

BELDING BUGLE

April—June 2021

Upcoming Events

Arbor Day: April 30, 2021

Music in the Park: As restrictions on social gatherings continue to slowly scale back we are happy to announce that we will be bringing back Music in the Park on Monday evenings from 7 - 8:30 p.m. at East Riverside Park this summer! More to follow as the details unfold as we are still in the planning stages.

Music in the Park

Sponsors are still needed for this event. The cost is \$250 per event and a door prize is suggested. Please contact Mike Tefft, Program Coordinator by calling or texting 616-212-4956 (after 5 p.m.) or by email at miketefft@gmail.com. You may also contact Janae Cooper, City Clerk at 616-794-1900, extension 210 or j.cooper@ci.belding.mi.us for more information.

Belding Housing

Happy Spring to all in the community from Belding Housing Commission! Following program conversion, all housing commission apartments are currently receiving improvements to living spaces. Modernization began at the end of December and is scheduled to continue through May. The Board of Commissioners appreciates the patience of residents and looks forward to completion of this work.

The housing commission has available income-based rental units at all locations. Applications for Taft or Hilltop Court, Belhaven I, II, or Woodhaven are available through the administrative office Monday through Friday, excluding holidays as follows:

Phone : 794-1740 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Window hours : 1 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.

The housing commission offers one, two, three and four-bedroom units, handicap accessible units, and ADA compliant units for eligible individuals and families. The administrative office is located at 41 Belhaven Avenue. Belding Housing Commission is a federally-regulated, Equal Housing Opportunity Agency.



Dial-A-Ride

As warmer weather approaches, let us get you out and about on Dial-A-Ride!

We are open Monday – Friday, 6:30 a.m.—5:30 p.m. and Saturday 9:30 a.m.—1:00 p.m.
Please allow up to 30 minutes for pick-up.

Our fares are as follows:

Adults - \$2.50
Students (4 and up) - \$2.00
Seniors (Ages 65 and up) - \$1.25
Persons with Disabilities - \$1.25
Children ages 3 and under accompanied by an adult ride for FREE

10-Ride passes are available on the buses and in the Depot at 100 Depot Street. Those prices are as follows:
Adult - \$25.00 Student - \$20.00
Seniors/Disabled Persons - \$12.50

Each ticket gets you 10 paid rides and the 11th ride is FREE!

We take two trips to Ionia daily and meet with Greenville Transit up to three times daily. Please call our office for more information at (616) 794-3278.

Please remember, masks are REQUIRED on all buses as public transportation IS federal property. Please plan accordingly.

Board Vacancies

Applications are being accepted for city boards and commissions. Applications are kept on file for one year. These volunteer positions are appointed by the City Council and offer an excellent opportunity to make a difference and serve our community. A description of the focus of each board, as well as an application are available on the city website: www.ci.belding.mi.us, at City Hall or can be mailed to your residence.

Currently there are vacancies on the Downtown Development Authority (DDA).

Please contact Janae Cooper, City Clerk at 794-1900, extension 210 or j.cooper@ci.belding.mi.us for additional information.

Museum

Check out the Belding history A to Z series on Facebook, where we'll post when we open again. Hope to see you soon!

Library

The Alvah N. Belding Library offers a variety of take and make style crafts and projects monthly for all age groups. Tweens-Adult gift boxes are offered once a month and are filled with grab bag type small gifts and 2 books each that are checked out and returned. Adult Spice Challenge is offered each month and gives adults a chance to try a new recipe along with a spice to use. Teens can take an Art Club craft home twice a month and watch the virtual instruction. For young ones, virtual Story Time, S.T.E.A.M. Time and Tasty Tuesday occur at various times throughout the months and can be watched via Facebook and the library YouTube Channel. Each program has a craft that patrons can pick up from the library prior to participate at home. Virtual Summer Reading Challenges will begin in June and can be accessed through the Beanstack App. All library virtual program dates and times can be found on the library website and Facebook pages.

Adopt-A-Spot

Volunteers are needed to care for the landscaping areas in the downtown area. The spots may simply be cleaned up and mulched, or new plants added. The landscaping mulch will be available at no cost from Nature's Needs at 8079 Storey Road. The same mulch is used for all spots, to keep the beds looking uniform throughout the downtown. The mulch can be picked up at your convenience.

We would like to encourage participants to have the spots completed by the Memorial Day weekend, if possible, as there will be a Memorial Day event at the Veteran's Memorial Park that will bring many residents and guests into the downtown area.

We would like to thank the many volunteers currently involved with the beautification program again this year. Your contributions do so much to enhance the appearance of the downtown area and are truly appreciated!

Please contact Janae Cooper at 616-794-1900, Ext. 210 to view the spots that are currently available for adoption.

Finance Department

Summer Taxes:

The 2021 summer property taxes will be issued July 1, 2021 with a due date of August 16, 2021 without penalty. After this date, a 3% penalty will be added to the property tax bill.

Water and Sewer bills are sent quarterly in January, April, July and October. These bills are due in the office by the 30th of the month they are billed in, if not paid within the 30 days, a 10% penalty will be added to the bill and a second notice will be mailed out. If not paid within the next fifteen days the address will be placed on the shut-off listing and a \$75.00 fee is added to the bill. The total balance is required to be paid in full before the water service is restored.

