



THE BELOIT REPORT

CONTINUING ITS RESURGENCE AS THE GEM OF THE ROCK RIVER VALLEY

CURRENT EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES

**MARCH 20,
2015**

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

**Larry N. Arft
City Manager
City of Beloit
100 State Street
Beloit, WI 53511**

**608-364-6614
608-364-6756 (Fax)**

**arftl@beloitwi.gov
www.beloitwi.gov**

Special points of interest:

- **City Council Meeting
Agenda (page 3)**
- **Community Events
(page 5)**

SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Because of the current press of City business, Council will hold a **special meeting on Monday, March 23, 2015 at 6:30 p.m. in the City Hall Forum, 100 State Street.** Please see more information on page 2.

POLICE ACCREDITATION ASSESSMENT TEAM INVITES PUBLIC COMMENT

The Police Chief has notified Council and the community that the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies, Inc. (CALEA) will be in the City next week, beginning on Monday, March 23. The department has had a CALEA certification for many years and, the three year recertification cycle falls in 2015.

There will be an opportunity for public comments at a public information session on **Monday, March 23, 2015 starting at 3:00 p.m. in the City Hall Forum.** If an individual is not able to speak at the public information session but would still like to provide comments to the assessment team, he/she may do so by calling (608) 364-6808 on **Monday, March 23 between the hours of 12:30 p.m. and 2:30 p.m.**

Telephone comments as well as appearances at the public information session are limited to 10 minutes and must address the agency's ability to comply with CALEA's standards. Please see the [attached](#) press release for more information.

ABSENTEE VOTING IN PERSON FOR THE APRIL 7, 2015 SPRING ELECTION

Beginning Monday, March 23, 2015, electors registered to vote in the City of Beloit may cast an absentee ballot in person for the April 7, 2015 Spring Election. Please see the [attached](#) press release for more information.

BELOIT TRANSIT DEVELOPMENT PLAN

The Beloit Transit System is in the process of developing a five-year plan. The primary goals of the plan are to:

- Evaluate existing BTS service, as well as local population and employment characteristics
- Identify service needs and opportunities for improvement or expansion
- Develop alternatives that improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the system

After a recent open house to gather feedback on the Beloit Transit Development Plan, it was suggested an online survey be created. Please click on the link to participate in the survey: www.surveymonkey.com/r/BeloitTDP

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT UPDATE

Pratt Industries Continues to Move Toward Construction

Many of the preliminary plan reviews have already been completed for the Pratt Industries project. A review letter was returned to the company this week, which included a number of comments that need to be addressed in the site plans prior to completing that review process.

The City's consulting structural engineer is still going through all of the building plans and will shortly have comments, if any, regarding that portion of the project. We still anticipate having preliminary permits issued so that grading and putting in foundation work can begin on or about April 1, as scheduled.

Chicago Fittings

This company has their building permit in hand and I understand there has been some preliminary grading on the site and full construction will begin just as soon as weather and frost conditions permit.

Buffalo Wild Wings

Initial interior demolition in the old Atlanta Bread Company building is drawing to a close, and once again plans have been submitted for construction to begin in the immediate future.

Phoenix Building Update

We understand that virtually all of the residential units on the upper floors have been rented and all of the first floor space has been rented with two new restaurants joining The Flying Pig, including Lucy's Burger Bar and later this spring by a sushi restaurant and grill.

Additional Upgrades to the Eclipse Center

Hendricks Commercial Properties recently announced that the north façade of the Eclipse Center will receive a façade upgrade this year, which will be consistent with the improvements made to other elevations of the old Beloit Mall. Site improvements are also planned and an interior remodeling of the Eclipse Center is also under way. Once again, the City has been very pleased with the outcome of the extensive efforts made by Hendricks Commercial Properties to reutilize the former retail mall.

Ironworks Campus Reconstruction Nears Completion

The latest and most extensive reconstruction of a large portion of the old Beloit Corp campus on the west side of the river is drawing near completion. The new spine road, which was installed to better access space within the complex, will be completed this spring. Various interior renovations that have been done to accommodate the growing companies who are in occupancy at the building have mostly been completed.

