

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

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.

C. ADDITIONS TO AND APPROVAL OF AGENDA: One change was made to New Business item #3 a correction to the ordinance number corrected to Ordinance #671. A motion to accept the change and approve the agenda was made by Alderwoman Jeanette Struempf second by Alderman Seth Klein with all in favor.

D. PRESENTATION BY ALDERMAN STEVE VOGT: Mr. Vogt presented a framed American Eagle to the city of Belle in honor of Americas 250th Birthday.

E. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: A motion to accept the June 9th, 2026, regular & closed session minutes and the Special Meeting Minutes on June 29th, 2026, was made by Alderman Steve Vogt second by Alderwoman Jeanette Struempf with all in favor.

F. INVITED GUESTS: None

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

1. Delmar Branson- Mr. Branson, was present asking if water coming off Trades Drive on to his property had been addressed. Mayor Mitchell stated public works department has been very busy and haven't forgotten about the drainage problem. Waiting for the ground to dry up, clarified the landlord agrees for the solution to help with drainage.

2. Randy Hicks- Mr. Hicks was present to say that after this season he will no longer be cutting the irrigation field. The city thanked him for the many years he cared for the property.

3. Steve Bedwell- Mr. Bedwell was present to ask the mayor what gave him the authority to decide who would set on the planning and zoning board. It was explained that the mayor is the one that nominates the board members by the city ordinance and the council approves the appointments. The mayor asked City attorney if he would like to address the citizen, to which he mentioned he would wait until that portion of the agenda.

4. Ed Weida- Was present to ask the council if anything could be done to get the fire department stronger water pressure. The mayor said he would update on this later in the meeting.

5. Linda Weida- Mrs. Weida was present to ask the city when the construction zone at Hwy EE and Hwy 28 would be cleaned up. It was explained that the contractor is still working on the project, and when weather permits, he will restore the site to preexisting condition.

H. 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.

I. OLD BUSINESS:

1. Planning and Zoning Members: Attorney James Klahr was present to address the previous motion from June 9th, 2026, meeting in which 9 members were elected to the board as a group vote without setting term lengths. He then read the ordinance and how it outlined the nominations should be handled. It was the recommendation of the city attorney, if the board deemed so, to revisit the last months nominations and vote on the proposed candidates individually with staggered terms allowing the alderman that abstained a chance to vote. Alderwoman Rebecca Withouse asked the mayor if he intended to sit on the board and be a voting member, he stated that he planned to attend but not be a voting member. Alderwoman Rebecca Withouse made a motion to revisit her motion from the June 9th, 2026, meeting but wants it on file that she feels this is excusatory, second by Alderman Seth Klein with all in favor.

- a. The mayor made a nomination to appoint Bev Abel to a 4-yr term; motion to approve made by Rebecca Withouse, second by Alderman Steve Vogt with all in favor.
- b. The mayor made a nomination to appoint Jeanette Struempf to a 2-year term to expire with her setting term; a motion to approve was made by Alderman Steve Vogt, second by Alderwoman Jeanette Struempf with a split vote, Alderwoman Rebecca Withouse voting nay, Alderman Seth Klwin voting aye, Alderwoman Jeanette Struempf voting aye and Alderman Steve Vogt voting aye. Alderwoman Jeanette Struempf is appointed with a 3-1-0 vote.
- c. The mayor made a nomination to appoint Barb Howarth to a 3-yr term; motion to approve made by Alderwoman Rebecca Withouse second by Alderman Steve Vogt all in favor.
- d. The mayor made a nomination to appoint Mike Dugan to a 3-yr term; motion to approve made by Alderwoman Jeanette Struempf second by Alderman Seth Klein all in favor.
- e. The mayor made a nomination to appoint Randy Frey to a 2-yr term; motion to approve made by Alderman Seth Klein second by Alderwoman Rebecca Withouse all in favor.
- f. The mayor made a nomination to appoint Kevin Guffey to a 1-year term; a motion to approve was made by Alderman Steve Vogt, second by Alderwoman Jeanette Struempf with all in favor.

