



2022 Annual Report



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About Norfolk

The Mission of the City of Norfolk is to “provide quality public services in an effective and efficient manner to enhance the common good and quality of life including citizen involvement.”

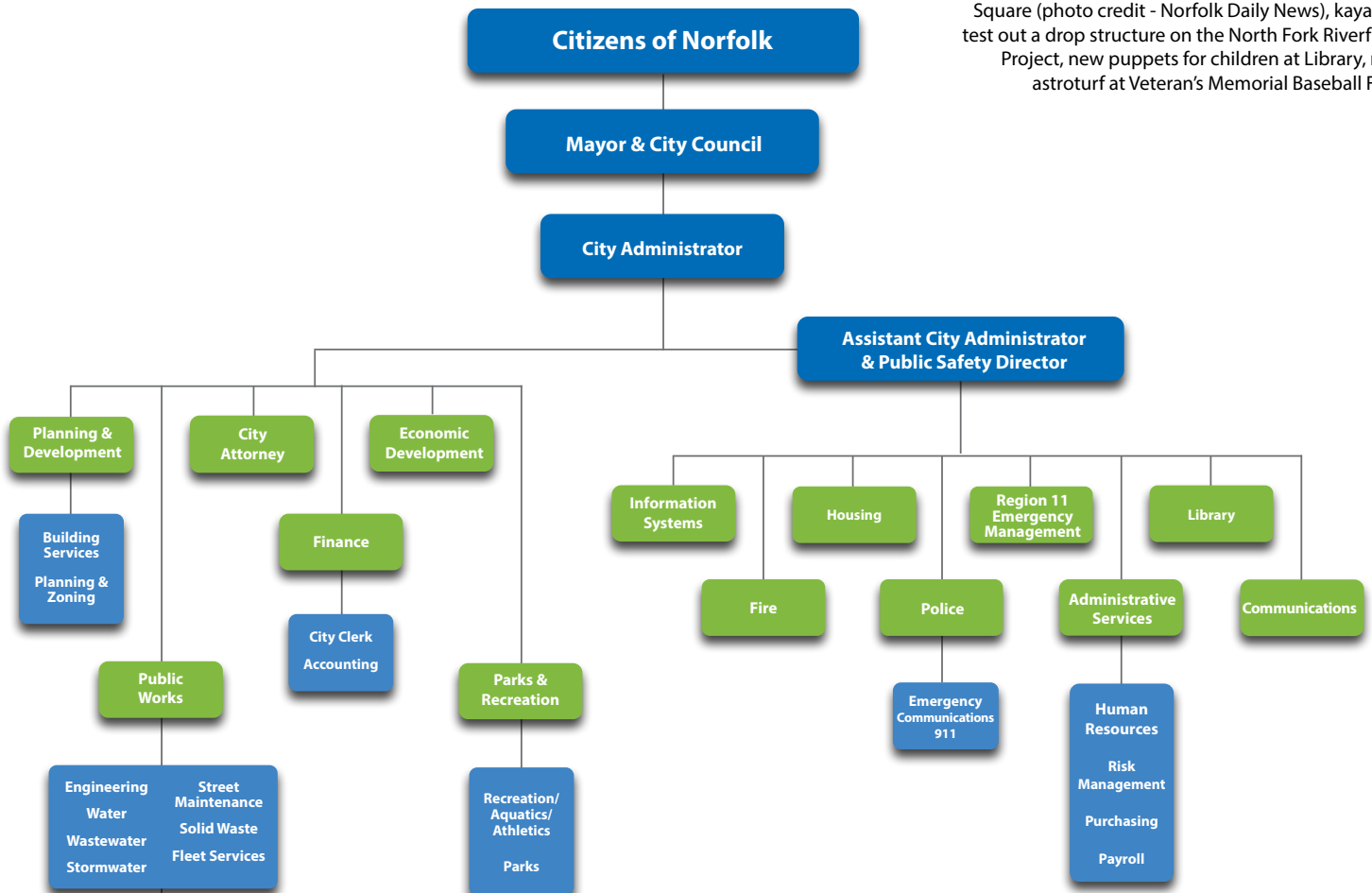
In 1881, the Village of Norfolk was organized. The settlers proclaimed “North Fork” to be their permanent post office address, named after the river, but suggested “Norfolk” as the simplest compounding of “North Fork.” Postal authorities, thinking the word had been misspelled, changed the spelling to “Norfolk.”

This is why you may hear some Norfolks pronounce it Nor-fork. Whichever way you decide to say it, know that we are glad to have you here.

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Cover: Hometown Holidays Festival at River Point Square (photo credit - Norfolk Daily News), kayakers test out a drop structure on the North Fork Riverfront Project, new puppets for children at Library, new astro turf at Veteran’s Memorial Baseball Field



Josh Moenning
Mayor

jmoenning@norfolkne.gov

Dear Norfolkans:

This annual report is presented to you as a review of work and progress within the City of Norfolk over the last year.

Your tax dollars fund public services in areas ranging from police and fire protection and water systems to waste management and parks and recreation. This document provides an overview of some of the city work, of which much goes on behind the scenes, that maintains quality services for a growing community.

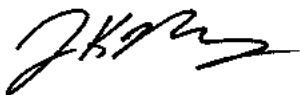
Growth and elevated quality of life have been city priorities in recent years. In 2022, new business and housing growth were notable. We saw announcements of major industry expansion and huge new investments in agribusiness development. In addition, new small businesses sprouted up throughout the city and exciting new retail additions were announced. More housing units were built to accommodate population growth, with several new housing projects on their way in 2023. After years of planning, large infrastructure projects, like Benjamin Avenue reconstruction, and Riverfront/Johnson Park improvements got underway.

A proposed sales tax initiative tied to community improvement projects prompted discussion about the community's future. In the end, voters had their say and citizens and city leaders will move ahead by exploring various ways to best meet community needs. You'll find a citizens' input survey enclosed in this report so you can share your ideas.

There are a number of ways to get involved in your community. We welcome you to explore service on city boards and commissions, enrolling in engagement programs like Citizens 101, and attending regular city council meetings. It's your community. You have a voice in making it better.

We hope the following report provides fresh insight into public investments to help make Norfolk a great place to live. Here's to a happy and healthy 2023.

Sincerely,



Josh Moenning, Mayor





MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL

The City of Norfolk has a Mayor/Council form of government. The Mayor and eight council members are elected on a non-partisan ballot. The Norfolk City Council meets at 5:30 p.m. on the first and third Mondays of each month in the City Council Chambers at 309 N. 5th Street, Norfolk, Nebraska.

The council holds a public comment session the last meeting of each quarter for all community members.

In 2021, new ward maps were approved by the city council highlighting the City's population growth. Every ten years following the release of the census of population, it is the responsibility of every governing body whose members are elected by wards or districts to balance the population across those wards or districts.

NEW IN 2023




Justin Webb
Ward 3
Term expires 12/2026


On November 8, 2022, voters elected Justin Webb to succeed Rob Merrill, who chose not to run for Ward 3 re-election. Andrew McCarthy retained his seat in Ward 4 defeating challenger Zach Steiner after a recount.

The Mayor and City Council have the following subcommittees: Public Works, Public Safety, Planning and Community Development, Culture and Recreation, and Economic Development.

