

Town of Beloit Fire Department Monthly Newsletter



April – 2025
Volume 3, Issue 4

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Daniel Drewes 5/2
Bill Engen 5/3



Dan Pease 5/21
Tom Wisen 5/27

Welcome Back Caleb Gato and Shelby Rodriguez

The Town of Beloit Fire Department is proud to welcome back two familiar faces—Caleb Gato and Shelby Rodriguez—both of whom bring valuable experience and a strong commitment to service.

Caleb Gato began his journey with the department as a paid-on-call firefighter before being hired full-time in 2023. After nearly a year, he took an opportunity to

gain experience with a larger department. We're pleased that after gaining that broader perspective, Caleb chose to return to the Town of Beloit Fire Department, where his skills and familiarity with the community are a true asset.



Shelby Rodriguez also started with the department as a paid-on-call firefighter. She left to serve in the armed forces, exemplifying her dedication to public service. Following her military service, Shelby worked briefly for Rock County Communications before returning to the fire service and rejoining the Town of Beloit Fire Department. We're excited to have both Caleb and Shelby back on the team. Their dedication and experience strengthen our department and help us continue providing high-quality service to our community.

911 Improvements

As Town of Beloit Fire Department continues to strengthen operational ties with our neighbors in Illinois, we've identified communication challenges between Rock County Communications and Winnebago County Dispatch.

These gaps became more apparent as joint responses and coordination across state lines have increased. While both dispatch centers are highly professional and responsive to our needs, differences in systems and protocols have occasionally made seamless communication more difficult during emergency responses.

We are actively working with both Rock and Winnebago County communications teams to improve coordination and ensure timely, accurate information flows between agencies. These efforts will help us better serve the public—regardless of jurisdiction—and continue building a reliable, cooperative response network across the border.

We appreciate the willingness and collaboration of both dispatch centers as we work toward stronger, more efficient communications.

Forcible Entry Training



Town of Beloit Firefighters recently participated in specialized forcible entry training designed to enhance their ability to gain access quickly and efficiently during emergency situations. The hands-on sessions focused on techniques used to breach locked doors, windows, and other barriers commonly encountered during structure fires and rescue operations.

Using both conventional tools like Halligan bars and axes, as well as more advanced equipment, firefighters practiced multiple entry methods under realistic conditions. The training emphasized speed, safety, and coordination, all critical when seconds matter in saving lives and protecting property.

These scenarios not only reinforced basic skills but also gave personnel the opportunity to work through complex entry challenges they may face on the fireground. Forcible entry remains one of the most essential skills in the fire service, particularly when immediate access is needed for search and rescue or fire suppression.

Town of Beloit Fire Department Completes Recruitment Process for Five New Firefighter Positions

Town of Beloit Fire Department has successfully concluded its latest recruitment process to fill vacancies. After a competitive selection process, conditional offers have been extended to five individuals—all of whom have accepted the conditional offers.

Two candidates completed pre-employment screenings and started right away however 3 candidates are in the process of completing all required pre-employment screenings before officially joining the department. Once cleared, they will begin their journey with us through an academy designed to teach the foundational skills and expectations of the fire service in the Town.

We look forward to welcoming these new members and supporting them as they begin their careers with the Town of Beloit Fire Department.



Town of Beloit Fire Department

Now Recruiting!

Apply February 25th through April 15, 2025
Positions open until filled. Apply today!

The Town of Beloit currently has 20 full time personnel and we are looking to add 10 more full time personnel to help launch new Fire Station #2

Salary: \$ 56,547—74,594

- > Health & Dental Insurance plan
- > Life Insurance
- > Flexible Spending Account for health care and child-care expenses
- > Retirement through Wisconsin Retirement System
- > Employee Assistance Program for employee and family members
- > Deferred compensation
- > Paid sick leave
- > Paid holiday leave
- > 48/96 Schedule

Minimum Application Requirements:

- Be a United States Citizen
- Be at least a minimum of 18 years of age at the time of application.
- Possess a valid driver's license.
- Possess a high school diploma, G.E.D. or equivalent.
- Possess a valid National Registry or Emergency Medical Technician-Basic license or higher. Paramedic license preferred
- Possess a Firefighter 1 certification.
- In school— Working on your certs— We want you to apply.

Candidates interested in a career at Town of Beloit Fire Department can learn more about the recruitment process, application requirements, qualification and testing information, and more at: <https://www.townofbeloit.org/jobs>

Recruiting Contact: Deputy Chief Brian Snyder, Office 608-472-2225 Email bsnyder@town.beloit.wi.us



New Part Time Fire Inspector Position Coming Soon

To enhance our fire prevention efforts and better serve the community, the department will be adding a part-time Fire Inspector position. This role is intended to strengthen our ability to meet inspection demands, ensure code compliance, and support our ongoing commitment to community risk reduction.

The Fire Inspector will be responsible for conducting fire inspections on new and existing commercial properties, help review construction plans for fire code compliance, investigating fire code complaints, and issuing correction notices when needed. The inspector may also assist with fire investigations and will play a role in public education efforts related to fire prevention and life safety. Accurate documentation and detailed inspection reporting will be essential parts of the job.

This position will help provide consistency in our prevention efforts and reduce the inspection workload on our operations crews. Additional details about the hiring process and anticipated start date will be shared soon.



WHEN FIRE INSPECTORS FANTASIZE

Dan Drewes Probation

Congratulations to Firefighter Daniel Drewes on successfully passing probation! Your hard work, dedication, and commitment to the department have not gone unnoticed. We're proud to officially welcome you as a permanent member of the team—well deserved!

Live Fire Training



The Town of Beloit Fire Department recently participated in a joint training session with the Beloit Fire Department, focusing on improving coordination during fireground operations and enhancing overall response efficiency between the two departments. These types of joint trainings are an important step in strengthening the partnership between agencies that often work side by side at emergency incidents.

The training emphasized key skills such as hose line advancement, search and rescue, ventilation techniques, and incident command coordination. Firefighters had the opportunity to work through realistic scenarios that required close communication and teamwork across department lines. Training together under simulated conditions helps ensure a seamless response when real emergencies

occur.

Both departments recognize the value in these collaborative efforts, not only for building operational consistency but also for reinforcing the professional relationships that support effective mutual aid. As our communities continue to grow and the demand for service increases, training together will remain a priority to ensure the highest level of service and safety for the public and our personnel.



