

CITY OF БЕЛОIT



THE БЕЛОIT REPORT

CONTINUING ITS RESURGENCE AS THE GEM OF THE ROCK RIVER VALLEY

CURRENT EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES

APRIL 2, 2015

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

Larry N. Arft
City Manager
City of Beloit
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Special points of interest:

- **City Council Meeting
Agenda (page 2)**
- **Community Events
(page 4)**

CITY SCHEDULE FOR "SPRING HOLIDAY" APRIL 3, 2015

Friday, April 3 has been designated as "Spring Holiday" and City offices, as well as the Beloit Public Library, will be closed. The Library's outside bookdrop is open 24 hours a day and to renew items you may call Telerenew at 758-6614 or visit the Library's website and click on My Account/Renewals. The Library will reopen on Saturday, April 4 at 9:30 a.m.

Late registration and absentee voting in person *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.

Garbage, recycling and yard waste collection will be collected as usual on Friday, April 3rd.

CITY MANAGER SEARCH

The City Council met this past week on Monday, March 30 and Tuesday, March 31 and interviewed candidates for the City Manager's position. Following those interviews, Council selected three finalists who will be returning to the City next week for a series of interviews and meetings, including a public presentation and question/answer period, which will be held on Thursday, April 9.

Council will utilize all of these activities to better assess the capacity of candidates to fulfill the many different responsibilities of Beloit's City Manager. Of particular interest to residents is a presentation to the Beloit City Council that will be open to the public. **That presentation is scheduled for next Thursday, April 9, 2015 in the Community Room at the Beloit Public Library beginning at 7:00 p.m.** Each of the finalist candidates will make a separate presentation to the City Council on the same, pre-selected topic. At the conclusion of the presentation, the City Council will ask follow-up questions and there will be an opportunity for some audience participation. The candidates will be available at the end of the presentations for a brief period to interact with citizens.

Please note that this session will be open and the public is invited to attend.

SPRING YARD WASTE COLLECTION—BEGINS NEXT MONDAY, APRIL 6

Residents are reminded that the 2015 spring yard waste collection will begin on Monday, April 6 and conclude on Friday, April 17, 2015. During this period of time, the City will be collecting yard waste all five days of the week on your regular collection day. Yard waste must still be containerized and the City's yard waste sticker must be attached to each container or bundle. Please see [attached](#) press release for more information, including locations where stickers may be purchased.

BELOIT PARKS AND LEISURE SERVICES DIVISION SCHEDULES ANNUAL PRESCRIBED BURNS

The Beloit Parks and Leisure Services Division has scheduled a number of burns in City parks where natural wildfires are needed to preserve prairie grasslands. The [attached](#) press release has more information and a list of locations scheduled for prescribed burns this year.

CITY COUNCIL MEETING - MONDAY, APRIL 6, 2015

The City Council will hold a **Workshop** in the City Manager's Conference Room at 6:30 p.m. to review the agenda of the regular 7:00 p.m. City Council meeting.

The attached **agenda** is for the **Monday, April 6, 2015** regular City Council meeting beginning at 7:00 p.m. in the Forum.

3. SPECIAL ORDERS OF THE DAY/ANNOUNCEMENTS

- a. Proclamation recognizing **National Library Week** April 12-18, 2015. The City wishes to recognize the Beloit Public Library and continue to make the public aware of the wonderful asset and tremendous resources available at the Beloit Public Library.
- b. Proclamation recognizing **April as Fair Housing Month**. The City has traditionally participated in Fair Housing Month and representatives from the Community Development staff and the Equal Opportunities Commission will be in attendance to accept the proclamation.

