

# URGENT

## **To the Citizens of Bellefontaine**

We, the employees of Bellefontaine City Hall, feel it is our duty to address you directly regarding the organized walkout we have collectively decided to undertake. This action was neither taken lightly nor in haste, but rather in response to persistent issues that have impacted our ability to effectively serve the city we care deeply about.

First and foremost, we want to make it clear that this decision is one we, the employees, have made independently. It is not influenced by the mayor or any other political figure. In fact, our action is in full support of the mayor, who has consistently advocated for the resources and reforms we so desperately need. Our frustration lies squarely with the lack of cohesion and productive action from the city's board, which has led to the untenable conditions we now face.

Over the past months, critical departments such as law enforcement, public works, administration, the courts, and parks & recreation have become increasingly understaffed. As a result, those of us who remain have been forced to stretch ourselves thin, working beyond reasonable capacity to try and keep the city functioning. Despite our best efforts, it feels as though the proverbial ship continues to sink.

Our primary role as city employees is to serve the public, but the constant overextension and lack of resources are making it nearly impossible for us to do our jobs effectively. We have raised these concerns repeatedly, but the board's meetings have become combative, unproductive, and negligent of the city's duty to its people. This ongoing dysfunction has prevented the changes necessary to address these staffing shortages and improve working conditions, leaving us with no choice but to make our voices heard in this manner.

We know that this walkout will cause temporary inconvenience, and for that, we sincerely apologize. However, we believe this is the only course of action left to highlight the gravity of the situation and to demand the kind of leadership and action that the citizens of Bellefontaine deserve. It is time for the board to come together, work cohesively, and ensure that our city's essential services are fully supported.

Thank you for your understanding during this difficult time. We remain committed to serving Bellefontaine and will continue to advocate for the changes needed to restore functionality and pride to our city.

Sincerely,

The Employees of Bellefontaine City Hall

**WE URGE YOU TO CONTACT YOUR ALDERMAN TO  
RESOLVE THIS ISSUE QUICKLY**

**BOARD OF ALDERMEN**

**WARD 1**

THERESA HESTER  
9923 COLONNADE MEADOWS  
314-669-1491

WESLEY GILLEPSIE  
619 MARSHFIELD  
314-868-9752

**WARD 2**

PEG WARNUSZ  
10030 CRETE DRIVE  
314-412-8362

MICHAEL WIESE  
1300 PERSHALL RD  
314-800-7577

**WARD 3**

JAMES W. THOMAS, SR  
1504 AKRON DRIVE  
314-580-7698

REGINA HARMON-WARD  
10077 DWIGHT DRIVE  
314-704-0021

**WARD 4**

ALEASE DAILES  
1240 ASTORIA DRIVE  
314-403-0888

ALICIA SMITH  
9433 DUENKE DRIVE  
314-764-1242