

# The Bridge

Connecting with our residents

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City of Belle Plaine

August • 2020

## Message from the Mayor: Moving Quickly!

Christopher G. Meyer – Mayor

Summer is quickly moving past us so I thought it would be a good time to reflect on some of the projects underway in the City and those in the planning stages.

If you have traveled on the north side of the city limits heading towards the river in the past few weeks you will see the 2020 Street Project is well underway. Besides the street and utility improvements in this area there is also some major work on storm water management taking place. This will include some ravine and culvert work to control the water runoff. We would like to recognize Joe & Linda Fahey for working with the City and donating land that will become the Belle Plaine sledding hill. We look forward to completing this project in time for winter activities. Another completed project is at the intersection of East Main Street and Hickory Boulevard, which opens this area up to further commercial development. We regularly field questions about possible businesses that have shown interest in these parcels. At this time, we can report that the property owner continues to have ongoing conversations with several commercial businesses. As a City, we remain confident that this will result in some new projects coming online in the very near future.

The Belle Plaine Aquatic Center has opened and is being enjoyed by the residents. There is some on-going warranty work that is taking place, but the overall the facility is receiving rave reviews, even while dealing with the COVID – 19 regulations that the State has put in place.

As you may have read in the past few weeks, the City has been working with developers on a number of housing related projects. The largest on the table at this time is a 100 plus townhouse development that will be located off of Commerce

Drive near Oak Crest Elementary School. We are excited to see this type of housing as it will cover the great need of the entry-level units needed for many of our young families that want to stay or move into the community. We are confident that this will be well underway by next spring.

The initial plans for the 2021 street project are also underway which will include parts of Willow, Raven and Market Street near the High School. This will bring upgraded roads, utilities, and much safer pedestrian access. As a City, we remain very proactive in our planning and bidding processes ensuring that we obtain the most favorable construction bids.

We are also in the final process of hiring a new Chief of Police. As you can imagine, due to the favorable reputation of our City, the Police Department, and location of our fine town, we have had numerous applicants. City staff and the Public Safety Committee are now working through the applicants with the goal of having a new Police Chief in place by early fall.

Our parks and trails continue to be heavily used, which require a good deal of maintenance - it is great to see residents finding pleasure with and enjoying City amenities. If you have not used the trail system or parks, take the time and plan an outing - you will be happy that you did!

Housing is in full swing with many new homes under construction as well as several rental property projects that will assist with our large demand for units within the city. Community Development is working hard to bring additional buildable lots to the city as our inventory continues to get depleted. This is an area that we continue to see interest in and we remain hopeful that

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Enjoy the remaining weeks of summer!

## 2020 Annual Recycle & Clean-up Day

For residents of the City of Belle Plaine and Townships of Belle Plaine, Blakeley and St. Lawrence

Saturday, September 12

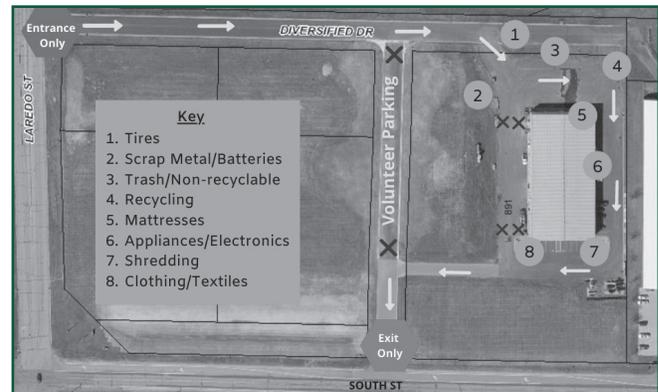
8:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Location:

**Belle Plaine Public Works Building  
891 Diversified Drive**

This program is made possible by grant funding from Scott County

Sponsored by The Belle Plaine Lions Club & City of Belle Plaine



Watch the City media outlets for details.

additional investments will happen.

As you can see, the City Council, Department Heads and staff continue to be very busy with the management of many projects going on within our "Favorite Hometown"! We continue to work very hard to move our City forward in the best possible, positive manner.

Enjoy the remaining weeks of summer!

## Yard Waste Disposal

One of the most frequently asked questions received at City Hall relates to the disposal of yard waste. Depending on the type of debris, there are several disposal options.

If you have a garden, leaves and grass clippings can be composted in your backyard. This is a great way to enrich the soil in your flower or vegetable garden. There are many articles on how to make different types of compost recipes for amending the soil.