4. PUBLIC HEARINGS

- a. Ordinance amending the City's **Comprehensive Plan** to change the use designation of a property located at 1715 Elmwood Ave. from Planned Neighborhood to Mixed Residential. This property is located immediately contiguous to Elmwood Avenue and has been slated for residential development for the past several years. The great recession, followed by continued softening in the real estate market, has minimized opportunities to construct on this site. The owner recently made application to the City, petitioning that the Comprehensive Plan Land Use designation be changed to provide more opportunities to develop a viable use for the property. This will be the third public hearing before Council related to this application. Council will recall that the project was heard in 2014 and then sent back to Plan Commission for further consideration. The project came back at the last Council meeting with a different recommendation from Plan Commission and a second public hearing was held. Councilors inquired about public notification and it was determined that there had not been additional notification to the neighbors subsequent to the change in Plan Commission recommendation for this request. Subsequently, additional notifications were sent out and the project scheduled for yet a third public hearing. The item did receive a first reading at the last meeting, so it is on this agenda for second reading and consideration for approval.
- b. This is a companion ordinance amending the City of Beloit **Zoning District Map** to change the zoning district classification for the same property located at 1715 Elmwood Avenue from R-2, Two-family Residential District, to R-3, Low Density Multi-family Residential. Councilors already heard staff reports and received the Plan Commission recommendation suggesting approval for this zoning amendment. Once again, this will be the third public hearing on this particular matter before the City Council. As with the preceding item, additional notices were sent to neighbors following the last Council meeting. This item also received the first reading at the last meeting and is on this agenda for second reading and Council consideration for approval.

6. CONSENT AGENDA

- a. Approval of the **Minutes** of the regular meeting of March 16, 2015, and the special meetings of March 19, March 23, March 30 and March 31, 2015.
- b. Application for **Class "B" Beer and "Class C" Wine License** for Little Mexico of Beloit, 2787 Milwaukee Road. This application is being referred to the Alcohol Beverage License and Control Committee for their review and recommendation.
- c. Resolution awarding **Public Works Contract** for Fourth Street Island Repairs. This is a relatively small project that will be funded from TID #14 to make a number of island repairs on the various intersections along 4th Street.
- d. Resolution awarding **Public Works Contract** amending the 2013 Capital Improvements Budget, and appropriating additional funds for the gateway Boulevard Street Lighting Project. This is one of a number of major infrastructure improvements that must be completed prior to 2018 when the TIF District #10 expenditure period closes. The project came in somewhat over the Engineers estimate, in part because additional fixtures were added along Cranston Road, west of Gateway, to make sure that street lighting was installed before the expenditure period closed. The entire cost

for this project will come from funds in the TID #10 fund balance, which are available and can only be used for improvements or other related expenses within the TIF District.

- e. Resolution awarding **Public Works Contract** for Bayliss Avenue Rehabilitation, from Nelson to the railroad. This is the 2015 phase of the Bayliss Avenue rehabilitation/repaving contract. Once again, this is a joint project between the City and the Town of Beloit. The Town will reimburse the City for approximately 25% of the cost for these improvements based upon a portion of the roadway which lies in the unincorporated Town.
- f. Request for a release of Platted Utility **Easements** for 1405 Gateway Blvd. This request supports the plat redevelopment project located in the Gateway Business Park. This area of the park was subdivided well over a decade ago and included a number of smaller lots that had the normal utility easements around interior and rear lot lines. Pratt Industries will be utilizing the entire 40-acre parcel and all of the easements within the original subdivision plat must be released. The City has already contacted the private utility companies and received a clarification and clearance from them, authorizing the release of these easements. Since no construction had ever occurred, none of the private utilities has installed any utilities in this area, and all have released their rights to retain easements on the impacted properties. This request is being forwarded to the Plan Commission for their review and recommendation.
- g. Application for an AT&T Utility **Easement** at 540 Colby Street. This is a request for an easement by AT&T to construct a manhole and underground lines along Prospect Street, south of Colby. The easement would be along the prairie preservation area and does not impact the Prospect right-of-way where the new connecting bike path is scheduled for installation, hopefully later this year. This item is being referred to the Plan Commission for their review and recommendation.

