

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

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



NEWSLETTER TO RESIDENTS OF BELLE MEADE OCTOBER 2017

UPDATE ON THE PAGE ROAD LOT

On Tuesday, October 3rd, the Metro Parks Board of Directors approved for the City of Belle Meade the planting plan for the rear portion of the Metro Parks property on Page Road at Belle Meade Boulevard. The City received a state tree grant from the Dept. of Forestry to plant 19 trees on the perimeter of

the back 2/3 of the lot, which will provide additional screening for adjacent neighbors. This planting could begin as early as mid-November but will depend upon Metro Park's submission, approval, and funding of their portion of the lot. We will provide further information as updates become available.

STRPs in Belle Meade

Short Term Rental Properties (STRPs) as originally intended, can be a way for responsible visitors to experience Nashville while helping responsible home owners earn a bit of extra cash when they are away from home. Note that this refers to responsible visitors and responsible home owners. Belle Meade, unlike Metro Nashville, does not currently require a permit for homeowners wanting to rent their homes on a short-term basis; however, it is expected that laws and ordinances must be obeyed by the visitors. The homeowner will be seen as ultimately responsible for misbehavior of the rental guests.

The Belle Meade Police will be monitoring known STRPs

within the City for guest's bad behavior, especially at night and on weekends. Citations for excessive noise, destruction of private property and other infractions will be issued. The homeowner will be advised of these infractions and warned that future rentals of their properties could be jeopardized. If you are currently renting your home or considering such, be aware of these warnings. It is advised that you notify the Police Department when you have rental visitors, so your home can be more closely monitored. This service, provided at no cost, will help responsible STRP owners to better monitor their home during their absence. Your neighbors, as well as your police, will appreciate your cooperation.

FROM THE POLICE DEPARTMENT – CHIEF TIM EADS:



CRIME UPDATE—Two vehicles were stolen from homes on Belle Meade Blvd in September. The suspect in both cases was a 16 year old juvenile who had been listed as a runaway. Apparently he was riding the bus to the West Nashville to steal and/or break into vehicles. The juvenile was arrested for these offenses and pled guilty on Oct. 5th in juvenile court. He was incarcerated and placed in the Department of Childrens Service custody. The Belle Meade Police Department would like to thank the victims of these crimes for their efforts in the prosecution of these offenses. It should be noted that these Victims DID PARK SMART and DID NOT leave the keys in their cars.



Halloween Tips—remember to be alert if you are driving during the typical Trick-or-Treat hours of 5:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. Belle Meade Police officers will be on Nichol Lane participating in the Halloween block party. We will have treats at the command post on Nichol Lane and at the police station, so bring your Trick-or-Treaters by to see us.



- Decorate costumes and bags with reflective tape or stickers.
- Make sure costumes are the right size to prevent trips and falls.
- Have kids use glow sticks or a flashlight to help them see and be seen.
- Children should always have an adult with them. Have a pre-designated place to meet if your group becomes separated.

Everyone has been doing a great job of calling in suspicious activity when they observe it. It is always better to lean on the side of safety and call us so an officer can check on the situation and provide help if needed. If the activity proves to be no good, you may have prevented a crime.

We would like you to welcome the newest member at the police department, John Baldwin, who joined the Communications Division as a Dispatcher. John has previous dispatcher experience and is looking forward to serving the residents of Belle Meade. He takes the place of Tyler Parrish, who is now enrolled in the Police Training Academy and hopes to return to Belle Meade at year end as a rookie police officer.