- g. The mayor made a nomination to appoint Ben Simpson to a 1-year term; a motion to approve was made by Alderman Seth Klein second by Alderwoman Rebecca Withouse all in favor.
- h. The mayor made a nomination to appoint Steven Bedwell to a 1-year term; a motion to approve was made by Alderwoman Rebecca Withouse, second by Alderman Seth Klein with all in favor.
- i. The mayor made a nomination to appoint Linda Weida to a 1-year term; a motion to approve was made by Alderwoman Rebecca Withouse, second by Alderman Seth Klein all in favor.

2. Skid Steer Quote Discussion- the discussion was held on which skid steer to purchase. Mayor Mitchell stated the guys had demoed machines and asked Jim Goben, public works supervisor, what machine was best for the department. Jim stated that he was impressed with the John Deere machine, it had lots of power and outperformed the other machines they had demo-ed. City Treasurer stated that she thought the city should explore short term financing since both the water and sewer departments had big financial hits in the past month. A motion was made to purchase the John Deere Skid Steer from Heritage Tractor for \$46,406.00 and allow for financing by Alderwoman Jeanette Struempf second by Alderwoman Rebecca Withouse with all in favor.

3. Citizen Truck Repair Discussion- The mayor stated that a public works employee backed into a parked vehicle on a city street back in the winter. The council had previously voted to pay Adam Rodgers Auto Bobby for the repairs; however, the vehicle was in another accident and was totaled out. The citizen, claiming to own the vehicle, stood up and said his mother had inaccurately reported that information and the vehicle could be fixed. He asked that the council pay him the money for the vehicle to fix it his self. The council suggested to him that he needed to bring a new estimate for the repair cost to the council and they would revisit the issue at the next meeting. He asked for the same agreement to be offered to his other damaged vehicle, and the council agreed. Item is tabled until next meeting.

J. NEW BUSINESS:

1. Lawn Mower Quote Discussion- Quotes were in council packets from the following companies

- a. Bad Boy of Rolla- 2026 Bad Boy Rogue 61" \$11,535.00 with a trade in allowance of \$3,000 for our 2021 John Deere Z930M =\$8,535.00
- b. Heritage Tractor -2026 John Deere Z930M 60" \$11,707.08 with a trade in allowance of \$4,300 for our 2021 John Deere Z930M =\$7,407.08
- c. Diamond R Equipment – 2026 Turf Tiger 61" \$14,619.00 with a trade in allowance of \$2300.00 for our 2021 John Deere Z930M = \$12,319.00
- 2026 Cheetah 61" \$14,449.00 with a trade in allowance of \$2300.00 for our 2021 John Deere Z930M =\$12,149.00

-2026 Tiger Cat 61" \$11,474.00 with a trade in allowance of \$2300.00 for our 2021 John Deere Z930M = \$9,174.00

A motion was made by Alderwoman Jeanette Struempf to purchase the 2026 John Deere Z930M from Heritage Tractor, second by Alderman Seth Klein with all in favor.

2. Maries County Addendum to allow the "new" Maries County Collector to continue to collect city property taxes for the city of Belle. It was explained that Jayne Helton-Williams had retired from the county and this addendum would just continue the agreement with the new collector and the city. Alderman Steve Vogt motioned to sign the addendum second by Alderman Seth Klein with all in favor.

3. Missouri Ethics Commission Officials Filing Ordinance #671-1st Reading- Read by title only. It was explained that this ordinance expires every two years and the city must pass it by September 15th. Alderman Steve Vogt motioned to accept the first reading second by Alderwoman Jeanette Struempf with all in favor.

4. Change Order for Rock Island Trail- It was mentioned that Federal Highway had approved the change order to allow Central Missouri Excavation Company to do the prep work and grading for the trail since the city no longer has a grader and operator. It was explained that we had exhausted many options and were denied many ideas by Federal Highway. This was the only agreeable alternative Federal Highway accepted. This will increase the amount of funding the city has to pay out of pocket but does release the city of around 400 in-kind hours the city was obligated to for the trail head work. The amount of the increase is around \$12,000 and we may have some options to fundraise or donations that may be available. Alderwoman Rebecca Withouse motioned to accept the change order, second Alderman Steve Vogt with all in favor.

5. Joint Work with City of Bland to help them chip and seal a couple of streets. The city of Bland will reimburse the city the cost of the road oil, and reciprocate the help when Belle needs to chip and seal. Bland will provide their own gravel. Alderwoman Rebecca Withouse motioned to allow the public works department to help Bland, second by Alderman Seth Klein with all in favor.