Hendricks Commercial Properties has also acquired the old Kerry Manufacturing property, located on the west side of the river, south of Grand Avenue, which is across the street from the Ironworks Campus. We understand a design consultant has been retained and plans are underway for the complete remodeling and reutilization of that building, as well. Work will likely begin later this year on the physical remodeling of this space.

URBAN ALLIANCE HOLDING A SPECIAL MEETING ON THE PROPOSED STATE BUDGET

The City Manager traveled to Milwaukee on Friday (today) to participate in the special meeting of the Urban Alliance, which is a division of the League of Wisconsin Municipalities. He heard a presentation and participated in discussions regarding the proposed State budget for the next biennium. The budget is now under review by the Joint Finance Committee of the State Legislature, and comments from municipalities would be timely. I will have additional information in next week's Beloit Report regarding the outcome of this meeting and steps that the Urban Alliance will take to advocate for or against various provisions of the proposed budget.

CITY MANAGER SELECTION PROCESS UPDATE

The City Council met this last Thursday evening with the consultant and reviewed a preliminary consulting report which was based on a great deal of research already completed on the candidates that submitted for the position. The Council selected several top applicants to be brought in for interviews, which are scheduled for the end of March. Following the interview process, Council will likely name three finalists to proceed to the next phase of the selection effort.

POLICE DEPARTMENT STUDY

Just a reminder that a delegation from Hillard Heintze will be back in the City the week of March 30th. During that time, they will be spending many hours in the Police Department interviewing employees, riding along with officers, and reviewing departmental policies and documents. As part of that process, the consultant has scheduled two meetings that will be open to the general public, and residents, business owners or other persons having an interest are welcome to attend and make comments. The focus of the meetings, of course, will be on the Beloit Police Department, its operations, and effectiveness. The public meetings have been scheduled for:

Tuesday, March 31—6:30 p.m.

Beloit Public Library Community Room
605 Eclipse Blvd.

Wednesday, April 1—6:30 p.m.

Grinnell Hall Senior Center
631 Bluff Street

SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING - MONDAY, MARCH 23, 2015

The attached [agenda](#) is for the **Monday, March 23, 2015** Special City Council meeting beginning at 6:30 p.m. in the Forum.

2. Public hearing and resolution authorizing the City Manager to apply for **Community Development Block Grant—Emergency Assistance Program Funds** for a Rock River shoreline stabilization project. The City has already received two grants under this program, which provided additional funds for communities impacted by the Rock River flooding in 2008. The initial program has ended; however, as is often the case, funds were left over when some projects came in under budget and a few communities weren't able to complete their work. We were notified by the State that the remaining funds in the program would be made available to interested communities. The City made a preliminary application for additional shoreline stabilization work, this time on the West side of the Rock River in the area of 2nd and 3rd Streets, both north and south of Portland Avenue. Councilors will recall that this is one of two areas where we actually had surface flooding in 2008, which resulted in the evacuation of several private residences. The City repaired the area of the breach and focused the shoreline stabilization funds on the east shore of the river, which is the downwind shoreline and has received most of the damage and erosion over the past many decades. It should also be noted that a good portion of the balance of the west bank had already been stabilized in prior years so that most of the needed work was on the east shoreline of the river.

This additional funding, however, is now available and the City would like to apply to complete a similar shoreline restoration project on the west bank in this particular area of the City. This resolution will authorize the City Manager to formally file the application for funding. It should also be noted that even though the City did receive a preliminary approval to apply, there is no assurance that we will ultimately receive the grant funds.
3. Presentation of the **City and Vision Partner's Rebranding Program** and the proposed new logo for the City. Councilors saw a presentation on this topic some months ago; however, asked city staff to delay use of the new logo pending further study and review. Because of the press of business, we have not been able to bring this matter up until this meeting. Once again, we will present the branding program and focus discussions on the proposed new City logo. The purpose of the meeting is to encourage Councilor questions and comments. It is unknown whether or not any final action will be taken on the proposal at this meeting.
4. Resolution authorizing the City Manager to enter into an **Intergovernmental Agreement** between Rock County and the City of Beloit regarding future maintenance of a portion of County Hwy G (Prairie Avenue) between Huebbe Parkway and Philhower Road. This portion of Prairie Avenue lies partly in the City of Beloit and partly in the Town of Beloit and is scheduled for complete reconstruction to a full urban design standard this summer. This is one of a number of arterial routes located around the Interstate 39/90—1/43 interchange, which is being upgraded to better handle local traffic during the upcoming interstate reconstruction process.

