



THE БЕЛОIT REPORT

CONTINUING ITS RESURGENCE AS A GEM OF THE ROCK RIVER VALLEY

CURRENT EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES

August 3, 2012

*A weekly publication
from the Office of the
City Manager*

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Special points of interest:

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Agenda Review**
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STORM CLEAN UP CONCLUDES ON FRIDAY, AUGUST 3, 2012

Residents are reminded that the City will conclude the free collection of storm damaged trees and tree limbs stacked in the terrace areas today, Friday, August 3, 2012. Residents are reminded that any tree trimmings or yard waste generated on their properties after that date can be disposed of using the City's yard waste pick-up program, which runs the first full week of each calendar month. Yard waste stickers must be attached.

Also, yard waste and smaller limbs will be accepted at either LeafLan Compost Center, 6711 St. Lawrence, or Bedrock Grinding, 1105 East LT Townline Road, Janesville.

Again, we want to thank all of the City officials and employees who worked so hard cleaning up the City following the storm event. We also want to thank residents for their patience and their assistance with the clean-up.

DON'T FORGET DOWNTOWN БЕЛОIT'S "CELEBRATE" WEEKEND!

Sidewalk Sales began at 8:00 a.m. today, and will continue from 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. on Saturday. Just a reminder that this evening, Friday, August 3, will be the downtown street dance beginning at 5:30 p.m. Special downtown activities also continue on Saturday, including the Farmer's Market. Please see [attached](#) for more information.

Of special note this weekend is the formal dedication of the Gantry sculpture, along with a plaque commemorating the National Main Street award won by the Downtown Beloit Association in 2011. If you are downtown at the Farmer's Market, step over under the Gantry for a few moments to join City and Downtown Beloit Association officials for the dedication.

MEETING WITH WISCONSIN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION REPRESENTATIVES REGARDING OUR READY TO BUILD SITE INFORMATION AND FURTHER SITE SURVEY

On Thursday, the Economic Development Director, along with the City Manager and other officials, met with representatives from the new Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation regarding what the corporation is calling the "Ready-Set-Build" project to help promote economic development and job creation in the State of Wisconsin. The cities of Beloit and Janesville were the first two cities in the State to have sites "certified shovel ready" by an independent outside site selection firm. Thursday's session was to validate eligibility of the City's sites for inclusion in the new Economic Development Corporation program.

NATIONAL NIGHT OUT

Just a reminder that next Tuesday, August 7 from 5:30—8:30 p.m. is celebrated across the country as National Night Out. Residents in neighborhoods throughout Beloit are asked to lock their doors, turn on and display outside lights, and spend the evening outside with their neighbors.

BUDGET PREPARATION

Work continued this week on the 2013 proposed budget. We received some preliminary property equalized assessment numbers from the State Department of Revenue and are currently reviewing and will be responding to their preliminary assessment numbers early next week. The final equalized assessment numbers are due on August 15 and the proposed operating budget will be completed after that date.

ABSENTEE VOTING FOR THE PARTISAN PRIMARY ELECTION

Beginning on Monday, July 30, 2012, electors registered to vote in the City of Beloit may cast an absentee ballot in the City Clerk's office for the August 14, 2012 Partisan Primary Election. Please see the [attached](#) press release for more information, along with information on acceptable forms of proof of residence.

CITY COUNCIL MEETING - MONDAY, AUGUST 6, 2012

The City Council will hold a [Workshop on Monday, August 6](#) at 6:30 p.m. in the City Manager's Conference Room on the 4th Floor of City Hall. The purpose of the workshop is to review the agenda of the regular 7:00 p.m. City Council meeting.

The [attached](#) agenda is for the **Monday, August 6, 2012** regular City Council meeting beginning at 7:00 p.m. in the Forum.

3. SPECIAL ORDERS OF THE DAY/ANNOUNCEMENTS

- a. Fire Chief Liggett will be in attendance to present a citizens **Lifesaving Award**.

4. PUBLIC HEARINGS

There are no public hearings scheduled for this Council meeting.

