an exception to this prohibition, they submitted their application. But before the Board of Appeals hearing could be scheduled, I was made aware of a rumor being spread that the Board of Trustees was intending to approve the request and that the appeal hearing was simply a formality. This initiated a flurry of calls and emails to board members expressing dissatisfaction. At the May 12<sup>th</sup> Board of Trustees meeting attended by the Rodes, several residents made public comments on how strongly they felt this exception should not be allowed. After witnessing the fervor that this topic elicited that night, Ben and Jen prioritized community harmony over their counseling plans and committed to withdrawing their application which they have done.

On the surface it appears the process worked but I feel it was compromised by the misinformation being circulated irresponsibly behind the scenes without any factual basis. Per ordinance, the Board of Trustees cannot approve a variance without a recommendation from the Board of Appeals which has equal representation of elected officials and residents. Without a hearing that body never had the opportunity to even consider whether a variance could or should be issued. We will never know what the outcome of the hearing would have been but what is clear is that the misinformation being disseminated was a disservice to Ben and Jen, the elected and resident members of the Board of Appeals, and all residents of the village as well. It’s vital we acknowledge that the ordinances alone do not protect the rights of North Bay residents. It requires the mutual respect of every member of this community to achieve the desired outcome, a happy and safe place to live and raise families.

**EXECUTIVE BOARD**

**PLAN REVIEW FLOW CHART |** The Executive Board created a flowchart designed to illustrate the step-by-step application processes for various building permits. This comprehensive visual guide covers a wide range of construction-related activities, including general construction projects, electrical installations, plumbing work, fence construction, driveway paving or alterations, and any work within the public right-of-way. Additionally, the flowchart extends to matters concerning the Planning Commission, such as site plan reviews, special use permits, and variances, as well as providing clarity on navigating the complexities of local zoning regulations, ensuring applicants understand all necessary procedures and requirements for compliance.



[Click here](#) or visit:

[https://northbay-wi.us/wp-content/uploads/2025/04/vofnb\\_plan-review-flowchart-eff-4.14.2025.pdf](https://northbay-wi.us/wp-content/uploads/2025/04/vofnb_plan-review-flowchart-eff-4.14.2025.pdf)

**CONSTABLE** | *Rocco Castellano*

**SAFETY TIPS FROM CHIEF SHARRETT**

General reminders:

School is (almost) out! More children will be out and about. Please drive cautiously through neighborhoods and school zones. Obey speed limits and watch for pedestrians and cyclists.

As always, please report suspicious activity immediately!



Home Safety

- Install lighting, such as motion lights or dusk-to-dawn detector lights, on your home's exterior.
- Trim shrubbery around your home to eliminate hiding places.
- Your address should be clearly visible from the street for emergency and identification purposes.
- Protect yourself from Burglar: Daylight lasts longer, giving burglars more time to operate while people are at work or out.
- Windows and doors are left open or unlocked to let fresh air in: Secure your doors and windows!
- If you sleep on the second floor of your home, keep all first-floor doors and windows closed and locked.
- Close and lock your garage door when you are not nearby. Place valuables stored in the garage in a locking device not visible from the street when the garage door is open.

Bicycle Safety

- Do not leave bikes unattended. Lock your bikes, even if you are going to be away for only a few moments.

Vehicle Safety

- Lock It or Lose It: As the weather gets nicer, we see a rise in thefts from unlocked vehicles. Please remember to: Lock your doors, even in your driveway. Make sure you take your keys with you.
- Do not leave valuables in the car. If you must leave possessions in your vehicle, keep them out of sight or hidden in the trunk.
- Before you get into your car, check the backseat and around the car. Lock your doors once inside the car.

Vacation Tips

- If you are going out of town, you can notify the Wind Point Police Department and set up a vacant house watch.
- Make sure your home is locked up and secure.
- Stop your mail or have family/friends retrieve it for you.
- Set a light on a timer inside your home to create the appearance of activity inside.
- Exterior motion sensor lighting can aid in deterring crime.
- Keep valuables away from public view through a window, etc.
- Do not discuss vacation plans in public or on social media.

**VILLAGE HALL |** *Dori A. Panthofer, Village Clerk*

**CONTACT INFO**

Visit <https://northbay-wi.us/contacts/> for the list of Executive Board Members (Elected Officials), Appointed Officials and Service Providers.

**VILLAGE MEETINGS |** Meetings that are scheduled as of this publication appear in the Upcoming Village Meetings table on the next page. Stand Up, Planning Commission and Board of Appeals meetings are scheduled as needed and announced with proper notice.

Meetings are held at Village Hall located at 3615 Hennepin Place. Meeting notices and agendas are posted on the bulletin board at Village Hall and the Village website under [News and Announcements](#) at least 24 hours prior to the meeting (News & Announcements URL: <https://northbay-wi.us/news-announcements/>) Dates and times of meetings are subject to change with proper notice.

Village meetings are open to the public. Please note, [Public Comment](#) may only be given orally and in person. Visit the [Village Meetings](#) page of the Village website for more information.

**UPCOMING VILLAGE MEETINGS |** *Village calendar URL: <https://northbay-wi.us/calendar/>*

Monday, June 16th, 2025	5:00 PM - 2025 Board of Review Reconvenes
Monday, June 16th, 2025 <i>** Note, third Monday</i>	7:05 PM - Board of Trustees Meeting
Monday, July 14th, 2025	7:00 PM - Board of Trustees Meeting
Monday, August 11th, 2025	7:00 PM - Board of Trustees Meeting