7. ORDINANCES—None

8. APPOINTMENTS—None

10. CITY MANAGER'S PRESENTATION

- a. **Community Orientated Policing** Presentation. Police Chief Jacobs and Captain Molland will have a presentation for Council and the community on Community Orientated Policing and how it is implemented and used by the Beloit Police Department.
- b. The Public Works Department will give a **Spring Yard Waste** Program Presentation. Yard waste pick-up begins this Monday, April 6, so the presentation will be timely to again remind Councilors and residents of the various aspects of our yard waste collection service.

11. REPORTS FROM BOARDS AND CITY OFFICERS

- a. Resolution amending the **2015 Capital Improvements Budget** to include a project for intersection improvements at Cranston Road and Gateway Boulevard. This budget amendment is also related to the Pratt Industries project. The main driveway into the complex will be lined up with the current Cranston Road/Gateway Blvd. intersection. Certain intersection improvements, along with adding the 4th leg to the signal, are required to facilitate access at this point. The funding for this improvement will come from TIF District #10, which has adequate fund balance to pay for the needed improvement. Work will progress on this project immediately, since Pratt will need access at this location sometime this fall.
- b. Resolution approving a second amendment to the **Land Contract Purchase Agreement** between the City of Beloit and the Ho-Chunk Nation. Councilors recall the contract to sell land, which ended up getting delayed for a number of reasons, probably most significantly, the existing billboard lease that is located on the southeast corner of the site. The Nation was particularly upset with the presence of the billboard and concerned about how it might be used in the future by competitors or someone else posting a negative message about their business operations. Both the City and the Nation tried to negotiate with the billboard company to remove the billboard in exchange for a reasonable payment. All of those efforts were unsuccessful and the company has refused to remove the billboard. The solution was to remove one acre of the parcel which includes the billboard site, along with the necessary clear site area so that the billboard can be viewed from the highway. The City will be attaching that one acre to its Waste Water Treatment Plant property. The remaining 40-acres will then be sold to the Nation at the initial agreed upon price of \$45,000 per acre. The Nation also was insistent that there had been some reduction in value of the site due to the presence of the billboard and has requested a \$50,000 overall price reduction to compensate them for any potential loss of utility

related to the continued presence of the billboard adjacent to their property. While the City has not shared the Nation's concerns about the billboard, we certainly understand their perspective. Under the circumstances, the potential rewards, both of selling the real estate and ultimately having the casino related complex on this site certainly are far more significant than this relatively small sum paid to compensate them in case there is any operational problem later that arises as a result of the presence of the nearby billboard.

CITY MEETING CALENDAR— APRIL 6—10, 2015

Monday, April 6	6:30 p.m.	Agenda Review , City Manager's Conf. Room (All City Councilors)
Monday, April 6	7:00 p.m.	City Council Meeting , Forum (All City Councilors)
Wednesday, April 8	Cancelled	Park, Recreation & Conservation Advisory Comm. , 2351 Springbrook Ct. (S. De Forest)
Wednesday, April 8	7:00 p.m.	Plan Commission , Forum (C. Kincaid)
Thursday, April 9	7:00 p.m.	Public meeting at Beloit Public Library, 605 Eclipse (All Councilors invited)

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.

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.

April 16, 17 & 18 **FABL Annual Book Sale**, Beloit Public Library, 605 Eclipse Blvd.
 April 16—10:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m., all books 25 cents
 April 17—10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., all books 25 cents or \$3/bag
 April 18—10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., all books 25 cents or \$1/bag



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

For more information contact:

Jodine Saunders

Public Works Sustainability & Safety Coordinator

(608) 364-2929

Yard Waste Collection

March 23, 2015 – Curbside collection of yard waste will take place Monday, April 6, 2015 through Friday, April 17, 2015. Collection will take place on your trash day.

Yard waste must be properly contained in a clean container, paper, or Back to Nature bio-degradable yard waste bag. Containers can be no larger than 39 gallons and weigh no more than 60 pounds. Yard waste cannot be contained in plastic bags. A \$1.50 sticker must be affixed to each bag, container and or bundles.

