

BIDCO Update



"Promoting Economic Growth and Development"

Oct 2008

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

October was a busy month in many ways but very slow in the area of industrial development. I don't need to remind you about the financial climate nation wide and our own situation here in Wright County.

From the BIDCO stand point our focus at this point is to make sure we're ready when the economic situation improves. The Support Materials team is keeping our town brochure current and the web site is receiving periodic updates as changes are made to local businesses.

On that note, congratulations to McLaughlin Brothers for the recent sale to Wright County Motors. We are thrilled that they were able to close this deal and keep a long standing business open in Belmond.

Don't forget to vote on Nov 4th!!

Dan Lovgren

WEB PROJECT Focus Area

Did you know that Bidco and the City are updating calendars monthly? Each group has a monthly calendar that displays important events and you can display them by month for each group or you can look at all the groups at once to look for potential conflicts.

Once the new chamber director is on board we'll have more of the chamber events on the web site.

November 2008

Monday, November 03, 2008
City Council Meeting
7:00 pm

FEATURED BUSINESS Printing Services Inc.

In 1965 Merle Been partnered with a fellow north Iowan to take over the Advertiser of Wesley and Britt and start the Belmond Reminder as well as do some printing on the side. Initially printing was done out of a garage with two part-time employees and owners' spouses.

In 1967 Jobco Printing was purchased and the business along with owners moved to Belmond. One year later Merle and Doris bought out their partner. In 1976 a new 10,000 sq. ft. building was constructed on Highway 69 North in Belmond. Over the years and five other expansions have grown the facility to 55,000 sq. ft. and nearly 250 employees with affiliated companies. Merle passed away in 2005 and company continues to thrive under family ownership with his children Steve Been, Joni Worden and Rod Been.

This past summer created unique challenges to the company not seen since the 1966 tornado. Late this spring saw the Iowa river rise to levels heretofore unseen. At 10 PM on a Sunday evening it was evident that sandbagging the building perimeter was essential. In true small town fashion many community volunteers along with company employees gathered to fill and lay sandbags all through the evening and early morning darkness until the plant appeared safe from rising waters.

Everyone went home with a job well done, but at 5:30AM it was discovered for the first time ever, water had entered the building. Once again community volunteers and company employees mobilized to protect and save the machinery and equipment threatened by rising water. Essentially the next two days were spent relocating over 100 computer stations and several servers to dry locations so production could resume as soon as possible.

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PSI, Cont.

Syngenta had dry warehouse space availability for inventory and Eaton maintenance personnel helped to stabilize or move machinery/motors from water damage. All phone and computer lines needed installed at relocated facilities. Many local contractors as well as county volunteers began the daunting task of pulling up all the carpet and tearing off the the first 2 feet of drywall throughout the plant before reconstruction could even begin.

ServiceMaster came in with over 40 dehumidifiers with 50gallon/day each drying capacity to get the plant in condition for the repair/remodeling to begin. With all the relocation and plant disruption company production was down less than one week. However for the first time ever they were not able to publish that weeks Belmond Reminder.

Company President Steve Been offered his takeaways from this event. Steve stated "It is humbling to see so much community/county volunteer support come to the aid of company employees in their time of need". The local contractors/vendors began repair and remodeling almost immediately so that the company was able vacate temporary locations and be fully operational within the plant in less than 90 days. Steve also said to know your disaster plans, review insurance coverage and get your archived valuable records/papers digitized.

For more information regarding disaster preparedness or Printing Services, Inc. contact Steve Been at 641-444-3955 or get on the web at www.printingservicesinc.net.

WEB PROJECT, Cont. Focus Area

Green items are city related, Blue are Chamber events and Burgundy are BIDCO. The calendar to the right shows only items for the City during November.

Calendar of Events City of Belmond

November 2008

View: All Events

- Monday, November 03, 2008
City Council Meeting
7:00 pm
- Wednesday, November 12, 2008
Mid Iowa Regional Housing Authority
7:00 pm
- Monday, November 17, 2008
Joint Meeting of City Council, Chamber Board and BIDCO Board
5:15 pm
- Monday, November 17, 2008
City Council Meeting
7:00 pm
- Wednesday, November 19, 2008
MIDAS Council of Governments
6:00 pm

City of Belmond BIDCO Chamber of Commerce

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