Partly at the request of the City, this section will be upgraded to a full urban design standard with curbs and gutters, full decorative lighting, street trees and related accoutrements. Since this is a major gateway into the City of Beloit from the north, we wanted to take this opportunity to reconstruct the street to a similar design standard as has been used on other reconstructed arterial routes in the City of Beloit. Further, this was a great opportunity for the City since 100% of the cost of construction of this roadway is being covered by either Rock County or the State of Wisconsin.

As is normally done when a County roadway located in a municipal area is reconstructed to full urban design standard requiring costs for energy to support the lighting and traffic signals, jurisdictional transfer is requested. That was done in this case and since it is normal practice and the City had the opportunity to obtain a full new street at no cost, we agreed to consider jurisdictional transfer. Since a portion of the roadway lies within the Town of Beloit, their cooperation was required. Despite a number of efforts to obtain an agreeable methodology for the transfer to occur, that was unsuccessful.

The attached Intergovernmental Agreement will accomplish the same purpose with the City providing the same maintenance responsibilities that it would have under a jurisdictional transfer and also receiving the State aids (funding) for this portion of the roadway to offset maintenance costs. Both the City and County concur that ultimately jurisdictional transfer should be accomplished and will continue a dialogue with the Town government toward that end.

5. Resolution approving a First Amendment to the **Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA)** between the City of Beloit, the County of Rock and the Ho-Chunk Nation. As happened repeatedly with the earlier casino project, once again we have come upon a deadline incorporated into the Intergovernmental Agreement related to the project. Councilors will recall that the IGA was set to terminate in three years if the casino project was not approved by the Department of the Interior with the Governor's concurrence. If, however, the casino had been approved then the IGA would run concurrent with the life span of that project to protect the City's interest with regard to hosting this project.

At the time we entered into the agreement, the three-year timeframe seemed sufficient; however, as tends to happen with these projects, various political issues and delays in processing have resulted in the need to do a three year extension.

The good news is that we have been advised by the Ho-Chunk Nation that their application has now been reactivated and sent back to region for final processing. We still do not have a firm timeline as to when this process will conclude; however, the all-important Environmental Impact Statement needed for this project has been completed and has been for some time on file at the Department of Interior Bureau of Indian Affairs.

6. Resolution approving **Farm Lease Extension** between the City of Beloit and Jason Henschler for a one-year renewal to the existing leases at 1901 and 2001 Gateway Boulevard. These are the properties that are generally known as the Hexter-Long farm, which the City acquired two years ago. Although this is a relatively routine item, since they were prepared we decided to add them to this agenda since a number of policy related business items are already stacking up for the first meeting in April.

CITY MEETING CALENDAR— MARCH 23—27, 2015

Monday, March 23	Cancelled	Traffic Review Committee (D. Luebke)
Monday, March 23	Cancelled	Police and Fire Commission Meeting
Monday, March 23	6:30 p.m.	Special City Council Meeting , Forum (All City Councilors)
Wed., March 25	Cancelled	Community Development Authority (C. Kincaid and A. Kelly)
Thursday, March 26	8:00 a.m.	BID/Downtown Beloit Association Meeting (D. Luebke)

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.

March 20	4:30 p.m.	Roy Chapman Andrews Distinguished Explorer Award to Dr. Edith Widder, deep-sea explorer and conservationist. Eaton Chapel, Beloit College. FREE!
March 28	7:30 a.m.	Mushing for Meals , 10K/5K Run, 1 Mile Walk, Mini-Mush Kids Fun Run. Benefits Beloit Meals on Wheels. Please see attached for more information.
April 4	1:00—3:00 p.m.	Easter Eggstravaganza Easter Egg Hunt at Horace White Park. Brought to you by Downtown Beloit Association. Please see attached for more information.