6. CONSENT AGENDA

- a. Approval of the **Minutes** of the special and regular meetings of July 16, 2012.
- b. Proposed Ordinance relating to the keeping and licensing of **Backyard Chickens** in Beloit residential neighborhoods. In addition to establishing regulatory standards for the keeping of chickens in city neighborhoods and requiring an annual license for this purpose, the ordinance also makes a number of necessary changes in the city's Zoning Ordinance. Text amendments to the Zoning Ordinance cannot be requested by an outside petitioner as is normally the case with zoning district changes or conditional use permits tied to an individual business operation. Consequently, as a text amendment, the City is the petitioner. As with all land use related issues, this text amendment would begin by Council referring the matter to Plan Commission for review and recommendation. There will be a public hearing on the matter before the Plan Commission and the item will return to the City Council, probably at the first meeting in September, which is scheduled for Tuesday, September 4, 2012, due to the Labor Day holiday weekend.
- c. Resolution awarding Public Works Contract for the **McKinley Avenue Reconstruction**. As we noted earlier this project, which is essentially a reconstruction of two very severely deteriorated blocks of McKinley Avenue, was bid separately. Funds for the project are available in the City's street resurfacing account in the Capital Projects budget.
- d. Resolution authorizing the **Final Payment** of a Public Works Contract for Horace White Park improvements. This was a contract for lighting improvements throughout the park and was actually completed in late 2010. The project is done and ready for closure.

11. REPORTS FROM BOARDS AND CITY OFFICERS

- a. Resolution approving an **Obstruction Easement** to allow a sign in a public right-of-way abutting the property located at 2460 Milwaukee Road. This would be a standard, commercial-looking pole sign, even though the sign would be for an institutional use. As previously noted, this is a very unusual request and there are no other signs of this nature located within the public rights-of-way. Staff has expressed concern, not only about allowing this sign to encroach on the public right-of-way, which is normally reserved for public and utility uses; but also the precedent that would be set for other institutional and business uses to request that Council waive the normal restrictions on right-of-way use to allow their signs to be installed closer to roads and highways. The City recently completed trimming the public trees located in front of this property and the building is now far more visible from the street. A few minor modifications to the on-site landscaping, and a new sign similar to that being requested by the church, could be installed at the current sign location on private property. After reviewing this application, the Plan Commission voted unanimously to recommend that the City Council reject this request.

- b. Resolution approving a **Lease Extension Agreement** for 80 and 100 East Grand Avenue. This lease would extend the current lease with Fat Wallet that terminates on April 11, 2013 for one full year until April 11, 2014 and provide for two further one-year options to renew the lease with 3% increases in rental rates. The lease will also add an additional 1,492 sq. ft. to the leased space. Once again, we have been very pleased to welcome Fat Wallet to downtown Beloit and are happy to see they are continuing to make good use of the office building generally referred to as 100 East Grand Avenue.

CITY MEETING CALENDAR AUGUST 6–10, 2012

Monday, August 6	6:30 p.m.	Agenda Review , City Manager's Conf. Room (All City Councilors)
Monday, August 6	7:00 p.m.	City Council Meeting , Forum (All City Councilors)
Wed., August 8	7:30 a.m.	Visit Beloit Board Meeting (J. Van De Bogart)
Wed., August 8	6:30 p.m.	Parks, Recreation & Conservation Advisory Commission , DPW Operations Center (S. De Forest)
Wed., August 8	7:00 p.m.	Plan Commission , Forum (C. Kincaid)

UPCOMING COMMUNITY EVENTS

This is just a sample of events coming up in Beloit. A more complete listing is available on the Visit Beloit website: www.visitbeloit.com

Beloit Public Library offers many events for youth, teens and adults. Please click [here](#) for more information.

