

COMMISSIONERS: James V. Hunt, Sr., *Mayor* • Cathy Altenbern, *Vice Mayor* • Gray O. Thornburg,
Bob Weigel, Boyd Bogle • Beth Reardon, City Manager/Treasurer • Tim Eads, Chief of Police

City Hall (615) 297-6041 / Police Dept. (615) 297-0241 / www.citybellemeade.org



NEWSLETTER TO RESIDENTS OF BELLE MEADE NOVEMBER 2016

RECAP OF RECENT SURVEY - (VIDEO SURVEILLANCE SYSTEM, HOME ALARMS AND SPEED LIMITS FOR BELLE MEADE?)



More than 600 Belle Meade residents participated in the recent survey regarding Video Surveillance System, Home Alarms and Speed limits in the city. The commissioners were surprised and highly pleased with the responses. A brief recap of the three items revealed the following information.

Video Surveillance: Nearly 75% of respondents favored the consideration of a video surveillance system that would monitor cars entering and leaving the city. This system, if approved by the commissioners, would capture video of cars and their license plate numbers 24 hours a day. As cars enter and leave Belle Meade, license plate numbers are run through a national database of stolen cars or other vehicles associated with criminal offenses. If the license number is recognized from the database, an alarm is registered and a notification sent to Belle Meade Police. If an incident, such as a home invasion, or a crime is reported, video footage would be retrieved and reviewed in hopes of identifying the subject vehicle and its passenger(s).

Survey comments from residents did question if the cost of such a system would result in a property tax increase. The city has ample reserve funds to purchase and maintain such a system without increasing property taxes. Other concerns and comments: Isn't Belle Meade safe enough with the police presence within the city? The system would not lessen police patrolling but would supplement their effectiveness. What about an individual's privacy? Installation of the cameras would be at locations designed to view vehicles travelling on the street, not private residences.

Before any final decisions are made to proceed with a city-wide video system, informational meetings would be held to expand upon and clarify system details. In the meantime, a location will be tested to validate the system as well as the overall hardware/software cost of the system, including maintenance.

Home Alarms: Nearly 85% of Belle Meade respondents have home alarm systems. 27% of the respondents were in favor of issuing an alarm permit without a fee. Another 36% were in favor of a one-time \$10 permit fee, while the remaining 37% were not in favor of a permit. A permit would assist the police department in creating a database of alarm systems by address. This would be essential in assuring that the alarm company has listed Belle Meade Police as first responder.

70% of respondents were in favor of assessing a fine to habitual false alarm offenders with 50% favoring a \$50 fine after 3 and each subsequent substantiated false alarm. There was only 40 % of support for a class in lieu of a fine for the first finable offense.

Speed Limits: 70% of respondents were opposed to a traffic study and 90% were opposed to lowering all streets speed limit to 25mph. Most respondents were in favor of leaving speed limits as they currently are. However, 20% of respondents were in favor of lowering the speed limit to 25mph on three streets, Leake, Westview and Jackson.

Citizens are encouraged to contact their commissioners with their comments, questions and/or concerns.



City Hall offices will be closed Thursday and Friday, November 24th and 25th for the Thanksgiving holidays. In case of sewer, street or other city emergencies, please call the Police Dept. at 615-297-0241.





FROM THE POLICE DEPARTMENT – CHIEF TIM EADS:



With holiday shopping around the corner, make sure you remain aware of your surroundings at all times. Ask for assistance from the merchant to assist you with packages or provide a security escort to your vehicle. Always remember to Park Smart by locking your vehicle and securing or keeping valuables out of sight. Continue to practice good crime prevention habits by always locking your house and setting your alarm. For more information on crime prevention and safety tips contact our Neighborhood Watch Coordinator, Officer Dee Howell, at dhowell@citybellemeade.org.

Solicitation often picks up during the holiday season, so buyer beware. Solicitors are required to have a permit from the City of Belle Meade. A solicitation permit does not mean that the City endorses or guarantees the product or service being sold. Do not hesitate to ask to see a permit when a solicitor comes to your door. If they cannot produce one, call us immediately at 615-297-0241 so we can respond and take the appropriate action.

