

SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES

of the Board of Alderman of the City of Belle,  
at the Lonnie Feeler Memorial Building,  
104 East Third Street, Belle Mo 65013 on  
Tuesday, February 18, 2025, at 5:30 p.m.  
Tentative Agenda

- A. CALL TO ORDER:** Mayor James Mitchell called the meeting to order and the pledge of allegiance was recited. The Special Meeting started promptly at 5:30pm.
- B. ROLL CALL:** Present were Mayor James Mitchell, Alderman Steve Vogt, Alderwoman Barb Howarth and Alderman Kevin Guffey. Also present were City Treasurer Charro Reasor, City Clerk Sherree Burkholder, and Public Works Supervisor, Jim Goben. Alderwoman Jeanette Struempf was sick and not present for the special meeting.
- C. ADDITIONS TO AND APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**  
Alderman Kevin Guffey motioned to approve the agenda. The motion was seconded by Alderwoman Barb Howarth with all in favor.

**D. INVITED GUESTS: Jeff Meadows**

- Due to inclement weather conditions, Jeff Meadows presented information regarding the SIP Grant via Zoom.
- The State Infrastructure Program (SIP) Grant includes \$1,000,000 in state funds with a 10% local match. However, recent work on the city's water system along with similar expenditures will assist in the required 10% match.
- Mr. Meadows discussed the application process and outlined a timetable of events necessary to move forward in pursuit of the grant.
- Alderman Steve Vogt made a motion to submit the application with prioritized projects that were identified by the city. Alderman Kevin Guffey seconded the motion with all in favor.

**E. MOTION TO ADJOURN: 6:14 pm.**

Kevin made a motion to adjourn the special meeting and Alderwoman Barb Howarth seconded the motion with all in favor. A roll call vote was taken.

Alderman Steve Vogt- Aye

Alderman Kevin Guffey- Aye

Alderwoman Jeanette Struempf- Absent

Alderwoman Barb Howarth- Aye



James Mitchell, Mayor



Sherree Burkholder, City Clerk

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ADA: Visitors with special needs (such as audio or other physical accommodations) must notify the city as soon as possible, preferably 48 hours in advance. The city will make reasonable accommodations for all disabilities to the extent possible.

# MINUTES

Feb. 18, 2025, at 6:30 p.m.

Regular Meeting of the Board of Alderman of the City of Belle,  
at the **Lonnie Feeler Memorial Building,**  
**104 East Third Street, Belle Mo 65013**

- A. CALL TO ORDER:** Mayor James Mitchell called the meeting to order, and the pledge of allegiance was recited. The meeting started at 6:32pm.
- B. ROLL CALL:** Present were Mayor James Mitchell, Alderman Steve Vogt, Alderwoman Barb Howarth and Alderman Kevin Guffey. Also present were City Treasurer Charro Reaser, City Clerk Sherree Burkholder, and Public Works Supervisor, Jim Goben. Alderwoman Jeanette Struempf attended via Zoom.
- C. ADDITIONS TO AND APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** Mayor James Mitchell requested an addition be made to the agenda.  
Invited Guest: Add Caleb Beshears, from Core & Main, to discuss changes in the Technical Support for the AutoRead and AutoVU system. Alderman Steve Vogt motioned to approve the agenda with additions noted. The motion was seconded by Alderman Kevin Guffey with all in favor.
- D. CORRECTIONS TO AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**
- No corrections were noted to the January 17<sup>th</sup> meeting minutes.
  - A motion was made by Alderman Steve Vogt to approve the January 17<sup>th</sup> council minutes and was seconded by Alderman Kevin Guffey with all in favor.
- E. INVITED GUESTS:**  
Citizens to speak:  
Mark McClane requested permission from the council for BCBA to hold a car show on Main Street on April 26, 2025. Alderman Steve Vogt motioned to approve the request, and it was seconded by Alderwoman Barb Howarth with all in favor.  
Caleb Beshears discussed an increase in rates for technical support on the city's Sensus Meter Software. According to Beshears, the company expects to make further software upgrades in five years. Council members expressed concerns over the drastic increase in the company's fees. The council made no decisions pending the completion of a written contract from the company and further discussion to be had.
- F. TREASURER'S REPORT:**  
Alderwoman Barb Howarth made a motion to approve the Cash Summary and Bills to be paid. The motion was seconded by Alderman Kevin Guffey with all in favor.  
Alderman Steve Vogt- Aye  
Alderwoman Jeanette Struempf-Aye (Via Zoom)  
Alderman Kevin Guffey-Aye  
Alderwoman Barb Howarth-Aye

## G. OLD BUSINESS:

- **Ordinance #649** An Ordinance adding Section 210.1075 Trespassing on Parking Lot (Second and Final Reading)  
Alderman Steve Vogt made the motion to approve the second and final reading of Ordinance 649, and Alderman Kevin Guffey seconded it with all in favor.
- **Ordinance #650** An Ordinance revising Section 210.1200 Shoplifting Detention of Suspect by Merchant-Liability Presumption.  
Alderman Kevin Guffey made the motion to approve the second and final reading of Ordinance 650, and Alderwoman Barb Howarth seconded it with all in favor.
- **Ordinance #651** An Ordinance Revision of Ordinance #645 with a Landlord Provision Added.  
Alderman Kevin Guffey made the motion to approve the revision of Ordinance #645, and Alderman Steve Vogt seconded the motion with all in favor.
- Trading of the K-9 Tahoe for a 2024 Ford Explorer was the consensus of the council. A motion was made by Alderman Kevin Guffey to complete the trade of vehicles as the consensus indicated. Alderwoman Barb Howarth seconded the motion with all in favor.

