

# The Bridge

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City of Belle Plaine

October • 2016

## Prepare Now for the Election on November 8th

October 18th is final day to register before the election, after that date you will have to wait in line on election day and register at the polls. Make sure you are registered to vote now. Please note we are expecting high voter turnout on election day so plan ahead, register now and save time!

How do you know if you are registered? If you have voted since 2013 and have no changes in your name or address, you should be registered, but you can verify on the MN Secretary of State website "Register To Vote" at <https://mnvotes.sos.state.mn.us/VoterStatus.aspx>

Enter your name, date of birth and address and it will let you know where and if you are registered to vote.

Just remember if you have changed apartments; changed names; changed addresses; haven't voted since 2013 or have turned 18 years old, you will be required to register or re-register to vote. Register now either online at [www.sos.state.mn.us/elections-voting/register-to-vote/](http://www.sos.state.mn.us/elections-voting/register-to-vote/) or by paper form, which you can print on-line or pick up at City Hall.



Absentee ballots are now available. You can apply for absentee ballot on-line, by mail or go to the Scott County Government Center and vote absentee now. If you vote absentee by mail or on-line, make sure you follow all instructions, those ballots go through the Absentee Board. If there is a problem it could affect how your ballot is counted, so make sure you follow all of the instructions.

**NEW** this year in addition to the absentee ballot process, you may now vote "in-person" seven days before the election at the Scott County Government Center, 200 4th Avenue. West, Shakopee. The voter can put their ballot through the ballot box knowing their ballot is accepted and the ballot doesn't go through the absentee board as in absentee ballot process. If you need to vote before election day and you go to Scott County seven days before the election, you can choose whether to vote absentee or put your ballot in the box during the last seven days before the election.

The MN Secretary of State website has all of the election information you will need, but you can also call City Hall at 952-873-5553 if you have questions.

## Fire Prevention Week

October is Fire Prevention Month and the week of October 9th through October 15th is set aside for Fire Prevention Week. Fire Fighters from the Belle Plaine Fire Department will be in our local schools that week teaching kids the dangers of fire and what to do in the event of a fire. With that being said, I am reminding residents of our community to be "fire smart" and be aware of the dangers of fires in their homes and businesses. It is important to have the proper detection equipment to alert you in the event of a fire. The Belle Plaine Fire Department has smoke detectors, fire extinguishers and carbon monoxide detectors available free of charge to residents of the Belle Plaine Fire District if they do not have one. Supplies are limited, so please, if you can afford to purchase our own, do so. If you are in need of any of these items, stop by the fire station at 700 East Main Street from 6:00 – 9:00 p.m. on Wednesday evenings and we will be more than happy to help you out. You may also call the main station at 952-873-6820 for more information.

*Matt Stier, Belle Plaine Fire Chief 1*

**Did you know** that during the 1970's folks had up to 17 minutes to escape a home fire before the home was not survivable? Today, because construction materials are more lightweight, and furnishings are more combustible, the average time to escape a fire is now only three to four minutes from when the fire started. **SMOKE DETECTORS SAVE LIVES.** Make sure you have at least one, if not multiple detectors in your home.



LEAGUE OF  
WOMEN VOTERS®  
EASTERN CARVER COUNTY

## MEET THE CANDIDATES FOR MAYOR AND COUNCIL SEATS

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 6<sup>TH</sup>

7:00 P.M.

CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS  
218 NORTH MERIDIAN STREET  
BELLE PLAINE, MN

The public is invited attend the candidate forum.

Doors open at 6:45 p.m. and forum will start promptly at 7:00 p.m.

Written questions from the audience will be presented.

For those unable to attend the forum, please call or email your questions by October 5<sup>th</sup> to Moderator Diana Kasper.

952-412-5654 or [lwvecc@lwvmn.org](mailto:lwvecc@lwvmn.org)

*Sponsored and Conducted by the Minnesota League of Women Voters*

**NOTICE: Watch the forum live or video recording at [www.belleplainemn.com](http://www.belleplainemn.com).**

## Council Highlights & City Notices

### September 6, 2016

- Appointed Michael Votca as City Administrator.
- Waived platting fees for Buesgens Commercial Center as authorized with grant application.
- Accepted cash donation from Belle Plaine Vets Club for expenses related to re-painting helicopter at Veterans Park.
- Adopted special assessment for delinquent fire bill.
- Adopted the 2017 preliminary budget and levy.

### September 19, 2016

- Adopted policy pertaining to financing of certain water and sewer connection fees.
- Adopted special assessment for delinquent fire bill.
- Approved preliminary plat for Buesgens Commercial Center.
- Approved liquor license for Ron Fry, HRF Management, LLC dba Borough Bowl, 235 South Ash Street.



On September 8, the Vietnam era helicopter at Veterans Park was removed from its pedestal by the Belle Plaine Public Works Department to be refurbished and spruced up. The helicopter was dismantled at the Public Works Facility and then transported to a facility in Cologne where it will be sand blasted and painted. When the work has been completed, the helicopter will be returned to the park where it will continue as a symbol of honor to all Veterans.

## City of Belle Plaine October Government Calendar

3	Design Committee .....	5:15 p.m.
	City Council.....	6:30 p.m.
4	Public Works .....	11:00 a.m.
	Public Safety .....	4:30 p.m.
6	Candidate Forum .....	7:00 p.m.
10	EDA.....	5:00 p.m.
	Planning Commission .....	6:30 p.m.
13	Coffee with the Mayor .....	7:00 a.m.
17	Park Board .....	5:00 p.m.
	City Council.....	6:30 p.m.

### OCTOBER • 2016

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### Coffee with the Mayor

**When:** Thursday, October 13, 2016  
**Where:** McDonald's Restaurant  
 1050 East Enterprise Drive  
**Time:** 7:00 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.

### City Council Contacts:

**Mayor, Mike Pingalore** 651-592-9264  
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**Henry Pressley Jr.** 952-873-6674  
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