Saturdays throughout the summer offer an opportunity to attend the **Farmers Market**, at the intersection of State and Grand, from 8:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

August 3—4		Downtown Beloit's "Celebrate" Weekend. Street dance, sidewalk sales, Gantry dedication, and more! Please see attached press release.
August 4	10:00 a.m.	Dedication of the Gantry at State and Grand, downtown Beloit
Tuesday, August 7	5:30—8:30 p.m.	National Night Out observance
Wed., August 8	6:30-8:30 p.m.	45th Assembly District Primary Candidates Forum , co-hosted by League of Women Voters and Rock County Youth 2 Youth, at the Beloit Public Library, 605 Eclipse Blvd.
Friday, August 10	11:30-1:30 p.m.	Fridays in the Park , free summer concert series at First National Bank Plaza, State & Grand, Beloit. Jazz with The Rock River Jazz Greats, food by Domenico's Italian Ristorante
Friday, August 10	7:00-9:00 p.m.	Music and More at Harry Moore Pavilion, Riverside Park, Beloit. "Westside Andy/Mel Ford Band. Bring a blanket or lawn chair for the free concert. Refreshments available to purchase.

Downtown Beloit Association
City Center Building
500 Public Ave.
Beloit, WI 53511
608.365.0150

For more information contact:
Shauna El-Amin, Executive Director

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

July 10, 2012 - ONE OF WISCONSIN'S BEST KNOWN BANDS, *THE EDDIE BUTTS BAND*, HITS THE STREET FRIDAY NIGHT, AUGUST 3rd, FOR DOWNTOWN BELOIT'S 19th ANNUAL STREET DANCE DURING DOWNTOWN BELOIT'S CELEBRATE WEEKEND, AUGUST 3-4.

The Downtown Beloit Association is celebrating the rites of summer in Beloit's historic city center with the 19th Annual Celebrate Weekend, Friday and Saturday, August 3-4, with a Friday evening Street Dance, weekend sidewalk sales, farmers market, and live music.

The weekend starts with Sidewalk Sales running from 8 am to 2 pm Friday on the 300 block of State Street and the 400 block of East Grand. Downtown Shops spill out onto the sidewalks and into the streets along with area retailers and Farmers Market vendors. Enjoy lunch from *Otha's Ribs* during Fridays in the Park from 11:30 am to 1:30 pm, downtown Beloit's weekly summer concert series, featuring live Blues performed by *Brother K*.

Continue the evening with Street Dance. Friday evening's Street Dance is the Downtown Beloit Association's largest fundraiser of the year supporting revitalization efforts in Beloit's historic downtown district. Street Dance begins at 5:30 pm on the 300 block of State Street with a live Blues band *Reverend Raven and the Chain Smokin' Altar Boys*. \$5 admission to Street Dance (\$1 Children 4-11, Children under 4 are free). Local eateries will provide dinner options ranging from ribs to hot Italian beef dinners including side dishes.

At 8 pm, one of Wisconsin's best known bands, *The Eddie Butts Band*, hits the stage. The Eddie Butts Band has delighted audiences at festivals and on the concert and night club circuits for many years. The Eddie Butts Band is also one of the longest-running, most successful bands in Wisconsin and the Midwest. Eddie is also known as one of the city's premier vocalists. When you combine his smoky baritone with the sweet tones of the band's two female vocalists, the fantastic musicianship and a delicious blend of jazz, pop and R&B, well, it's easy to see why *The Eddie Butts Band* is considered a Milwaukee & Wisconsin favorite year after year. Enjoy an evening of entertainment, dancing and fun with Milwaukee's MUST SEE BAND, *THE EDDIE BUTTS BAND!*

Saturday morning, sidewalk sales continue 8 am to 1 pm with farmers market also running to 1 pm. Kids activities will be onsite! A dedication of the Gantry and 2011 Wisconsin Main Street Award will be held at 10 am at the Gantry.

Street Dance and Celebrate Weekend are generously sponsored by *Wisconsin Distributors, Kerry Ingredients & Flavours, Beloit Daily News* and *WGEZ*.

For more information please visit our website, www.downtownbeloit.com.

The Downtown Beloit Association is designated a Wisconsin Main Street Organization committed to encourage and support Beloit's thriving downtown community through economic restructuring, design, historic preservation, streetscape care, promotion and organization.