Stickers may be purchased at any City of Beloit Treasury Department, City of Beloit Department of Public Works Operations Facility, Grinnell Hall, Leisure Services, ACE Hardware stores, all Walgreen's locations and Woodman's.

Composting Option

Leaflan Compost Center
6711 West St. Lawrence Rd.
(608) 364-1909

www.leaflan.com

Call Leaflan for more information on hours and fee's.

For more information, call the City of Beloit Public Works Operations at (608) 364-2929.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

For more information contact:

Brian Ramsey, Director of Parks & Leisure Services
(608) 364-2929.

Annual Prescribed Burns in Beloit Parks

March 30, 2015 – Beloit, WI: The City of Beloit Parks & Leisure Services Division will conduct their annual Prescribed Burn program in designated park sites during the two (2) weeks of April 1 - 15, 2015, depending upon weather conditions.

Historically, natural wildfires played a very important role in shaping the natural prairie grassland that once covered over two million acres of Wisconsin. Today, less than 12,000 scattered acres still exist, and the use of Prescribed Burning Programs helps protect and maintain these natural prairie grassland areas.

The purpose of prescribed burns is multi-faceted and provides the following benefits:

- Reduces the amount of dead and dying plant material that hinders new plant growth in the spring.
- Recycles nutrients from old plant growth for use by growing plants.
- Promotes germination, growth, and flowering of native plants.
- Increases the diversity of native plant life.
- Controls encroachment of woody brush and trees into grasslands, including invasive species such as garlic mustard.

Prescribed Burn areas are generally conducted in the spring after snow melt and/or in the fall after leaf fall has concluded. These designated sites are typically burned on a 2-5 year interval, and in some cases annually to prevent overgrowth of a defined area.

This year, the Parks Division will only conduct prescribed burns in the following designated locations:

- Harper's Prairie (aka West Side Detention Pond), located at 2201 Whipple Street.
- Stateline Restoration Prairie, located at 540 Colby Street.
- Big Hill Park, located at 1101 Big Hill Road.
- Various areas in Riverside Park, located at 1160 Riverside Drive
- Water Tower Park, located at 1002 White Avenue

Consistent with practices as developed and conducted by the Wisconsin DNR and the US Fish and Wildlife Service, each park site is appropriately supervised and monitored by trained staff or volunteers from the City's Parks Division. These prescribed burns will only be conducted under the appropriate weather conditions, as safety is the top concern in implementation of this practiced program. If weather conditions are not

appropriate for these prescribed burns, they will be postponed until a later date when the weather conditions are considered acceptable for this practice.

Additional information regarding these prescribed burns may be obtained by calling the Parks & Leisure Services Administrative Office at (608) 364-2929.

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PUBLIC NOTICE

The City of Beloit City Council will hold a **Workshop** on Monday, April 6, 2015, 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.

Larry N. Arft, City Manager

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Dated: April 1, 2015
Rebecca Houseman LeMire
City Clerk
www.beloitwi.gov

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** 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 Clerk's 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, April 6, 2015**