BELOIT POLICE DEPARTMENT



Norm Jacobs
Chief of Police
100 State Street
Beloit, WI 53511

Business: (608) 364-6801
Administration: (608) 364-6807
Facsimile: (608) 364-6608

MEDIA RELEASE

Incident Number:
Date: March 17, 2015

For Additional Information Contact:

Jillian Peterson (608) 364-6818

BELOIT, WISCONSIN – CHIEF JACOBS ANNOUNCES ACCREDITATION ASSESSMENT TEAM INVITES PUBLIC COMMENT

BELOIT, WI – Today, Chief Norm Jacobs announced that a team of assessors from the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies, Inc. (CALEA), will arrive March 22, 2015 to examine all aspects of the Beloit Police Department's policy and procedures, management, operations and support services.

Chief Jacobs states, "Verification by the team that the Beloit Police Department meets the Commission's state-of-the-art standards is part of a voluntary process to gain accreditation – a highly prized recognition of law enforcement professional excellence. The Department has successfully gone through six assessments since 1992."

As part of the on-site assessment, agency employees and members of the community are invited to offer comments at a public information session Monday, March 23, 2015 starting at 3:00pm in the City Hall Forum located at 100 State Street.

If for some reason an individual cannot speak at the public information session, but would still like to provide comments to the assessment team, he/she may do so by telephone. The public may call (608) 364-6808 on Monday, March 23, 2015, between the hours of 12:30pm and 2:30pm.

Telephone comments as well as appearances at the public information session are limited to 10 minutes and must address the agency's ability to comply with CALEA's standards. A copy of the standards is available at the Beloit Police Department. Local contact is Support Services Director Jillian Peterson, (608) 364-6818.

Persons wishing to offer written comments about the Beloit Police Department's ability to meet the standards for accreditation are requested to write: Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies, Inc. (CALEA), 13575 Heathcote Boulevard, Suite 320, Gainesville, Virginia 20155.

[Return to page 1](#)



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
lemirer@beloitwi.gov

Absentee Voting In Person for the April 7, 2015 Spring Election
Available Starting March 23, 2015

March 16, 2015 – Beloit, WI: Beginning Monday, March 23, 2015, electors registered to vote in the City of Beloit may cast an absentee ballot in person for the April 7, 2015 Spring 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. Please find the acceptable forms of proof of residence on the following page.

Late registration and absentee voting in person will be available from **Monday, March 23rd through Thursday, April 2nd** from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. in the City Clerk's office on the second floor of City Hall. Late registration and absentee voting will be available on **Friday, April 3rd from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on the 1st floor of City Hall in the hallway outside the Forum.** 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.

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

###

[Return to page 1](#)

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.**

[Return to page 1](#)



NOTICE AND AGENDA
Special Meeting of the Beloit City Council

Monday, March 23, 2015 – 6:30 p.m.
The Forum
100 State Street
Beloit, WI 53511

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, in accordance with Section 2.02(3) of the City of Beloit Municipal Code of Ordinances, a Special Meeting of the City Council of the City of Beloit, Rock County, Wisconsin, is being called.

1. Call to order and roll call
2. Public hearing and resolution authorizing the City Manager to apply for **Community Development Block Grant – Emergency Assistance Program Funds** for a Rock River shoreline stabilization project (Christensen)
3. Presentation of the **City and Vision Partner’s Rebranding Program** (Andrew Janke, Executive Director Greater Beloit Economic Corporation)
4. Resolution authorizing the City Manager to enter into an **Intergovernmental Agreement** between Rock County and the City of Beloit regarding County Hwy G (Prairie Avenue) between Huebbe Parkway and Philhower Road (Arft)
5. Resolution approving a First Amendment to the **Intergovernmental Agreement** between the City of Beloit, the County of Rock and the Ho-Chunk Nation (Arft)
6. Resolution approving **Farm Lease Extension** between the City of Beloit and Jason Henschler for 1901 and 2001 Gateway Boulevard (Janke)
7. Adjournment

