



THE БЕЛОIT REPORT

CONTINUING ITS RESURGENCE AS THE GEM OF THE ROCK RIVER VALLEY

CURRENT EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES

**APRIL 24,
2015**

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

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Special points of interest:

- **Community Events**
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CITY COUNCIL REORGANIZATION MEETING—NEW COUNCIL OFFICERS

The City Council met this past Tuesday, April 21, 2015 for the purpose of concluding business of the prior City Council and reconstituting as the new City Council for 2015. Adjournment of the original meeting was Councilor Spreitzer's last act as City Council President. Councilor Spreitzer, of course, left the Council, having been elected as State Assemblyman for the 45th District and is now representing Beloit in the State Capitol.

The meeting of the new Council began with the formal swearing-in ceremony for newly elected Councilor Marilyn Sloniker and re-elected Councilors David Luebke and Regina Hendrix. Again, congratulations to all three and best regards for your upcoming service to the City. Council then selected its presiding officers for the coming year. Charles Haynes was elected Council President and will serve as presiding officer; Sheila De Forest was selected as Vice-President and will support the President as needed. Again, congratulations to the new Council officers. The first business meeting of the new year will be a week from Monday, May 4, 2015 with a large agenda of items for Council consideration.

ARBOR DAY CELEBRATION WAS WELL ATTENDED

Once again, we were pleased to have such a large turnout at the City's annual Arbor Day celebration. As we do traditionally, school students and staff join City officials and community residents at the celebration. This year we were at Cunningham School on Townline Avenue. It was a pleasure to see so many in attendance as we celebrate the official Arbor Day. The City of Beloit, of course, has been a Tree City USA for many years and certainly exemplifies the very concept of using trees and other plantings to add a significant horticultural contribution to that goal of creating a high quality urban place.

STREET CLOSURE AT PARK AND WHITE

Park Avenue, between Woodward Avenue and White Avenue, will be closed to through traffic on Monday, April 27. The anticipated duration of closure is two weeks. Watch for signs posted for lane shifts and use alternate routes when possible.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT UPDATE

Work continued throughout this week on both the **Pratt Industries** and **Chicago Fittings** projects in the Gateway Business Park. I also noted that the **CCI** building at the corner of Gateway and Townhall Road is nearing completion and will be occupied shortly. **NorthStar** also has their first building near completion and will be occupying that space shortly.

The **Cherry Tree Assisted Living Facility**, scheduled to be constructed on Cranston Road is back for one final plan review process. The Conditional Use Permit (CUP) for this project had expired. Plan Commission met this week and is recommending approval of a new CUP; Council will consider final approval at its May 4th meeting. We have been assured by the owners that financing is now in place; they have actually acquired the site, and construction is conditionally required to begin four months after the CUP is approved.

The building on Milwaukee Road to be occupied by **Buffalo Wild Wings** is now actively under construction and Buffalo Wild Wings will be occupying that structure as soon as the remodeling is complete.

We learned that the **Cub Foods** building has been sold. The new owner has been in to meet with City officials and is coming back next week for a more in-depth discussion. Current plans call for reusing the building for some type of light industrial or a warehousing distribution center style project. The owners plan to do a complete remodeling of the building both inside and out, plus redo the entire site to reduce the size and improve the quality of the existing parking lot. This is one of the few remaining big box structures in the City that was setting vacant and we are very excited to see this project move forward.

The work on the commercial space at the **Phoenix Building** is proceeding at a brisk pace. Lucy's #7 Burger Bar is expected to have a soft opening as early as next week. Zen Sushi and Grill is on track to open in July.

NEIGHBORHOOD REVITALIZATION

We met with Community Development staff again this past week to review a number of projects active in the City's residential neighborhood rehabilitation programs. The City is still acquiring and remodeling houses, particularly in the Neighborhood Stabilization Areas where grant funds are available. We sold another house this past week at 1310 West Grand Avenue for \$70,000. With the improved residential market, the City is now able to sell homes with relatively little time on the market. We also discussed the project at 422 Bluff Street, where bids came in substantially above expectation and the City is revisiting the feasibility of this project and looking at additional alternatives. The Landmarks Commission has been consulted regarding the project and provided some guidelines for how they would like to see the site preserved. Staff is trying to develop affordable alternatives within those guidelines and will likely have a report available for Council later in May.