If you have the means to your haul yard waste, the City of Belle Plaine operates a composting site at 22311 Union Trail. Hours of operation are from dawn to dusk, until the first snowfall. Leaves and grass clippings are accepted – no brush or tree branches and bags are not to be left on site. If you have soil or dirt to dispose of, call Public Works at 952-873-6742. The site is monitored with security cameras and violators may be prosecuted.

All household waste haulers are required to take yard waste. According to MN State Statute 115A.551 Recycling, yard waste is considered recycling. As part of the licensing requirements for refuse haulers to operate within Belle Plaine, City Code (313.03 COMPOST COLLECTION) requires waste haulers to provide the collection of compost items at a fair and reasonable price. Check with your refuse hauler for the specific requirements. Some haulers require a subscription for compost removal or utilize an on-call service.

### Local Yard Waste Disposal Sites

#### SMSC Organics Recycling Facility

1905 Mystic Lake Drive South | Shakopee, MN 55379  
952-233-9191 | [www.smscorf.com](http://www.smscorf.com)

#### The Mulch Store Shakopee (SET)

14800 Johnson Memorial Dr. (Hwy 169) | Shakopee, MN 55379  
(952) 445-2139 | [www.mulchstoremn.com/shakopee](http://www.mulchstoremn.com/shakopee)

### City Council Contacts:

<b>Mayor, Christopher G. Meyer</b> <i>cmeyer@ci.belleplaine.mn.us</i>	<b>612-756-0662</b>
<b>Paul Chard</b> <i>pchard@ci.belleplaine.mn.us</i>	<b>612-685-8873</b>
<b>Cary Coop</b> <i>ccoop@ci.belleplaine.mn.us</i>	<b>612-964-1008</b>
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<b>Patricia Krings</b> <i>pkrings@ci.belleplaine.mn.us</i>	<b>952-836-4302</b>
<b>Belle Plaine City Hall</b> <i>cityhall@ci.belleplaine.mn.us</i>	<b>952-873-5553</b>

## August 11<sup>th</sup> is the Primary Election

Here are a few items to note to help your voting experience at the polls since there are some changes due to COVID.

- Per State regulations, masks are required. If you are not able to wear a mask or have health concerns, we do offer curbside voting. Two election judges will come to your vehicle and you may vote from your vehicle. If you choose this option, please inform the Election Judge at the door. It does take time so please be patient.
- The Primary Election in Minnesota means you vote for only one party. Please see the sample ballot on the City's website or view on it the MN Secretary of State Website. [www.sos.state.mn.us/elections-voting/whats-on-my-ballot](http://www.sos.state.mn.us/elections-voting/whats-on-my-ballot)
- You will enter the polls at the City Council Chambers entrance at 218 North Meridian Street, but will not exit these doors. The number of voters in the building will be limited to allow for social distancing and to meet sanitization requirements. Plan to wait in line outside.
- If you are already registered to vote, you have the option to present your driver's license – it is your choice and it may speed up the process.
- If you need to register on Election Day, you will need to bring documentation of your residency. The list of acceptable documents is available at [www.sos.state.mn.us/elections-voting/register-to-vote/register-on-election-day](http://www.sos.state.mn.us/elections-voting/register-to-vote/register-on-election-day).
- When you are handed your ballot, you will also be handed a pen and privacy folder. Place the pen and folder in the labeled bin as you leave the building. Hand sanitizer will be provided as you leave the building.
- Voters will exit the polls into the alley at the rear of the building. The alley will not be accessible for vehicle traffic.
- If you have any symptoms of COVID, have been exposed to COVID, or have been directed to self-quarantine, please request an absentee ballot.



If you have any questions prior to Election Day, please contact City Hall at 952-873-5553.

## August 2020 Government Calendar

<b>3</b>	Design Committee .....	Canceled
	City Council .....	6:30 p.m.
<b>10</b>	EDA .....	5:00 p.m.
	Planning Commission .....	6:30 p.m.
<b>11</b>	Primary Election .....	7:00 a.m.
<b>13</b>	Public Works .....	9:00 a.m.
<b>18</b>	Public Safety .....	7:30 a.m.
<b>20</b>	Parks Commission .....	5:00 p.m.
	City Council .....	6:30 p.m.

218 N. Meridian St. • P. O. Box 129 • Belle Plaine, MN 56011  
Phone: 952-873-5553 • Fax: 952-873-5509

[www.belleplainemn.com](http://www.belleplainemn.com)