1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL
2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
3. SPECIAL ORDERS OF THE DAY/ANNOUNCEMENTS
 - a. Proclamation recognizing **National Library Week** April 12-18, 2015 (Dimassis)
 - b. Proclamation recognizing **April as Fair Housing Month** (Downing and Sloniker)
4. PUBLIC HEARINGS
 - a. Ordinance amending the Future Land Use Map of the City of Beloit **Comprehensive Plan** to change the future land use designation of the property located at 1715 Elmwood Avenue from Planned Neighborhood to Mixed Residential (Christensen)
Plan Commission recommendation for approval 5-0 Second reading
 - b. Ordinance amending the City of Beloit **Zoning District Map** to change the zoning district classification of the property located at 1715 Elmwood Avenue from R-2, Two-family Residential District, to R-3, Low Density Multi-family Residential (Christensen)
Plan Commission recommendation for approval 5-0 Second reading
5. CITIZEN 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 regular meeting of March 16, 2015, and the special meetings of March 19th, March 23rd March 30th, and March 31, 2015 (LeMire)
- b. Application for **Class “B” Beer and “Class C” Wine License** for Little Mexico of Beloit LLC, 2787 Milwaukee Road, Adrian Cortes Pichardo, Owner/Agent (LeMire) Refer to ABLCC
- c. Resolution awarding **Public Works Contract C15-12**, Fourth Street Island Repairs (Boysen)
- d. Resolution awarding **Public Works Contract C15-16**, Amending the 2013 Capital Improvements Budget, and Appropriating additional funds for the Gateway Boulevard Street Lighting Project (Boysen)

- e. Resolution awarding **Public Works Contract C15-02**, Bayliss Avenue Rehabilitation, Nelson to Railroad (Boysen)
- f. Request for a release of Platted Utility **Easements** relating to the property 1405 Gateway Boulevard (Christensen) Refer to Plan Commission
- g. Application for an AT&T Utility **Easement** 540 Colby Street (Boysen)
Refer to Plan Commission

7. ORDINANCES – none

8. APPOINTMENTS – none

9. COUNCILOR ACTIVITIES AND UPCOMING EVENTS

10. CITY MANAGER'S PRESENTATION

- a. **Community Orientated Policing** Presentation (Jacobs/Molland)
- b. **Spring Yard Waste** Presentation (Boysen)

11. REPORTS FROM BOARDS AND CITY OFFICERS

- a. Resolution amending the **2015 Capital Improvements Budget** to include a project for intersection improvements at Cranston Road and Gateway Boulevard (Boysen)
- b. Resolution approving a Second Amendment to the **Land Contract Purchase Agreement** between the City of Beloit and the Ho-Chunk Nation (Arft/Krueger)

12. ADJOURNMENT

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Dated: April 1, 2015
Rebecca Houseman LeMire
City of Beloit City Clerk
www.beloitwi.gov

You can watch this meeting live on Charter PEG 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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Department of Public Works
Parks & Leisure Services Division
2351 Springbrook Court
Beloit, WI 53511

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Parks & Recreation Commission Meeting scheduled for Wednesday, April 8, 2015 has been cancelled. Therefore, the next scheduled meeting of the Parks & Recreation Commission will be held at 6:30pm on Wednesday, May 13, 2015 at the Operations Building located at 2351 Springbrook Court in the City of Beloit, Wisconsin.

Dated: April 1, 2015
Brian Ramsey, CPRP
Director of Parks & Leisure Services
www.beloitwi.gov

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CITY HALL • 100 STATE STREET • BELOIT, WI 53511

**MEETING NOTICE AND AGENDA
Beloit City Plan Commission
Wednesday, April 8, 2015 at 7:00 PM
The Forum
Beloit City Hall, First Floor
100 State Street, Beloit**

1. **Call to Order and Roll Call**
2. **Approval of the Minutes of the March 18, 2015 Meeting**
3. **Release of Utility Easements – Gateway Business Park**
Review and consideration of a request to release utility easements in the Gateway Business Park located east of Gateway Boulevard, south of Apex Drive, and north of Colley Road
4. **AT&T Easement – Stateline Restoration Prairie Park - 540 Colby Street**
Review and consideration of a 20-foot easement to AT & T along Prospect Street in the Stateline Restoration Prairie Park located at 540 Colby Street
5. **Installation of a Bike Path in Big Hill Park – 1101 Big Hill Road**
Review and consideration of a bike path proposed to be constructed in Big Hill Park located at 1101 Big Hill Road
6. **Status Report on Prior Plan Commission Items**
7. **Adjournment**

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

Notice Mailed: April 1, 2015

Approved: Julie Christensen, Community
Development Director

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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!

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