RECAP OF BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS' MEETINGS



The Commissioners took action on the following items at the September 27, 2017 meeting:

- Rejected bids for Street Dept. & Sewer Utility Trucks. Will re-bid next month.
- Approved the proposal for one year contract extension for Brush & Chipper Service with The Parke Company, at current pricing of \$12,400/month.
- Approved appointment of Gloria Sternberg to the Board of Zoning Appeals.
- Approved bid from Boy Scouts, the lowest bidder, for 140 holiday wreaths, for a total price of \$3,129.00.
- Approved (7) invoices over \$5000:
 - o Wascon - \$5,445.73
 - o Wascon - \$5,893.00
 - o Wascon - \$5,893.00
 - o J.R. & Assoc. - \$12,094.00
 - o J.R. & Assoc. - \$8,736.00
 - o J.R. & Assoc. - \$6,972.00
 - o Kraft CPAs - \$10,000

BUILDING & ZONING

HOW TO PROTECT YOUR HOME AND SAVE MONEY WITH FEMA COMPLIANT FLOOD VENTS . . . IT MAY BE A LOT EASIER THAN YOU THINK!

Would you like to understand the FEMA flood vent regulations that apply to your home and reduce your flood insurance premiums by a sizable amount? Properly positioned and installed flood vents in your home's foundation walls will not only help you protect your investment, they can help you save money. And, despite what you may have heard, the regulations governing their type and placement are easy to understand. These regulations were stipulated by the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP), a program of the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA).

Requirements: the Basics

1. Openings must be installed in foundation walls so that water can flow, unimpeded, in and out of the crawl space without damaging the walls' integrity. The regulation is easy to remember: one square inch of opening in the foundation wall for every square foot of the area of your house. For example, a 2,000-square-foot crawl space would need 2,000 square inches of opening. The number of flood vents you need to install depends on the size and type of vent you buy.
2. Each enclosed area must have a minimum of two openings. If there are multiple enclosed areas within the foundation walls, each area must have at least two openings in its exterior walls.
3. Flood vents must be below flood level to work. The bottom of each opening must be no more than 1 foot above whichever of these is higher: the interior or exterior grade immediately under the opening.
4. Any screens, grates, grilles, fixed louvers, or other covers or devices you currently have installed on your foundation walls DO NOT count as a flood vent.

Why Are Flood Vents Required?

The purpose of flood vents (also called "flood gates" or "flood ports") is to reduce structural damage from flooding.

These permanent openings accomplish this objective by allowing water to pass into or out of a building's exterior foundation walls.

Why is that so important? In a flood situation, if the water pressure inside and outside your home can't equalize rapidly enough, the windows and doors could blow out. In addition, this pressure can compromise the foundation and make your home unsafe to live in. Studies have shown that houses with proper openings survive a flood; homes without such vents collapse.

Who Needs Flood Vents?

According to its website, the NFIP "requires flood vents for residential basements, crawl spaces, garages, and other enclosed structures that are below the Base Flood Elevation (BFE) in Special Flood Hazard Areas." BFE is the height of the base flood, usually in feet. That means if your home is in a floodplain or floodway, you can benefit monetarily in insurance and protection of your property.

With the City of Belle Meade participating in the NFIP every property owner in the community must follow all of FEMA's and NFIP's requirements whether or not the property owner purchases flood insurance. One of the requirements is properly installed flood vents on new construction but established older homes can benefit also.

How Cost Savings Add Up

Properly installed and situated flood vents can pay for themselves very quickly. They allow you to save in two ways. The annual reduction on your flood insurance premiums can be considerable. Secondly, should floodwaters rise to your home, flood vents can reduce the risk of structural damage, which can be very costly to repair.

Are you in a floodplain or floodway? Check with the FEMA website www.FEMA.gov and contact your insurance agent for further information.



The City website is now “secure,” so “hackers” can’t see any of the information that people type into forms on the site, such as the House Check request. The online payment option has always been secure against hacking.

The Nextdoor app is a great forum for communication amongst neighbors about lost pets, contractor services and re-

ferred, babysitters, local events, etc. However, it is not linked in any way to the City of Belle Meade, so if a Belle Meade resident has issues with City services or staff, it is best to report these on the City website, www.citybellemeade.org. Just click on “Report A Concern” on the homepage and your message will be sent directly to the appropriate City staff person for a quick response.