We have not had any more reports of car burglaries since the last newsletter, but we have had one report of lawn equipment being stolen off of a landscaper’s truck. Please continue to remind service providers to Park Smart and secure any equipment that remains unattended while working.

Fire Safety Tips. If you have a wood fireplace or stove, remember to have your chimney inspected and cleaned to prevent a home fire.

During the holidays, it is a good time to remind everyone to encourage family and friends to drive safely and Drive Sober. Always have a designated driver or call a cab or Uber/Lift type service to provide a safe drive home for everyone.

Happy Thanksgiving to All!

RECAP OF BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS’ MEETINGS



The Commissioners took action on the following items at the **October 19, 2016** meeting:

- Awarded the 2016-2018 Snow & Ice Removal Contract to Sammie Gibbs Construction.
- Awarded the 2016-2018 Street Sweeping Contract to Sweeping Corporation of America for the low bid of \$18,754.56 per year.
- Awarded the 2017-2018 Landscape Maintenance Contract to Landscape Services, Inc. (LSI) for \$132,000 per year.
- Awarded the 2017-2018 Street Maintenance Contract to Gibbs Brothers Construction, who was the low bidder on unit pricing for labor, equipment and materials.
- Awarded Cherry Land Survey the contract for the Harding Place Boundary and Topographic Survey for the low bid of \$9,800.
- Deferred consideration of bids for new police vehicles.
- Approved Kerr Electric as the contractor for the electrical install on the NES pole at Lynwood Boulevard and Harding Road for \$2,378.
- Approved the request to extend the City’s Brush/ Chipper



Contract with the Parke Company at the current price of \$12,400 per month. The contract includes an option to extend services for two one-year periods. This is the first extension which will end November 30, 2017.

- Approved the purchase of 140 evergreen holiday wreaths from the Boy Scouts of America for a total cost of \$3,010.00.
- Approved a request to contribute to the Health Savings CDHP plan for employees. The City’s annual contribution amounts for each plan are \$750 for employee only, \$1,200 for employee plus child, \$1,700 for employee plus spouse, and \$2,100 for employee plus family.

The Commissioners took action on the following item at the **November 2, 2016 Special Meeting:**

- Approved the purchase of twelve (12) all-wheel-drive Dodge Chargers from Nashville Chrysler Dodge Jeep Ram for a grand total of \$289,804.32. The City currently has 12 Volkswagen Passats, and after participating in Volkswagens Buy-Back Program, the City will incur an estimated net total cost of \$47,053.56 for the new Dodge vehicles.

Donations Oct. 7, 2016 through Nov. 8, 2016



Ceres Society

Campbell, Mr. & Mrs. A. Stuart
Stadler, Mr. & Mrs. James
Whitworth, Mrs. Eleanor

American Flag Sponsorship

Amiot, Mr. & Mrs. David
**(In Honor: David Engel Amiot
who served in Iraq & Afghanistan)**

Atkinson, Ms. Sue

(In Memory: Marvin Runyon)

Girgus, Mr. & Mrs. Sam

**(In Honor: Romeo J. Galloni, US
Army)**

Hunt, Mr. & Mrs. James

Stengel, Mr. & Mrs. Marc

Wade, Mr. & Mrs. Alex



BUILDING & ZONING



ORDINANCE 2016-7, COMMISSIONERS DESIGNATE A BUILDING ENVELOPE FOR "CORNER LOTS"

Many beautiful corner lots in Belle Meade have been designated "unbuildable" due to the restrictions of establishing a building envelope. The Board of Commissioners has determined that there may be corner lots for which the front setbacks defined by the intersecting streets so constrain the building envelope as to make the construction of a dwelling impractical. In such situations, the Commissioners desire to vest the Municipal Planning Commission (MPC) with the authority to specially designate a "building envelope" for corner lots previously considered "unbuildable".

For a "normal" lot, the front setback is determined by the average of the houses on that side of the street. In the case of a corner lot, there are two streets or two front setbacks. In many cases, with the two setbacks and the regulation of the rear and side setbacks to form the building envelope, these

beautiful lots were just that, beautiful lots with no building potential.

