

**January 26,
2018**

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

Lori S. Curtis Luther
City Manager
City of Beloit
100 State Street
Beloit, WI 53511

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

lutherl@beloitwi.gov
www.beloitwi.gov

[Follow us on Facebook](#)

Special points of interest:

- City Events (page 2)

CURRENT EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES

CITY MANAGER'S MEETINGS AND ACTIVITIES

- Participated in Ethics Training for the Leadership Team, including all Public Works Supervisors.
- Participated in the Visit Beloit Board meeting.
- Attended Rock County "County Board Staff Committee" meeting and also attended the County Board meeting with Council President Kevin Leavy to address the County Board about their resolution opposing the Town of Beloit's incorporation petition. The Rock County Board approved the resolution ([attached](#)) in a vote of 24-0.

HUMAN TRAFFICKING PANEL PRESENTATION

The Rock County Anti-Human Trafficking Task Force invites Beloit residents to a panel discussion on **January 31, 2018** from 6:00 - 7:30 p.m. at the Community Action Training Center, 27 Eclipse Center, Beloit. A team of non-profit, human services, medical, school and law enforcement professionals will show you how to spot human trafficking, how you can prevent it, and answer your questions. This discussion is open to all Beloit residents (more presentations will be scheduled covering other communities) but discretion is advised for those under the age of 12. Human trafficking has been reported in all 72 counties in Wisconsin. Please share the [attached](#) flyer but note this panel discussion will be focused for Beloit residents.

POLLING PLACES COMBINED FOR SPRING PRIMARY ELECTION

A Spring Primary Election will take place in the City of Beloit on **February 20, 2018**. The contests for the ballot include a primary for State Supreme Court and the School District of Beloit School Board. Because of low anticipated voter turnout, the regular nine polling places will be combined into two; one on the west side at the Beloit Historical Society, and one on the east side at Central Christian Church. Voters who typically vote in Wards 1-12 will vote at the Beloit Historical Society, and voters who typically vote in Wards 13-25 will vote at Central Christian Church. Please see the [attached](#) press release for more information.

VALENTINE'S DAY SKATE

Edwards Ice Arena, 2101 Cranston Road, Beloit, is open through March 9, 2018 to the public. **February 2nd is the Valentine's Day Skate**. Bring your Sweetheart and receive a free skate rental. Regular Admission Prices apply. DJ AI will be spinning the music and there will be games and candy, too. Hours are 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Public Skate Schedule:

Fridays: 7:00 - 9:00 p.m. (Through March 9th)

Saturdays: 2:00 - 4:00 p.m. (Through February 3rd)

Sundays: 2:00 - 4:00 p.m. (Through February 11th)

CITY MEETING CALENDAR—JANUARY 29 - FEBRUARY 2, 2018

There are no City meetings scheduled this week.

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

January 31	6:00 p.m.	Human Trafficking Panel Presentation , Community Action Training Center, 27 Eclipse Center. This panel discussion is for Beloit residents, and discretion is advised for those under the age of 12. Sponsored by the Rock County Anti-Human Trafficking Task Force.
February 2	7:00-9:00 p.m.	Valentine's Day Skate at Edwards Ice Arena, 2101 Cranston Rd. Bring your Sweetie and receive a free skate rental. Regular Admission Prices apply. Games, candy and music by DJ Al.
February 8	6:00 p.m.	Downtown Beloit Association Annual Awards Dinner . La Casa Grande Banquet Hall, 618 Fourth Street. \$25 admission includes hors d'oeuvres, drink ticket and a cash bar. RSVP by February 2nd to 608-365-0150 or crystal@downtownbeloit.com
February 10	10:00-2:00 p.m.	Friends at Beloit Library (FABL) Book Sale , featuring gently used books sold at bargain prices. Beloit Public Library, 605 Eclipse. (FABL is a 501(c)(3) organization. It accepts and resells donations of used books.)

