



Thank You to Mayor and Council Members  
Water and Sewer Rates  
Council Meeting Highlights  
Who is Responsible for Water Service Lines

# The Bridge

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City of Belle Plaine

## Thank You for Your Commitment and Service to the City of Belle Plaine

### Mayor Meyer 2017 - 2022



Christopher G. Meyer took an oath of office to serve as Mayor of the City of Belle Plaine in 2017. Meyer served three consecutive mayoral terms. Meyer also served the community of Belle Plaine as a firefighter and Fire Chief for a combined 20 years and as an EDA Board Member from 1996 - 2001 before becoming Mayor of Belle Plaine. Mayor Meyer's vision for his "hometown" included engaged leadership, service, community places and events, and forward progress on multiple fronts. Meyer's service includes the development of the Aquatic Center, the Downtown Plaza, redevelopment of Fountain Park and upgrades to Tiger Park to name a few. Meyer along with his fellow Council Members spearheaded the Music and Food Trucks at the Downtown Plaza which is widely attended and a great place for fellowship with residents.

#### Committees Meyer has served on

- Economic Development Authority
- Belle Plaine Township Joint Planning
- Blakeley Township Joint Planning
- St. Lawrence Township Joint Planning
- Personnel & Finance Review Board
- Finance Ways and Means
- Recreation Facilities
- Taxation Board Review
- Episcopalian Church Restoration Committee
- Public Safety
- Public Works
- Fire Relief
- Ambulance
- Forestation
- Union Negotiations
- Hwy 169 Coalition
- Safety Committee
- Community Services

### Council Member Chard 2011 - 2022



Paul Chard served as a City of Belle Plaine Council Member from 1991-1994 and again from 2011-2022. Chard also served the community as a Planning and Zoning Commissioner from 1995 - 2007. Chard's service includes the development of the Aquatic Center, the Downtown Plaza, redevelopment of Fountain Park and upgrades to Tiger Park to name a few. Chard along with his fellow Council Members spearheaded Music and Food Trucks at the Downtown Plaza which is widely attended and a great place for fellowship with residents. Council Member Chard's vision for Belle Plaine included development ready land, fiscal integrity and a multi-skilled Public Works Department.

#### Committees Chard has served on

- Vice Mayor
- Planning and Zoning Liaison
- Belle Plaine Township Joint Planning
- Charitable Gambling Policy and Governance
- Blakeley Township Joint Planning
- Episcopalian Church Committee
- Public Works Committee
- Building Code Appeal
- Public Safety
- HRA Commission
- Design Committee Alternate
- Fire Relief Alternate
- Finance Ways and Means Alternate

### Council Member LeMieux 2019 - 2022



Renee LeMieux was elected to the City Council of the City of Belle Plaine in 2019. LeMieux ran for Council with a wide variety of experience volunteering countless hours for Belle Plaine organizations. LeMieux's service includes the development of the Aquatic Center, redevelopment of Fountain Park and upgrades to Tiger Park to name a few. Council Member LeMieux's vision included commonsense codes, flexible design, and community. LeMieux supported constituents of the City with advocating for the Keeping of Chickens Ordinance and community events. LeMieux along with her fellow Council Members spearheaded the Music and Food Trucks at the Downtown Plaza which is widely attended and a great place for fellowship with residents.

#### Committees LeMieux has served on

- Design Committee
- Cablevision Policy Board
- Planning and Zoning Alternate
- Finance Ways and Means
- Hwy 169 Coalition
- Ambulance Governing Board
- Cablevision Policy Board
- Recreational Facility
- Public Works Alternate

# Water and Sewer Rate Increase for 2023

New water and sewer rates go into effect January 2023 and will be reflected on the January utility bill, which is due on February 21st. The City continuously reviews the status of its Water and Sewer Funds and only makes rate adjustments as necessary. Monitoring the cash flow of these funds and implementing recommended rate increases allows the City to work towards positive revenue to cover current and future debt, operations, and re-build reserves for future expansion and maintenance of the City's sewer and water infrastructure. The new utility rates are based on the 2020 Sewer and Water Study completed by Abdo, an independent certified public accounting firm. The study took into consideration general operations, debt obligations, future expansion projects, cash flow and cash reserves. The study is available at [www.belleplainmn.gov](http://www.belleplainmn.gov).

There is a 2% increase in the sewer and water base rate for 2023 and a 1% increase in usage rates as recommended in the utility rate study.

The monthly residential base rate (not including usage charges) for 2023 is \$36.19; a \$0.70 monthly increase from 2022. The 2023 base rate of \$36.19 (residential 3/4-inch meter) includes base fees of water \$11.22; sewer of \$17.76, state surcharge of \$0.81, street light fee of \$2.57, and storm sewer fee of \$3.83. The senior monthly base rate for 2023 is \$20.82. The tables below show the new 2023 rates and the 2022 rates for your comparison. Irrigation monthly base rate for 2023 is \$4.06, and the per thousand-gallon usage fee is \$11.56 for 2023 compared to \$11.45 in 2022.

