

THE CITY OF  
**SOUTH BELOIT**  
ILLINOIS

---

**STATEMENT REGARDING INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT WITH TOWN OF  
BELOIT FOR FIRE STAFFING SERVICES**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**For Further Information Contact:**

**Tom Fitzgerald, Mayor, City of South Beloit**

**815-389-3023**

South Beloit, IL (August 30, 2025) – At the end of 2023, the City of South Beloit and the Town of Beloit entered into discussions regarding the possibility of an intergovernmental agreement (IGA) for firefighting and emergency medical services. In March 2024, the City approved an IGA following several months of discussions, negotiations and meetings between the two communities. Town of Beloit thereafter approved the agreement in May 2024 and the agreement commenced July 1, 2024.

Fire Department staffing shortages have become a challenge nationally, especially in smaller departments, due to decreasing volunteer/paid-on-call staffing pools. Over the past few months, it has been clear that the Town of Beloit has struggled to provide staff as required under the terms of the agreement despite its best efforts to do so.

As a result, the City recently engaged the Illinois Fire Chief's Association to examine not only the existing agreement with Town of Beloit, but other models and options available to the City. A presentation was recently made by the Illinois Fire Chief's Association at the August 4th City Council meeting regarding the results of that report and options for next steps.

The City is aware that the Town of Beloit has the review of the IGA with the City of South Beloit on its upcoming meeting agenda. This is the result of several months of discussions between the two communities regarding the existing agreement. The current agreement includes a one-year notification provision for both communities prior to termination. The City intends to continue to work with the Town of Beloit during this period of transition while following the recommendations of the Illinois Fire Chief's Association regarding staffing of the South Beloit Fire Department.

The City of South Beloit City Council believed then, as it does now, that regionalization of area fire departments is necessary to ensure proper staffing throughout Northern Illinois. To that end, the City of South Beloit will be discussing next steps at upcoming City Council meetings regarding how staffing will be addressed in the future.

####

"AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER"

---