

The Bridge

Connecting with our residents

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City of Belle Plaine

March • 2022

Message from the Mayor: Local Support is Crucial

by Christopher G. Meyer – Mayor

On my frequent travels around our fine city, I have the opportunity to discuss current events and other topics with many residents, business owners, and operators. In this issue of The Bridge, I would like to focus on our business community. I am sure in some ways we have all been affected with the initial COVID blast and the lingering effects of this ongoing dilemma.

As we look at our local business community, it may take years for normal cash flow levels and other operations to return. It is heart-breaking to hear from business owners who have taken the risk and used lifetime savings only to find themselves in what is likely their biggest challenge since going into business. As a community, we have to continue going out of our way to support these local providers. It is so easy in today's world to jump online and place an order for something we need and have it delivered to our door - sometimes by the next day, which is very convenient in our busy lives. I would ask that you to take a step back and consider that online purchase. Is there is an opportunity to support a local business as opposed to clicking the order button on the computer? It is easy to forget that these businesses not only support our town by paying taxes and utilities, but are often the first stop for local charity and school organizations looking for prizes and cash donations. Many business owners and operators in the community continue putting on a "happy

face" and don't let us know how much they are suffering in terms of reduced cash flow, lack of labor, and now, huge supply chain issues. Several long-term business owners have confided in me that they really do not know how much longer they will survive.

The City's Economic Development Authority has several programs that local businesses may be able to utilize. Our very professional and knowledgeable staff in the Community Development Department at City Hall has access to many other State and Federal programs. So if you are a business owner, please reach out to us and see if we can partner with you in finding some assistance to help relieve some of the stress you are handling. As Belle Plaine residents, we can support our local business community by shopping and dining out locally.

We are looking forward to getting back to a more normal life-style as the COVID cases continue to fall. As the weather continues to move towards Spring, get out in our favorite hometown and enjoy our businesses. Stop in and try a new place to eat or shop at a local business that you haven't shopped at before. This will help ensure that we continue to build on our great businesses and add additional options as we move ahead. Our "favorite hometown" needs our support so please do your part!

Think Spring!!

Support our
local
businesses -

Hop Scott Program Seeking Volunteers

SmartLink of Scott County has rolled out a NEW service for the Belle Plaine area called Hop Scott.

This volunteer-based transportation service relies on volunteer drivers to help residents that can no longer drive or are without a vehicle. Accessing medical appointments, essential groceries/goods, social gatherings, and other appointments is a challenge for some and Hop Scott volunteer drivers are another resource to help people in Belle Plaine.

Hop Scott is seeking volunteer drivers who are willing donate their time by driving others. If you like driving, meeting new people, and helping others in your hometown community, then Hop Scott needs you!

Contact transit@co.scott.mn.us or call 952.496.8341 option 2 to volunteer.



Volunteer loading boxes of food into Hop Scott van.

City Council Highlights & City Notices

January 27, 2022

- No action taken Review Appeal of Tobacco Civil Penalty.
- Approved Resolution 22-014 Denying Body Art License Renewal.

February 7, 2022

- Approved Regular Session Minutes of January 18, 2022.
- Approved Special Session Minutes of January 27, 2022.
- Approved the Large Assembly Permit for St. Patrick's Day Saturday, March 12, 2022.
- Approved Resolution 22-015 Adopting a Resolution Supporting Scott County's Continuation of the Transportation Sales Tax.
- Accepted resignation of Brittany Wright Staff Accountant and Authorize Advertising to Seek Candidates to Fill the Staff Accountant Position.
- Approved Resolution 22-016 Terminating the Employment of Timothy Underwood from the City of Belle Plaine.
- Approved Temporary On-Sale Liquor License for an Annual Fundraising event for Our Lady of the Prairie Church on April 23, 2022.
- Accepted Annual Economic Development Report.

February 7, 2022

- Approved Regular Session Minutes of February 7, 2022.
- Approved Work Session Minutes of February 7, 2022.
- Approved Resolution 22-018 Appointing Suzanne Eidem and Cole Sinnamon as members of the Belle Plaine Fire Department.
- Approved Resolution 22-019 Reappointing Robert Stier and Roger Pivec as Public Works Seasonal Employees and Authorize Advertising for Four Additional Seasonal Employees.
- Approved Resolution 22-022 Cancellation of Liquor License for Jamesons Roadhouse and Bar effective February 17, 2022.
- Approved the Amended Minutes of January 27, 2022.
- Approved Presentation of Claims.
- Approved Resolution 22-020 Approving the combination of Lots 7,8, 9, Block 138, City of Belle Plaine, Scott County, Minnesota.
- Approved Resolution 22-021 Awarding Bid for Energy Drive, Chatfield Commercial Project as part of 2022 Improvement Project to BCM Construction, Inc. for \$574,865.00.
- Approved Authorize Purchase of a Replacement Public Works Truck and Purchase of a Used Public Works Truck.

PARKING REGULATIONS

Chapter 5 Section 501.09 Emergency Residential Winter Parking.

"During the period from November 1 to April 1 of each year, no motor vehicles or obstructions shall be allowed to remain on any City street until the street is cleared to its full width when

snow has accumulated to a depth of one-half inch on the roadway."

To review the full City Code regarding the Parking regulations including exceptions, visit the City website at: www.belleplainemn.com

Aquatics Facility

Opens June 5

OPEN HOUSE

Sat., April 16

9 - 11 a.m. | City Hall

- Purchase Aquatic Facility Passes
- Register for Swim Lessons

Kick-Off Party

Fri., June 3 | 5 - 7 p.m. | FREE

Swim Lessons

Register Early

Swim Lesson registration begins on April 1st for ONLINE registration ONLY. All other forms of registration begin on Saturday, April 16th from 9:00 - 11:00 a.m. at City Hall.

March 2022 Government Calendar

7	Design Committee.....	Canceled
	City Council.....	6:30 p.m.
	Work Session	6:45 p.m.
8	Public Safety	6:00 p.m.
14	Public Works	9:00 a.m.
	EDA.....	5:00 p.m.
	Planning Commission	6:30 p.m.
21	Parks Commission	Canceled
	City Council.....	6:30 p.m.
	Work Session	6:45 p.m.

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