**RESOLUTION
ROCK COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

County Board Staff Committee
INITIATED BY



Josh Smith
DRAFTED BY

County Board Staff Committee
SUBMITTED BY

January 17, 2018
DATE DRAFTED

Opposing Town of Beloit Incorporation

1 **WHEREAS**, Chapter 66, Wisconsin Statutes, prescribes the process towns must follow if they wish to
2 incorporate; and

3
4 **WHEREAS**, the Town of Beloit has circulated a petition among its residents to incorporate and has
5 filed this incorporation petition in Rock County Circuit Court; and

6
7 **WHEREAS**, Rock County currently receives public utility shared revenue from the State of
8 Wisconsin based largely on the generating capacity of the Alliant Energy Riverside Plant; and

9
10 **WHEREAS**, the statutory formula provides 2/3 of this funding to the County and 1/3 of this funding
11 to the Town of Beloit; and

12
13 **WHEREAS**, if the Town of Beloit were to incorporate into a village, the statutory formula would
14 provide 1/3 of this funding to the County and 2/3 of this funding to the new village, resulting in reduced
15 future funding for the County; and

16
17 **WHEREAS**, after the Riverside Plant completes its expansion, which is currently scheduled for 2021,
18 Rock County would receive approximately \$1.1 million less in public utility shared revenue if the Town
19 were incorporated than it would receive if the Town were not incorporated; and

20
21 **WHEREAS**, the metropolitan community and all the residents of Rock County would benefit by having
22 this additional amount of funding available for the many services it provides, including ensuring public
23 safety through the Sheriff's Office, 911 Communications Center, District Attorney's Office, and the
24 Court system; improving the health and well-being of residents through Public Health, Human Services,
25 and Veterans Services; and addressing critical issues such as the opioid epidemic, groundwater
26 contamination, transportation infrastructure, evidence-based criminal justice system initiatives, and
27 public health rankings; and

28
29 **WHEREAS**, the greater good is served if the County's 161,000 residents are able to share in these
30 resources and services rather than only the Town's 7,000 residents; and

31
32 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Rock County Board of Supervisors duly
33 assembled this _____ day of _____, 2018, does hereby oppose the Town of Beloit's
34 incorporation petition and directs that this resolution be shared with the state-appointed Incorporation
35 Review Board at the appropriate time.

18-1B-443

Opposing Town of Beloit Incorporation
Page 2

Respectfully submitted:

COUNTY BOARD STAFF COMMITTEE

J. Russell Podzilni, Chair

Mary Mawhinney

Sandra Kraft, Vice Chair

Louis Peer

Eva Arnold

Alan Sweeney

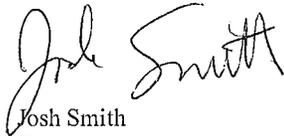
Henry Brill

Terry Thomas

Betty Jo Bussie

ADMINISTRATIVE NOTE:

The statutory process for the Town of Beloit to incorporate does not provide a formal role for Rock County. However, in the ongoing discussion in our community about this issue, I believe it is important that the County Board have the opportunity not only to take a position, but also to educate the public on the important work the County does and could continue to do with the funding that could be transferred to the Town of Beloit through incorporation.



Josh Smith
County Administrator

FISCAL NOTE:

If the Town of Beloit were to incorporate, Rock County's public utility shared payments would be reduced by approximately \$1.1 million. The decrease in revenue would have a significant impact on County services and initiatives addressing critical issues.



Sherry Oja
Finance Director

LEGAL NOTE:

The County Board is permitted to take a position on municipal incorporation within the County's geographic boundaries in accordance with Wis. Stats § 66.0203.



Richard Greenlee
Corporation Counsel

Executive Summary

Opposing Town of Beloit Incorporation

The Town of Beloit has circulated a petition among its residents to incorporate into a village and has submitted the petition to the Rock County Circuit Court. The Town of Beloit proposes to incorporate the area east of Afton Road (CTH D) and name itself the Village of Riverside.

Under Chapter 66, Wis. Stats., a town must complete several steps in order to incorporate into a village. Now that the petition is in front of the Circuit Court, the Circuit Court must determine whether certain minimal statutory criteria for incorporation are met. If it meets these criteria, the Circuit Court would refer the petition to the state-appointed Incorporation Review Board, which will determine whether additional statutory criteria are met, including:

- whether the proposed village is “reasonably homogenous and compact”;
- whether the proposed village meets housing density or assessed value requirements, including whether the proposed village has the potential for substantial development within 3 years; and
- whether incorporation is in the “public interest” as determined by:
 - sufficient tax revenue to defray the cost of services;
 - the level of services to be provided, including as compared to the City of Beloit;
 - the impact on the remainder of the Town of Beloit that will not be incorporated; and
 - the impact on the metropolitan community, including the effect on future government services in the village and surrounding areas. For this criteria to be met, there “shall be an express finding that the proposed incorporation will not substantially hinder the solution of government problems affecting the metropolitan community.”

