

MINUTES OF THE MONTHLY MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF
THE CITY OF BELLE MEADE

DECEMBER 16, 2009

The regular monthly meeting of the Board of Commissioners of the City of Belle Meade convened at Belle Meade City Hall, 4705 Harding Road, Nashville, Tennessee, on Wednesday, December 16, 2009 at 4:00 p.m. Those present were: Mayor Gray Thornburg, Vice Mayor James Hunt, Commissioner Cathy Altenbern, Commissioner Tom Corcoran, Commissioner George Crook, City Manager and Treasurer Beth Reardon, City Recorder Linda Berner, Police Chief Tim Eads, Police Lieutenant Vince Higgins, City Building Official Terry Franklin, Public Works Superintendent George Bartlett, and City Attorney Bob Patterson.

Mayor Thornburg presided over and called the meeting to order. The first item on the agenda was the public hearing. Mayor Thornburg asked if anyone from the public wished to speak, and Mr. Clay Phillips, 4315 Sunnybrook Drive, requested recognition. Mr. Phillips stated his objective is entering into constructive long term discussions involving the sidewalk issue. He presented the Board a handout detailing support for sidewalks in Belle Meade, then spoke on its contents. After his presentation, Mayor Thornburg stated that the City has been informed by Metro Water Department of an extensive water main construction project within

Belle Meade starting in January and lasting approximately 360 days, which will involve streets and properties being torn up to lay pipe. The Mayor also advised everyone to review the surveys regarding sidewalks conducted in 2001. Lastly, she informed all that a task force studying safety concerns for pedestrians and bicyclists will be put in place early next year.

Mr. Burton Harvey, 219 Jackson Boulevard, asked to speak before the Board. He requested that when the Special Impact Area A was created, six lots on Jackson Boulevard were excluded from it. He would like for those properties to now be included in the Impact Area. Mayor Thornburg informed him that the request would have to be sent to the Municipal Planning Commission for review. Their recommendation would be sent back to the Board for a formal vote. Mrs. Reardon explained that any changes to the zoning codes have to be advertised in the newspaper before the public hearing. Mr. Patterson stated that since this is a change to the City's ordinance, a draft of a proposed ordinance needs to be prepared first. Commissioner Corcoran asked Mr. Patterson if he would draft the ordinance for review, and Mr. Patterson agreed.

There being no further request for recognition from the public, the Mayor closed the public portion of the meeting.

Mayor Thornburg asked for consideration of the minutes of the regular Commissioners' meeting held November 18, 2009. Vice Mayor Hunt moved for approval of the minutes and Commissioner Crook

seconded the motion. Upon vote, the November minutes were unanimously approved.

Mayor Thornburg recognized Mr. Bartlett for his November 2009 Public Works report, which was reviewed. Mr. Bartlett asked if there were any questions on his report, and there were none.

The next item of business was the request for installation of an asphalt speed bump on Herbert Place. The existing speed bump had deteriorated to the point that it no longer stays in place, despite measures to re-drive the spikes to hold it down. The Herbert Place residents are in favor of the new speed bump. The Mayor stated the estimated cost to replace the speed bump by Gibbs Brothers would be \$807. Vice Mayor Hunt made the motion to approve the request and Commissioner Crook seconded the motion. Upon vote, the approval was unanimous.

The Mayor recognized Chief Eads for the monthly Public Safety report, which was distributed to the Commissioners prior to the meeting. The Chief asked if there were any questions, and Commissioner Crook inquired about the status of the coyote problem in Belle Meade. Chief replied that Wildlife Services are attempting to trap the animals for relocation. There were no further questions for Chief Eads. It was noted there were 361 traffic citations written, ten traffic crashes (none resulted in personal injury), five arrests, 29 alarm calls, zero burglaries, and four incident reports filed (two of which were theft related).

Mayor Thornburg recognized Mr. Bartlett for the Health and Sanitation report, which was distributed prior to the meeting. Mr. Bartlett asked if there were any questions, and there were none.

