

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 AUGUST 2016

THE HALL TAX RECEIPTS AND THE NEW BUDGET



In June, your commissioners voted 3-2 to increase property taxes for the current year by 7½ cents per \$100 of assessed value in order to match the anticipated shortfall in Hall Tax receipts. In order for the property tax to be billed correctly in October, filing of the new tax rate with Metro government was required by June 30. In mid-July, we received our Hall Tax annual payment from the State of Tennessee. The good news is that the payment was \$500,000 more than budgeted or anticipated. Had we known this, it is feasible that the property tax increase could have been postponed until next year. However, the property tax rate filing had already been done, and it was not possible to stop the process

begun by Metro to change Belle Meade's tax rate for this year. With the unexpected amount of Hall Tax received, it appears that no increase in property tax will be necessary next year even though we anticipate some rather significant expenses for planned projects.

Preparing for the future with the Hall Tax shortfalls expected over the next six years will take constant fiscal management without sacrificing the high level of services that our residents expect and deserve. A conservative approach to fiscal security has been the philosophy of your City's elected officials for many years. The current commissioners are maintaining that high standard and continue to work diligently to keep the City in sound fiscal condition. As evidence of this, at their July meeting, the commissioners approved Resolution 2016-03, entitled "A Resolution Endorsing the Annual Review of Hall Tax and Its Effect on the City's Proposed Budget and Property Tax Rate".



Nashville Mayor Megan Barry will be our guest at the Board of Commissioners meeting on Wednesday, August 17th at 4:00 p.m. She will speak briefly at the opening of the meeting. All residents are invited to attend.

STORMWATER USER FEE INVOICES WERE MAILED SEVERAL WEEKS AGO. PAYMENT IS DUE BY September 1st. The City accepts payment by check or credit card by phone or at City Hall. There is a small convenience fee for credit card use. Questions? Please call Kemishia Sadler at 615-297-6041.



FROM THE POLICE DEPARTMENT – CHIEF TIM EADS:



School is back in session in Davidson County, so please remember to stay alert for active school zones that you may pass through on weekday mornings and afternoons.

We have had one car burglary since the last newsletter came out. It was another housekeeper who left her purse in an unlocked vehicle. PLEASE remind everyone you know to Park Smart by removing items of value and lock their vehicle no matter where they are.

The use of credit/debit card skimmers are still on the rise everywhere. Skimmers are electronic devices thieves use to copy your information then make a card or use the information to steal money directly out of your account. There are a few things you can do to avoid this type of theft. Always give a card reader an extra look before swiping or inserting your card. If it looks odd or appears to have been tampered with, alert the store manager and do not use. Often these devices are placed over the real reader so giving it a slight tug may break it loose, exposing the fraud. Using a credit card can often protect you as well. In most cases, you are only liable for up to \$50.00 for unauthorized purchases and you can also stop payment if you think the card has been compromised. ATM and point of sale readers inside

of businesses have also been compromised at times. This link will take you to an article that goes more in depth about this type of crime and how to protect yourself.

<http://www.fool.com/investing/general/2016/05/12/7-ways-to-protect-yourself-from-credit-card-fraud.aspx>

Please continue to use your home alarm systems. If you are going to be away, even for one night, take advantage of our House Check Services. Click on the following link and scroll to the bottom of the page to download the request form. http://www.citybellemeade.org/police_dept/house_check_services. Visit our website to learn more about what other services are available from the Belle Meade Police Department or give us a call at 615-297-0241. http://www.citybellemeade.org/police_dept



Our drug take-back program continues to be a huge success! We have a prescription drug drop box that is located in the lobby of the police department and it is available 24/7. In addition to taking expired or no longer needed prescription medicines and vitamins, we can also take pet medications as well.