***FREE shade tree give-away and tree planting demonstrations held for duration of workshop at Richland Park across from Cohn School.**
 Courtesy of CSX Transportation & Alliance For Community Trees

Nashville Tree Foundation and Metro Public Works present

TAKING ROOT
 A COMMUNITY TREE WORKSHOP

Nashville Tree Foundation is a member of Alliance for Community Trees

SATURDAY | OCTOBER 21, 2017 | 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM

Cohn Adult Learning Center, 4805 Park Avenue, Nashville, TN 37209

1:00 pm Metro’s Tree Ordinance by Councilmember Angie Henderson
 1:30 pm How to Select Beautiful Trees by David Bates, Bates Nursery
 2:00 pm How to Organize a Neighborhood Tree Planting by Tony Viglietti, Friends of Riverside Dr., Gary Bynum, Belmont-Hillsboro Neighbors, Inc.; and Todd Breyer, Sylvan Park neighborhood
 3:00 pm Emerald Ash Borer – What You Need to Know presented by Neil Letson, Village Trees

Educational exhibits will run throughout workshop. Experts will be available to answer questions.
 For more information: www.nashvilletreefoundation.org/taking-root-workshop



FALL REMINDERS

The City completed its annual Creek Maintenance project a few weeks ago, which helps to reduce flooding of properties throughout the City. Residents can assist with this worthwhile project by keeping fall yard waste and fallen leaves out of the creeks. PLEASE DO NOT dispose of landscaping debris or any other outdoor items (like pumpkins, planting pots, etc.) by throwing them in the creek, thinking they will disappear harmlessly. In fact, these items become a nuisance by clogging the creeks, increasing the risk of flooding and causing the City to spend additional funds for cleanup. St. George’s Church also has had to spend funds to clean up the drainage culvert behind the Church, where a significant amount of creek debris accumulates and can cause their building to flood. Please dispose of fall yard waste properly by bagging all leaves and small clippings and piling branches and trimmings less than 3 inches in diameter and 8 feet in length at the street for the brush/chipper contractor to pick up each week. If you hire a landscaper to clean your yard, please inform them of these rules. If you hire a contractor to remove a tree, they are responsible for its disposal. Questions? Please contact city hall at 297-6041.



Presenting: **Pinnacle** FINANCIAL PARTNERS

Underwriting: **H.G. HILL** REALTY COMPANY, LLC

Southeast Venture REAL ESTATE · DESIGN · DEVELOPMENT

SDR STREET DIXON RICK ARCHITECTURE, P.L.L.C.

Tree Partners: **[CSX]**

BATES TREE CARE & LANDSCAPE

Sponsors: **The Crichton Group** (Specialty Real Estate Management)

DAVEY (Premier Solutions for a Growing World)

NES

Community Partner: **OFFICE OF MAYOR MEGAN BARRY**

Alliance For Community Trees

Arbor Day Foundation

**REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETINGS
FOR NOVEMBER & DECEMBER 2017**

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

Municipal Planning Commission

Tuesday, November 21st at 4:00 pm
Tuesday, December 19th at 4:00 pm

Board of Building Code Appeals

Tuesday, November 14th at 4:00 pm
Tuesday, December 12th at 4:00 pm

Board of Zoning Appeals

Tuesday, November 21st at 5:00 pm
Tuesday, December 19th at 5:00 pm

Board of Commissioners

Wednesday, November 15th at 4:00 pm
Wednesday, December 20th at 4:00 pm

Agendas are available online at www.citybellemeade.org

STORMWATER USER FEES

PAST DUE

The City still has over 100 unpaid stormwater invoices. These were mailed in early August, with payment required in 30 days. If you have not paid, please do so promptly. If you are not sure if you paid your stormwater user fee this year, please call Charlotte Hunter at 297-6041.

Ceres Society Donations – September 2017



Hays, Mr. & Mrs. Spencer
Roberts, Mrs. Martin

CITY OF BELLE MEADE
4705 Harding Road
Nashville, Tennessee 37205

return service requested