



9641 Bellefontaine Road  
Bellefontaine Neighbors, MO 63137  
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## **FROM THE MAYOR'S DESK 07/18/2024 - 08/16/2024**

### **GREETINGS FELLOW CITIZENS:**

**On June 19th, 2025, our city will be 75 years old, a significant milestone we need to start planning for now. Your involvement is crucial in this planning process. If you wish to contribute to the planning committee, please call City Hall at 314-867-0076. Our meetings will be held both in person and via Zoom.**

We proudly announce our significant strides in rebranding, rebuilding, and revitalizing “Our Great City.” Progress is not just promising; it's tangible. Over the past two months, we've seen substantial changes in the finance, public works, and court systems.

### **WHAT'S BEEN DONE:**

- During the board of Alderman meeting on Thursday, June 25th, most board members approved my appointment of Judge Danelle Duffy to serve as our Municipal Judge and Attorney Bobby Bailey as our Prosecuting Attorney. We have a part-time and full-time court clerk.
- We hired Lakita Williams as our part-time finance clerk and utilized our contract with Stivers Temporary Service to bring in Tiffany Rommell, who works full-time.
- We have added a part-time Building Inspector, Dorsey Johnson, to assist our Code Enforcer, Felicia Bishop.
- CR Williams and Associates is currently conducting an audit of our FY2022 and FY2023 financials and will also audit our FY2024 financials.
- Americom is completing the installation of our new keypad door entry system for the city hall, the police department, and the recreation center. This system will significantly enhance our security measures and provide a safer environment.
- I met with Treasurer Rick Rognan about structuring the finance department and employee matters.
- We will be implementing the Betsy program through Paycom. Employees will use this to clock in and out.
- We had a meeting with the auditing team to get updates.
- Attended a meeting with the judge, prosecuting attorney, interim chief of police, code enforcer, court clerks, and prosecuting attorney administrative assistant.

- Since April 2023 we have paid \$987,749.78 in back debt! That's a total of \$1,431,001.03 in past-due bills. **ALL BILLS ARE CURRENT!**

### HEALTH:

- All cloth furniture needs to be steamed and cleaned.

### WHAT NEEDS TO BE DONE:

- Hire a Part-Time Administrative Assistant for the Mayor.
- Hire two additional laborers for the Public Works Department.

### SECURITY:

- Upgrade lights in both parking lots.

### EQUIPMENT:

- New phone system. We are waiting on one more bid.
- New computers for City Hall and the Recreation Center. We are waiting to get two more quotes.
- We have received three bids for equipment for the boardroom.
- We need an additional bid for servers.

### What's Happening Next:

- **We will hold community meetings to update citizens about our \$1,000,000 Urban Forestry grant from USDA and \$250,000 from the state.**
- **Every 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday from 10:00 am., I will have breakfast with the Citizens. This will allow you to express your needs and what you want to see happen in our city.**
- **We will schedule town hall meetings to discuss allocating the remaining ARPA (American Rescue Plan Act) funds. Meeting times will be scheduled for mornings, afternoons, and evenings to accommodate ALL citizens. The remaining balance is \$690,123.39 (See handout).**
- **If you want to help write grants for the city, you can join the grant writing class on Tuesdays. The class is via Zoom from 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. at the Recreation Center. Call city hall at 314-867-0076 to register.**

- **I encourage you to join the Next-door Neighborhood App and the city's Facebook page. We use these tools to communicate with those who cannot attend our regularly scheduled Board of Alderman meetings; we also use the website.**