



CITY OF BELLEFONTAINE NEIGHBORS

BELLEFONTAINE NEWS

SPRING/SUMMER 2026



DR. MIRANDA AVANT
MAYOR

WARD 1 ALDERPERSONS
WESLEY GILLESPIE
FELICIA BISHOP

WARD 2 ALDERPERSONS
MICHAEL WIESE
DR. DUANE BELFORD

WARD 3 ALDERPERSONS
MICHELLE NUNLEY
BRITTANY ALBERTY

WARD 4 ALDERPERSONS
ALEASE DAILES
ALICIA SMITH

Greetings Neighbors,

I am honored and deeply grateful to share that I have been elected to serve as your Mayor of Bellefontaine Neighbors. Thank you for your trust, your support, and for showing up to make your voices heard. This victory belongs to all of us.

Throughout this journey, I had the privilege of connecting with so many residents—listening to your concerns, answering your questions, and hearing your vision for our community. Those conversations were not only meaningful, but they will continue to guide the work ahead.

I would also like to extend my sincere congratulations to all of the candidates who were successful in their races. Public service requires courage, dedication, and a willingness to lead. I look forward to working alongside each of you to strengthen our city through collaboration, transparency, and accountability.

As we move forward, my administration will focus on restoring trust, improving communication, and ensuring that our city operates with efficiency and integrity. We will work to strengthen public safety, enhance city services, support economic development, and create more opportunities for resident engagement. I am committed to building systems that keep our residents informed, involved, and empowered.

This is a new chapter for Bellefontaine Neighbors—one that will require unity, shared responsibility, and a collective vision for progress. Whether you supported me or not, please know that I am here to serve every resident with fairness, respect, and dedication.

I also encourage residents who are interested in serving our community to apply for a board or commission. Please visit cityofbn.com to learn more about available opportunities and submit your application. Your voice and involvement are essential as we work together to shape the future of Bellefontaine Neighbors.

I invite you to stay engaged, share your ideas, and be an active part of shaping the future of our city. Together, we will build a stronger, safer, and more connected Bellefontaine Neighbors.

With gratitude and commitment,

Miranda Avant

Dr. Miranda Avant

Mayor of Bellefontaine Neighbors

[Click Here](#) or



Scan to learn more about
the Mayor



CITY OF BELLEFONTAINE NEIGHBORS **BELLEFONTAINE NEWS**

2025-2026 ELECTED OFFICIALS



DR. MIRANDA AVANT
15TH MAYOR



WESLEY GILLESPIE
WARD 1 ALDERMAN



FELICIA BISHOP
WARD 1 ALDERWOMAN



MICHAEL WIESE
WARD 2 ALDERMAN



DR. DUANE BELFORD
WARD 2 ALDERMAN



MICHELLE NUNLEY
WARD 3 ALDERWOMAN



BRITTANY ALBERTY
WARD 3 ALDERWOMAN



ALEASE DAILES
WARD 4 ALDERWOMAN



ALICIA SMITH
WARD 4 ALDERWOMAN

HYBRID BOARD OF ALDERPERSONS MEETINGS
1ST THURSDAY OF EACH MONTH
WORKSHOP AT 6 PM AND
GENERAL MEETING AT 7:30 PM
CITY HALL/ZOOM

WWW.CITYOFBN.COM



CITY OF BELLEFONTAINE NEIGHBORS

WARDS 1 & 2



WESLEY GILLESPIE
ALDERMAN

I hope this newsletter finds each of you well as we enter the month of May. As always, I remain committed to serving Ward 1 and the entire Bellefontaine Neighbors community with integrity, transparency, and purpose.

Wesley W. Gillespie, MBA, Board President /Alderman



FELICIA BISHOP
ALDERWOMAN

I am grateful to the residents of Ward 1 for electing me to serve as your Alderwoman. My primary goal is to foster a local government rooted in transparency and integrity, while ensuring you are informed and involved.

My promise is to hold true to the facts and evidence throughout my decision-making. Together we will advocate for positive, meaningful change within our legislative body to improve our community.



MICHAEL WIESE
ALDERMAN

From the Office of Alderman Michael Wiese, Ward 2—A Message to the Community

Over the past several years, public forums and community conversations have highlighted many core Key Topics Raised at the Library Forum:

1. **City Court Location**
 - a. A question was raised about whether the city's court operations should be moved to Ferguson.
2. **Abandoned Homes & Squatting**
 - a. Concerns persist regarding vacant homes and occasional unauthorized occupancy.
3. **Speeding in Neighborhoods**
 - a. Residents noted ongoing issues with speeding on residential streets and asked what could help.