Ward 2




Frank Arens
farens@norfolkne.gov
Term expires 12/2024



Shane Clausen
sclausen@norfolkne.gov
Term expires 12/2026

Mayor



Josh Moenning
jmoenning@norfolkne.gov
Term expires 12/2024

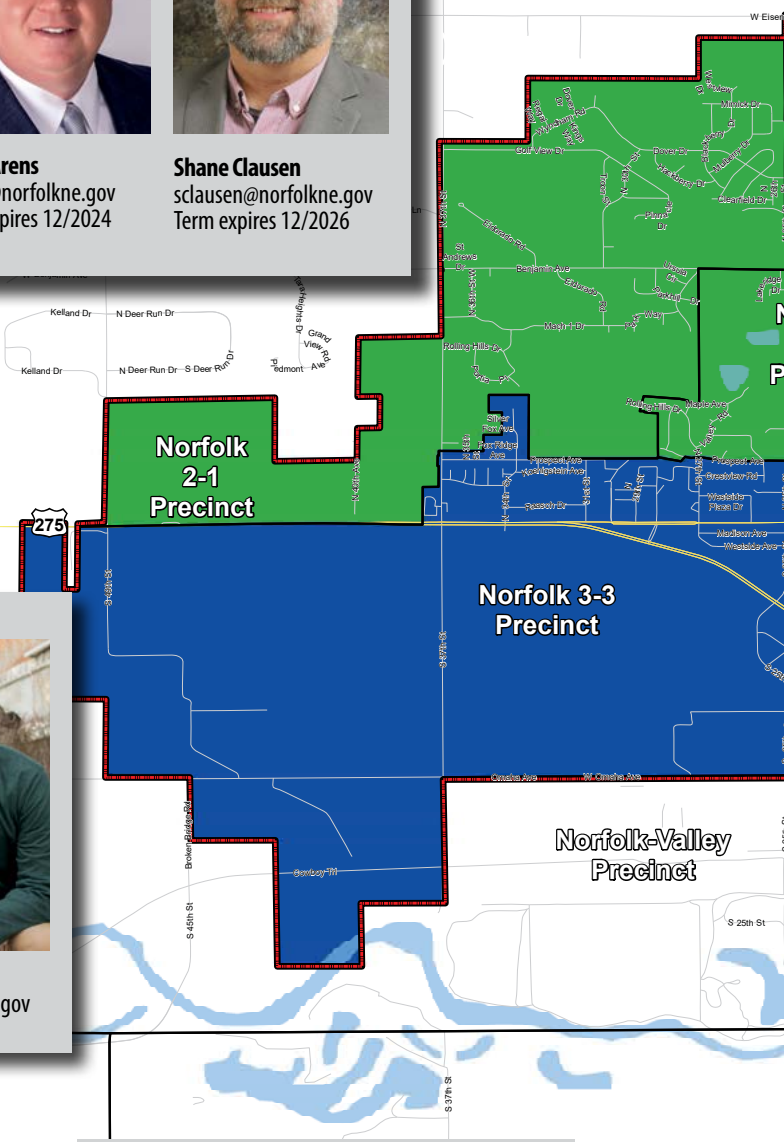
Ward 3



Rob Merrill
Council President
rmerrill@norfolkne.gov
Term expires 12/2022

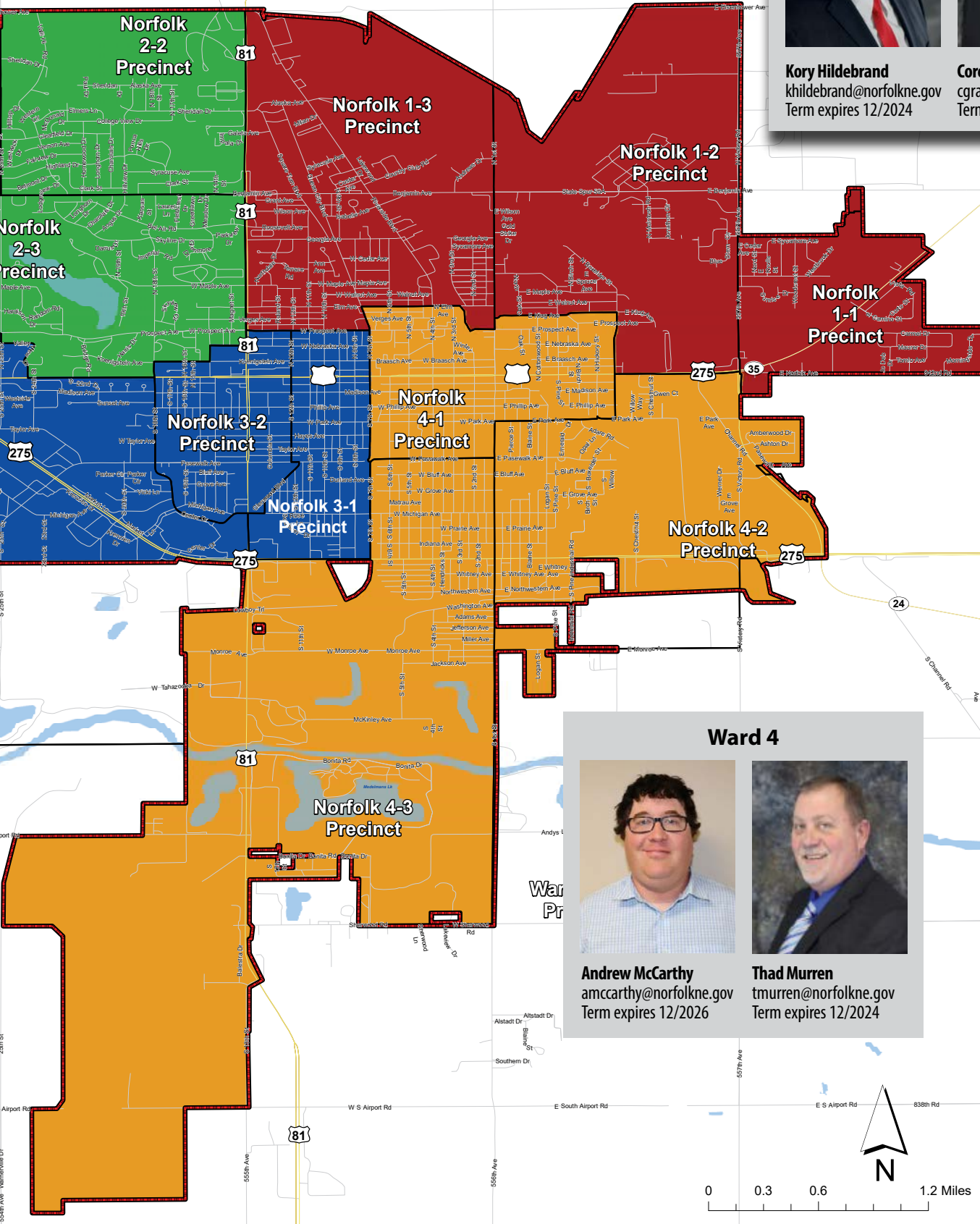


Gary L. Jackson
gjackson@norfolkne.gov
Term expires 12/2024



BC-Battle Creek Precinct

2022 Norfolk City Council Representatives



Ward 1



Kory Hildebrand
khildebrand@norfolkne.gov
Term expires 12/2024



Corey Granquist
cgranquist@norfolkne.gov
Term expires 12/2026

Ward 4



Andrew McCarthy
amccarthy@norfolkne.gov
Term expires 12/2026



Thad Murren
tmurren@norfolkne.gov
Term expires 12/2024



Administration

CITY COUNCIL SOLIDIFIED AFTER BALLOT RECOUNT

On Monday, December 5, 2022, Corey Granquist (Ward 1), Shane Clausen (Ward 2), Justin Webb (Ward 3), and Andrew McCarthy (Ward 4) began their terms after being elected on November 8, 2022. Incumbents Granquist and Clausen ran unopposed as did new Councilman Webb after Rob Merrill chose not to seek reelection.

Granquist first joined the council in 2014 and Clausen joined in 2010 serving in two separate Wards.

McCarthy defeated challenger Zach Steiner after a mandatory vote recount. McCarthy held a two-vote lead over Steiner after Election Day, leading 691-689, and the final vote was 695 to 690 in favor of McCarthy after the recount.

Under Nebraska state law, because the difference in votes between the two candidates was less than 1% of McCarthy's vote total after all ballots were tabulated, a recount was required.

The Honorable Judge Ross Stoffer oversaw the swearing in, and Clausen was also appointed to serve as Council President.



Mayor Moenning and outgoing City Council President Rob Merrill

MERRILL RECOGNIZED FOR LEADERSHIP

Mayor Josh Moenning presented a plaque to outgoing City Council member Rob Merrill (Ward 3). Rob served on the City Council from 2010 to 2022, and was City Council President from 2020 to 2022. "Rob is someone who knows that leadership matters, and leadership is not always easy. Sometimes making tough decisions is not going to please everyone in every instance, but that is the cost and consequence of leadership, progress, and forward movement," said Mayor Josh Moenning.



Members of the public attended the Ward 4 City Council recount



Mayor Josh Moenning with Norfolk area Latino community leaders Veronica Martinez, Mayra Mendoza, Melissa Figueroa, and Juan Sandoval

CITY RECEIVES AWARD

The City of Norfolk was honored with the "Organization Award" from the Nebraska Commission on Latino-Americans. The NE Commission on Latino-Americans celebrates organizations or individuals that are working for the betterment of Nebraska communities.

The "Organization Award" is given each year to one organization that has worked to advance the needs of Latino-Americans across Nebraska, especially in the fields of education, employment, health, housing, welfare, and recreation. The Mexican American Commission was first established with the passage of LB1081

during the 1972 Legislature. On July 15, 2010, LB139 officially changed its name to the Nebraska Commission on Latino-Americans.

