



THE BELOIT REPORT

CONTINUING ITS RESURGENCE AS THE GEM OF THE ROCK RIVER VALLEY

CURRENT EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES

**OCTOBER 24,
2014**

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

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Special points of interest:

- **Community Events
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BELOIT CELEBRATES HALLOWEEN

Downtown Beloit Hosts Costume Party and Parade

Don't forget this coming Saturday, October 25, 2014 from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., Downtown Beloit will host the annual costume party and parade in downtown Beloit. Each year, the Halloween celebration is done in conjunction with the final Saturday of Farmers' Market. The [attached](#) flyer includes more information about this event.

TRICK-OR-TREAT HOURS ESTABLISHED

The City Manager and Police Chief have announced that Halloween trick-or-treating in the City of Beloit will be from 5:00—7:00 p.m. on Friday, October 31, 2014. We hope everyone has a safe and enjoyable Halloween this year. The Police Department makes the following recommendations:

- Wear light colored clothing, short enough to prevent tripping, and add reflectors
- Make sure costumes are flame retardant
- Make sure children can see well through face masks or head coverings
- Accompany your children and go only to homes with outside lights on
- Carry a flashlight
- Stay within the neighborhood and only visit homes where you know the residents
- Only give or accept wrapped or packaged candy and treats
- Watch for traffic
- Examine candy before allowing children to eat it

COUNCIL NOMINATION PROCESS TO BEGIN

The City Clerk's office has notified the community that nomination papers for the office of Beloit City Councilor will be available beginning Monday, October 27, 2014. The [attached](#) press release contains more information for anyone interested in picking up nomination papers to serve on the Beloit City Council.

TEEN DROP-IN CENTER TASK FORCE—UPDATE

The Task Force planning for the establishment of a Teen Drop-In Center here in the City met again this past week. The Task Force heard reports from a number of sub-committees and had additional in-depth discussion about a center, including what facilities would be needed and how programming should be facilitated. The sub-committees are continuing to meet and update valuable information needed for the planning effort. The group selected Monday, November 10, 2014 as a date to visit a prototype Teen Drop-In Center operated by the Boys and Girls Club in the City of Milwaukee. Task Force members will be traveling to the facility, meeting with key

staff and observing the program in operation. The next meeting for the full Task Force has been scheduled for Wednesday, November 12, 2014 at 4:30 p.m. in the Boys and Girls Club, 1851 Moore Street.

2015 BUDGET PREPARATION

Most of the preliminary work and budget workshops on the 2015 Proposed Capital and Operating Budget has now been concluded. This past Monday evening, October 20, the Council held a formal public hearing on all aspects of the budget and then remained after the conclusion of the regular Council meeting for a budget workshop that lasted several more hours. A great deal of time and effort has been incorporated into the budget preparation process this year. Several changes to the budget were made by Councilors during the review process. Those modifications include:

- A Capital Improvements project for street construction on Willowbrook and Colley Roads was dropped from the Capital budget because a grant application for this project was not approved. Improvements on these streets will need to be done at some point if the Beloit Casino Project is approved and built. Engineering staff will continue to work with the Ho Chunk Nation planning for these anticipated improvements; however, there was no point in leaving the project in the Capital budget at this time. As a consequence, the total budget for 2015 was reduced by almost \$550,000 below the 2014 approved budget.
- Council also expressed concerns about extending the \$1.75 base fare rate for the City's Transit System to local intra-city routes. Last year the Beloit Janesville Express rate was increased to the \$1.75 rate in order to maintain consistency between the cities of Beloit and Janesville, which share bus service on the inter-city route. This year, staff proposed to increase the base fare for the Beloit routes by the same amount. Several Councilors expressed concern about raising the fare and the impact that may have on ridership. Consequently, we will retain the \$1.50 base fare for 2015.
- There is also a provision recommended by staff to implement a sticker system similar to that used for the yard waste program for overage containers, bulky items, and appliances set at the curb for collection by the City. Containers over five per residential unit, along with bulky items and appliances, require a separate charge for collection. Councilors expressed concern about the sticker system and how well it would work in the City. Staff had also been working on the details of implementation and encountered some questions we are not fully prepared to answer at this time. Consequently, the sticker system will not be expanded in 2015; only stickers for yard waste containers will continue to be sold. Other items may be set at the curb on your regular collection day. They will be collected by the City and a separate bill will be generated for that service.

