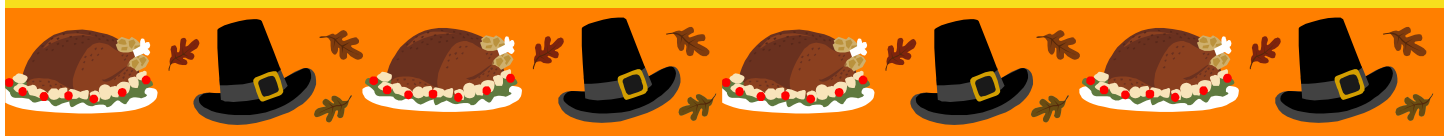




COMMISSIONERS: James V. Hunt, Sr., *Mayor* • Bob Weigel, *Vice Mayor* • Gray O. Thornburg, *Cathy Altenbern, Boyd Bogle* • Beth Reardon, *City Manager* • Tim Eads, *Chief of Police*

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

NEWSLETTER TO RESIDENTS OF BELLE MEADE NOVEMBER 2017



Happy Thanksgiving to all Belle Meade Residents!

WHAT ARE YOUR COMMISSIONERS WORKING ON?

Safety of the residents and preserving neighborhood qualities that we all value are top priorities for the Commissioners as they consider which improvements and capital projects will serve these objectives. Currently, two capital projects are underway that will enhance safety for residents.

The Video Surveillance Camera System Project is making slow progress, due to stringent regulatory requirements for making attachments to existing utility poles. The City installed a demo camera system at the intersection of Harding Road and Lynwood Blvd. a year ago, and it has proven to be valuable in solving several crimes and providing video from vehicle accidents. A bid for the entire system (19 locations) has been received, and is much lower than the cost projections when the City started researching this project several years ago.

The Harding Place sidewalk project is currently in the construction and engineering design phase. Meetings with the Harding Place neighborhood residents will be scheduled soon to review the proposed plans. Harding Place is a major artery for traffic in Metro/Davidson County and the Commissioners recently reduced the speed limit to 25 mph. The addition of sidewalks along Harding Place will provide an extra measure of safety for the residents and hopefully slow down traffic even more.

For many years, Commissioners have considered implementing a tree ordinance in Belle Meade. The recent housing construction boom in middle Tennessee has led to increased destruction of mature trees and a loss of tree canopy that will take years to replace, if at all. While Belle Meade is not

experiencing the same surge in construction as the rest of this area, the Commissioners want to ensure that the beautiful tree canopy in Belle Meade is preserved as much as possible. A study group of citizens (Gavin Duke, Carolyn Sorenson, Tara Armistead, Joe Dughman, Gloria Sternberg and Larry Wieck), along with Commissioners and staff have begun the process of researching and developing a tree ordinance for the City that will not be cumbersome for staff to enforce, but will protect against unnecessary tree removal.

The Metro Parks lot at the end of Page Road and Belle Meade Boulevard recently had large boulders installed to prevent vehicles from parking on the back two-thirds of the property. At their October 3rd meeting, the Metro Parks Board granted approval for Belle Meade to plant 29 trees along the perimeter of this back section, which will provide additional screening for the surrounding residential properties. The City applied for and received a matching grant for these trees from the State Department of Forestry.



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 23, 2017. Belle Meade Boulevard is estimated to re-open to vehicle traffic

between 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 prior to race day so arrangements can be made to accommodate your needs. If you need emergency access to Belle Meade Blvd. during the Bolt event, please call the police dispatcher at 615-297-0241.

Belle Meade Newsletter



CITY RECORDER
Charlotte Hunter

We welcome Charlotte Hunter to the city staff as of August 28th. She is the first face you see at City Hall and the voice on the phone when you call. Charlotte was raised in the Links of Belle Meade where her parents still live. She graduated from Hillsboro High School and the University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa and is happily married to her husband Brian. Her family includes children Charlie, Allie and Misty the labradoodle. Charlotte enjoys their houseboat on the lovely Cumberland River and college football. Her favorite restaurant is the Blue Moon at Rock Harbor Marina. Charlotte looks forward to meeting and assisting you with City business.