RECAP OF BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS' MEETINGS



The Commissioners took action on the following items at the July 20, 2016 meeting:

- Approved the application for a Parade Permit by Harpeth Hall School for a 5K race on August 27, 2016.
- Approved the 2016-2017 Application for Activities permit for the Belle Meade Plantation.
- Approved (6) invoices over \$5,000:
 - Dixon Plumbing- \$5,787.50
 - Martin & Zerfoss Inc- \$5,000.00
 - J. R. & Associates- \$13,920.00



- TML Pool (Property Insurance) - \$10,207.00
- TML Pool (Workers' Comp) - \$36,819.00
- TML Pool (Liability Insurance) - \$55,682.00
- Deferred on second reading Ordinance 2016-2, to amend the zoning code to clarify the definition of "addition".
- Approved Resolution 2016-03, A Resolution Endorsing the Annual Review of Hall Tax and Its Effect on the City's Proposed Budget and Property Tax Rate.
- Mayor Hunt announced that at next month's meeting on August 17th, Megan Barry, Mayor of Nashville, will speak briefly at the opening of the meeting at 4:00 p.m.



Ceres Society Donations July 11th through August 4th, 2016

- Cates, Mr. & Mrs. Steven**
- Greenberg, Mr. & Mrs. Elliott**
- Lipman, Mr. & Mrs. Lawrence**
- Ortale, Mr. & Mrs. Buddy (Ortale Family Foundation)**
- Young, Mrs. Eugenia**



American Flag Sponsorships

The display of the American Flags on Belle Meade Boulevard for the past year proved to be successful beyond expectations. More than 50 residents and friends of Belle Meade participated in this overwhelming response. Many of those dedicated their sponsorship to a friend or relative in the armed services. Others dedicated a flag to a loved one. When this program was launched, it was decided to donate the proceeds to the Ceres Society, who in turn, paid for the flags and their upkeep. It is now time for renewals and accepting new sponsorships.

In addition to maintaining the flags and purchasing new ones as needed, Ceres funds will go towards beautification expenses attributed to our wonderful medians on the Boulevard. A tax-deductible gift of \$50 or more will secure sponsorship for another year, beginning October 2016 and ending September 2017. Recognition will be printed in the Newsletter, Belle Meade Living Magazine and posted in Belle Meade City Hall. Below is the form to be used for renewal or new sponsorships.

City of Belle Meade American Flag Sponsorship

New sponsorship:

Renewal sponsorship:

Name(s) _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Special note (in honor or in memory of: (Name rank/rate, branch of service if member of armed forces

Make checks payable to Ceres Society and mail or deliver to Belle Meade City Hall, 4705 Harding Road, 37205. (\$50 or more per flag)

Sponsorships will run from October 2016 to September 2017. Flags will be displayed for approximately eight (8) weeks.

Flags displayed week prior to Memorial Day to week after Independence Day and week prior to and after Veterans Day.

Belle Meade Newsletter

REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETINGS FOR SEPTEMBER & OCTOBER 2016

ALL MEETINGS ARE HELD AT
BELLE MEADE CITY HALL

Municipal Planning Commission

Tuesday, Sept 20th at 4:00 pm
Tuesday, Oct 18th at 4:00 pm

Board of Building Code Appeals

Tuesday, Sept 13th at 4:00 pm
Tuesday Oct 11th at 4:00 pm

Board of Zoning Appeals

Tuesday, Sept 20th at 5:00 pm
Tuesday, Oct 18th at 5:00 pm

Board of Commissioners

Wednesday, Sept 21st at 4:00 pm
Wednesday, Oct 19th at 4:00 pm

Agendas are available online at www.citybellemeade.org

REMINDERS:



City Hall will be closed on Monday, September 5, 2016 for Labor Day. In case of a sewer, traffic, or other emergency, please call the Police Dept. at 615-297-0241 and the dispatcher will contact city staff.

**WASTE/RECYCLE COLLECTION WILL RUN AS USUAL ON
LABOR DAY – PLEASE HAVE YOUR CANS OUT BY 7:00 A.M.**

REMEMBER:

WHITE BAGS = garbage

BLACK BAGS = recycle

If your trash is missed on Monday, please notify us Tuesday morning at 615-297-6041 or send an email from the City website www.citybellemeade.org, using the Trash/Recycle comment form found on the homepage.

**Brush & Chipper collection will run the regular
Monday route on Labor Day**



ThriftSmart Donation Box – behind City Hall. Acceptable donations include clothing, shoes, linens, CDs, DVDs, books, toys and other non-breakable housewares items. Call 615-833-8200 for pickup of large items.

CITY OF BELLE MEADE
4705 Harding Road
Nashville, Tennessee 37205

return service requested