At this time, a final set of adoption resolutions related to the budget and its various components are being prepared and will appear on Council's agenda for the regular meeting scheduled for Monday, November 3, 2014. It is anticipated the Council will take action on the budget at that meeting.

FALL YARD WASTE PROGRAM TO BEGIN NOVEMBER 3, 2014

The City's free collection of yard waste containers for yard, garden and leaf waste will begin on Monday, November 3 and run through Friday, November 21, 2014. This is the same program the City runs each year to allow residents to clean out their gardens and/or rake their leaves and containerize them in the appropriate paper, biodegradable, or clean trash container for free collection by the City. As always, containerize your leaves and garden waste and set them at the curb on your regular collection date during any one of the three weeks noted above. Once again, there is no charge for this service; however, if residents do tree or brush

trimming and create brush or limb bundles to set at the curb for City collection, those must have the regular yard waste sticker attached. For more information, please click [\[here\]](#).

PHOTO ID NOT REQUIRED TO CAST A BALLOT AT THE NOVEMBER 4TH GENERAL ELECTION

Just a reminder, on October 9, 2014, the U.S. Supreme Court ordered that the photo ID requirement will *not* be in effect for the November 4, 2014 General Election. Consequently, no photo identification will be required to obtain an absentee ballot or to vote through a regular ballot on Election Day at the polling places.

Absentee voting in person will be available starting **Monday, October 20th through Friday, October 24th and Monday, October 27th through Friday, October 31st** between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. in the City Clerk's office on the second floor of City Hall. Electors who would like an absentee ballot mailed to them must make the request in writing via email to lemirer@beloitwi.gov via mail to 100 State Street, Beloit, WI 53511; or in person at the City Clerk's office.

Sample ballots are available in the Document Center on the City's website www.beloitwi.gov in the Voting and Election Documents folder.

If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact the Beloit City Clerk's office by phone at (608) 364-6680 or email at lemirer@beloitwi.gov

VACANCIES ON CITY COMMISSIONS, BOARDS AND COMMITTEES

City residents are asked to consider serving on a municipal board or commission. Generally, the time commitment is minimal, but the personal satisfaction of being part of a decision making process can be long-lasting. Committee descriptions and applications can be accessed on the City's website by clicking [\[here\]](#). The following committees have vacancies:

- Alcohol Beverage License Control Committee
- Board of Appeals
- Board of Ethics
- Board of Review
- Community Development Authority
- Equal Opportunities Commission
- Landmarks Commission
- Park, Recreation & Conservation Advisory Commission (Youth)
- Plan Commission
- Police and Fire Commission (requires Supplemental Application)
- Traffic Review Committee

CITY MEETING CALENDAR— OCTOBER 27—31, 2014

Monday, October 27	1:30 p.m.	Traffic Review Committee , City Manager's Conf. Room (D. Luebke)
Monday, October 27	Cancelled	Police and Fire Commission

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.

Downtown Beloit Farmers' Market Saturday's at 8:00 a.m. from now through the end of October.

October 18—December 1 **Warming Tree** at Beloit Public Library. The Library is collecting new home-made or purchased mittens, scarves, hats or socks for children ages birth to 18 years to be distributed to local families in need. Please drop off your donations during library hours.

Saturday, Oct. 25 10:00 a.m. **Halloween Costume Parade & Party**, downtown Beloit. Meet at Horace White Park at 9:45 a.m. to line up. Please see [attached](#) for more information.

Monday, Oct. 27 3:00 p.m. **Beloit School Board Equality Committee**, Kolak Education Center, 1633 Keeler Ave. Councilors Hendrix, De Forest and Luebke will attend. Please see [attached](#) public notice.

Friday, Oct. 31 7:00—9:00 p.m. **Halloween Special Skate** at Edwards Ice Arena, 2101 Cranston Road. Wear a costume and receive a free skate rental! Music, games, costume contest and candy.