The Brush and Chipper Service is meant to accommodate normal yard maintenance activities. The contract specifications are as follows:

“The City of Belle Meade provides as a public service to its residents, chipper service and brush and leaf collection, transportation and disposal. Tree and brush clippings are defined as follows:

“The accumulation of lawn, grass, shrubbery, cuttings, tree leaves, small tree branches, bushes, fruits or any other matter usually created as solid waste garbage and trash in the care of lawns, yards and gardens which have been placed at the curb. Tree trimmings shall

have a trunk not to exceed four (4) inches in diameter, and shall be no more than eight (8) feet in length or six (6) feet across in the lap or crown. Twigs, leaves, small debris and grass clippings shall be bagged. Bags shall not weigh more than 50 pounds.”

Note: All privately contracted tree and brush cutting shall be disposed of by the private contractor, and/or the homeowner.



FROM THE POLICE DEPARTMENT – CHIEF TIM EADS:

Happy Thanksgiving from all of us to you!

The Police Dept. will be busy again this year working at the Boulevard Bolt. Please see the related article in this newsletter for road closure times.

Daylight Savings Time reminders

- Replace the batteries in your smoke and carbon monoxide detectors
- Have fireplace chimney inspected and cleaned before using.
- Inspect fire extinguishers to insure they are fully charged and in good working order.

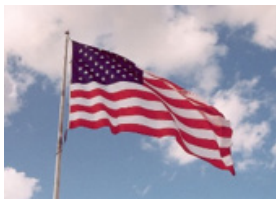
Christmas shopping season reminders

- Remember to Park Smart everywhere you go, including at home. Lock your vehicle and remove/hide items of value. This

is a proven deterrent to auto burglary.

- Stay alert to your surroundings and keep your handbag with you at all times. Always have your keys in hand, ready to unlock your vehicle.
- Request assistance from the retailer with loading a large amount of items or from store/mall security if you feel unsafe walking to your car.

Be alert to the many types of scams from phone, internet and in person. Only do business with people you have contracted with and be suspicious of unwanted solicitation. A permit is required to solicit in Belle Meade. If a person is soliciting without a permit, please call 615-297-0241 so that person can be checked to determine if they are in compliance.



American Flags are on display in honor of Veterans Day, November 11th. Please consider renewing your sponsorship or becoming a new sponsor. Flags are replaced every 2-3 years.

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 2017 to September 2018. 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.



Ceres Society Donations – October 2017

Baldwin, Mr. & Mrs. H. Elliott
Manning, Jr., Mr. Roy
Wall, Mr. & Mrs. Mal

RECAP OF BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS' MEETINGS



The Commissioners took action on the following items at the October 18, 2017 meeting:

- Approved purchase of Street Dept. truck, 2018 Chevy Colorado, for low bid of \$28,799.04 from Serra of Nashville, and Sewer Utility truck, 2018 Chevy Silverado 1500, for state contract price of \$27,907.85.
- Approved the proposal for traffic engineering services from Collier Engineering for Harding Place Sidewalk Project at not to exceed price of \$2,000.00.
- Approved Appointment of Charlie Atwood to the BZA Board as an alternate.
- Approved estimate for safety equipment from Econo Signs for \$2,096.90. City will use a matching grant from TML Risk Management Pool in the amount of \$1,000.00.
- Approved (1) invoice over \$5000 - Commonwealth Chemical for \$20,720.00.
- Approved on first reading Ordinance 2017-5, Amend Zoning Code, Title 14-204 (1) (C), Change in elevation.



BELLE MEADE PLANTATION – “BEST OF THE BEST”



Belle Meade Plantation has been entertaining guests since it was founded back in 1807. Since that time, presidents, senators, generals, modern day tourists and student groups alike have all had the opportunity to experience this Nashville treasure.