Mayor Thornburg recognized Mr. Franklin for his November 2009 Building/Zoning and Planning reports, which were distributed prior to the meeting. It was noted that fourteen permits were issued for a total estimated construction cost of \$538,580.47 and seven permits were closed out during the month. There were no questions for Mr. Franklin at this time.

Mayor Thornburg recognized Mr. Ed Freeman, who recently resigned as Chairman of the Board of Zoning Appeals. She thanked him for his services and leadership during his term on the Board. She announced that Mr. Brian Smallwood would take over the duties as Chairman of the Board of Zoning Appeals in January 2010.

Mayor Thornburg noted there were no matters to report for Waste Collection and Beautification/Landscape. Commissioner Altenbern asked Mrs. Reardon for the total amount collected for the Beautification Fund to date, and was told approximately \$30,000, which is slightly less than previous years.

Under City Communications, Mayor Thornburg announced that information regarding the Metro Water Main Project will be posted on the website, including construction locations and time frames. Commissioner Altenbern asked if the speed limits could be lowered

during construction times, and Chief answered it would be possible to do so temporarily in the work zones.

Mayor Thornburg recognized Mrs. Reardon for her November 2009 financial reports, which were distributed prior to the meeting. Mrs. Reardon stated there were many donations received as a result of the letter regarding employee fund donations. On behalf on the employees, she thanked the residents for their generosity. She then offered to answer any questions on the financial statements or investment schedule and there were none. After discussion and on motion made by Commissioner Altenbern and seconded by Vice Mayor Hunt, the following invoices in excess of \$2,500.00 were approved for payment:

Bradley Arant Boulton Cummings	\$ 3,000.00
Gibbs Brothers Construction	\$17,387.21
Gibbs Brothers Construction	\$ 7,358.42
Gibbs Brothers Construction	\$ 5,562.95
Commonwealth Chemical	\$ 2,856.60
Commonwealth Chemical	\$ 2,700.00

All invoices were unanimously approved, except Commissioner Corcoran voted against approval for the \$5,562.95 invoice from Gibbs Brothers Construction, for drainage repairs to the Tarkington property at 614 Enquirer. He feels the residents should be responsible for payment. Discussion continued regarding the Tarkington property as well as other drainage problems within the City.

The next item of business was the approval of 2009 Audit Report. There being no questions, Vice Mayor Hunt made the motion to approve the report and Commissioner Crook seconded the motion. Upon vote, the approval was unanimous.

The next item on the agenda was the consideration of the auditor engagement letter. Crosslin & Associates has served the City as the auditors for the last three years, and the Audit Committee recommends approving them for next three years. The stated fees are: \$23,000 for 2010, \$24,000 for 2011, and \$25,000 for 2012. Commissioner Altenbern asked Mrs. Reardon if the City was happy with the services of Crosslin & Associates, and was told yes. Commissioner Altenbern made the motion to approve Crosslin & Associates as the City Auditors, and Commissioner Crook seconded the motion. Upon vote, the approval was unanimous.

The next item of business was the status of the Audit Committee. The Mayor stated during discussion with Mr. Bill Blaufuss, Chairman of the Audit Committee, it was recommended to dissolve the Audit Committee and replace it with a larger Finance Committee. No vote was required at this time.

The next item of business was the purchase of digital recording software. Mrs. Reardon asked that this matter be deferred until January so more research can be done. Commissioner Altenbern made the motion to defer and Commissioner Corcoran seconded the motion. Upon vote, the deferral was unanimous.

Mayor Thornburg noted there were no matters to report for Personnel, Facilities, or Legislation.

There being no further business to come before the Commissioners, the meeting was thereupon adjourned at 4:40pm until the next meeting on Wednesday, January 20, 2010 at 4:00pm.

Mayor Gray Thornburg

City Recorder Linda Berner