



**August 23,  
2013**

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

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City of Beloit  
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**Special points of  
interest:**

- **Community Events  
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# THE BELOIT REPORT

CONTINUING ITS RESURGENCE AS A GEM OF THE ROCK RIVER VALLEY

## CURRENT EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES

### 7TH ANNUAL BUSINESS EDUCATION SUMMIT A SUCCESS

A large crowd of educators, local business leaders and interested citizens gathered at the Eclipse Center this past Thursday morning to participate in this year's Business Education Summit. Jointly sponsored by the Greater Beloit Economic Development Corporation, the School District of Beloit, the Greater Beloit Chamber of Commerce, and Beloit College, the event this year included a very interesting and relevant key note address by Rebekah Kowalski, along with updates by county and local officials and, of course, ample opportunity for round table discussions to facilitate interaction between business leaders and educators.

### NEW STATE STATUTE PROVIDES ADDITIONAL PROTECTION FOR SANITATION WORKERS ON PUBLIC STREETS

Please find [attached](#) an information sheet from the City's self-insurance pool outlining a recent change in the State Statute that adds Sanitation Workers to the State Statute providing additional protection for construction workers on public streets and highways. Driving at excessive speed or in a reckless manner when sanitation workers are present can result in doubling of fines for the appropriate offense. Again, we urge everyone to exercise extreme caution while operating motor vehicles in areas where construction, sanitation, or other workers are present in the public right-of-way.

### 2014 BUDGET UPDATE

The City's Capital Projects planning group met this week and went through both the 2013 element, which will be incorporated into the annual proposed budget, as well as the 5-year Capital Improvements Plan that will extend from 2015—2019. The 5-year plan, of course, is for planning purposes only and outlines a number of capital expenditure needs facing the community. As we do each year, the plan is modified to fit available revenue sources prior to insertion into that annual budget document.

The Operating Budget seems to be balancing nicely and both the governmental and enterprise fund types are now all close to balance with only a few items remaining to review.

The 2014 budget will be presented to City Council **on Monday, October 7, 2013 at 7:00 p.m.**

### ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT UPDATE

The U.S. Cellular store on Milwaukee Road has been under construction for some weeks and Council on Monday approved the Conditional Use Permit for the Qdoba's Restaurant that will be located at the corner of Cranston and Milwaukee.

We understand that the Casey's Country Store to be located at Shopiere and Cranston will be under construction in the near future. The property title has transferred and the company is finalizing construction arrangements.

We also received communication back from the Piggly Wiggly supermarket this week that they are finalizing arrangements with their new contractor and will be back under construction within a month. Obviously, there have been a great many delays with the Piggly Wiggly project; however, the company has submitted a full set of construction plans which have been approved, and their building permit is ready for issuance. The company indicates that they expect to open the store in Beloit early next year.

The City is still receiving contacts from businesses interested in either locating here or expanding their existing businesses. Another company visited this past week and is doing an analysis of two sites in the City that would fit their needs.

Progress continues on the Phoenix Building downtown. The building is now topped off and the exterior brick work and trim are under construction.

## **WASTEWATER UTILITY PRESS RELEASE**

The City's Wastewater Utility is experiencing an increase in sewer maintenance costs due to the disposal of "flushable" wipes. Please see the [attached](#) press release for more information.

## **BELOIT PUBLIC LIBRARY ADOPT-A-SHELF TRAINING SCHEDULED**

The Beloit Public Library will hold training for "Adopt-A-Shelf" volunteers on Tuesday, September 17 from 3:30—5:30 p.m. in the Library meeting room, 605 Eclipse Blvd. Following training, volunteers may "adopt" a section of library shelves to help keep the books in order, straightened, and dusted. Volunteers are asked to commit to monthly visits for at least one year. Volunteers have assisted at the Library for many years to help maintain excellent services, while holding down costs for taxpayers. If you would like more information, please contact Vicki Hahn, Public Services Librarian at 364-5756.

## CITY MEETING CALENDAR— AUGUST 19–23, 2013

Monday, August 26	Cancelled	<a href="#">Traffic Review Committee</a> (D. Luebke)
Monday, August 26	Cancelled	<a href="#">Police and Fire Commission</a>
Wed., August 28	7:30 a.m.	Beloit Convention & Visitors Bureau (J. Van De Bogart)
Wed., August 28	4:30 p.m.	<a href="#">Community Development Authority</a> , Forum (D. Luebke and J. Van De Bogart)

## 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](http://www.visitbeloit.com)

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

**Beloit Snappers** season is underway! Please click [\[here\]](#) to view their website for game schedules, special promotions, and more.

**Beloit Farmers Market** every Saturday through October, 300 block of State Street, 400 block of East Grand Ave. and the Gantry Area. Produce, jams, honey, baked goods, fish, meet, flowers and more!

**Fridays in the Park** free Summer concert series every Friday through the end of August. Gantry Park in downtown Beloit, 11:30—1:30 p.m. Lunch available for purchase, \$6.

Friday, August 23	6:00 p.m.	<b>Movie on the Big Lawn</b> , Riverside Park, Beloit. Activities and vendors at 6:00 p.m. with the movie, "The Lorax," starting at sundown (between 8:00 and 8:30 p.m.). Raindate is Saturday, August 24. FREE!
Tuesday, Sept. 17	3:30 p.m.-5:30 p.m.	<b>Beloit Public Library Adopt-A-Shelf Training</b> for volunteers. Beloit Public Library Meeting Room, 605 Eclipse Blvd. For more information, please contact Vicki Hahn, Public Services Librarian, 364-5756
Friday, Sept. 20	9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.	<b>Memory Screening at Grinnell Hall</b> . The Alzheimer's Support Center of Rock County will conduct FREE memory screening at Grinnell Hall, 631 Bluff Street. The professional and confidential memory screens take approximately 20 minutes. Appointments are required; please call 608-364-2875 to schedule.