CITY MANAGER'S TRANSITION ACTIVITIES

I will be reporting to the community periodically about transition activities related to the City Manager's pending retirement. Obviously everyone is aware that a new City Manager, Lori Curtis Luther, has been appointed by City Council and will assume the duties of the City Manager's position on Monday, June 1. The current Manager will be in place through that Wednesday and will be participating in the early phases of briefing and orientation to facilitate the transition.

CITY MEETING CALENDAR— APRIL 27—MAY 1, 2015

Monday, April 27	1:30 p.m.	Traffic Review Committee , City Manager's Conf. Room (D. Luebke)
Monday, April 27	5:00 p.m.	Police and Fire Commission , Forum

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 25 11:00 - 2:00 p.m. **Earth Day Celebration**, Riverside Park, Beloit. Booths, displays, free kid's activities. Please see [attached](#).
- May 2 7:00-9:00 p.m. **Beloit Library 2nd Annual Bash** "The Wizard of Oz" For more information: <http://beloitlibrarybash.com>
- May 2 8:00—1:00 p.m. **Downtown Beloit Farmers' Market**. Over 85 vendors every week and live music at Gantry Park in downtown Beloit. Every Saturday until the end of October. For more information, please contact the Downtown Beloit Association at 365-0150.
- May 15 5:00—9:00 p.m. **13th Annual Artwalk**, Downtown Beloit. Enjoy a weekend of art and entertainment as Downtown businesses transform into fine-art galleries. Free trolley rides!
- May 16 10—2:00 p.m. **13th Annual Artwalk** continues in Downtown Beloit.



MEETING NOTICE AND AGENDA
Traffic Review Committee
Monday, April 27, 2015 1:30 P.M.
City Manager's Conference Room (4th Floor)
Beloit, WI 53511

1. Roll Call.
2. Approval of the minutes from the October 27, 2014 Traffic Review Committee meeting.
3. Public Participation.
4. Review of the 2015 TRC Calendar.
5. Ordinance to change parking time limits in the Heritage View parking lot.
6. Committee Member participation.
7. Next meeting –The next meeting is scheduled for **May 25, 2015**.
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 Notice and Agenda
Monday, April 27, 2015 @ 5:00 PM
City Hall / Public Forum
100 State St, Beloit, Wisconsin**

A meeting of the Police and Fire Commission is scheduled. **If you are unable to attend, please notify Marianne Marshall, HR Director at 364-6612.**

AGENDA

1. Call to Order and Roll Call
2. Approval of the February 28, 2015 meeting minutes
3. Approval of the March 13, 2015 special meeting minutes
4. Reports
 - A. Police Department
 - B. Fire Department
5. Citizen Participation
6. Commissioner Comments
7. Action/Discussion Items
8. The Commission may adjourn into Closed Session pursuant to §19.85(1)(c), Wis. Stats. for the purpose of considering employment, promotion, compensation, or performance evaluation of any public employee over which the governmental body has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility, more specifically, to discuss the potential employment of a patrol officer.
9. Reconvene into Open Session for possible action regarding the matter discussed in closed session.
10. Adjourn

Martin Densch, President
Police and Fire Commission

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**A Community
Earth Day Celebration
Saturday, April 25, 2015**

**Riverside Park
Beloit, Wisconsin
11 a.m. — 2 p.m.**

**Many
Booths &
Displays**

**Free
Kid's
Activities**

**One Earth
One
Community**

**A Knight of Welty On the Wild Side
Hoo Haven Live Animal Show**

**Friday, April 24, 2015
5:30 p.m.**

Beloit Memorial High School Auditorium

Tickets: \$5.00

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