Mark James, Belle Meade Plantation's Director of Group Sales, started working at the site almost

fourteen years ago. Since that time, he has had the opportunity to increase the site's group traffic through a variety of programming including Lunch Tours, Culinary Tours based in the plantation's original kitchen, and Food and Wine Pairing Tours offered in conjunction with the on-site Winery.

Each year, the American Bus Association (ABA), an organization devoted to national group travel, presents a series of awards recognizing exceptional work in the group tourism industry. Categories for the awards include hotels, museums, theaters, restaurants, historic landmarks and others. In February of this year, James received word that Belle Meade Plantation had been nominated for a “Best of the Best” Award.

“I was thrilled with the nomination alone,” said James. His feelings are well-founded considering that the nomination has to be submitted by the local Convention and Visitors Bureau. “These awards aren't randomly handed out. In order to be nominated, the first step was for Belle Meade Plantation to have a good working relationship with the Nashville Convention and Visitors Bureau. Additionally, we have to demonstrate exceptional customer support, maintain a solid reputation in the industry, and offer variety in group programming,” said James.

James feels that in order for historic sites to be marketable to the modern traveler, you have to go beyond the basic house tour. “The history of Belle Meade is what makes us unique. So when I look at developing any type of new experience-based tour, this site's history serves as the foundation for it,” he added.

In September, James found out that the nomination he and the plantation received back in February led to a national award. Belle Meade Plantation has been awarded the “2017 Best of the Best – Historic Landmark” award for group travel. Out of all the historic

sites and landmarks across the country, Belle Meade Plantation was selected as the best for group travel.

James said, “This is a tremendous honor for myself and the staff here at Belle Meade, and is a testament to the significance of this site in American culture.”

SIGN REGULATIONS IN BELLE MEADE

In order to maintain a clean and uncluttered look to our City streets, there are regulations in place as to what types of signs can be displayed on residential properties. No signs are allowed in the public right-of-way. The City Zoning Code addresses signage as follows:

Allowed

- ◆ Garage/Estate Sale – One sign on day(s) of event, not larger than 8 square feet.
- ◆ For Sale or Lease of a building – no larger than 8 square feet, must be removed within five (5) days of completion of transaction.
- ◆ Special Event signs – posted by charitable non-profit organizations and can be displayed only upon authorization by the city manager. Signs can be no larger than 8 square feet and displayed for a maximum of seven (7) days prior to the event and removed with 24 hours of the conclusion of the event. One sign allowed per event.
- ◆ Political signs are not regulated, although the City suggests a limit of one sign per candidate.

Prohibited

- ◆ Signs or billboards used solely for advertising purposes (contractor signs, business advertising, etc.). The exception to this regulation is the small alarm company signs posted near the entrance to properties.

Please do not hesitate to contact the City if you have any questions on what type of signs are allowed.



**REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETINGS
FOR DECEMBER 2017 & JANUARY 2018**

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

Municipal Planning Commission

Tuesday, December 19th at 4:00 pm

Tuesday, January 16th at 4:00 pm

Board of Zoning Appeals

Tuesday, December 19th at 5:00 pm

Tuesday, January 16th at 5:00 pm

Board of Building Code Appeals

Tuesday, December 12th at 4:00pm

Tuesday, January 9th at 4:00pm

Board of Commissioners

Wednesday, December 20th at 4:00 pm

Wednesday, January 17th at 4:00 pm

Agendas are available online at www.citybellemeade.org



City Hall offices will be closed Thursday and Friday, November 23rd and 24th for the Thanksgiving holidays. In case of sewer, street, or other city emergencies, please call the Police Dept. at 615-297-0241.

**BRUSH AND CHIPPER COLLECTION
SCHEDULE FOR THANKSGIVING WEEK,
Nov. 20-24, 2017:**

Monday route – no change

**Wednesday route – pick up will occur on
Tuesday, Nov. 21st**

**Friday route – pick up will occur on
Wednesday, Nov. 22nd**

CITY OF BELLE MEADE
4705 Harding Road
Nashville, Tennessee 37205

return service requested