

**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 on
Tuesday, April 14th, 2026, at 6:30 p.m.**

A. CALL TO ORDER: Mayor James Mitchell called the meeting to order, and the pledge of allegiance was recited. The meeting started at 6:30 p.m.

B. ROLL CALL: Present were Mayor James Mitchell, Alderman Steve Vogt, Alderman Seth Klein, Alderwoman Jeanette Struempf and Alderwoman Rebecca Withouse arriving at 6:32p.m.

Also, present were City Clerk Cindy Barbarick, City Treasurer Charro Reasor, and Public Works Supervisor Jim Goben, City Marshal Jerry Coborn and City Attorney James Klahr and Associate Catherine Zacharias.

C. ADDITIONS TO AND APPROVAL OF AGENDA: The mayor had 2 additions for new business item #8-City of Bland Dog Problem and item #9-Demolition Grant. Motion to accept the agenda was made by Alderman Seth Klein, second by Alderman Steve Vogt with all in favor.

D. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: A motion to accept the March 10th, 2026, regular & closed session minutes was made by Alderman Steve Vogt, second by Alderwoman Jeanette Struempf with all in favor.

E. INVITED GUESTS:

1. Sheriff Micheal Bonham- absent
2. BCBA Invited Guest- Stacy Kelly and Kevin Guffey were asking for permission to move the swap meet to downtown in the event of a rainout at the park. It was the consensus of the board to allow the move if needed.
3. Jeff Medows- SIP Grant bid and quote award recommendations- A packet was presented to the board outlining the recent bid and quote opening amounts. It was at their recommendation to move forward with base bids and the alternate projects. And to award the projects as follows:
 - A. Alvarado Ave. Waterline Improvement from First to Third Street Donald Maggi, Inc. at a price of \$244,699.75
 - B. Hwy 28 and CR 738 and Belair Waterline Improvement Project to Mid-State Pipeline Maintenance, LLC. at a price of \$158,280.00
 - C. Sanitary Sewer Improvement Project to Midwest Infrastructure Coatings at a price of \$62,162.20

A motion to award the above contracts and proceed allowing the mayor to enter into contracts was made by Alderman Steve Vogt second by Alderwoman Jeanette Struempf with all in favor.

F. CITIZENS PARTICIPATION: (Citizens must sign up to speak before the meeting. Speakers limited to 3 minutes.)

4. Delmar Branson- Mr. Branson, was present asking the council to help find a solution for the water coming off Trades Drive on to his property. He stated in the past there was a verbal agreement that if they provided the materials the city would do the work. Mayor Mitchell stated he would get with the public works department and address the drainage problem.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

1. Approval of Cash Summary and Bills to be Paid- A motion to accept cash summary and pay the bills was made by Alderwoman Jeanette Struempf, second by Alderman Seth Klein with all in favor.
2. Phone Contract Renewal- A motion to accept a 1-year agreement to extend the current plan we have with Stimulus Broadband at an increase of \$1.00 monthly was made by Alderwoman Jeanette Struempf second by Alderman Steve Vogt with all in favor.
3. ADA Website Compliance Information was given to the board with an attached summary of the reason. At this time, it is being evaluated by Brayden Cooper to see if this is something he can do, or if a 3rd party will need to help set this up. Further information will be provided; A deadline of April 27,2027 was noted.

F. OLD BUSINESS: NOTHING

G. NEW BUSINESS:

1. Proposed Censure of Alderperson: The mayor read aloud a proposed resolution of censure concerning Alderwoman Rebecca Withouse and stated the reasons for the proposed action. Alderwoman Rebecca Withouse spoke on the record regarding the proposed censure. A motion to accept the censure was made by Alderman Steve Vogt second by Alderwoman Jeanette Struempf with a roll call vote taken as follows:
Alderwoman Rebecca Withouse – abstain
Alderman Seth Klein – aye
Alderwoman Jeanette Struempf- aye
Alderman Steve Vogt – aye
Censure is passed with a 3-0-1 vote.
2. Ordinance #670 – Videotaping of Board Meetings (1st and 2nd reading) – an ordinance stating that videotaping of meetings would be allowed from the public viewing area of the building was read aloud in its entirety. A motion to accept the first reading was made by Alderwoman Jeanette Struempf second by Alderman Steve Vogt with votes as follows:
Alderwoman Rebecca Withouse – abstain
Alderman Seth Klein – aye
Alderwoman Jeanette Struempf- aye
Alderman Steve Vogt – aye
First Reading Passed with a 3-0-1 vote.

A second reading of Ordinance #670 was read by title only. A motion to accept the second reading was made by Alderman Steve Vogt second by Alderwoman Jeanette Struempf with a roll call vote as follows:

Alderwoman Rebecca Withouse – abstain

Alderman Seth Klein – aye

Alderwoman Jeanette Struempf- aye

Alderman Steve Vogt – aye

Second Reading Passed with a 3-0-1 vote. Ordinance #670 Passed.