DOWNTOWN
BELOIT

HALLOWEEN

COSTUME PARADE & PARTY

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 25TH
10 AM - 1 PM

Meet at Horace White Park (College St. & E. Grand Ave.) at 9:45 am to line up!

BRING THE KIDS in their favorite costume for a parade and trick-or-treating with businesses and Farmers' Market vendors along the way!

Look for the orange flags!

The Mr. Steve Show @ 10:45 (45 min. show)
Balloon fun with Mr. Steve after the show

Free pumpkins from Brad & Cindy Paulson!
(while supplies last)

Pumpkin decorating with Doodles

Spooky Stories at Turtle Creek Bookstore

Face painting with Dabadooya

Have pictures taken by Charly Studios for \$5

FUN ZONE with a bounce house, super slides, cotton candy and more at the corner of State and Grand!
(All at great family-friendly prices!)

THANKS
TO OUR
SPONSORS!

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Blackhawk Bank



Brad & Cindy Paulson, Ace Hardware, Doodles, First National Bank, Liberty Tax/Barb Bartlett!

Downtown Beloit • 500 Public Ave. • Beloit, WI 53511 • 608.365.0150 • downtownbeloit.com



City Clerk's Office, City Hall
100 State Street
Beloit, WI 53511
www.beloitwi.gov

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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

2015 City Council Nomination Information

October 21, 2014 – Beloit, WI: Any City of Beloit resident interested in running for a two-year term on the Beloit City Council may pick up a packet of information including nomination papers beginning **Monday, October 27, 2014**. The packets are available in the office of the City Clerk on the second floor of City Hall during normal business hours: Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

- The Spring Election will be held on **Tuesday, April 7, 2015**.
- There are seven members on the Council and three seats will be on the ballot.
- Candidates must file required forms with the City Clerk before forming a committee and/or raising funds.
- The first day to circulate nomination papers is **Monday, December 1, 2014**.
- A minimum of 200 valid signatures of City of Beloit residents must be submitted. Staff recommends that between 200 and 400 signatures be submitted to ensure ballot access.
- Nomination papers and all forms must be completed and filed with the City Clerk by 5:00 p.m. on **Tuesday, January 6, 2015**.
- An informational session may be held in January for candidates who have gained ballot access.
- Newly-elected Councilors will take office on Tuesday, April 21, 2015.

Nomination papers and forms will also be available on the City's website: www.beloitwi.gov in the Document Center starting on October 27th. 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 lemirer@beloitwi.gov.



MEETING NOTICE AND AGENDA
Traffic Review Committee
Monday, October 27, 2014 1:30 P.M.
City Manager's Conference Room (4th Floor)
Beloit, WI 53511

1. Roll Call.
2. Approval of the minutes from the September 22, 2014 Traffic Review Committee meeting.
3. Public Participation.
4. Ordinance to remove No-Parking restrictions along Hobart Place.
5. Ordinance to remove parking along both sides of Lovell Avenue.
6. Committee Member participation.
7. Next meeting –The next meeting is scheduled for **November 24, 2014**.
8. Adjournment

** 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.

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**Police and Fire Commission
Meeting CANCELLATION Notice
Monday, October 27, 2014 5:00 PM
City Hall Forum
Beloit WI 53511**

The Police & Fire Commission meeting scheduled for Monday, October 27, 2014 has been cancelled.

Martin Densch, President
Beloit Police & Fire Commission

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www.beloitwi.gov



PUBLIC NOTICE

The **Beloit School Board Equality Committee** is holding a meeting on Monday, October 27, 2014, at 3:00 p.m. in the board room at the Kolak Education Center, 1633 Keeler Avenue, Beloit, WI 53511. At this initial meeting, the Committee will plan future meeting dates, topics, and goals for the school year. The Committee has invited the Beloit City Council to attend, and a quorum of members may be present.

Larry N. Arft, City Manager

Dated: October 22, 2014
Rebecca Houseman LeMire
City Clerk
www.beloitwi.gov

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