The Commission on Latino-Americans serves as a link between the Nebraska State Government and the Hispanic/Latino community.

The Commission joins forces with other organizations to identify, and work to resolve, issues that affect Nebraska's Hispanic/Latino population. We support and promote annual events with many of these organizations to encourage education and inspire Hispanic/Latino youth.



STAFF PARTICIPATES IN LEADERSHIP NORFOLK

Three staff members with the City of Norfolk, Mel Figueroa, Nick Stevenson, and Nancy Wright, began Leadership Norfolk offered by the Norfolk Area Chamber of Commerce. Leadership Norfolk is a 9-month class that submerges participants in the Norfolk business climate and develops world-class leadership skills. Beginning in October, sessions are held once a month. These sessions are filled with renowned speakers and private tours of the largest companies in Northeast Nebraska.

NEW TO CITY OPERATIONS



Brad Andersen
IT Manager



Dwight Brabec
Network/Security Analyst



Nicolas Beed
Accountant

This year Brad Andersen joined staff as the new IT Manager, Dwight Brabec is the new Network/Security Analyst, and Nicolas Beed works in Finance.

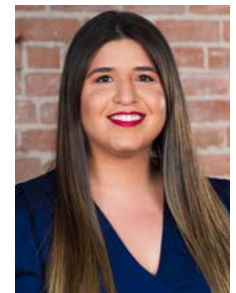
TOP 20 UNDER 40



Danielle Myers-Noelle
City Attorney



Tim Wragge
Fire Chief



Melissa Figueroa
Business Resource Specialist

City Attorney Danielle Myers-Noelle, Fire Chief Tim Wragge, and Business Resource Specialist Melissa Figueroa were recognized in Connect's *Top 20 Under 40 Young Professionals* in Norfolk.

Multi-agency emergency exercise involving a school bus and ammonia tank collision



Public Safety

MULTI-CASUALTY INCIDENT EXERCISE

Multiple agencies took part in a full-scale emergency exercise in May. The scenario featured a bus load of kids, from Norfolk Public Schools, colliding with an ammonia tank being pulled by a pickup provided by Battle Creek Farmers Pride, at the intersection of Victory Road and Kaneb Road. First responders with Region 11 (Antelope, Madison & Pierce counties) helped treat Norfolk Public student “patients” during the three-hour affair. Faith Regional Health Services also implemented its disaster plan during the drill. “I think the exercise went great! We all learned a lot, no one was hurt and everyone made it home safe,” said Bobbi Risor, Region 11 Emergency Manager. The Nebraska Department of Transportation and the Madison County Sheriff’s Office assisted in closing the roadway. Following the exercise, a debriefing was held to evaluate the multiple agencies’ response and communication with everyone involved.

FIRE TRAINING THANKS TO NORFOLK CRUSH

Norfolk’s first responders were benefited to some training exercises thanks in part to an agreement with Norfolk Crush. In preparation for construction of its soybean facility, Norfolk Crush acquired approximately 480 acres of farm property northeast of Norfolk near Nucor. One of the quarters that was purchased for the plant contained a farmhouse. Norfolk Crush allowed Norfolk Police and Fire to use

the house for training before it is demolished for construction of the plant. “We were able to perform firefighter rescue from a basement, roof ventilation, fire attack, search and rescue and many more training exercises in the house and outbuildings at this location. We are looking forward to partnering with Norfolk Crush in the future. Thank you again,” said Trever O’Brien, Assistant Fire Chief. Norfolk Police was also able to use the facility for training exercises with its K-9 unit and drone team.



Norfolk Firefighters on scene for a training exercise

Conceptual drawing of the renovated Norfolk Police facility



POLICE EXPANSION PLANNING COMPLETE

The Norfolk Police Division facility expansion project made some headway this past year. The Norfolk City Council in September hired the same company, GMLV Architecture of Kansas City, which designed the original police station to do its addition and renovation. The police facility houses four entities — the police division, city jail, joint communications dispatch center and the city attorney's office. The 2022 expansion of the dispatch center absorbed the previous classroom and conference room. After a space needs assessment was conducted in 2020, work began to address current and future needs. In order to plan for the next 30 years,

the size of the new facility is approximately 26,000 square feet. The expansion includes:

- An area for juvenile observation, including a cot, where juveniles can sit or sleep.
- Designated areas to clean firearms, write reports and maintain secure storage.
- Additional lockers, dressing areas and showers for male police officers.
- Additional lockers and changing area for female police officers.
- Expansion of the fitness area and roll call room.
- Expanded evidence storage, and a designated area for evidence processing.
- A multipurpose classroom/ training area, and a separate area for driving and shooting simulators. These areas can be made available to other agencies needing access to the equipment or space.
- Addition of conference rooms.
- Expanded interview rooms and areas for investigative forensics.
- Secure garage for both jail access and vehicle evidence for up to seven vehicles.

The addition would cover two stories for work areas and a single story for the garage. A half-percent sales tax increase was voted down in November, and City staff and elected officials are working toward the best possible solutions for moving forward with the needed improvements.

2022 OPTIMIST AWARDS PRESENTED



Firefighter/Paramedic Max Hesman with Noon Optimist Club



Officer Dave Lichtenberg shown with Trooper Greg Lammers

The Norfolk Morning and Noon Optimist clubs recognized Norfolk's Public Safety Divisions. Firefighter/Paramedic Max Hesman of the Norfolk Fire Division and Officer Dave Lichtenberg with Norfolk Police were recognized. Hesman has been with Norfolk Fire since 2019 and Lichtenberg started with Norfolk Police in 1984. Optimist International highlights those who inspire respect for the law.



TERRY ZWIEBEL PINS NEW FIRE MARSHAL

Sean Lindgren was named the next Fire Marshal this year as Terry Zwiebel retired after 25 years with the City of Norfolk. Lindgren has an extensive career in civil service, starting out as a firefighter and paramedic for the City of Norfolk before moving to the Nebraska State Fire Marshal Office where he served in various roles for 13 years. Lindgren has also spent the last nine years as a reserve firefighter for Norfolk and, since 2011 has obtained the Certified Fire Inspector I certification awarded by the National Fire Protection Association. As part of the transition process, Lindgren worked alongside Zwiebel. During the badge pinning ceremony, Zwiebel did the honors for his successor.

“Sean possesses a wealth of knowledge in the fire service which makes him a great fit for this position,” said Fire Chief Tim Wragge. “Current Fire Marshal Terry Zwiebel has been instrumental in establishing relationships within the City of Norfolk and educating the public in Fire Prevention,” Wragge added.



Terry Zwiebel
Retired Fire Marshal

LONGTIME HEALTH OFFICIAL JOHN KOUBA RETIRES

After 45 years with the City of Norfolk John Kouba retired as Norfolk’s Health Official. Kouba has worked in the health sector his entire tenure with the City. During his career, Kouba played an integral role in coordinating the early health fairs in the community and worked closely with the Norfolk Fire Division, which he says was his favorite part about working with the City.



John Kouba
Health Official

“John has been a dedicated public servant who went out of his way to treat citizens with respect while performing his responsibilities. We thank him for his devoted and dedicated service to the people of Norfolk,” said Mayor Josh Moenning.

Adam Smith became the new Code Compliance Official in August. Smith has been with the City since 2019. The code compliance official performs technical work in the investigation and control of environmental health conditions.



Adam Smith
Code Compliance Official

2022 Police & Fire Division Staff Changes & Promotions

POLICE DIVISION



Josh Bauermeister
Lieutenant



Ben McBride
Sergeant



Michael Moser
Police Officer



Dawn Gilsdorf
Dispatcher

FIRE DIVISION



Nathan Best
Firefighter/Paramedic



Will DiLullo
Firefighter/Paramedic

Are you signed up to receive emergency text alerts?

Text **“NorfolkAlerts”** to **844-835-7557** to be added to our list.



Public Works

BENJAMIN AVENUE CONSTRUCTION BEGINS

Reconstruction and widening of Benjamin Avenue from 13th Street east to 1st Street began this past spring. The more than \$13 million project was awarded to BX Civil & Construction of Dell Rapids, South Dakota. So far work has been completed from Riverside Boulevard to 1st Street, with final work to be completed in 2023. The project includes widening the street from four lanes to five lanes with some additional curb and gutter. Repair work included the replacement of all concrete as well as new storm sewer and electrical conduit.