## COMPARISON OF 2022 - 2023 UTILITY RATES

<b>Residential Water Usage Rate</b>		
All usage rates are per 1,000 gallons		
	2022	2023
Up to 2,000	4.18	4.22
2,001 - 4,000	6.29	6.35
4,001 & above	11.45	11.56

<b>Commercial Water Usage Rate</b>		
All usage rates are per 1,000 gallons		
	2022	2023
Up to 4,000	4.23	4.27
4,001 - 24,000	6.35	6.41
24,001 & above	11.59	11.71

<b>Residential Sewer Usage Rate</b>		
All usage rates are per 1,000 gallons		
	2022	2023
Up to 2,000	8.29	8.37
2,001 - 4,000	9.74	9.85
4,001 & above	19.66	19.86

<b>Commercial Sewer Usage Rate</b>		
All usage rates are per 1,000 gallons		
	2022	2023
Up to 4,000	8.39	8.47
4,001 - 24,000	9.85	9.95
24,001 & above	20.05	20.25

<b>Monthly Water Base</b>		
*Larger meter size base rates available on <a href="http://www.belleplainmn.com">www.belleplainmn.com</a> . See the Fee Schedule.		
	2022	2023
Up to 1" Meter Size	11.00	11.22
Low Income Senior	5.13	5.23

<b>Monthly Sewer Rate</b>		
	2022	2023
Up to 1" Meter Size	17.41	17.76
Low Income Senior	8.21	8.38

<b>Irrigation Meter</b>		
	2022	2023
Monthly base fee	3.98	4.06
Usage per 1,000 Gallons	11.45	11.56



## Payment Options

- Pay on-line with your credit card on the City's website [www.belleplainmn.gov](http://www.belleplainmn.gov).
- Drop off the payment at the front desk of City Hall or in the drop box to the left of the front door.
- The easiest and most efficient way to make a payment is to sign up for ACH, where the payment comes out automatically from your checking account on the due date. You will continue to receive a statement each month. Contact City Hall for the ACH form or it is available online at [www.belleplainmn.gov](http://www.belleplainmn.gov).

# City Council Highlights & City Notices

## December 5, 2022 - Regular Session

- Approved Regular Session Minutes of November 21, 2022.
- Approved Closed Personnel Minutes of November 21, 2022.
- Approved Resolution 22-145 Approving the 2023 City Employee Wages and Salaries.
- Approved Resolution 22-147 Approving Renewal of Premises Permit for the Belle Plaine Chamber of Commerce at Neisen's Corner Bar, Huck's Shipwreck Saloon, and Johan's Bar and Grill.
- Approved Resolution 22-148 Approving Renewal of Premises Permit for German Days, Inc. at Andy's Bar and Grill.
- Approved Resolution 22-149 Approving Renewal of Premises Permit for the Belle Plaine Friends of the Library at Sparetime Tavern, Borough Bowl, and Red Door Bar.
- Approved Resolution 22-150 Appointing Officers to the Fire Department.
- Approved Resolution 22-153 Designation of Polling Location for the 2023 Elections.
- Approved Adopt Ordinance 22-10, amending Section 108.00 of the City Code by amending the City's fee schedule.
- Approved Resolution 22-151 authorizing summary publication of Ordinance 22-10.
- Resolution 22-152 Authorizing Three Entrance Signs.
- Approved Authorize Purchase of a 2022 John Deere 544P Loader for Public Works.

## December 6, 2022 - Special Session

- Approved Resolution 22-155 Adopting the Final Tax Levy Collectable in 2023 and the 2023 Final Budget and Capital Improvement Plan.

## December 19, 2022 - Regular Session

- Approved Regular Session Minutes of December 5, 2022.
- Approved Truth in Taxation Minutes of December 6, 2022.
- Approved Special Session Minutes of December 6, 2022.
- Approved Resolution 22-156 Appointing Jim Gerold as Assistant Community Development Director/ Building Inspector.
- Approved Resolution 22-157 Authorizing the Mayor and City Administrator to execute a Construction

Cooperative Agreement for County Road Three as part of the 2023 Improvement Project.