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City Clerk's Office, City Hall
100 State Street
Beloit, WI 53511
www.ci.beloit.wi.us

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

For more information, contact:
Rebecca S. Houseman, City Clerk
(608) 364-6680

Absentee Voting for the Partisan Primary Election
Available in the City Clerk's Office Starting July 30, 2012

July 23, 2012 – Beloit, WI: Beginning Monday, July 30, 2012, electors registered to vote in City of Beloit may cast an absentee ballot in the City Clerk's office for the August 14, 2012 Partisan Primary Election. Electors who are not registered to vote and those who need to change their names and/or addresses must bring proof of residence to register. Late registration and absentee voting will only be available in the City Clerk's office from **Monday, July 30 through Friday, August 10**. Please find the acceptable forms of proof of residence on the following page.

Photo identification or other proof of identity will **not** be required to obtain an absentee ballot or to obtain a regular ballot on Election Day at the polling place for the August 14, 2012 Election.

If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact the City of Beloit City Clerk's office at (608) 364-6680 or by email at housemanr@ci.beloit.wi.us.

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ACCEPTABLE FORMS OF PROOF OF RESIDENCE

One of the following is required to register to vote in the Clerk's office during the closed registration period or on Election Day at the Polling Place:

- A current and valid Wisconsin driver's license
- A current and valid Wisconsin identification card
- Any other Official ID Card or license issued by a Wisconsin Governmental body
- An ID card with your photo issued by an employer during the normal course of business (not including a business card)
- A real estate tax bill or receipt (for the current year or year before the election)
- A residential lease which is effective for a period that includes Election Day
- A university, college, or technical college identification card (must include photo) together with a fee payment receipt issued to the cardholder by the university, college or technical college dated no earlier than 9 months before the date of the election at which the receipt is presented
- A utility bill for a period starting no earlier than 90 days before Election Day
- A bank statement or current pay check
- A government check or any other official document issued by a unit of government

NOTE: all of the above must contain a current and complete name, including both first and last name; and a current and complete residential address, including numbered street address, if any, and the name of the municipality. If the form has an expiration date, it must be valid on Election Day. **An individual may not register or vote without one of the above forms of proof of residence.**

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PUBLIC NOTICE

The City of Beloit City Council will hold a **Workshop** on Monday, August 6, 2012, at 6:30 p.m. in the 4th floor City Manager's Conference Room, City Hall, 100 State Street, Beloit, WI 53511. The purpose of the workshop is to review the agenda of the regular 7:00 p.m. City Council meeting.

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Larry N. Arft, City Manager

Dated: August 1, 2012
Rebecca S. Houseman
City Clerk
www.ci.beloit.wi.us

** Please note that, upon reasonable notice, at least 24 hours in advance, efforts will be made to accommodate the needs of disabled individuals through appropriate aids and services. For additional information to request this service, please contact the City Clerks Office at 364-6680, 100 State Street, Beloit WI 53511.



**AGENDA
BELOIT CITY COUNCIL
100 State Street, Beloit WI 53511
City Hall Forum – 7:00 p.m.
Monday, August 6, 2012**

1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL
2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
3. SPECIAL ORDERS OF THE DAY/ANNOUNCEMENTS
 - a. Citizens **Lifesaving Award** (Liggett)
4. PUBLIC HEARINGS – none
5. CITIZENS' PARTICIPATION
6. CONSENT AGENDA

All items listed under the Consent Agenda are considered routine and will be enacted by one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless a Council member so requests, in which event the item will be removed from the General Order of Business and considered at this point on the agenda.

- a. Approval of the **Minutes** of the Special and Regular Meetings of July 16, 2012 (Houseman)
 - b. Proposed Ordinance relating to the keeping and licensing of **Backyard Chickens** in the City of Beloit (Christensen) Refer to Plan Commission
 - c. Resolution awarding Public Works Contract C12-20, **McKinley Avenue Reconstruction** (Flesch)
 - d. Resolution authorizing **Final Payment** of Public Works Contract C10-02, Horace White Park Improvements Phase 1 (Flesch)
7. ORDINANCES -none
8. APPOINTMENTS – none
9. COUNCILOR ACTIVITIES AND UPCOMING EVENTS
10. CITY MANAGER'S PRESENTATION – none
11. REPORTS FROM BOARDS AND CITY OFFICERS
 - a. Resolution approving an **Obstruction Easement** to allow a sign in the public right of way abutting the property located at 2460 Milwaukee Road (Christensen) Plan Commission recommendation for denial 5-0-1