6. Water Tower Inspection Reports- Gave the reports to the council for them to review over the next couple of months. The mayor mentioned that the lattice tower needed significant repairs and with the boards consent he would like to reach out and see if the tower can be re-lined or rehabilitated. The members gave their consent, and item was tabled to a future meeting when more information is available.

7. E360 Code Response for suggestions/corrections- E-code had put up the new updates to our code book, and those are live on the online book. They had a few suggestions for the city to look at and respond to; it was mentioned that we probably would need the attorneys advice or opinion on the matter.

a. Ord 644 Section 113.020 subsection L.d. – a dollar amount has been left blank and needs to be revisited. Alderwoman Rebecca Withouse asked Charro what amount she felt was appropriate. Charro said since the mayor has \$1,000 in a single transaction, perhaps a

reoccurring amounts up to \$500.00 was appropriate. She stated we currently have nothing reoccurring close to that amount, however, whatever they decided to be appropriate was fine. Attorney James Klarh suggested that this be done in a future meeting by way of ordinance. Item tabled until a future meeting.

b. Ord 647 Section 410.230 Fence Requirements - (alphabetical error needs corrected)- the lettering of the ordinance was incorrect, the letter (i) was missing which threw off the consecutive lettering. Attorney James Klarh suggested that this be done in a future meeting by way of ordinance. Item tabled until a future meeting.

K. STAFF REPORTS:

Mayor- James Mitchell:

1. Announced next regular meeting on August 11th, at 6:30 p.m.
2. Updates for Construction Sites- 8 inch main on Hwy EE and Hwy 28 is now online. Jimmy Zumwalt and Darin tested the pressure, and it was spraying 3 to 4 feet further than the 2in old main. At the country club the sprayers were spraying 6 to 8 feet further. This should improve the pressure for both the east and south side of town. The 8 in main is now online for Alvarado Ave. We also have completed the sewer man whole lining. He mentioned the progress is here and its more than the city has seen in 20-30 years.
3. The crew installing fiber optic lines, is boring and has hit a couple water mains. The guys have fixed several water breaks. They have sent in over 500 locates, so they have kept our guys busy.
4. Playground Equipment is ready to be installed, just need to find the time to start the projects. Moving the old equipment to the community center, which will be a big improvement to the city.
5. The public works guys and mayor worked Saturday to repair a water main break at 4th and Oak. They worked several hours to get everything fixed, and the 2 in pump kept losing prime which increased the amount of time it took to fix the repair. The mayor went and purchased a bigger 3-inch pump on Monday, and Darin and Jim will repair the other pumps so we should have enough pumps to help in the future. Also, wants to mention that Rodney Turner came out and helped Saturday and helped the guys identify a shutoff that will help with future breaks. A big thank you to Rodney!
6. Noted that we have the parts for the sewer project on Belle and Rohrer, again just trying to find the time to get the projects done.

Supervisor Jim Goben

1. Ditto to what the mayor said and stated just staying busy with main breaks and locates.

Marshal Jerry Coborn:

1. Stated he had 66 calls for service, has been working on grants and the least amount of the grants is \$40,000 and should know by the end of the month if they got it or not. He's been focusing on reports and getting compliant with the state.

2. Mayor mentioned he had complaints of no coverage all weekend again. The Marshal stated that he would have a schedule tomorrow and there should be no more gaps in coverage.

Alderman Steve Vogt:

1. Update on Hwy 63 Project from Maires River to Osage County Hwy 50
2. Mentioned highlights for the upcoming August 4th election Amendments
3. MRPC Updates

City Attorney James Klahr: Mentioned that he had just wrapped up at a conference which he felt went really well, he has some new ideas to share which he will present to the council in the near future.

L. Motion to Adjourn -the motion was made by Alderwoman Jeanette Struempf, second by Alderman Seth Klein with all in favor. A roll call was taken as follows: 7:50 pm

Alderman Seth Klein- aye

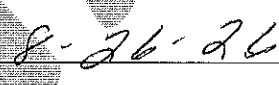
Alderwoman Jeanette Struempf-aye

Alderman- Steve Vogt- aye

Alderwoman Rebecca Withouse- aye



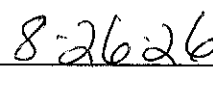
Mayor James Mitchell



Date



Cindy Barbarick



Date