- Approved Resolution 22-158 A Resolution Approving Terms of a ROSE Program Loan to Brad and Sue Schultz, Brads Barbershop 106 Meridian Street South.
- Approved Resolution 22-159 A Resolution Approving Terms of a ROSE Program Loan to Southern Rentals 100 Main Street West.
- Approved Resolution 22-161 Appointing Laura Wiger as a Full Time Administrative Sergeant for the Belle Plaine Police Department.
- Approved Resolution 22-162 Appointing Ice Rink Attendants for the 2022/2023 Season.
- Approved Resolution 22-163 Appointing Randi Fiskewold as the Assistant Aquatic Center Manager for the 2023 Season.
- Approved Resolution 22-168 Re-Appointing Lucas Simonson as a Regular Member, Appointing Jacob Sandvig and Desiree Weldon as an Alternate Members of the Planning and Zoning Commission.
- Approved Resolution 22-169 Re-Appointing Desiree Weldon and Appointing Cara Cox as Regular Members of the Design Committee.
- Approved Accept Letter of Retirement from Brian Siekmann, Firefighter, Effective December 24, 2022.
- Approved Resolution 22-170 Accepting \$20,000.00 Donation from the Belle Plaine Friends of the Library for the Library.
- Approved Ordinance 22-12, An Ordinance Amending Chapter Three of the City Code to Provide For Section 318 Pertaining to Mobile Retail Units.
- Approved Resolution 22-164, Resolution Authorizing Summary Publication of Ordinance 22-12.
- Approved Resolution 22-165 Award Bid for the 2023 Improvement Project.
- Approved Resolution 22-166A Resolution Approving an Agreement for Streetlight Improvements and Authorizing and Directing Execution Thereof.
- Approved Resolution 22-167, A Resolution Conditionally Approving Final Plat of Jane Properties Subdivision.
- Approved Acceptance of the Wastewater Treatment Facility Plan.
- Approved Acceptance of Annual Economic Development Report.

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## Subscribe to Nixle - Don't Get Towed

Subscribe to Nixle.com to receive free alerts in Belle Plaine including advisory messages regarding emergency residential parking during snow events.

The City of Belle Plaine has been participating in this Community Notification Service for a number of years to improve communication for those who live, work, and visit our area. The system provides a quick, efficient, and secure way to get neighborhood-level information out to community members who subscribe to the system. Through Nixle, the department will be able to send text message (SMS) and email alerts to subscribers in a specific area, within .25 miles.

Nixle is a secure communications service available to municipal, county, and state government agencies. There is NO spam or advertising associated with Nixle Municipal Wire messages. The system is available at no cost (standard text message rates apply for subscribers who do not have text plans with their cell phone providers). Download Nixle at [www.nixle.com](http://www.nixle.com).





## Who Is Responsible For Frozen Water Service Lines?

Property owners are responsible for water services lines from the water main to the house. Property owners should make sure the water service line and curb stop/shut off valve(s) are working properly and not leaking. During winter months water service lines can freeze or burst. If this happens on your property you will need to hire someone to repair the water service line. Repairs should be made quickly. If burst lines are evident you may receive an emergency notice to repair from the Public Works Department. If you have questions about a frozen or burst water line, notify public works and contact a contractor to repair the line.



**Cosmic Sledding with the BP Fire Department**  
**At the Sledding Hill**  
**Wednesday, January 25**  
**6:00 - 8:00 PM**

We are excited to be sledding with the Fire Department!  
 Music, Glow Sticks & Hot Chocolate will be available!  
 Cardboard Sled Race!  
 Awards for the best cardboard sled design & fastest sled!

\*\* Weather permitting, watch City social media outlets for updates



**Hickory Park Warming House Hours**  
**Monday - Friday | 4:00 - 9:00 p.m.**  
**Saturday - Sunday | 11:00 a.m. - 9:00 p.m.**  
**No School Days | 11:00 a.m. - 9:00 p.m.**



**Adult Broomball**  
**At Hickory Park Ice Rinks**  
**Thursday Nights**  
**January 19, February 2 & 16**  
**7:00 - 9:00 PM**

More dates and times may be added based on popularity.

Show up as a team or individual

\*\* Weather permitting, watch City social media outlets for updates

**Snow Removal Regulations**

**400.03 (R)** All snow and ice must be removed from public sidewalks within 24 hours after snow has ceased to fall. Failure to comply may result in a citation.

**501.09** Parking will not be permitted on residential streets during a snow emergency, when snow has accumulated to a depth of one-half (1/2) inch or more. Downtown parking will be posted as NO PARKING during a snow emergency.

Don't let your vehicle get towed, sign up for Nixle, a free program which sends an e-mail and text message to your cell phone regarding snow emergencies and / or community information. Sign up for free at [www.nixle.com](http://www.nixle.com).



**Cosmic Skate Night**  
**At Hickory Park Ice Rink**  
**Thursday, February 9**  
**6:00 - 8:00 PM**

**FREE EVENT!!**

**Come out to Hickory Park for a fun night with music, glow sticks and skating!**

\*\* Weather permitting, watch City social media outlets for updates

The official newspaper for the City of Belle Plaine is the Jordan Independent. Public Notices are posted on the City website [www.belleplainemn.gov](http://www.belleplainemn.gov) and in the official newspaper. Watch City Council meetings live at [www.belleplainemn.gov](http://www.belleplainemn.gov).

**City Council Contacts**

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**January 2022 Government Calendar**

2	New Years Day Observed.....	City Offices Closed
3	Design Committee.....	Canceled
	City Council .....	6:30 p.m.
	Work Session .....	6:45 p.m.
9	EDA .....	5:00 p.m.
	Planning Commission .....	6:30 p.m.
10	Public Safety .....	7:30 a.m.
12	Public Works .....	9:00 a.m.
16	Martin Luther King Day .....	City Offices Closed
17	City Council .....	6:30 p.m.
	Work Session .....	6:45 p.m.