A Common Theme: Management and Coordination
Throughout the discussions, numerous challenges have been linked to administrative management.

In recent years, important issues have emerged, such as Communication & Transparency. Moving forward, open communication is crucial.
Ensuring that problems are presented transparently is vital for supporting the City.

—Michael Wiese, Alderman, Ward 2 Bellefontaine Neighbors

Hello to my fellow BN citizens,

I pray that all is well with you and your families in this season. Now that the election is over, it is now time to see the real results of your vote. I would like to thank each and every person in Ward 2 for your vote of confidence in me as your Alderman. I look forward to working with every citizen of the BN community.

As it is said that it takes a village to raise a child, so it will take all of us as a village to raise our beloved community back to the quality residential area we know BN can be. So, I encourage you as citizens of BN to have aspiration, anticipation, and adoration for our beloved city because the best is yet to come.

May God bless our City and our Country.

Alderman Belford



DR. DUANE BELFORD
ALDERMAN



CITY OF BELLEFONTAINE NEIGHBORS

WARD 3



MICHELLE NUNLEY
ALDERWOMAN

Hello Ward 3 Neighbors,

Spring is a wonderful time in Ward 3 as neighbors are outside more, gardens begin to grow, and families enjoy the warmer weather. It's also a great opportunity for us to continue working together to keep our community clean, safe, and welcoming. As more residents are walking and enjoying the outdoor weather, please remember to drive carefully through our neighborhoods and watch for children and pedestrians.

Thank you to the many residents who take pride in Ward 3 and look out for one another. Your commitment helps make our community stronger every day.



BRITTANY ALBERTY
WARD 3 ALDERWOMAN

Thank you for your trust in allowing me to serve as your Alderwoman. It is truly an honor to represent our community, and I'm excited about the work ahead. Together, I believe we can build something stronger and create a more connected community for Third Ward and beyond. Please stay connected by following our social media pages. If you would like to be added to our community email and resource list, feel free to text me at [314-684-8428](tel:3146848428). Above all, I want you to know that I'm grateful to be your Alderwoman, your advocate, your ally — but always your neighbor.

MUNICIPAL COURT — IMPORTANT NOTICE

The Bellefontaine Neighbors Municipal Court is currently in a staffing transition. Residents with upcoming court dates or outstanding cases should review the information below carefully.

Court Date Changes — Effective Immediately

Per Administrative Order 2026-04, issued March 13, 2026, by the Honorable Danielle C. Duffy, Judge of the City of Bellefontaine Neighbors Municipal Court, all previously scheduled court dates have been continued as follows:

April 8, 2026 → June 10, 2026 & **May 6, 2026 → July 8, 2026**

New summons will be mailed to all affected defendants at the address on file. If your address has changed, please contact the court as soon as possible using the information below.

Limited Court Staffing — Effective March 16, 2026

The Court Administrator position is currently vacant. The Court Clerk's Office is operating with limited staffing during this transition period. In-person services may be affected.

How to Contact the Court

All court inquiries should be submitted by email. Please include the following information:

- **Full Legal Name** (as it appears on your citation or court paperwork)
- **Date of Birth** (MM/DD/YYYY) **Case Number** (if known — found on your citation or court paperwork)
- **Return Email Address** (where you would like the court's response sent)

Email: courtclerk@cityofbn.com



Bellefontaine Neighbors Municipal Division | 21st Judicial Circuit, St. Louis County, Missouri



CITY OF BELLEFONTAINE NEIGHBORS

WARD 4



ALEASE DAILES
ALDERWOMAN



ALICIA SMITH
ALDERWOMAN



Howard



Gerald & JoAnn



Yvonne



Clarence



Julius



Terry



Gary



Walter & Wanda



Daisey



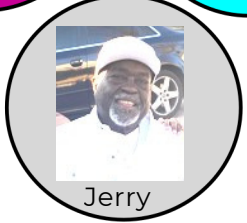
Jim



Athan & Mildred



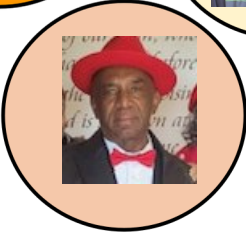
Charles



Jerry



Hosea



WARD 4 MONTHLY MEETINGS

- MAY 7, 2026 -JUNE 4, 2026
- JULY 2, 2026 -AUGUST 6, 2026

11:00 AM at City Hall

ALL WARDS WELCOME

DISCUSSIONS WILL INCLUDE:

