



No Worries

ALTHOUGH NELSON DIDN'T PARTICIPATE IN THE FIRST DAY OF TRAINING CAMP, HE IS NOT CONCERNED | 1B

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CHANCE OF THUNDERSTORMS | HIGH 81 | LOW 65 | DETAILS, 2A

Library board selects new president

ALISA M. SCHAFER
USA TODAY NETWORK-WISCONSIN

MANITOWOC - Fred Hazlewood was voted in as the Manitowoc Public Library's Board of Trustees president during its meeting Monday.

While other board members cited a lack of time to devote to the responsibility for not taking the position, Hazlewood said he would volunteer as president to get the board through current issues,

such as the search for a new library director and a police investigation into allegations of false library accounts created to boost circulation numbers.

However, Hazlewood said once he felt the board was out of troubled waters, he would step down as president.

"I hope it's an interim appointment, and I'll be done with it as soon as possible and be able to go back to enjoying my retirement," he said. "Primarily,

what I want to do is get the library back and the board on an even keel and running as efficiently as it has been over the past few years. Now, that means we need to get to a conclusion on the ex-director of the library and resolve the issues that are associated with that."

Hazlewood is the retired Manitowoc County Circuit Court judge who presided over Steven Avery's December 1985 trial in which Avery was

wrongfully convicted of rape/attempted murder. Avery served 18 years of a 32-year sentence, before DNA evidence exonerated him in that case. Avery was released from prison in 2003 and then was arrested in 2005 and convicted in 2007 for the murder of photographer Teresa Halbach. Avery, whose story has been made famous by the Netflix series "Making A Murderer," is serving a life sentence without parole.

Until recently, David Gratz served as library board president. However, the city's Common Council rejected Mayor Justin Nickels' recommendation to reappoint Gratz to the board at a special meeting Thursday. Gratz's term had expired July 1.

Ald. Jason Sladky said he felt there was a lack of leadership and a lack of good judgment on the library board.

Joining Hazlewood in

leadership roles are board members Lee Thennes as the board's vice president and Robert Vollendorf as the secretary and treasurer.

The Board of Trustees took its first steps toward finding a director for the Manitowoc Public Library during its meeting.

Thennes, who had volunteered to lead the search with the board's Personnel Committee in

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YI-CHIN LEE/USA TODAY NETWORK-WISCONSIN

The four-lane Dewey Street has been narrowed to one lane, and eastbound only, as a result of the construction Tuesday. Construction crews started work on the street July 18 from South 26th Street to South 39th Street, and it is planned to continue through Sept. 30.

WORK ON DEWEY AFFECTS BUSINESSES, TRAFFIC

ALISA M. SCHAFER
USA TODAY NETWORK-WISCONSIN

MANITOWOC - More than a week into the construction on Dewey Street, Denise Thomas said she is very grateful for the customers who continue to patronize her store.

"Not only my store, but all of the businesses along Dewey Street, if the community can come out to support us, we would greatly appreciate it," said Thomas, owner of the Dew Stop In Mobile gas station and convenience store. "All of these businesses are still open and will remain open through the construction."

Officials limit street to one lane with construction planned through Sept. 30

The construction crews from Vinton Construction Company started work on Dewey Street July 18 from South 26th Street to South 39th Street.

Only one lane of traffic is open, the eastbound lane, and it will remain open through the remainder of construction. The road is closed to westbound traffic.

"There's been a huge dip in customers, we've noticed, because the traffic only goes one way now," Thomas said. "Of course, it's very worrisome, but

we're very grateful to those who still come in despite the construction. ... Thank you for supporting us."

Thomas said she and her employees are very good at giving alternate directions to make sure customers can get to where they need to go.

Bill Lutz, store manager from Dalton Carpet Outlet, said they have also seen a large decrease in customer traffic.

"We really hate to see what is going to take place in the next three months," Lutz said. "It's

really hard to navigate the road right now. It is definitely a work in progress."

