



DOWNTOWN PORTAGE NEWS

What's Happening in Downtown Portage.



Business Spotlight

We'd like to welcome **Sarby's Blarney Stone** as the newest business in Downtown Portage located at **220 W. Wisconsin St.**

INCLUDED INFORMATION

Introducing 2026 BID Board

Purpose of the Portage Downtown BID

Snow Removal and Contractor Guidelines

Access Agendas and Attend Meetings

We are hiring! Farmers Market Manager

UPCOMING EVENTS

Wine Walk - April 24

Portage Farmers Market Begins - May 7

Canal Days - June 6

Taste of Portage - Aug 28 & 29

Introducing 2026 BID Board



President - Karyn Wetzel - at large member, Alderperson District 7

Member - Nicky Cross - Owner of Cross Law Office building

Vice President - Eric Sluga-Owner of the First Weber/Portage Coin building

Treasurer - Sharon Wade-at large member

Secretary - Anne Kleist - Owner at Brothers

Member - Jeremy Jacobson - Owner of Rustic Rediscoveries Thrift Shop

Member - June Lauter - Owner of Portage Craft Mall

(Pictured left to right.)

BID Maintenance Contractor - Paul Howe

Farmers Market Manager - Vacant

Purpose of the Portage Downtown BID (Business Improvement District)

The purpose of the Business Improvement District (BID) is to provide an organizational and funding mechanism to support the development, improvement, and promotion of the downtown area for the economic benefit of all businesses within the District as well as the general social and economic benefit of the people of the City of Portage and visitors.

The BID most recently sponsored the Yuletide Festivities, including the 2025 Holiday Parade. This event had 53 entries, ranging from local business and community groups to festive floats and performers. The parade fascinated hundreds of attendees. Enthusiastic feedback from participants and spectators reflect the positive impact on Portage.

By supporting such events, the BID continues to fulfill its mission of enhancing the economic vitality and social spirit of Portage's downtown district.



Snow Removal and Contractor Guidelines

For snow events of one inch or greater, the BID Maintenance Contractor, Paul Howe, works in coordination with City crews. Paul clears snow from sidewalks on DeWitt, Cook, and Wisconsin Streets within the BID by 9:00 a.m. following a snow event, with all other BID streets addressed within 24 hours. City ordinance allows 24 hours after a snowfall of more than one inch for sidewalk snow removal.

For snowfalls under one inch, property owners are responsible for clearing snow and ice. Salting is the responsibility of the property owner if needed.

For pedestrian safety, snow removal by the contractor generally does not occur during business hours.



Scan Here or visit
https://library.municode.com/wi/portage/codes/code_of_ordinances?nodeId=PTIIICOR_CH66STSIOTPUPL_ARTIVS_NICRE_S66-12IRESI

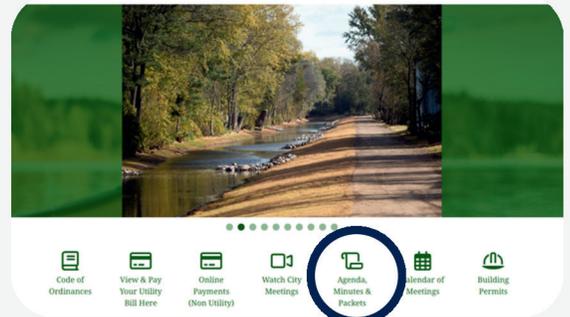
to read the Portage, WI Code of Ordinances.

Access Agendas and Attend Meetings

The BID board meets the second Wednesday of the month at 5:30pm. Agendas are available the Friday before the meeting. To access the agendas, access the City's website at www.portagewi.gov/.

Scroll down to the Agenda, Minutes, and Packets, open the link and scroll to Business Improvement District, open, click packets, click on the date you are interested in.

Everyone is welcome to attend a meeting. We have a Public Comment time if you are interested in speaking.



Scan Here to access minutes and packets directly.



We are Hiring!

We are currently seeking a Farmers Market Manager. Find the job description on the City of Portage website. www.portagewi.gov

If interested in applying for this position, please email your resume to Karyn Wetzel at Karyn.Wetzel@portagewi.gov

SAVE THE DATE

BID Board Annual Meeting
Wednesday, May 13 at 5:30pm. Location TBA.