3. Cold Patch Asphalt and Hauling Fees- The board was presented with a quote from Willard Asphalt for 60 tons of cold patch at \$4,800.00 and to be hauled by CMEC at a cost of \$1,200. A motion to purchase the cold patch and hauling fees was made by Alderman Seth Klein second by Alderwoman Jeanette Struempf with all in favor.
4. Rock Island Trail Discussion- was held regarding the additional fees it is now going to take to grade the trail. A quote was presented from CMEC in the amount of \$21,875.00. Discussion was held on whether the city could financially afford to move forward. It was decided to table the discussion and request quotes from other companies.
5. Advertise for Summer Help- a motion to advertise for 2 people for summer help at \$15.00 an hour for 6 hours a day was made by Alderman Steve Vogt second by Alderman Seth Klein with all in favor.
6. Community Center Vacuum- Tabled
7. Raising Starting Pay of Full-Time Police Officers- Discussion was held to raise the starting pay from \$18.00 an hour to \$19.25 stating that they believe this is the reason we are unable to find officers. A motion to allow the increase was made by Alderman Steve Vogt second by Alderman Seth Klein with all in favor.
It was also asked that research be done to see if any other local communities offer a “relocation fee” to help offset the cost of moving to Belle.
8. Bland Dog Problem- The mayor was contacted by Bland, they do not have a dog pound, and they would like to be able to coordinate with Belle and pay Belle to house the dogs in our pound, also contracting with Jim Goben to be their dog catcher.
It was the consensus to determine the legality before moving forward.
9. Demolition Grant- was discussed that the city held a special meeting before the regular meeting with MRPC. A motion to start moving forward working towards the grant was made by Alderman Steve Vogt second by Alderwoman Jeanette Struempf with all in favor.

H. STAFF REPORTS:

Mayor- James Mitchell:

1. Announced next regular meeting on May 12th, at 6:30 p.m. – Notice given of the need for a special meeting to swear in newly elected officials with the date to be determined.
2. Mentioned Garden Irrigation Meters- the mayor explained that a citizen had asked us to use his irrigation meter to give him credit on his sewer bill. It was the consensus of the board to not allow this at this time.

3. Advertise for curbing and sidewalk- a motion was made by Alderman Steve Vogt with the same 50% match as before second by Alderwoman Jeanette Struempf with all in favor.
4. Tiny home discussion- it was mentioned that several people have contacted the city regarding tiny homes, it was the consensus to get Planning and Zoning involved to determine the guidelines in allowing them into the city.
5. Mural Painting on Main Street- it is in the works to have a patriotic mural painted on main street in conjunction with the Belle High School Art Club.

Supervisor Jim Goben

1. Business as usual, grass mowing, fixing water leaks and laying carpet.

Marshal Jerry Coborn:

1. Gave Department Updates. (Attached)
2. Discussed the shift coverage changing from 6pm to 6am.

Alderman Steve Vogt:

1. MRPC Updates- Mr. Vogt attended a dues meeting stating the dues have not been increased in the last 5 years. A 1% increase will happen annually over the next 3 years.

City Attorney James Klahr:

1. Made a quick mention of the COT training coming up in Fulton and Lebanon
2. Introduced the Board to his new associate Catherine Zacharias.

I. Motion to enter closed session – was made by Alderwoman Jeanette Struempf, second by Alderman Steve Vogt with all in favor. A roll call vote was taken as follows: 8:18 pm

Alderman Seth Klein- aye
Alderwoman Jeanette Struempf-aye
Alderman- Steve Vogt- aye
Alderwoman Rebecca Withouse- aye

J. A motion to re-open regular session- was made by Alderwoman Jeanette Struempf second by Seth Klein with all in favor at 8:26 pm.

K. A motion to hire was done in closed session as follows.

A motion was made to hire James Redden as a part time as needed cleaner of city owned properties at a rate per cleaning of \$70.00 per cleaning for the community center for normal cleanings and \$20.00 per cleaning of the parks event building, it was explained to Mr. Redden the different rates and he was ok with the breakdowns by Alderwoman Jeanette Struempf second by Alderman Steve Vogt with all in favor. A roll call taken as follows:

Alderman Seth Klein- aye
Alderwoman Jeanette Struempf-aye

Alderman- Steve Vogt- aye

Alderwoman Rebecca Withouse- aye

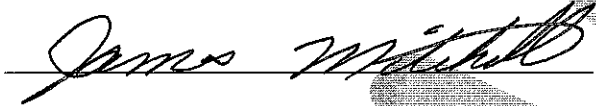
J. Motion to Adjourn -the meeting was made by Alderman Steve Vogt, second by Alderwoman Jeanette Struempf with all in favor. A roll call was taken as follows: 8:27pm

Alderman Seth Klein- aye

Alderwoman Jeanette Struempf-aye

Alderman- Steve Vogt- aye

Alderwoman Rebecca Withouse- aye



Mayor James Mitchell

5-15-26

Date



Cindy Barbarick

5-15-26

Date