- b. Resolution approving **Lease Extension Agreement** at 80 & 100 East Grand Avenue, Beloit, Wisconsin (Casper)

12. ADJOURNMENT

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Dated: August 1, 2012
Rebecca S. Houseman
City of Beloit City Clerk
<http://www.ci.beloit.wi.us>

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You can watch this meeting live on Charter PEG channel 98 or digital channel 992. Meetings are rebroadcast during the week of the Council meeting on Tuesday at 1:00 p.m., Thursday at 8:30 a.m. and Friday at 1:00 p.m.

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CITY HALL • 100 STATE STREET • BELOIT, WI 53511

MEETING NOTICE AND AGENDA
Beloit City Plan Commission
Wednesday, August 8, 2012 at 7:00 PM
The Forum, Beloit City Hall
100 State Street, Beloit

1. **Call to Order and Roll Call**
2. **Approval of the Minutes of the July 18, 2012 Meeting**
3. **Sign Ordinance Exception – First National Bank – 345 E. Grand Avenue**
Public hearing, review and consideration of exceptions to Sections 30.40(2)(c) and 30.40(2)(e) of the Outdoor Sign Regulations to allow two secondary wall signs to exceed 30 square feet in area and to allow a total of four secondary, on-premises signs in a CBD, Central Business District, for the property located at 345 E. Grand Avenue
4. **Sign Ordinance Exception – BMO Harris Bank – 500 E. Grand Avenue**
Public hearing, review and consideration of an exception to Section 30.40(2)(c) of the Outdoor Sign Regulations to allow three secondary, on-premises signs to exceed 30 square feet in area in a CBD, Central Business District, for the property located at 500 E. Grand Avenue
5. **Status Report on Prior Plan Commission Items**
6. **Adjournment**

If you are unable to attend this meeting, please contact Gail Riddle in the Planning Office at 364-6700 **no later than 4:00 PM the day before the meeting.**

Notice Mailed: August 1, 2012

Approved: Julie Christensen, Community
Development Director

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PARKS, RECREATION, AND CONSERVATION ADVISORY COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 8, 2012
6:30PM
DPW OPERATIONS CENTER
2351 SPRINGBROOK COURT, BELOIT, WI

AGENDA

- 1.) Call to Order
- 2.) Review Minutes of: May 9, 2012
- 3.) Citizens Participation
- 4.) Director's Report
 - a.) Correspondence
 - b.) Parks Report
 - c.) Horticulture Report
 - d.) Grinnell Hall Senior Center Report
 - e.) Special Projects
 - f.) Leisure Services/Recreation Report
- 5.) Old Business - None
 - a.) Consideration of a horticulture project in Riverside Park as proposed by Friends of the Riverfront.
 - b.) Consideration of purchasing new paddle boats for the Riverside Park Lagoon with the funds from the Stateline Community Foundation grant.
 - c.) Consideration of selecting the new playground equipment for the lower level of Big Hill Park.
- 6.) New Business – Action Report Item
 - a.) Consideration and support of the Rock River Trail Initiative new signage along the Rock River in the City of Beloit.
 - b.) Consideration and approval for the Low Ropes Course installation at Big Hill Park as proposed by the Good to Great Activate program with the School District of Beloit.
 - c.) Consideration and approval for the purchase and installation of fencing for the development of the Dog Park area as designated in Leeson Park.
- 7.) Committee Members Comments [Return to page 4](#)
- 8.) Adjournment

SPECIAL CONSIDERATIONS:

- * *Commissioners unable to attend are encouraged to contact Brian Ramsey @ 608/364-2919 or the Parks Administrative Secretary @ 608/364- 2929 prior to the meeting.*
- ** *Please note that, upon reasonable notice, at least 24 hours in advance, efforts will be made to accommodate the needs of disabled individuals through appropriate aids and services.*
- *** *For additional information or to request this service, please contact the Parks & Leisure Services Division located at 2351 Springbrook Court, Beloit, WI 53511 or by calling 608/364-2929.*