- BOARD OF ALDERMEN AGENDAS
- QUESTION & ANSWER SESSIONS
- THE IMPORTANCE OF USING THE WEBSITE PORTAL
- CITIZENS' NEEDS AND
- SPECIAL GUESTS RELEVANT TO OUR SENIORS

PLEASE COME AND HELP CREATE OUR NEWLY UNITED VILLAGE



CITY OF BELLEFONTAINE NEIGHBORS BLACK HISTORY CELEBRATION



Special "Thank You"

Derricka Wilson
Photographer





CITY OF BELLEFONTAINE NEIGHBORS BELLEFONTAINE NEWS



Greetings from the Building Dept John Heitman- Code Compliance Officer

Spring means the start of the growing season. Life is returning to the earth, and people are spending time outside. So enjoy your yard, and be courteous to your neighbors. Part of that is keeping the visual enjoyment possible. Nobody likes looking at an uncut yard. City ordinance requires the grass to be kept below 8 inches in height. That's roughly the height of a 20-ounce soda bottle. Most lawn mowers have a maximum cutting height of only 4 inches. So mowing your lawn every two weeks should be enough.

T. Jr., Marcus Daily, & DaeSha Hightower of Graybar Hazelwood for helping clean our city parks

We are about to enter storm season, which will blow down tree limbs. The city does not have a limb collection service. Anything smaller than your wrist can be broken down and placed in your yard waste trash can. That would be the can with the blue lid. You can also use the large brown paper yard bags sold at most hardware stores. In the case of a heavy storm that downs trees, the city will publish a notice on our website when storm damage service will be picked up.

If you are like me, nice weather means driveway car maintenance. Please remember that such repairs must be minor, and the car must be drivable at the end of the day. Cars cannot stay jacked up overnight, or have parts sitting beside them on the ground. Nobody wants to feel like they live next door to a junkyard. Your pets are going to want to be outside just as much as you do. Please remember no more than 2 pets (dogs or cats combined) per house, and they must have city tags on their collars. These are ANNUAL registrations, so please stop in to get them. And don't forget our pet clinic the first Saturday in June, between 9 and 11 AM. It will be behind city hall, and prices will be posted on the website.



And lastly, please make sure your trash gets to the street for pickup. Spring weather means increased animal activity, and squirrels, possums, and raccoons will frequently raid your trash for food, spreading trash across the ground. Make sure your trash cans go back to your house after pickup. Cans belong at the side of the house or in the garage. Please do not leave them at the curb. And if you plan on doing any construction work, please contact the building department to determine if a permit is required.

Let's keep the city safe and enjoyable for all. The Building Department is happy to answer any questions you may have. Contact us at BFNBuildingDept@CityofBN.com

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE!



JAMES THOMAS SR.
FORMER MAYOR



THERESA HESTER
FORMER WARD 1 ALDERWOMAN



REGINA HARMON
FORMER WARD 3 ALDERWOMAN

The City of Bellefontaine Neighbors extends its gratitude to James Thomas Sr., Theresa Hester, and Regina Harmon for their dedicated service.

HELPFUL TIPS & REMINDERS FOR THE SPRING & SUMMER SEASONS



From Our Dedicated Staff in the Public Works
and Streets Departments

Sweetgum Trees

Those sweetgum trees are glorious in the Fall, but the seeds (spikey balls) they drop in Spring are messy and are very annoying! They clog our gutters and are unsightly. The Street Department receives many calls from residents asking that we cut down the trees. Bellefontaine Neighbors will not cut down a healthy tree, sorry! The homeowners are responsible for cleaning up the leaves and seeds they drop to prevent clogged gutters. Some people have success using a rake and a snow shovel to scoop them into your yard waste bin. There are gadgets sold which advertise picking up the balls – it may be worthwhile to check it out. Or hire a teen looking to make some extra cash.