# Cities and Villages Mutual Insurance Company

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## New Wisconsin Law Doubles Fines to Protect Sanitation Workers

By: Ben Rank, Loss Control Specialist

Most of us have probably seen the “**finer double in work zone**” signs while traveling on the highway or interstate. Now in Wisconsin **finer can also double for speeding or reckless driving where sanitation workers are at risk from traffic**. The new law now elevates traffic safety related to sanitation workers similarly to other sensitive work zone and construction operations.

Wisconsin Chapter 346-*Rules of the Road* currently requires minimum and maximum fines for violations of certain state and local traffic laws **be doubled** under specified circumstances. These include a speeding violation or a reckless driving violation committed on a highway maintenance or construction/utility work area.

Effective July 17, 2013 Act 39, created revisions to Chapter 346.57 and 346.60 which now doubles the minimum and maximum forfeitures or fines for certain speeding violations and reckless driving violations **committed where sanitation workers are at risk from traffic and the driver knows or should know that sanitation workers are present.**

Act 39 can be accessed at: <https://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/2013/proposals/sb145>

### **Chapter 346 was amended in part to read as follows:**

*346.57 (3) CONDITIONS REQUIRING REDUCED SPEED. The operator of every vehicle shall, consistent with the requirements of sub. (2), drive at an appropriate reduced speed when approaching and crossing an intersection or railway grade crossing, when approaching and going around a curve, when approaching a hillcrest, when traveling upon any narrow or winding roadway, when passing school children, highway construction or maintenance workers, sanitation workers, or other pedestrians, and when special hazard exists with regard to other traffic or by reason of weather or highway conditions.*



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Each member is encouraged to update any applicable local ordinances and to educate both public works and law enforcement staff to the Chapter revisions. If you have any questions, please contact your CVMIC Loss Control Specialist at 262/784-5666.



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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

For more information contact:  
City of Beloit Water Resources  
608-364-2888

**Wastewater Utility Update**

**August 23, 2013** - The City of Beloit's Wastewater Utility is experiencing an increase in sewer maintenance costs due to the disposal of wipes that are labeled as "flushable." These wipes do not break down in the sewer system and should not be flushed; they should be placed in the garbage. The wipes cause blockages in sewer pipes and cleaning crews have noticed an increase in emergency call outs due to such blockages.

In addition, after wipes travel to the City's lift stations they often cause pumps to plug. Each incident requires the removal of nearly fifteen (15) pounds of this debris. A significant drop in the efficiency of our pumps is being noticed due to these wipes clogging the impellor. As the pumping efficiency drops, the cost to run the pumps increases.

The costs associated with wipes have increased due to more frequent cleaning intervals and additional landfill disposal fees. Sewer back-ups into homes are also increasing due to the wipes and grease blockages in private laterals. Please note that costs incurred due to blockages in private laterals are the responsibility of the property owner. Thank you in advance for your assistance with this matter.

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## NOTICE OF MEETING CANCELLATION

**To:** All Traffic Review Committee Members and Other Interested Parties

**From:** Jason Dupuis, Transportation / Project Engineer

**Date:** August 19, 2013

**RE:** Meeting Cancellation

The Traffic Review Committee meeting which was scheduled for Monday, August 26, 2013 has been cancelled. At this time, there are not enough agenda items for a meeting. Our next meeting is scheduled to be held on **September 23, 2013 at 1:30 p.m.**

Please feel free to contact me at 364-6735 if you have any questions.

Jason Dupuis, P.E.  
Transportation Engineer  
City of Beloit



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A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jason Dupuis".

Jason Dupuis, P.E.  
Transportation Engineer  
City of Beloit



**Police and Fire Commission  
Meeting CANCELLATION Notice  
Monday, August 26, 2013 5:00 PM  
City Hall Forum  
Beloit WI 53511**

The Police & Fire Commission meeting scheduled for Monday, August 26, 2013 has been cancelled.

Charles Losinske, President  
Beloit Police & Fire Commission

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**MEETING NOTICE AND AGENDA  
Community Development Authority  
August 28, 2013 at 4:30 pm  
The Forum  
Beloit City Hall  
100 State Street**

1. Call to Order and Roll Call
2. Citizen Participation
3. Review and Consideration of the Minutes of the Regular Meeting held on June 26, 2013
4. Housing Authority
  - a. Presentation of the May Activity Report (Pollard)
  - b. Presentation of the May Financial Report (Pollard)
  - c. Presentation of the June Activity Report (Pollard)
  - d. Presentation of the June Financial Report (Pollard)
  - e. Review and Consideration of Resolution 2013-22, Authorization to Write-Off Beloit Housing Authority Public Housing Tenants Accounts Receivable 2013 Second Quarter Vacated Residents (Pollard)
  - f. Review and Consideration of Resolution 2013-23 Accepting the FY 2013 Capital Fund Program Award (Pollard)
5. Community Development
  - a. Review and Consideration of Resolution 2013-24, Approving the License Agreement between the City of Beloit and Community Action, Inc. of Rock and Walworth Counties for the Operation of a Community Garden at 1322 Porter Avenue (Downing)
  - b. CDBG Presentations
6. Discussion of Attendance at Community Development Authority meetings (Christensen)
7. Adjournment

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*If you are unable to attend this meeting, notify Ann Purifoy in the Housing Authority Office at 364-8740 **no later than 4:00 PM the day before the meeting.***

Notice Mailed: August 23, 2013

Approved: Julie Christensen, Ex. Director

\*\* 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 City Clerk's Office at 364-6680, 100 State Street, Beloit, WI 53511.