



**August 26,
2011**

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

Beloit

2011

All-America City Finalist

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**Special points of
interest:**

- **City Meetings and
Community Events
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THE БЕЛОIT REPORT

CONTINUING ITS RESURGENCE AS A GEM OF THE ROCK RIVER VALLEY

CURRENT EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES

FRIENDS OF THE RIVERFRONT MOVIE ON THE BIG LAWN/YOUTH 2 YOUTH 20TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

Just a reminder that this evening, Friday, August 26, 2011, is the next major Friends of the RiverFront event with the Movie on The Big Lawn. Rock County's Youth 2 Youth will also be in attendance this evening and will be celebrating their 20th anniversary. Events will begin on the Big Lawn (Riverside Park) at 6:00 p.m. with the movie, "How to Train Your Dragon," scheduled to begin about 8:30 p.m.

HENRY AVENUE BRIDGE

This week, we received a further update from the contractor, and current plans call for closing the Henry Avenue Bridge on **Tuesday, September 6, 2011**, which will be the day after the Labor Day weekend. This is an update from last week's Beloit Report. Media notifications will go out shortly, since this closure date is only slightly over a week away. The Beloit School District has been advised of the new date for their planning purposes.

CONSTRUCTION UPDATES

Cranston Road

Most of the old pavement on Cranston Road has been removed. The contractor ran into some shallow utilities in a few locations, which has slowed the pace of work slightly; however, the interruptions were not serious and the project should still be completed by mid-November. The road between the frontage roads near Milwaukee and the railroad tracks will remain closed for the duration of construction.

Downtown Streets

With the pavement of Bushnell, College and Prospect, circulation has improved around the College area and that portion of downtown. The contractor should be finishing corner treatments and final restoration work by the end of this week.

Despite the moderate weather and periods of rain over the last few weeks, some of the sod placed by the contractor does not appear to be taking hold. We anticipate some replacements will be required this fall. The contractor began work on the two blocks of Short Street this week. That should be a relatively short duration project. Finally, if the rains can hold off for a few days, the contractor should begin replacing the concrete portions of Shirland and Park, which are currently under construction. All of the work planned for the downtown area for this construction season is now either complete or underway.

Downtown Streets—Continued

The contractor who will be installing the gantry treatment at the intersection of State and Grand has not yet begun work on site. We understand steel is being fabricated for the project and that installation will be scheduled for later this fall. This project, along with all of the street improvements in the downtown area, is being funded through TIF #5, the downtown Tax Improvement District.

Intermittent Resurfacing

A number of the streets included in the City's intermittent resurfacing program have also been completed and work is continuing on others at various locations around the City.

BUDGET PREPARATION

Again this week and continuing through most of next week, the City's internal budget preparation committee is revisiting all of the General Fund budgets in order to make the appropriation reductions necessary to achieve a balanced proposed budget. So far, we have made a number of cuts in several of the administrative and public works department budgets, and meetings with the other departments are scheduled for next week. Because of the reduction in the City's assessed value for 2011, we will also have to further reduce the City's Capital Spending Plan for 2012. A meeting to evaluate those necessary changes is also scheduled for next week.

NEIGHBORHOOD REVITALIZATION

The City's Neighborhood Revitalization Committee met this past Tuesday and discussed a number of issues related to neighborhood redevelopment efforts. Staff updated the Manager on the Neighborhood Stabilization Program and plans underway to purchase several properties that will either be remodeled or demolished under that program. We also spent a good deal of time going through the list of tax foreclosures for 2011. Unfortunately, the foreclosure list is larger than usual for this year and the City has less funds available so staff has been putting together a "priority" list of recommended acquisitions that can be done within the City's budget capacity. Also, several of the foreclosed properties are in the Neighborhood Stabilization area and have been included on the list for acquisition under that program. As we do each year, the tax foreclosures will be finalized and a resolution will be included on the Council's second September meeting (September 19) for consideration. This year, because there are a larger number of tax foreclosures in the City, we anticipate having a brief closed session discussion with Councilors that same evening beginning at 5:30 so that Councilors will have an opportunity to review the entire available list of properties prior to the regular City Council meeting.

LOCAL BUSINESS RECOGNIZED

FatWallet, located at 100 East Grand Avenue, received a significant award recently, being named one of the "50 Most Engaged Workplaces in 2011." The popular coupon site, FatWallet.com, was chosen for this award which recognizes exceptional work cultures and leadership in America. The 2010 list included many well known companies such as Zappos, American Express and SIRIUS. The City of Beloit congratulates FatWallet on this recognition.

CITY MEETING CALENDAR AUGUST 29—SEPTEMBER 2 , 2011

Tuesday, August 30 4:30 p.m. [Special Community Development Authority](#) Meeting, Forum (J. Van De Bogart and 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

- Throughout the summer Beloit Public Library offers many events throughout the summer for youth, teens and adults. Please click [\[here\]](#) for more information.
- All Summer **Beloit Snappers** Minor League Baseball, Pohlman Field, Telfer Park, 2301 Skyline Drive, Beloit. www.snappersbaseball.com for more information.
- Friday's throughout the summer **11:30-1:30 p.m. Fridays in the Park**, First National Bank Plaza, downtown Beloit. Join your friends, soak up some sun and enjoy music and picnic lunch prepared by one of our local eateries.
- Saturday's throughout the summer Downtown Beloit Farmer's Market, 8:00 a.m.—1:00 p.m. State and Grand. Over 100 vendors participating.
- Friday, August 26 **Movie on the Big Lawn**, Riverside Park, Beloit. "How to Train Your Dragon" will be shown on a giant outdoor screen. 6:00-8:00—boat rides, food, turtle races and more. 8:30—10:30 p.m.—Movie will be shown. Admission is free! Presented by *Friends of RiverFront*
- Sunday, August 28 9:00-1:00 p.m. **Hospice Breakfast** at Skip's Friendly Village, located directly between Beloit and Janesville on Afton Road, benefitting Beloit Regional Hospice.



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MEETING NOTICE AND AGENDA
Community Development Authority
August 30, 2011 at 4:30 p.m.
The Forum, Beloit City Hall
100 State Street

1. Call to Order and Roll Call
2. Presentation of 2012 CDBG applications
3. Adjournment

*If you are unable to attend this meeting, notify Julie Christensen at 364-6703 **no later than 4:00 PM the Friday before the meeting.***

Notice Mailed: August 22, 2011

Approved: Teri Downing
Grants Administrator

** 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.