Department of Public Works

Brush pick-up for 2021: April 26, May 24, June 21, July 26, August 23, September 20 and October 25

Please place brush at the street by 7 a.m. on the above dates, but no earlier than the 18th of the month. The total amount of brush and limbs per household shall not exceed 10 cubic yards per month. Brush must be less than 10' in length and must be placed parallel to the edge of the road, but not in the road. To ensure pick-up please locate brush in a clear area, at least four feet away from any Consumers or telephone poles, walls, fences, mailboxes, overhead wires, or any other obstacles.

Yard waste bag pick-up will start April 23, 2021, and will continue every Friday. Bags should be biodegradable and must not exceed 35 pounds and cannot contain other materials such as rocks, shingles, garbage, sticks or brush. Please place bags at the curb by Friday at 7 a.m. but no earlier than 6 p.m. on Thursday.

Fire Hydrant Flushing will take place on April 11, 12, 13 & 14 from 12 a.m. to 7 a.m. If you experience discolored water, flush the cold water faucet closest to the water meter until the water runs clear.

CITY OF BELDING

120 S. Pleasant St.
Belding, MI 48809

Phone: 616-794-1900, Ext. 210
Fax: 616-794-0091

PRSRT STD
U.S. Postage
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Belding, MI

City Hall Office Hours:
Monday through Thursday, 7 a.m. to 6 p.m.

REGULAR MEETINGS

- *City Council—1st & 3rd Tuesdays at 7 p.m.*
- *Rec Board—2nd Monday at 6:30 p.m.*
- *Planning Commission— 4th Tuesday at 6:30 p.m.*
- *Downtown Development Authority— 1st Wednesday at 4 p.m., quarterly (February, May, August and November)*
- *Zoning Board of Appeals— Meets as needed*

The City of Belding is now holding all meetings in-person, adhering to the latest epidemic order issued by MDHHS which became effective on March 5th. Indoor capacity for non-residential gatherings is limited to 25 persons. Social distancing will be practiced and properly wearing a facemask is required.

LOCAL POSTAL CUSTOMER
BELDING, MI 48809

Police Department

The Belding Police Department would like to remind you that Spring is a time for an increase in pedestrian traffic. After our long winter this year our residents will be out walking, bicycling or just enjoying the spring weather. With pedestrians out it is time to *slow down*. The speed limit in the city is 25 miles per hour unless posted otherwise. Slowing down will allow you to react to the pedestrian entering the street, from behind a parked car, or the ball thrown into the street being chased by a child.

PARKING

Vehicles parked on any street must park with the right wheels to the curb or the road edge. Parking between sidewalk and curb is prohibited. For persons that walk; Please use the sidewalks when provided...It's the law! Bicyclists on the roadway are subject to all of the duties of a person driving a motor vehicle.

PARKS

Park hours are 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 p.m. Bathrooms will be closed again this year due to COVID, however we will be providing Port-A-Potties beginning late spring through late fall.

Section 62-6 Domestic Animals

No domestic animals shall be permitted in any public park or on a public pathway unless on a leash, not exceeding 6 feet in length, controlled by the owner at all times. Owners shall remove all animal fecal discharges from the park or the pathway property immediately. No dangerous or vicious animals shall be permitted in any public park or on a public pathway.

VACATION HOUSE CHECKS

If you are going to be away from your residence on vacation please make arrangements to stop the mail and newspaper. Make your home look lived in with the use of light timers. Have trusted friends and neighbors watch the house and help it look lived in by picking up weekly newspapers and flyers left at the door. For the extended vacations have someone mow the lawn. Contact the police department and request a vacation check on your home. The form is available on the website, www.ci.belding.mi.us.

Contact the police department any time you observe suspicious persons, activity or vehicles any place in the city.

Code Enforcement

Spring and Summer bring an increase of animal complaints and it is important for residents to remember to keep their dogs and cats confined to their yard. City ordinance stipulates that there are to be no more than two dogs and two cats per residence without a special permit.

GRASS CLIPPINGS ARE NO LONGER ALLOWED LOOSE or DUMPED AT CURBSIDE.

Grass clippings MUST be placed in paper yard waste bags and set at the curb by 7:00 a.m. Friday. The bags MAY NOT be put out before Thursday evening at 6:00 p.m. and must be at curbside by 7:00 a.m. on Friday for pick up.

Garbage and Trash in bags or receptacles may not be put to the curb earlier than 24 hours before pick up day. Emptied containers MUST NOT remain at curb and MUST be removed within 24 hours of pick-up.

Blight:

Grass can be no longer than 10 inches, and leaves must be raked.

No unlicensed or inoperable vehicles are allowed within the city limits, unless stored within a four sided enclosed building.

The storage of building materials outside of an enclosed building is prohibited without a building permit. Any chemical containers (oil, gas, coolant, etc.) must be disposed of in an environmentally safe manner. Outside storage of these chemicals is a violation of City Ordinance.

If everyone does their part it will make Belding a cleaner, safer place to live, work and play.

Fire Department

In order to help us provide quick service, please make sure your address is on your mailbox or on your house and visible from the road. As with any fire, please call quickly so we can make a difference.

Remember to obtain your bon fire permits as they all expired on December 31. Also, if you live outside the city you must obtain a DNR permit for any burning.

City Offices Closed

City offices will be closed on Monday, May 31st in observance of Memorial Day.

Happy Spring!