New sidewalks and bike trails were poured in addition to the new center turn lane throughout the corridor. Over the winter months, replacing the box culvert on the North Fork of the Elkhorn River is taking place. The new box culvert will be longer, extending well beyond the avenue on both the north and south sides. The first two phases of the project did experience some slight delays due to cement shortages and utility conflicts, but work has remained

within budget. In the spring of 2023, work will begin from Riverside Boulevard to 13th street, along with new landscaping placed on the corridor.

WASTEWATER TREATMENT STAFF RECEIVE AWARD

The Norfolk Water Pollution Control (WPC) Plant was recognized for its work at the annual Nebraska Water Environment Association Conference. The WPC Plant received the Scott Wilber Award – Best in Class Medium Size Facility. The award is given for outstanding

operations and maintenance of a wastewater treatment facility.

Norfolk WPC was also honored for its safety practices receiving the Gold Safety Award for excellence in accident prevention and a safety program that includes training, materials, and the participation of all employees. The WPC Plant was presented the Water Environment Federation George W. Burke, Jr. Safety Award as well. This award recognizes the top municipal or industrial wastewater facility in the state for establishing and maintaining an active and effective safety program.



Staff from WPC with awards from the NWEA Conference

Public Works



Heavy equipment at the demolition site of the First Street bridge

1ST STREET WORK BEGINS ON BRIDGE REMOVAL AND ROUNDABOUT

Part of 1st Street closed in November as work began on the bridge replacement. United Contractors of Iowa is the general contractor for the work. It is anticipated the closure will last through June. The 1st Street and North Fork river bridge at the southwest corner of Johnson Park was originally constructed in 1935 and reconstructed in 1983. The current structure is a four-barrel box culvert with a structural bridge deck, sidewalks and bridge rails. The plan is to replace the current structure with a new 60 foot single span structure that will allow open

movement on the river under 1st Street. The trail that currently crosses 1st Street on the north side of the bridge will be moved and run under first street along the river. The roundabout at 1st and Braasch was developed as part of the Braasch Avenue reconstruction project. Work will begin on the roundabout spring of 2023.

2022 CITY STREET CREW PROJECTS

The City of Norfolk Street Division stayed busy this past year. Two of the major projects consisted of parcel and full panel replacements on North Boxelder Street from Norfolk Avenue to the dead end. Riverside Boulevard

from Walnut Avenue to Benjamin Avenue is halfway completed and work will resume when school is out. The crews poured 1,495 yards of concrete, and worked on water main breaks, inlet repairs, sunken utilities, joint separations, buckled road repairs, intersection repairs, and sidewalk/curb repairs.

Looking ahead in 2023, the City Council approved to go out for bid by contractor for concrete improvements on Golfview Drive, Center Drive and Michigan Avenue intersection, 10th Street and Ann Avenue, and Darrus Drive. A list of priorities for the Street Division crew will be finalized early spring.

NEW/RETURNING PUBLIC WORKS STAFF



Anna Allen
Assistant City Engineer



Dennis Watts
Utility Project Manager



Pat Boyle
Project Engineer



Matt Ernesti
Street Maintenance Supervisor

DID YOU KNOW?

Citizens can help report potholes by calling 402-844-2180 or by filing a report on our website: <https://www.egovlink.com/norfolk/action.asp> by clicking on the "Pothole and Street Problem Report Form."

DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENTS

The Street Division conducted drainage improvements this past year. Work began along Omaha Avenue and areas farther south. Crews started cleaning storm drains in the middle of May for eight weeks and 330 tons of material was hauled to the Water Pollution Control Plant from inlets and the storm sewer system. Hours of storm sewer jetting was conducted, followed by ditching.

This was the first time in a longtime this process was done—resulting in years of built up material in the drainage system. In the coming year, the Street Division has budgeted to rent an industrial vacuum truck for eight weeks to help crews clean more storm sewers than in 2022. Once work is completed through the whole City the goal is to continue this work on a five year rotation. Some of the debris removed included car parts, sand, gravel, tree branches, grass, manhole covers and all types of garbage.

This is crucial so water can drain off streets as quickly as possible to help the streets from deteriorating.

TRAILS COMPLETED TO ENHANCE CONNECTIVITY

Work began on the East Benjamin Avenue trail this year. This trail project was designed to further enhance the connectivity of the existing City of Norfolk trail system. The project began west of Victory Road and continued east along East Benjamin Avenue, crossing Victory Road. Work will finish next spring crossing Highway 35.



Ribbon cutting for community solar project

COMMUNITY SOLAR PROJECT COMPLETED

The Nebraska Public Power District and the City of Norfolk celebrated the completion of the state's largest solar facility this year. Norfolk's new community solar power farm can produce 8.5 megawatts of electricity, enough to power 1,250 homes. A new Nebraska Public Power District battery system stores up to 2 megawatt-hours of power, enough to help local NPPD customers during peak-usage times, including hot days.

The City of Norfolk worked with NPPD and developers at N Solar

— including Sol Systems, GenPro Energy Solutions and Mesner Development — on the solar project. "Having local electricity generation helps balance our system," Mayor Josh Moenning said. "We're using our own natural resources, in which the fuel is free."

Residential customers signed up for solar shares on a first-come, first-served basis. Each share, up to a maximum of five per customer, costs \$6.15 a month but returns roughly \$8.70 a month per share to the customer. Participants also save on state and local taxes. The combined savings per share is about \$3.28.



East Benjamin Avenue trail project



Citizen Engagement

CITIZENS 101 GRADUATES CLASS

Norfolk 101: Citizens Academy returned this year after a brief hiatus. Whether a person has lived in Norfolk all his or her life or recently moved here—citizens academy gives them a unique chance to see how city government works. Participants got a closer look at the city’s snow plows, took a peek inside a city jail, and heard the latest from the mayor.

“Norfolk 101 is a great way for citizens to get a behind-the-scenes look at city management and operations. We encourage anyone

interested in our city’s growth and progress to participate,” said Norfolk Mayor Josh Moening.

During Norfolk 101, participants met with City managers who gave overviews of their divisions including tours offered at many city facility locations. A limit of 18 people can participate in the program per session. Be watching for information about Norfolk 101: Citizens Academy applications coming soon!

UKRAINIAN REFUGEES ARRIVE IN NORFOLK

A group of 22 Ukranian refugees made Norfolk their home this

year. They were assisted in their journey thanks to the Orphan Grain Train. Orphan Grain Train is a 501c3 Nonprofit volunteer network that provides personal and material resources to people in need, all around the world.

After months of coordination, the group was able to welcome the refugees. The people of Norfolk have helped make the relocation possible, with churches lending a helping hand, host families volunteering, and many others helping the refugees become established to succeed in life.

UPCOMING ENGAGEMENT OPPORTUNITIES

We want to discuss what’s important to you.

The City will be hosting listening sessions over the next few months in various city wards.

Sign up to receive City news and updates at <https://norfolkne.gov/government/departments/communications-office/>. Click on “Sign up for our E-Newsletter”.



Take our online survey regarding improvement projects and priorities





Mayor Josh Moenning with Caylix Kallhoff

CAYLIX KALLHOFF NAMED HONORARY MAYOR

Caylix Kallhoff was named Norfolk’s Honorary Mayor in September. Caylix received this honor for his and his family’s efforts to raise Autism awareness through “Caylix’s Cause”- a national campaign advocating for love and acceptance of individuals with Autism. The inaugural event for “Caylix’s Cause” was hosted by the Office Bar, and featured Live music, food, a silent auction, and games.



Arborist Lindsey Kudera with a pair of Girl Scouts next to a newly planted tree

GIRL SCOUTS AT SKYVIEW

A group from Girls Scouts Troop 50464 assisted in planting a tree at Skyview Park. The Girl Scouts were working toward their BREATHE badge, which requires a connection with trees, their production of oxygen, and ability to sequester pollutants from the air we breathe.

The Girl Scouts learned about the vital role trees play in the production of oxygen via photosynthesis and the impact trees have on the environment around them. The impacts include air, water, and noise pollution reduction.



Mayor Josh Moenning with members from District Table & Tap and Divots

TREE BUD PROGRAM CONTINUES IN NORFOLK

Two local businesses once again teamed up to help a local program. District Table & Tap donated \$1 from every pint of Divots beer sold in July to the City of Norfolk’s Tree Bud Program. The program continues to grow year after year and \$694 was raised in 2022.

“Trees help keep us cool in the summer, protect and preserve our infrastructure, improve our soil and water quality, and make our city look better and more inviting. We appreciate local businesses who are making it a tradition to help us grow our tree canopy across the community,” said Mayor Josh Moenning.

