

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

For additional information, contact:

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**City of Beloit to Pilot Electronic Poll Books at Spring Election**

March 20, 2018 - The City of Beloit was chosen as one of five test sites for the State of Wisconsin's new electronic poll book "Badger Book" during the April 3 elections.

The City of Beloit participation in this pilot program helps test the feasibility of using electronic poll books in future elections. This pilot program gives us the opportunity to provide feedback and any concerns prior to the Wisconsin gubernatorial election.

The Badger Book will be tested at Ward 16 at the First Congressional Church (801 Bushnell St.) polling location. The e-poll book will be tested on its ability to check in voters quickly and accurately, process absentee envelopes, and register voters on Election Day. A paper copy will be available as a backup during the April 3 election.

Additionally, the e-poll book has the ability for workers to redirect voters who arrive at the wrong polling location to the correct site. This pilot run will be used to assess the e-poll book compared to the traditional paper method before it will be widely available for the fall 2018 elections. Municipalities in other states that have already integrated the e-poll book to their own elections have seen a number of advantages including a reduction of check in time for voters and the ability to avoid data entry errors.

**The public is welcome to see the Badger Book in a demonstration on Wednesday, March 28, 2018, at 11:15 a.m. in the City Hall Forum at 100 State St. State officials from the Wisconsin Election Commission will demo the equipment and answer questions about the use of electronic poll books.**

Interested individuals and residents with any questions are encouraged to attend the demonstration. Otherwise, questions should be directed to City Clerk-Treasurer Lorena Stottler at (608) 364-6684 or [stottlerl@beloitwi.gov](mailto:stottlerl@beloitwi.gov).

Polls will be open on April 3, 2018, from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. Absentee ballots are available in the Beloit City Clerk's office, 100 State Street, 2nd Floor between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. through Thursday, March 29, 2018 (City Hall is closed on Friday, March 30, 2018). Photo ID is required or you may request by mail/email/fax.

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