## H. NEW BUSINESS:

- City Special Waste Collection on September 19, 2026  
Alderman Kevin Guffey made a motion to approve a Special Waste Collection on September 19, 2026. Alderwoman Barb Howarth seconded the motion with all in favor.
- Park Front Gate Entrance/ Asphalt -Kevin Guffey asked the city to provide \$40,000.00 toward asphaltting at the city park in conjunction with the BCBA's development of a new park entrance. A motion was made by Alderwoman Barb Howarth and seconded by Alderman Steve Vogt to provide \$40,000.00 toward asphaltting at the city park with all council in favor.
- WTFP Task Order #4 -Jeff Meadows (via Zoom) provided information concerning a grant that will study the city's wastewater. Alderman Kevin Guffey made the motion to move forward with the study and Alderwoman Barb Howarth seconded the motion with all in favor.  
SIP Grant Task Order #5 -Jeff Meadows (via Zoom) discussed the need for the council to prioritize projects that they would like to complete to move forward with funding requirements. Alderman Kevin Guffey made a motion to develop a priority list and Alderman Steve Vogt seconded the motion with all in favor.
- **Ordinance #652** An Ordinance to Revise 125.320 Installment Payment of Fine (First Reading)  
Alderman Steve Vogt made the motion to approve the first reading of Ordinance #652, and Alderwoman Barb Howarth seconded it with all in favor.
- **Ordinance #653** An Ordinance to Repeal 125.260 Failure to Appear (First Reading)  
Alderman Steve Vogt made the motion to approve the first reading of Ordinance #653, and Alderman Kevin Guffey seconded it with all in favor.

**I. STAFF REPORTS:**

- Mayor's Comments: He announced that the next regular council meeting would be on March 11, 2025. Also, Mayor Mitchell acknowledged the positive efforts of Mark McClane and the BCBA.
- Public Works: Jim Goben discussed preparing city streets for improved travel and the process of removing the recent snow. He reported that the maintenance department had been very busy plowing and cindering. He also discussed two recent water breaks occurring on Tibbetts and Apple Streets.
- Marshal: Jerry Coborn was absent due to a police call that needed his attention.
- Steve Vogt: reported on efforts to remove old tires from a property in town. Also, he provided highlights discussed in a recent transportation meeting.
- City Attorney: Nothing currently.

**J. MOTION TO ADJOURN FROM OPEN SESSION AND ENTER-CLOSE SESSION - Legal Counsel 7:30 PM**

Kevin Guffey made a motion to leave the open session and enter the closed session. Alderwoman Barb Howarth seconded the motion with a roll call vote to follow.

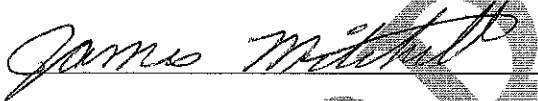
A roll call vote was taken.

Alderman Steve Vogt- Aye

Alderman Kevin Guffey-Aye

Alderwoman Jeanette Struempf- Aye (Via Zoom)

Alderwoman Barb Howarth-Aye



James Mitchell, Mayor



Sherree Burkholder, City Clerk

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**CLOSED SESSION**

**Feb. 18, 2025**

**MOTION TO ADJOURN FROM OPEN SESSION AND ENTER-CLOSE SESSION - Legal Counsel 7:30 PM**

Kevin Guffey made a motion to leave the open session and enter the closed session. Alderwoman Barb Howarth seconded the motion with a roll call vote to follow.

A roll call vote was taken.

Alderman Steve Vogt- Aye

Alderman Kevin Guffey-Aye

Alderwoman Jeanette Struempfler- Aye (Via Zoom)

Alderwoman Barb Howarth-Aye

**K. PERSONNEL:**

After much discussion, a recommendation was made to terminate and reduce the Public Works Department by one full time employee, effective Friday afternoon, February 21, 2025.

A motion was made by Alderman Kevin Guffey and seconded by Alderwoman Barb Howarth.

A roll call vote was taken.

Alderman Steve Vogt- Aye

Alderman Kevin Guffey-Aye

Alderwoman Jeanette Struempfler- Aye (Via Zoom)

Alderwoman Barb Howarth-Aye

**L. MOTION TO RETURN TO OPEN SESSION:**

Kevin Guffey made a motion to return to Open Session and Alderman Steve Vogt seconded the motion. A roll call vote taken as follows:

Alderman Steve Vogt- Aye

Alderman Kevin Guffey-Aye

Alderwoman Jeanette Struempfler- Aye (Via Zoom)

Alderwoman Barb Howarth-Aye

**M. MOTION TO ADJOURN: 8:40 pm**

Kevin made a motion to adjourn the council meeting and Barb Howarth seconded it.

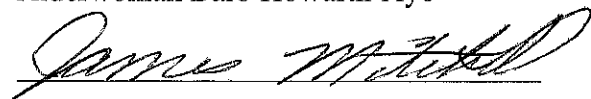
A roll call vote taken:

Alderman Steve Vogt- Aye

Alderman Kevin Guffey-Aye

Alderwoman Jeanette Struempfler- Aye (Via Zoom)

Alderwoman Barb Howarth-Aye



James Mitchell, Mayor

*Sherree Burkholder*

Sherree Burkholder, City Clerk

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APPROVED