PREMIER MARKETING PITCHES IN FOR PARKS



Staff from Premier Marketing plant a tree at Embrace Park

A group of Premier Marketing employees assisted City employees with planting five trees at Embrace Park as well as cleaning up litter in City parks and along the trails. Premier Community Outreach, established in 2021, and originated by Premier Marketing employees, raises funds to give back to its communities. “We are grateful for Premier Marketing’s generous offering of resources and support for this beautification project.” said Mayor Josh Moenning.



Parks & Recreation

MASTER PLANS COMPLETED

Designs were complete this year for both the Ta-Ha-Zouka Park and indoor aquatic center master plans. The improvements included:

- A 54,000 square foot indoor aquatic center with a 12,000 square foot competition pool and a 12,000 square foot recreation pool.
- A recreation pool with slides and other play features and a current channel open all year round.
- A large lobby area that incorporates a rock climbing wall for guests.
- A 10,000 square foot mezzanine is planned for spectator seating during swim meets seating up to 600 people.
- In Ta-Ha-Zouka Park, a four plex softball complex is proposed with renovation of all current fields.
- New T-ball fields will be constructed and a new full size baseball field is set to replace the current Field 4.
- Four full size soccer fields and Two futsal fields will be added.
- Improvements to the locker rooms and the umpire changing area.

- Expanded camping and recreation opportunities.
- A proposed BMX bike track.
- A recreation court complex to accommodate pickleball, horse shoes, tennis courts, and basketball.
- Improved parking for 1,100 vehicles with roadway safety enhancements for both pedestrian and vehicle traffic.

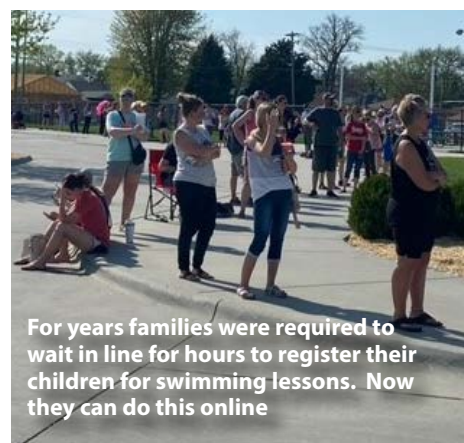
These master plans give staff and elected officials a blueprint to work from on improvements as funding becomes available. The City will be seeking citizen input on Parks and Recreation priorities and how to fund them in the months ahead.

ONLINE REGISTRATION IMPLEMENTED

The City of Norfolk Parks and Recreation Division launched its new online registration service over the summer. The Norfolk City Council approved an agreement with Active Network, the host site, to provide the online access. Citizens can register for parks and recreation programs and events, reserve shelters, and purchase passes to Aquaventure through the new online service. One notable change is those who want to guarantee campground

reservation need to use the online service, compared to years past when visitors' only option was to make reservations in person at the City Administration Building. "Making these services accessible online creates a more user-friendly experience for citizens and saves administrative time and cost for the Parks and Rec team. It's exciting to launch this new chapter of customer service," said Mayor Josh Moenning.

In October, Parks and Recreation began offering recreation programs including dodgeball, gingerbread house decorating, and nerf wars. Over 250 sign ups accumulated in less than three months and more exciting programs are in store for 2023!



For years families were required to wait in line for hours to register their children for swimming lessons. Now they can do this online



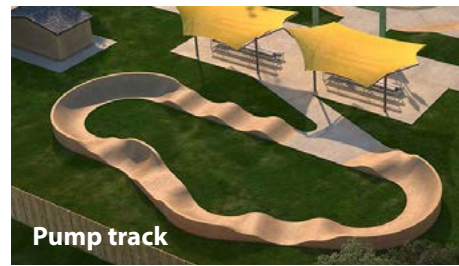
Mayor Josh Moenning and city staff with representatives of Mahlon B. "Jack" Kohler

PRIVATE PARK DONATIONS

The Parks and Recreation Division was the recipient of significant private donations this year. In September, the family and representatives of Mahlon "Jack" Kohler of Norfolk presented \$250,000 to be used for the construction of a fishing dock in Kohler's name. It will be accessible and usable by young children at Skyview Lake. Additionally, a table and bench with recognition to Jack and Norma Kohler will be placed in the area of the bandstand. Any remaining funds shall be used to develop the area and the walk path near the new

East Norfolk Avenue Bridge, next to where Jack grew up.

Also in October, a donation from the late Lee W. DeKarske for \$114,201.82 will be used for the construction of a pump track at the skate park. The anticipated timeline for construction of the new pump track is spring 2023.



ADA CONCRETE INSTALLED AT SOFTBALL COMPLEX

In May, City Council approved improvements to Parks and Recreation Division facilities. The Ta-Ha-Zouka softball complex spectator area was paved to accommodate ADA access. As part of the project, Norfolk Public Schools donated up to \$100,000 to help fund the paving project.

POINT OF SALE SYSTEM INSTALLED FOR CONCESSIONS

As part of the Active Network online program launch, updated point of sale systems were installed at the City's concession stands. Cards can now be accepted from more than one customer at a time.

ASTROTURF INSTALLED

Also approved was new infield AstroTurf at Veteran's Memorial baseball field. Northeast Community College provided \$100,000 towards the new turf. "These partnerships not only benefit and build pride within our youth sports programs, they make public facilities more accessible and user-friendly to all," said Mayor Josh Moenning.

LIBERTY BELL POOL DEMOLITION COMPLETE

In May, the Liberty Bell Pool demolition was complete. Staff has begun the design process for the future of Liberty Bell Park. Coming in 2023, new playground equipment will be installed as well as new restrooms.



Nathan Powell with LENRD Board of Director Mark Hall

NEW TREES PLANTED ON 5TH AND 7TH STREETS

A variety of trees were planted as part of beautification efforts along the South 7th Street corridor from Madison to Pasewalk Avenue. Funding was provided through a partnership with the Lower Elkhorn Natural Resources District (LENRD) and the Norfolk Tree Bud program.

NEW AND PROMOTED PARKS & RECREATION DIVISION STAFF

The Parks and Recreation Division saw several staff changes in 2022. New to the team is Ron LaMie, who serves as recreation coordinator. PJ Evans, who has been with the City for nine years, was promoted to Assistant Director-Recreation. Lindsey Kudera, who has been with Parks and Rec since 2016, was named the new arborist, and Jennifer Olson, who formerly served in the economic development department, transitioned to parks.



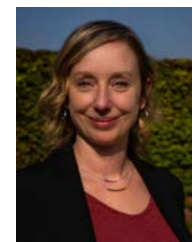
PJ Evans
Assistant Director-Recreation



Lindsey Kudera
Arborist



Ron LaMie
Recreation Coordinator



Jennifer Olson
Administrative Assistant



City of Norfolk representatives were joined by Lt. Gov Mike Foley, Congressman Mike Flood, and members of the Riverfront Fundraising Committee to break ground on the North Fork Riverfront Project

Riverfront Progress

COMMUNITY BREAKS GROUND ON RIVERFRONT

A groundbreaking ceremony was held in Johnson Park in August, officially recognizing the beginning of the North Fork Riverfront Project after six years of planning and fundraising.

At its core, the North Fork River Restoration project includes the removal of a 6' drop structure and a 6' spillway at the bridge on First Street and the incorporation of eight, 18" drop points between the railroad bridge and the take-out point immediately south of the newly, redeveloped Norfolk Avenue bridge. The drop points will introduce white water characteristics to the river, provide beautification along the bank corridors, and enhance aquatic habitat including fish passages at each drop restoring the ability for fish to easily move upstream.

"One of the largest quality-of-life investments in Norfolk's history, this project reenergizes the very place that first gave life

to our community, utilizes our natural resources to promote outdoor recreation and tourism, and acts as a catalyst to private reinvestment that is already transforming downtown Norfolk into one of the state's most unique, vibrant mixed-use environments," said Norfolk Mayor Josh Moenning.

The Johnson Park revitalization plan focuses on the rehabilitation of a park that was once considered an integral part of Norfolk's economic and cultural identity. The plan includes

varying degrees of grading to provide safe, ADA access to the river, introduces additional parking, provides for enhanced festival space, and cultivates the expansion of youth amenities. The introduction of an amphitheater with a permanent stage and grass seating for hundreds will establish another unique, outdoor venue for concerts, plays, and ceremonies in Norfolk.

The project is being funded by a combination of grant resources, keno funds, and private sector donations.