If requested by a jurisdiction that has standing, as defined in statutes, a hearing will be held by the Incorporation Review Board, at which time the public may present testimony regarding the potential effects of incorporation. If approved by the Incorporation Review Board, a referendum for or against incorporation would be held in the area of the proposed new village.

One consequence of the Town of Beloit’s incorporation is that the percentages of Public Utility Shared Revenue provided to the County and the Town, based largely on the generating capacity of the Alliant Energy Riverside Plant, would be reversed. Currently, the County receives 2/3 of this funding, while the Town receives 1/3. Under State law, if the Town incorporates into a village it would receive 2/3 of this funding, while the County would receive 1/3. Rock County current receives \$1.74 million, while the Town of Beloit receives \$1.07 million. After expansion of the Alliant Energy Riverside Plant, scheduled for 2021, an incorporated Village of Riverside would receive \$2.95 million, while the County would receive \$1.87 million. This represents annual foregone revenue to Rock County of \$1.08 million due to the Town’s incorporation.

High-priority challenges currently facing Rock County include addressing the opioid epidemic, groundwater contamination, transportation infrastructure, evidence-based criminal justice system initiatives, public health rankings, and a variety of other public safety and human services issues. Given these issues, the metropolitan community and all Rock County residents would be better served if more of this funding was available for Rock County’s 161,000 residents and not only for the Town of Beloit’s 7,000 residents.

Human Trafficking is happening in your neighborhood!

Learn the signs.



Our Beloit team of dedicated non-profit, human services, medical, school and law enforcement professionals will show you how to spot human trafficking, how you can prevent it, and answer your questions.

January 31, 2018

Community Action Training Center, 27 Eclipse Center, Beloit

6:00—7:30PM

Light refreshments will be provided

Human trafficking has been reported in all 72 counties in Wisconsin.

Open to all Beloit residents, but discretion is advised for those under the age of 12.

Questions: email Sara at sschumacher@community-action.org



ROCK COUNTY ANTI-HUMAN TRAFFICKING TASK FORCE



City Clerk/Treasurer's Office
100 State Street Beloit, WI 53511
Main 608-364-6680 Fax 608-364-6642
www.beloitwi.gov
Equal Opportunity Employer

January 26, 2018

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

For more information, contact:
Lorena Rae Stottler, City Clerk-Treasurer
(608) 364-6680
StottlerL@beloitwi.gov

**City of Beloit to Combine Polling Places for the
February 20, 2018 Spring Primary Election Only**

February 9, 2018 – The City Council of the City of Beloit has combined polling places for the Spring Primary Election to be held on February 20, 2018, in the City of Beloit.

The following polling place locations will be used for the wards indicated.

City of Beloit Polling Places:

Wards 1 - 12	Beloit Historical Society	845 Hackett Street
Wards 13 - 25	Central Christian Church	2460 Milwaukee Road

Voters in wards 1-9, who usually vote at Converse, Gaston, and Hackett Schools, will join voters in wards 10-12 and vote at the **Beloit Historical Society, 845 Hackett Street, Beloit, WI 53511** for this election only.

Voters in wards 13-22, who usually vote at the Beloit Public Library, First Congregational Church, Todd School, and River of Life UMC, will join voters in wards 23-25 and vote at **Central Christian Church, 2460 Milwaukee Road, Beloit, WI 53511** for this election only.

The City Council combined polling places due to the low expected voter turn-out for this spring primary election, which only includes a primary for State Superintendent of Public Instruction.

If you are unsure of your polling place and/or your voter registration status, or if you have any questions or need additional information, please contact the City of Beloit City Clerk's office at (608) 364-6680 or by email at StottlerL@beloitwi.gov.

Finally, the Wisconsin Election Commission has a Voter Information Center webpage that you might find helpful: <https://myvote.wi.gov/en-us/> that includes information about voter registration, Voter ID implementation, finding your polling place and requesting an absentee

ballot. All Polling Places in City of Beloit are open from 7:00 A.M. to 8:00 P.M. All polling places are accessible to elderly and disabled voters.

###