Protect your Pets

Mark your calendar! Bellefontaine Neighbors hosts a pet clinic the first Saturday in June, from 9:00 AM to 11:00 AM. Ferguson Animal Hospital will give your dog or cat the required shots at a reduced rate. They will also chip your pet in case your pet is lost and found. We will scan your pet and contact the owner. Please remember all pets need to be registered with the city, and we allow only two per household. Questions? Contact the building department at 314-867-0076 ext. 257 or email at BFNBuildingDept@CityofBN.com.

Lawn Care and Yard Waste Disposal

If yard waste (such as leaves, grass clippings, weeds, prunings, brush, and small twigs) is disposed of along a creek or in a storm drain, it can have a negative impact on the community. Yard waste decaying in creeks and rivers decomposes in a process that removes oxygen from the water. Fish and other aquatic life can't survive in water with low oxygen. As yard waste decomposes, plant nutrients such as nitrogen and phosphorus are also released. These nutrients promote the excessive growth of algae in the water. As the water becomes polluted, it does not support aquatic life and becomes a health hazard.



CITY OF BELLEFONTAINE NEIGHBORS

BELLEFONTAINE NEWS

BILLS, ORDINANCES, & RESOLUTIONS

Recently approved and tabled legislative decisions made by the Board of Aldermen

December 2025 – May 2026				
Bill / Resolution #	Date	Description	Ordinance / Resolution #	Status
2740	12/4/2025	Authorization of Fund Repayments to Employees for 2019 through 2025	2709	Passed
2741	12/10/2025	Funds Allocation for the Black History Event	2710	Passed
2742	12/10/2025	Funds Allocation for the Kwanzaa Celebration	2711	Passed
2743	1/7/2026	Ballot Prop 1—Allowing Two-Year Terms for Mayor and Aldermen	Tabled	Tabled
2744	3/5/2026	Amendment to Eliminate Fees Charged to Inmates During Imprisonment	2712	Passed
2745	3/5/2026	Amendment to Eliminate "Failure to Appear" Charges	2713	Passed
2746	5/7/2026	Establishing the salary for Assistant Treasurer Division 8 of the City Municipal Code and Section 79.230 RSMo.	Tabled	Tabled
2747	5/7/2026	Authorizing the City to hire Bryant Nelson as Assistant City Treasurer pursuant to Chapter 2, Article III, Division 8 of the City Municipal Code and Section 79.230 RSMo.	Tabled	Tabled
2748	5/7/2026	Authorizing the City to hire Semmie Ruffin-Hall as Assistant City Clerk pursuant to Ordinance No. 1543 with a monthly salary up to \$1,853.00 and setting the annual salary of the City Clerk at \$46,528.57.	2716	Passed
2749	5/7/2026	Authorizing the re-appointment of Bobby Bailey as Prosecuting Attorney for the City of Bellefontaine Neighbors	Tabled	Tabled
2750	5/7/2026	Authorizing the re-appointment of Danielle Duffy as Municipal Judge for the City of Bellefontaine Neighbors	Tabled	Tabled
2751	5/7/2026	Hiring of Deletra Hudson, LLC as an independent contractor for City Finance Director at the monthly rate of \$5,000.00	2714	Passed
2752	5/7/2026	Amending Section 2-246(b) of the Municipal Code to eliminate the need for three signatories and change to two signatories	2715	Passed
RES-2025-10	1/7/2026	Resolution to Support East-West Gateway Grant Application – Shepley Road	2025-10	Passed
RES-2026-01	3/5/2026	Resolution in Support of Contracting with MSD to Obtain Grant Funds	2026-01	Passed
RES-2026-02	5/7/2026	Adding Semmie Ruffin-Hall as a signatory on City bank accounts, including Simmons Bank, Regions Bank, UMB, and MOSIP	2026-02	Passed
RES-2026-03	5/7/2026	Substitution of James Thomas Sr. with Dr. Miranda Avant as a signatory on City bank accounts	2026-03	Passed
RES-2026-04	5/7/2026	Removing Deletra Hudson as a signatory on City bank accounts	2026-04	Passed
RES-2026-05	5/7/2026	Commitment to public safety and the reduction of violent crime in support of participation in the Missouri Blue Shield Program	2026-05	Passed
RES-2026-06	5/7/2026	Authorizing an audit by the State of Missouri	Tabled	Tabled

JOB/CAREER OPENINGS

The City of Bellefontaine Neighbors has full-time and part-time positions available in several departments. For more details regarding these job openings, including duties and salary information, visit our website: www.cityofbn.com and contact the Human Resources Department at City Hall at (314) 767-0076 x235.