He said he will definitely be looking into local advertising opportunities to get the word out that Dalton Carpet Outlet is still open and to give customers directions on how to get to the store through the construction.

The Dewey Street project will include new doweled concrete curb, replacement of concrete driveway approaches, replacement of concrete sidewalk at the intersections, and the installation of drain tile behind the concrete

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Man gets 12 years in prison for cocaine distribution

USA TODAY
NETWORK-WISCONSIN

GREEN BAY - A 38-year-old Manitowoc man was sentenced to 12 years in federal prison for his involvement in a conspiracy to distribute cocaine and carrying a firearm in furtherance of a drug trafficking offense.

Steven R. Schenian Jr. appeared in federal court in Green Bay before United States District Court Judge William C. Griesbach on Monday. United States Attorney for the Eastern District of Wisconsin, Gregory J. Haanstad, made the announcement Tuesday.

Griesbach noted in his sentencing the "special danger to the community" inherent when drug traffickers possess firearms. The judge condemned Schenian Jr.'s involvement in several violent drug-related acts, including the beating of a drug associate whom he suspected of theft. He concluded that Schenian Jr. was deserving of a substantial prison sentence.

Following his release from prison, Schenian Jr. will serve 10 years on federal supervised release.

The case was investigated by the Drug Enforcement Administration, the Manitowoc County Sheriff's Office, and the Manitowoc Area MEG Unit. The case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Daniel R. Humble.

Manitowoc mulls streamlining sex offender appeals process

ALISA M. SCHAFER
USA TODAY NETWORK-WISCONSIN

MANITOWOC - The Public Safety Committee is looking to streamline the appeals process for registered sex offenders submitting an appeal to be allowed to live in the City of Manitowoc.

Under the current ordinance, registered sex offenders who did not live in Manitowoc before they were convicted of a sexual crime are not allowed to reside within city limits. Exceptions are made for offenders who are still under guardianship or are

living with a close relative.

However, offenders looking to relocate to the City of Manitowoc may submit an appeal to the City Clerk's office, which would then be considered by the chief of police and the Public Safety Committee, who would forward their recommendations to the Common Council for the final decision.

According to City Attorney Kathleen McDaniel, some offenders submit a long and detailed letter, while others simply state their request to move to the city.

"I could come up with a form to sort of streamline that process," she said.

The subject came up at the request of Committee Member Christopher Able. He said he had the item added to the meeting's agenda after he realized the committee failed to come up with a formal process for the appeals from registered sex offenders.

"While we did ... say, 'Anybody who, per this ordinance cannot come into the city, has to write to the committee,' we as a committee did not formalize a process for that," Able

said. "I do think it would be good to have the chief (of police) research and weigh in."

Able said he'd like to have a form developed or at least have the chief of police make a formal recommendation to the committee. However, he said he'd like to keep the public details and discussion minimal.

"Personally, I don't think we need to publicly discuss at a meeting about an individual," he said. "I don't want to publicly, you know, pick on people."

McDaniel said the committee did have the option

to go into closed session if they wished to speak in detail with the police chief about any individual appeal made by a registered sex offender.

Immediately after the committee decided to have an appeal form created, they considered a request from a registered sex offender currently living in Green Bay to come live in Manitowoc.

Manitowoc Police Chief Nick Reimer recommended the council deny the request.

"I know his letter says some very nice things about himself," he said.

"However, CCAP (a website containing public information from the judicial system) shows him involved in several violations."

Reimer said he also spoke with the offender's parole officer, which cemented his recommendation to deny the request.

The Public Safety Committee unanimously voted to recommend the Common Council deny the offender's request to live in Manitowoc.

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INSIDE MANITOWOC MAN IS A SUSPECT IN A POLICE CAR-JACKING THAT OCCURRED SATURDAY NIGHT IN GRAND CHUTE | 3A

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