

The Bridge

Connecting with our residents

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June • 2019

Message from the Mayor: A Belle Plaine Summer!

Christopher G. Meyer – Mayor

This is a great time of year to look at the coming season and remind everyone of what our great community has to offer in terms of recreation and entertainment. I am hopeful that the majority of you are waiting as anxiously as I am for the opening of the new state-of-the-art Belle Plaine Aquatic Center. This facility will be second-to-none and will serve our community for many years to come. As with any large capital investment, when planning this type of project, we as a City had to weigh all the merits both positive and negative. We knew that the former pool, which had served the community for over 50 years, needed replacement. The Aquatic Center construction remains on schedule and we should all be swimming and enjoying the facility in July.

A few other park related projects will be taking shape early summer that will benefit the community. The Public Works team will be converting some of the underutilized sand volleyball courts into pickleball courts, which is a sport that has gained traction in the past few years. Don't forget the other great recreational opportunities the City parks have to offer like disc golf, horseshoe pits, and the archery range. Last summer many of the trails were resurfaced, so you should find them in much better condition for all of your walking, running, biking and roller blading activities. Now let's turn our attention to the many baseball and softball fields that are offered and maintained by the City or by the Belle Plaine School District. If you are outside on a summer evening, it's great to hear the game being announced over the P/A system at Tiger Park. If you have not attended a town team game, this is definitely an experience you should take in! Belle Plaine is fortunate to have one of the most recognized ballparks in the State of

*enjoy our
favorite
hometown...*

Minnesota. We are also the home of a new cricket field on the west side of town.

Now we need to remember all of the festivals and celebrations that take place over the summer months. Bar-B-Q Days is a great three-day celebration and often serves as a hometown reunion. If you have not had the pleasure of experiencing Bar-B-Q Days, please put it on the calendar and make it happen. We would be amiss if I did not mention the Veterans Club Memorial Day celebration, German Days, the weekly Farmers Market, and Music on the Lawn at the Lutheran Home on Thursday evenings. You should also watch for Community Conversations and National Night Out. As you see there is so much to do and experience in our city. It just takes a little effort to get out and support these organizations.

Besides warmer weather, summer brings the necessary road construction season. The 2019 Street Project is underway on the west side of town near Sunset Drive and we ask the residents to bear with the project and look to the bright side of much better streets when completed. The Northern Sanitary Sewer Line project will be finishing up in the near future and will be a great asset for commercial development. You will also see one of the City's water towers being re-painted this summer, which is fun to watch. Several commercial, privately developed projects are slated to begin this summer including Casey's General Store and Dollar General. There will also be a number of housing projects - so much activity around town.

So, get out and enjoy our "favorite hometown", try a new activity, meet a neighbor and as always reinvest where you choose to call home!

Commercial Grant Available

Thinking of updating the look of your business? The EDA has grants available through the ROSE (Restoration, Opportunity, Sustainability, and Enterprise) Program. Property owners and business operators may receive forgivable loans provided the projects and activities meet certain criteria. Matching grants up to \$1,500 are available for façade projects.

Qualifying improvements include new windows, awnings, re-siding, entry redesign and similar items visible from public streets and sidewalks. The ROSE Program also supports retaining and restoring important features of historic structures through repointing and brick/mortar repair/replacement.

Grants are disbursed on a first-come, first-served basis for qualifying projects.

Call the Community Development Department for more information or download an application from the City website.

Stay updated on the
2019 Street Project and
local road closures by monitoring the
City Facebook page and City projects
page at belleplainemn.com.

Spotlight on - Planning and Zoning Commission

The Planning and Zoning Commission is comprised of five members, two alternates, and a Council Liaison serving staggered four-year terms. The Community Development Department provides staff services. The Planning Commission is the City's designated planning agency. The Commission is responsible for making recommendations to the City Council pertaining to land use planning and local controls including the zoning and subdivision codes. The Commission also makes recommendations on zoning and subdivision requests such as variances, use permits, and plats. Some of the recent projects were updating the City Code pertaining to off-street parking, nuisances, and outdoor storage. If you have questions about the Planning and Zoning Commission, please call the Community Development Department at 952-873-5553.



Pictured from left to right: Omni Kiecker, Ashton Pankonin, Ashley Cauley, Ryan Herrmann, and Lee Petersen

Resident Discount

Register for Resident Discount

Residents can now register on-line for the resident discounted rate at the Belle Plaine Aquatic Center. (One registration per household.) <https://belleplainemn.revtrak.net/rwresidentpooldiscount/>

The Belle Plaine Aquatic Center is owned, operated and fully funded by the City of Belle Plaine. The City of Belle Plaine has defined a resident as an individual who lives within the city limits. Since residents already pay City of Belle Plaine taxes to support the funding of the aquatic center, they are eligible for the discounted resident rate.

City utility account number will be needed to register.

To register resident's immediate family members consisting of up to 2 adults (parent/guardian) and their dependent children under the age of 23, all must live in the same household.

Pet Ordinance

Per City Code 800.09 Dogs must be licensed with the Belle Plaine Police Department. There is a limit of no more than two dogs or cats per household. For more information, contact the Police Department at 952-873-4307.



Water & Sprinkling Restrictions

NO WATERING OR SPRINKLING

Between 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

NO EXCEPTIONS for new sod or seed.

Visit belleplainemn.com/publicworks

City Council Contacts:

Mayor, Christopher G. Meyer	612-756-0662
<i>cmeyer@ci.belleplaine.mn.us</i>	
Paul Chard	612-685-8873
<i>pchard@ci.belleplaine.mn.us</i>	
Cary Coop	612-964-1008
<i>ccoop@ci.belleplaine.mn.us</i>	
Renee LeMieux	952-356-4126
<i>rlmieux@ci.belleplaine.mn.us</i>	
Ben Stier	952-292-4683
<i>bstier@ci.belleplaine.mn.us</i>	
Belle Plaine City Hall	952-873-5553
<i>cityhall@ci.belleplaine.mn.us</i>	

June 2019 Government Calendar

3	Design Committee	5:15 p.m.
	City Council	6:30 p.m.
5	Community Conversations	5:30 p.m.
10	EDA	5:00 p.m.
	Planning Commission	6:30 p.m.
11	Public Safety	4:30 p.m.
13	Public Works	9:00 a.m.
17	Park Board	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

