

BELDING BUGLE



July – September 2021



Upcoming Events

Beatnik Bazaar Farm Market-Saturday July 10, August 14, September 11 and October 9 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Gathering Place.

Music In the Park: Music at East Riverside Park will be held on Monday evenings from 7 p.m. - 8:30 p. m., June 14—August 30. **There will not be a performance the week of July 5 due to the holiday.** The event is free, including free popcorn and weekly door prizes!

Gus Macker: The 3-on-3 Basketball Tournament will be held July 31 and August 1.

Labor Day: September 6

City Offices Closed

Independence Day (observed): Monday, July 5

Labor Day: Monday, September 6

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. Animals walked in City Park areas must be on a leash.

GRASS CLIPPINGS ARE NO LONGER ALLOWED TO BE LOOSE or TO BE DUMPED AT CURBSIDE. Grass clippings MUST be placed in paper yard waste bags.

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.

Police Department

Summer is here and it is time to hit the road. The most important thing to bring along is a sober driver. Good times can come to a screeching halt if you drive drunk.

Bicyclists must follow the same rule; almost one quarter of all bicyclists killed have a blood alcohol content of .08 and higher. If you plan to drink, get a safe ride home.

Obey all traffic laws as you drive our city streets. You must share the road with bicyclists and pedestrians. Always expect the unexpected and be a defensive driver!

Bicycles, roller skates, and skateboards must yield the right of way to all pedestrians and give an audible signal to pass the pedestrian (walker). Passing must be done in single file. Careless or reckless use of a skateboard will be strictly enforced.

If you are going to be away from your home for an extended period during the summer please contact the Police Department and request a Vacation Property Check. Applications are available online at www.ci.belding.mi.us under the Police Department.

Take some time to enjoy Belding's parks and pathways. We have something to offer to everyone. While in the parks, if you observe something illegal or suspicious please contact the police department immediately.

Gus Macker 3 on 3 Basketball tournament returns to Belding on July 31 and August 1. The event is expected to be well attended this year. The downtown area will have street closures during the event.

The annual Belding Labor Day Homecoming Celebration tentatively will take place Friday, September 3rd and run through Monday (Labor Day), September 6th. Watch for brochures with event schedules coming in August. Be aware of street closures and detours for the event. Expanded closures will take place during parades. Slow down and be aware of increased pedestrian and vehicle traffic during these events.

Board Vacancies

Applications are being accepted for city boards and commissions. 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/ emailed to you.

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

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

Finance Department

Summer Tax Bills : The 2021 summer property taxes will be sent July 1, 2021 and are due by Monday August 16, 2021. After this date a 3% penalty will be added to the property tax bill. Payments must be in the office by August 16, 2021 to avoid penalty.

Application for Deferment of Summer Taxes may be made if one of the following are met: 62 years of age or older, Paraplegic, Hemiplegic, Quadriplegic, Eligible Serviceperson, Eligible Veteran, Eligible Widow or Widower, Blind Person, Totally and Permanently Disabled. The Application for Deferment of Summer Taxes must be submitted before the August 16, 2021 deadline date.

Water Bills: Water charges are billed quarterly to the property owner on the first of January, April, July, and October. Payment is due by the 30th day of the month in which it is billed. If not paid by the 30th, a ten percent (10%) penalty on the unpaid balance is added to the bill and a "shut-off notice" is issued and due by the 15th of the month. If the bill remains unpaid a \$75.00 shut-off list charge is added to the bill and water services are discontinued. Services discontinued shall not be restored until all sums then due and owing, including penalties and fees, are paid in full. Partial payment does not cancel the shut-off action (Section 86-291b).

You can make payment for taxes or water/ sewer bills by mail, using the drop box outside City Hall, or stopping in the office during our business hours. Acceptable forms of payment are cash, check, money order and credit/debit cards at the City Hall Counter. **When writing a check for payments, please make separate checks for taxes and water/sewer bills.** You can also pay online by visiting the city's website at https://belding.mi.us/bill_pay.php. There are separate links for Taxes and Utilities (which refers to the water/sewer billing). If you have any questions regarding the payment website do not hesitate to contact us at 794-1900 ext. 217 and we will be happy to help.

Museum

The Belding Museum board members and volunteers are excited to re-open the museum to visitors for the first time since the start of the pandemic on Sunday, August 1 from 1 p.m. - 4 p.m. Labor Day weekend the museum will be open Saturday, Sunday and Monday (Labor Day) from 1 p.m. - 4 p.m. Please visit our Facebook page for more information. We're looking forward to seeing everyone!

CITY OF BELDING
120 S. Pleasant St.
Belding, MI 48809
Phone: 616-794-1900, Ext. 210
Fax: 616-794-0091

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U.S. Postage
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Belding, MI

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

LOCAL POSTAL CUSTOMER
BELDING, MI 48809

PLEASE NOTE:

***When writing a check for payments,
please make separate checks for taxes
and water/sewer bills.***

Public Works

Brush pick-up: 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, with all out-ends facing the same direction and must be placed parallel to the edge of the road (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 began on April 23, 2021, and continues every Friday. Bags should be biodegradable, 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 August 22, 23, 24 and 25 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.

Fire Department

Household Hazardous Waste Pick Up will be August 21, 8 a.m.-12 p.m. at the old hospital parking lot. This will be for household hazardous waste ONLY. NO TIRES OR ELECTRONICS this year.

Dial-A-Ride

The City of Belding Dial-A-Ride is happy to get you where you need to go this summer!

Hours of operation are Monday - Friday 6:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m. and Saturday 9:00 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. with fares as follows:

- Adult - \$2.50
- Student (Ages 3 - 17) - \$2.00
- Seniors/Persons with Disabilities - \$1.25

Purchase a ticket for 10 rides and get the 11th ride **FREE!** Call our office or ask your driver for details! We offer FREE trips to Ionia Monday - Friday at 8:30 a.m. and 1:00 p.m.

We also offer meet-ups with Greenville Transit Monday - Friday at 9:30 a.m., 11:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. Please call ahead for scheduling. Please call the office at (616) 794-3278 for any questions or to schedule your ride.

Regular Meetings

The public is welcome to attend any of our open 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

Belding Housing

Belding Housing Commission applications are being accepted for all income-based rental units. The agency offers one, two, three and four-bedroom, as well as handicap accessible and ADA compliant units for eligible individuals and families. 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: 616-794-1740 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Window hours: 1 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.

The administrative office is located at 41 Belhaven Avenue.

Modernization of properties has been underway since December, 2020 and is now complete.

All developments received safety and cosmetic improvements to ensure long-term marketability and viability of this valuable community resource. Patience and cooperation from residents were outstanding throughout the process. The Board of Commissioners appreciates the residents, City Council and the City Manager for their support, the efforts of staff members, and the work done by contractors making the needed improvements. Belding Housing Commission is an Equal Housing Opportunity agency.