Larry N. Arft, City Manager

Dated: March 18, 2015
Rebecca Houseman LeMire
City Clerk
www.beloitwi.gov

[Return to page 3](#)



NOTICE OF MEETING CANCELLATION

To: All Traffic Review Committee Members and Other Interested Parties

From: Jason Dupuis, Transportation / Project Engineer

Date: March 17, 2015

RE: Meeting Cancellation

The Traffic Review Committee meeting which was scheduled for Monday, March 23, 2015 has been cancelled. At this time, there are not enough agenda items for a meeting. Our next meeting is scheduled to be held on **April 27, 2015 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

[Return to page 5](#)



**Police and Fire Commission
Meeting CANCELLATION Notice
Monday, March 23, 2015 - 5:00 p.m.
City Hall Forum
Beloit WI 53511**

The Police and Fire Commission meeting scheduled **Monday, March 23, 2015** has been **cancelled**. The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, April 27, 2015.

Martin Densch, President
Beloit Police and Fire Commission
Dated: March 20, 2015
www.beloitwi.gov

[Return to page 5](#)



CITY HALL • 100 STATE STREET • BELOIT, WI 53511
Office: 608/364-6700 • Fax: 608/364-6609
www.ci.beloit.wi.us
Equal Opportunity Employer

MEMORANDUM

TO: Community Development Authority Members

FROM: Julie Christensen

DATE: March 19, 2015

SUBJECT: Cancellation of CDA Meeting

The regularly scheduled **March 25, 2015** meeting of the Community Development Authority has been cancelled. The next regularly scheduled meeting is **April 22, 2015**.

Please call me at 364-6703 or e-mail at christensenj@beloitwi.gov with any questions or comments.

[Return to page 5](#)

Kerry Ingredients presents the:

4th Annual Beloit Meals On Wheels

Mushing for Meals

10k/5k Run, 1 Mile Walk
Mini-Mush Kids Fun Run

March 28th, 2015



Mushing for Meals is a 10k/5k Run or 1 Mile Walk to benefit Beloit Meals On Wheels. The race starts at Horace White park in Beloit, across from the Beloit Meals On Wheels office. Whether you choose to run, be connected to two of your favorite mushers or walk, *you're sure to have fun!*

Mini-Mush Kids 10 & Under



Advanced Entry Fee:

- Adults \$15.00
- 17 and Under \$5.00

Same Day Entry Fee:

- Adults \$25.00
- 17 and Under \$5.00

This is a 2015 Rockford Road Runner Circuit Race.
Courses are USATF Certified and Chip Timed.

Start Times:

Registration:	7:30-8:30 am
Mini-Mush Start:	8:30 am
Announcements:	8:45 am
10k Race Start:	9:00 am
5k / 1 Mile Start:	9:05 am

Register on-line at Active.com:

Enter the following link into your browser:
<http://www.active.com/beloit-wi/running/races/mushing-for-meals-2015>

Questions?? Contact Information:

Jeff Johnson
Race Director
phone: 608-362-9384
email: jeff@beloitmealsonwheels.org

Ellen Wiegand
Executive Director BMOW
phone: 608-362-3683
email: ellen@beloitmealsonwheels.org

[Return to page 5](#)

100% of all proceeds benefit Beloit Meals On Wheels "March For Meals" campaign.

march!
FOR meals!
Meals on Wheels

Downtown Beloit
Saturday, April 4, 2015
1:00 - 3:00 pm

Find a **ruby red** ticket in
an egg and win a prize!
The first 400 children will
get a goodie bag!



EASTER EGGSTRAVAGANZA

Children ages 2 - 10 are welcome to
join the Downtown Beloit Association on
Saturday, April 4, 2015 from 1pm - 3pm
for a free Easter egg hunt at Horace
White Park!

Mascots, Fun Zone, Photos with the Easter
Bunny, Face Painting, Balloon Animals, & More!

Thank You to Our Sponsors



Beloit Daily News

The Stateline's Choice

Participating Sponsors:

Patch Products, Visit Beloit, and Woodman's

[Return to page 5](#)

Brought to you by



608.365.0150
www.downtownbeloit.com