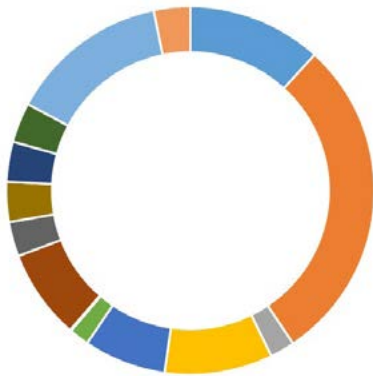
City staff with members of the rock suppliers at the location of the 8th drop structure



Lt. Governor Mike Foley speaks at the groundbreaking for the North Fork Development Project



Whitewater enthusiasts test the first of eight drop structures that will be completed



FUNDING BREAKDOWN

City of Norfolk

■ Keno	\$ 1,681,701
■ Highway Allocation Funds (1st Street Bridge Replacement)	\$ 4,110,000
■ Enterprise Funds	\$ 310,000
■ American Rescue Plan Act	\$ 1,354,508

Grants/Partnerships

■ Lower Elkhorn Natural Resources District	\$ 1,031,701
■ Norfolk Sanitary Improvement District	\$ 250,000
■ DED CCCFF Planning Grant	\$ 15,000
■ DED CCCFF Grant	\$ 1,125,000
■ DED CDBG Tourism Grant	\$ 435,000
■ Anonymous Donor	\$ 500,000
■ Peter Kiewit Foundation	\$ 500,000
■ Robert B. Daugherty Foundation	\$ 500,000

Private Fundraising

■ Local Donors	\$2,000,000
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Remaining

■ Funds to raise	\$ 475,000
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FOUR OF EIGHT DROP STRUCTURES INSTALLED

This past year four of the eight drop structures were substantially completed on the North Fork Riverfront Project. Todd Waldera and Richard Sweetman, with Spencer Quarries, designed special blasting techniques to achieve the specific sizes of rock needed for the project. RiverWise Engineering, the contractor for the project, visited the quarry in Spencer, South Dakota, to pick

the exact sizes they desired. John Prouty Construction is the rock supplier for the project, and about half of the total rocks have been delivered. All of the rocks have been produced at the quarry. The final sixteen rocks to be delivered each weigh between 60,000 and 70,000 pounds and will be placed in the pool below each of the eight structures.

Also during construction, the drop structures underwent testing thanks to area kayakers.



City representatives and members of the Riverfront Fundraising Committee receive a donation from the board and staff representatives of the Lower Elkhorn Natural Resources District



Nick Bowdish, president and CEO of N Bowdish Company, speaks to the Norfolk City Council on behalf of Norfolk Crush, LLC

Economic Development

NORFOLK CRUSH, LLC ANNOUNCES FACILITY

An Iowa-based company announced plans to build a \$375 million soybean crushing plant near Norfolk this year. The Norfolk City Council approved a zoning change for Norfolk Crush, located between North First Street and Victory Road near Nucor Road, in April. Nick Bowdish, founder and manager of Norfolk Crush, says the new plant will create up to 55 jobs and crush 38.5 million bushels of soybeans annually, or 110,000 bushels daily. Norfolk Crush will produce 847,000 tons of soybean meal per year for livestock feed markets, 450 million pounds of crude soybean oil per year and 77,000 tons of pelleted soybean hulls per year. The soymeal and soy hulls, which contain highly digestible fiber, will be used in livestock feed rations.

Soybean oil from Norfolk Crush can be used for a variety of applications, including the rapidly expanding renewable diesel industry. Norfolk Crush will be able to unload trucks at 60,000 bushels per hour, saving farmers and truckers a great deal of time when they deliver soybeans to the plant. The Nebraska Central

Railroad Co. and Union Pacific Railroad will also serve Norfolk Crush. Work on the new facility began in October.

Norfolk Mayor Josh Moenning said the community is excited about this significant investment in Norfolk and Madison County. "This value-added ag venture not only creates great jobs in and around our community, but it provides area farmers with additional market options by preparing products for use in rapidly growing national markets like renewable diesel. It's agricultural investment that will benefit Norfolkans and Northeast Nebraskans for years to come."

NUCOR BREAKS GROUND ON \$58 MILLION EXPANSION

In June, Nucor broke ground on a \$58 million investment project. The project includes a new reheat furnace, new intermediate mill, and coil inspection and trimming station. The upgrade is to better serve the automotive market and continue to meet its customers' needs for the highest quality products, according to Nucor.

When completed, these upgrades will enhance Nucor Steel Nebraska's ability to produce engineered bar and coil products with improved surface quality and reduced decarburization.



Johanna Threm, general manager of Nucor Steel, addresses a crowd gathered for the groundbreaking of Nucor's newest expansion



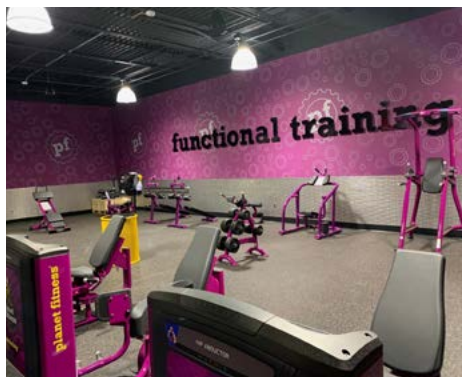
Justin Eckert and Hunter Bergman are two of Intersect's newest tenants

INTERSECT CO-WORKING SPACE LAUNCHED IN DOWNTOWN NORFOLK

A new co-working space was established in downtown Norfolk. Intersect, located at 509 West Norfolk Avenue, is aimed to bring likeminded people together in an environment where they are empowered to reach their goals and inspired to work at their best.

The Norfolk City Council approved to contribute up to \$109,577 in quarterly payments for the proposed office and working space, the Peter Kiewit Foundation provided a \$100,000 grant, and the Kauffman Foundation of Kansas City provided a \$250,000 grant. The space is equipped with high-speed internet. It also has a separate room for podcast and Zoom meetings and a conference room. Guests can sign up for memberships and can rent a space.

"We're proud that Norfolk will host the first co-working/incubation space associated with Invest Nebraska outside of Omaha and Lincoln," said Norfolk Mayor Josh Moenning. "Small business entrepreneurs are fueling downtown Norfolk's resurgence and energizing our local economy. This effort will provide needed room to grow and lay the foundation for a community of innovators whose work is bringing new economic opportunities to our city and northeast Nebraska."



Renovations are underway in preparation of the Sunset Plaza's newest tenants

NEW RETAIL ANNOUNCED FOR SUNSET PLAZA MALL

The ownership of the Sunset Plaza in Norfolk announced, in conjunction with the City of Norfolk, new store additions coming to the mall facility this year. Andres Sevilla, founder and CEO of North King's Highway LLC, which acquired the Sunset Plaza last December, unveiled Planet Fitness, Kohl's, and T.J. Maxx as new tenants.

"Norfolk has one of the strongest retail pull markets in the state, meaning many people across our region come to Norfolk to shop. These new additions, and others to come, will greatly enhance our position as a regional retail destination. This elevates our quality of life, helps us retain population and attract newcomers, and helps expand our sales tax base which assists us in providing better public services," said Mayor Josh Moenning.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT STAFF UPDATES



Candice Alder
Economic Development Director



Melissa Figueroa
Business Resource Specialist



Mikah Wheeler
Economic Development Coordinator

The economic development office saw several changes in 2022. New to the team is Melissa Figueroa and Mikah Wheeler. Candice Alder, who has been with the team for nine years, was promoted to economic development director.



Stephen Sunderman, Marty Clausen and Candice Alder at Clausen Air's closing

CLAUSEN AIR LOCATES IN BRADFORD BUSINESS PARK

In March 2022, Clausen Air officially became the third company to purchase a lot in Bradford Business Park. Clausen Air, owned by Marty Clausen, began exploring expansion opportunities with the economic development department in 2021 and presented his plans to the Greater Norfolk Economic Development Foundation to locate at Bradford Business Park, a 140-acre light industrial business park located in southwest Norfolk. The park offers shovel-ready sites complete with water, sewer, and fiber options.

The business park launched in 2021 with two companies, Heartland Beverage and FieldWise, LLC. More information for Bradford Business Park can be found at norfolknebraskaed.com/bradfordbusinesspark.

Groundbreaking ceremony for the Norfolk Student Housing development related to the Growing Together Career Scholars program



Planning & Development

GROUND BROKEN FOR WSC STUDENT HOUSING

A groundbreaking ceremony was held this year for new student housing located in downtown Norfolk at Third Street and Winter Avenue. The new housing development is for the Growing Together Career Scholars program in Norfolk. The housing units will support Wayne State's career scholars, who will live in downtown Norfolk their senior year as they perform two semesters of cooperative education with an employer. WSC's first cohort of students will arrive in Norfolk in fall 2023.