What does this this new ordinance mean for corner lot owners? Upon application to the Building Official by the owner of a corner lot, a building envelope can be submitted to the MPC for their approval or a recommendation from the MPC to create a building envelope that would be specific to the applicant's corner lot. The MPC will designate the orientation of the dwelling, designate the front, side and rear setback lines and impose such conditions on the construction of any dwelling within the envelope as it deems necessary. If there is an existing structure on such a corner lot this could potentially give relief to additional building.

Ordinance 2016-7 can be viewed on the city website under "City Hall, Legislation" or click this link: <http://www.citybellemeade.org/documents/legislation/ord-2016-7-amend-title-14;-corner-lots.pdf>

If you have any questions, please feel free to call the office of Building Codes and speak with Lyle Patterson 615-297-2364.

STORMWATER CORNER – Drainage System Maintenance

Natural stream channels are typically large enough to contain only the most frequent flooding events. Larger rain events which occur on the average of once every two to five years will most likely cause the streams to overflow their banks. For this reason, it is critical that the stream channels be kept clear of trash and yard debris. DO NOT DUMP TRASH, LEAVES, BRANCHES, CHRISTMAS TREES, PUMPKINS OR OTHER YARD WASTE INTO OR ADJACENT TO A STREAM OR DRAINAGE DITCH. These materials will be washed downstream during heavy rain events and will most likely be deposited in front of culverts and bridges, causing flooding of properties or roadways, endangering motorists.

The Public Works department staff has recently found several landscaping companies blowing leaves and other yard waste into the creek beds and drainage ditches and required them to remove the debris. Please inform your landscaper that this is not acceptable. Belle Meade provides weekly curbside collection of normal amounts of brush and bagged leaves and clippings. If an excessive amount of yard waste is put out for collection, it may take several weeks for the contractor to pick everything up, as they can only spend 15-20 minutes at each household on their route.

Please contact Public Works Director Larry Smith if you have questions or need to report a blocked stream or drainage culvert. Phone 615-297-6041 or email lsmith@citybellemeade.org.

BOULEVARD BOLT REMINDER



Belle Meade Boulevard will close to vehicle traffic at 7:40 a.m. and cross-street traffic will close at 7:45 a.m. on Thanksgiving morning, November 24, 2015. Belle Meade Boulevard is estimated to re-open to vehicle traffic be-

tween 10:15 and 10:30 a.m. If you have any concerns about the road closure or accessibility during the race, please contact Chief Tim Eads at 615-297-0241 or teads@citybellemeade.org so arrangements can be made to accommodate your needs.



**REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETINGS
FOR DECEMBER 2016 AND JANUARY 2017**

**ALL MEETINGS ARE HELD AT
BELLE MEADE CITY HALL**

Municipal Planning Commission

Tuesday, Dec 20th at 4:00 pm
Tuesday, Jan 17th at 4:00 pm

Board of Building Code Appeals

Tuesday, Dec 13th at 4:00 pm
Tuesday, Jan 10th at 4:00 pm

Board of Zoning Appeals

Tuesday, Dec 20th at 5:00 pm
Tuesday, Jan 17th at 5:00 pm

Board of Commissioners

Wednesday, Dec 21st at 4:00 pm
Wednesday, Jan 18th at 4:00 pm

Agendas are available online at www.citybellemeade.org

RECYCLE REMINDER



PLEASE DO NOT PUT GLASS IN THE RECYCLE CONTAINER. AT THIS TIME, THE CITY DOES NOT ACCEPT GLASS FOR RECYCLING. **IF THE TRASH COLLECTION CONTRACTOR FINDS GLASS IN YOUR RECYCLE BAG, THEN THE ENTIRE BAG MUST BE PUT IN THE TRASH TO BE TAKEN TO THE LANDFILL.**

****GLASS RECYCLING OPTIONS:**

- Metro Nashville free glass recycle drop off sites at Hillsboro High School and in Bellevue (near Home Depot).
- Gunners Glass Recycling – For a monthly fee, they provide a bin to use for “front porch” pickup every second and fourth Tuesday. For more information or to sign up for service, go to www.gunnersrecycling.com
- Just Glass – For a monthly fee, they provide a bin and twice-a-month pickup at curbside. For more information or sign up for service, call 615-669-4163 or visit their website at <http://www.justiceindustries.org/justglass>



CITY OF BELLE MEADE
4705 Harding Road
Nashville, Tennessee 37205

return service requested