"This is really where Norfolk started — along the banks of the North Fork River," Mayor Josh Moenning said. "And now, with this project, and other plans we have for improvements within the river channel itself and Johnson Park, we're going back to that history." Thanks to a \$24,000 scholarship from the Growing Together initiative, 75 WSC college seniors are expected to live in the housing for free.

DIVOTS EXPANDS TO THE DOWNTOWN DISTRICT

A local staple of Norfolk expanded to downtown this past year. Donna Herrick opened both the Norfolk River Point Inn and Divots Downtown Tap &

Dine. The inn, located at 200 and 202 W. Norfolk Avenue, features eight rooms, most of which are two-room suites that include a small living room, a kitchen area with a two-burner stovetop and an apartment-style refrigerator. Also available is a loft suite, with two bedrooms, two bathrooms, a kitchen, and a washer and dryer. Guests can book a room and check in all online.

Divots Downtown is a taproom and restaurant with a pizza oven, located at 204 and 206 West Norfolk Ave. The establishment accommodates about 160 people on both sides and has an open door on the bar top located along the south side.

2022 NORFOLK PLANNING COMMISSION

CHAIRMAN
Dan Spray

VICE CHAIRMAN
Dirk Waite

MEMBERS
Brandon Franklin
Chad Bryant
Cody Ronnfeldt
Jacob Thone
Kaycee Kube
Kyle Deets
Martin Griffith



The newly established River Point Inn in downtown Norfolk

HIGHWAY CORRIDOR OVERLAY DISTRICT PASSED

The Highway Corridor Overlay District became part of city code this year. It's intended to provide for cohesive and properly developed corridors and entrances into Norfolk along Highways 275 and 81. Guiding development in this manner promotes the general health, safety and welfare of the community by providing quality design and construction, which will also aid in the protection of the past and future investment in the corridors.

The corridor overlay promotes safe and efficient movement within the district for those using all modes of travel, it creates a sense of place that is aesthetically appealing and environmentally responsible, encourages innovative development projects that set standards for landscaping, community design and aesthetics, and establishes consistent and harmonious design standards for public improvements and private property development so as to unify the distinctive visual quality of the Highway Corridors.



Tom Higginbotham with the Northeast NE Economic Development District highlights the West Hwy 275 Phase II Blight and Substandard study to the City Council

Did you know City staff offers preplanning meetings?

This service offers the opportunity to talk through building plans and receive feedback ahead of beginning a project. Call 402-844-2280 to learn more.

TINY HOME AND ACCESSORY DWELLING UNIT CODE ENHANCE HOUSING OPTIONS

Affordable housing was addressed this year with the creation of the Tiny House District and to allow accessory dwelling units in residential zoning districts. Tiny houses do well in walkable areas, meaning access to transit, work, grocery stores, and other amenities because many tiny house dwellers may not have a vehicle, nor desire to have one,

and have or prefer other modes of transportation. There is not a parking requirement for tiny house districts. If people do have a vehicle, they may park on the street. The district begins with a minimum of a 1-acre lot, with multiple ways in which to lay out the tiny house neighborhood. Accessory dwelling units are smaller, detached residential units in the rear yards of single-family detached houses where the property owner lives in either the primary structure or the accessory dwelling unit.



A redevelopment plan was submitted in 2022 for the Foundry Apartments. Above is a site plan for the Foundry Apartments, which includes five 36-unit apartment buildings (180 units total), clubhouse and pool amenities, and approximately 72 covered garages.



Prime Stop submitted a redevelopment plan for a new truck stop on east Highway 275. The truck stop will include multiple outlots for the co-location of commercial entities. Learn more at www.NorfolkNebraskaED.com/site

Housing

opportunity. right at home.



KENSINGTON UNDER CONTRACT

In November the Norfolk Housing Agency (NHA) board approved an offer from Ho-Chunk Capital, a division of Ho-Chunk Inc., to purchase the Kensington in downtown Norfolk. This was the result of a request for proposals (RFP) sent out to potential buyers. The RFP stated the desire of the Housing Agency and the City was for the property to be developed as a "Boutique Hotel." In the 1920s, the Kensington was designed to be an eight-story hotel. After numerous delays, setbacks and bankruptcy, the building was scaled back to a five-story, 150 room hotel constructed of reinforced concrete with concrete floors and roof and brick and stone exterior. The Kensington is on the National Historic Registry. The Housing Agency has owned the Kensington since 1998. The NHA is a non-profit organization whose mission is to administer the Section 8 Rental Assistance Voucher program, coordinate City of Norfolk grant programs as well as manage 14 Crown rental home projects, a 24-unit apartment building at Meadow Ridge Estates, and the Kensington.

OWNER-OCCUPIED REHABILITATION POTENTIAL

The Norfolk Housing Agency will be applying for Community Development Block Grant Funds from the Nebraska Department of Economic Development for owner-occupied rehabilitation projects in the City of Norfolk.

Uses of the Owner-Occupied Rehabilitation funds are as follows:

- Weatherization and Insulation
- Roofing projects
- Siding, windows and doors
- Foundation repairs
- Electrical updates
- Plumbing updates
- Kitchen updates
- Handicap Adaptations

Health and Safety concerns are discussed at the initial inspection.

Qualified and approved homeowners are able to select the contractors to submit bids for the projects.

All projects require permits through the City of Norfolk Planning and Development Division.

If you or a family member is interested in participating in the rehabilitation of your house, contact the Norfolk Housing Agency at 402-844-2080 or stop by the office at 1310 W. Norfolk Avenue Suite D. Located behind the Walgreen's Pharmacy.



Owner-Occupied Rehabilitation (Before)



Owner-Occupied Rehabilitation (After)

The library continually offers new programming for children



Library

enrichment. right at home.

PROGRAMS GEARED FOR GROWTH

The Norfolk Public Library can now assist you in growing your garden. The new 'Seed Library' offers a collection of seeds you can plant and harvest. The Northeast Nebraska Master Gardeners donated the seeds and information packets are located on the shelves near the service desk. Although it is a "library," you do not need to check out the seeds or return any at the end of the season.

The library continues to offer its 'Paws to Read' program with the Animal Shelter of Northeast Nebraska. Participants in the summer reading program can sign up to read for 20 minutes once a week to a shelter dog or cat. This reduces the stress of reading aloud and helps improve reading. In addition, the animals benefit from your attention.

Learn more about what's happening at the Norfolk Library at norfolkne.gov

CHARGER AT LIBRARY

A Level 2 electric vehicle charger was installed at the Norfolk Public Library. The charger, is located on the south side of the library.

This effort was made possible thanks to grant funding from the Nebraska Community Energy Alliance.



Mayor Josh Moenning with Library Director Jessica Chamberlain



Jessica Chamberlain adding in the brewer's yeast

"LATE FEE LAGER" DEBUTS AT DIVOTS BREWERY

Divots Brewery handcrafted a special edition beer to benefit the library. "Late Fee Lager," the German Helles, was brewed and for each pint sold, \$1 was donated to the library. Library and city staff toured Divots Brewery and learned the basics of brewing from brewmaster Jeremy Kirby and his team. Staff then helped with the brewing process. Library Director Jessica Chamberlain had the honor of adding the final touch—brewer's yeast—to the batch.

STAFF RECOGNIZED

Jessie Roberts served as the Chair of the "School, Children's, and Young People's Section" of the Nebraska Library Association (NLA) for 2022. This section serves as a creative part of the NLA and promotes total library service to young people throughout the state. Roberts has been with the library since 2019.



Jessie Roberts
Youth Services
Library Assistant

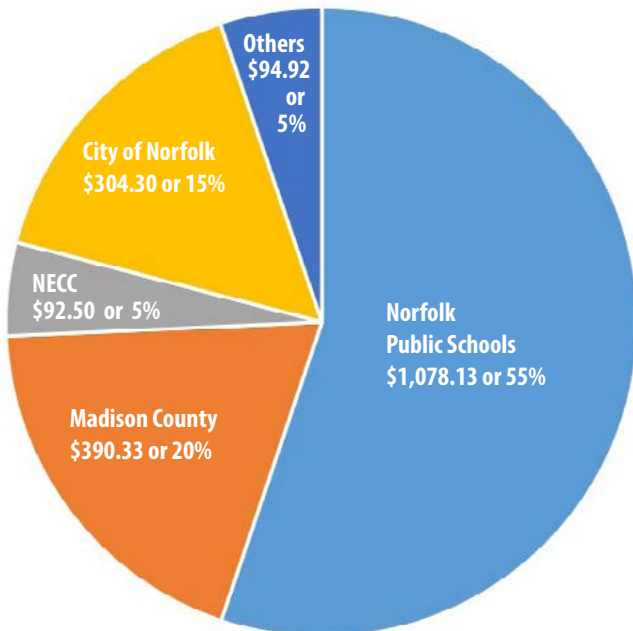
Property Tax Breakdown

Where Your Property Tax Dollars Are Spent

City of Norfolk Your Tax Dollars at Work

On a \$100,000 home, your property taxes for 2022 are \$1,960.18
This is a \$2.56 increase from 2021.

Norfolk Public Schools.....	\$1,078.13
Madison County.....	\$ 390.33
Northeast Community College.....	\$ 92.50
City of Norfolk.....	\$ 304.30
Other.....	\$ 94.92



Property Tax Dollars

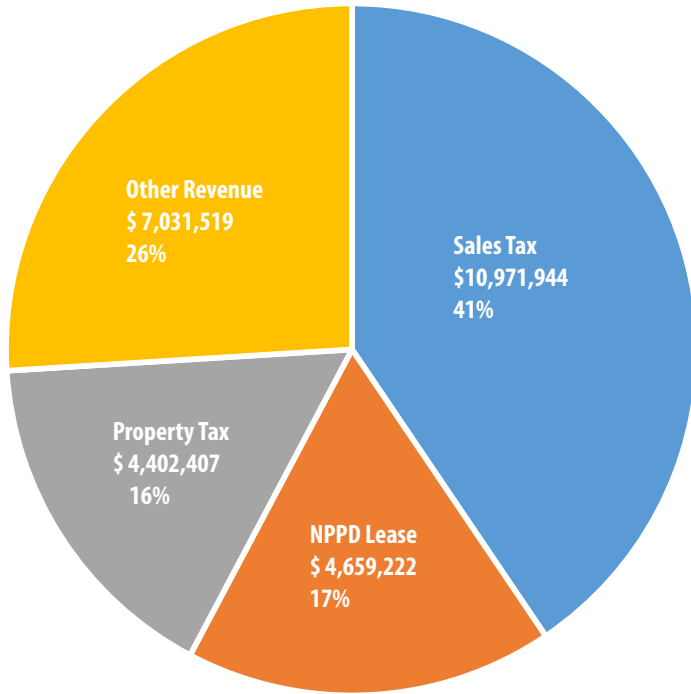
On a \$100,000 home, your property taxes for 2022 are \$1,960.18.

■ Norfolk Public Schools	\$1,078.13	55%
■ Madison County	\$ 390.33	20%
■ Northeast Community College	\$ 92.50	5%
■ City of Norfolk	\$ 304.30	15%
■ Others	\$ 94.92	5%
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	\$ 1,960.18	100%

Revenues & Expenditures

General Fund Revenues

FY 2021 - 2022



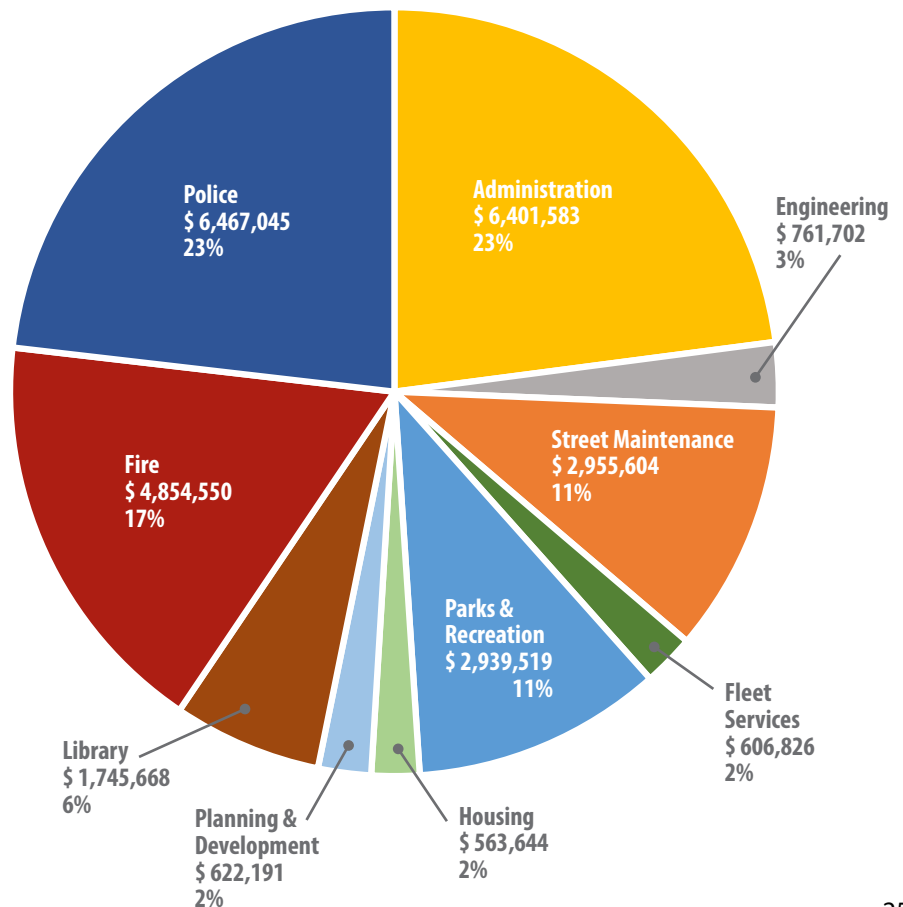
General Fund Revenues

FY 2021 - 2022

■ Sales Tax	\$ 10,971,944	41%
■ Nebraska Public Power District Lease	\$ 4,659,222	17%
■ Property Tax	\$ 4,402,407	16%
■ Other Revenue	\$ 7,031,519	26%
Total Revenue	\$ 27,065,092	100%

General Fund Expenditures

Distribution by Division or Function



General Fund Expenditures

Distribution by Division or Function

FY 2021-2022

■ Administration	\$ 6,401,583	23%
■ Engineering	\$ 761,702	3%
■ Street Maintenance	\$ 2,955,604	11%
■ Fleet Services	\$ 606,826	2%
■ Parks & Recreation	\$ 2,939,519	11%
■ Housing	\$ 563,644	2%
■ Planning & Development	\$ 622,191	2%
■ Library	\$ 1,745,668	6%
■ Fire	\$ 4,854,550	17%
■ Police	\$ 6,467,045	23%
Total	\$ 27,918,332	100%



309 N. 5th Street
Norfolk, NE 68701

CITY SERVICES

Fire & Police - emergency	911
Fire Division - non-emergency	402-844-2050
Police Division - non-emergency	402-644-8700
Administration	402-844-2000
Building Services	402-844-2060
Housing Division	402-844-2080
Library	402-844-2100
Parks & Recreation	402-844-2250
Planning and Development	402-844-2280
Economic Development	402-844-2260
Solid Waste - Transfer Station	402-844-2231
Street Division	402-844-2180
Water and Sewer Maintenance & Emergency Service 24x7	402-844-2210
Snow information	402-844-2299
Tree Bud Program	402-844-2000

For emergency alerts text: "NorfolkAlerts" to 844-835-7557.
 For City news text: "JOINNORFOLKNE" to 22828.
 Learn more and subscribe to City e-News at www.norfolkne.gov.
 Interact with us on Twitter @[NorfolkNE](https://twitter.com/NorfolkNE) or on Facebook
 at *City of Norfolk Nebraska Government*.

MOVING IN? WELCOME TO NORFOLK!

NPPD - Electricity	877-275-6773
Black Hills Energy - Gas	888-890-5554
City - Water	402-844-2000
Auto Licensing	402-454-3311
Animal Shelter	402-750-4665
Norfolk Public Schools	402-644-2500
Norfolk Public Transportation	402-379-4595
Area Agency On Aging	402-370-3454
Meals on Wheels	402-371-8626

FAMILY FUN

Norfolk Public Library	402-844-2100
AquaVenture Waterpark	402-844-2270
Elkhorn Valley Museum	402-371-3886
Norfolk Arts Center	402-371-7199
Madison County Museum	402-992-1221

Visit NorfolkNE.gov, VisitNorfolkNE.com, or
www.NorfolkNow.org to learn more about the
 Norfolk area.