

RESOLUTION 2014-09

A RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING AND APPLAUDING THE LASTING CONTRIBUTIONS OF J. EDMOND FREEMAN, JR TO THE CITY OF BELLE MEADE

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY OF BELLE MEADE, as follows:

WHEREAS, J. EDMOND FREEMAN, JR has served loyally as Commissioner of the City of Belle Meade since 2010;

WHEREAS, the duties required of a Commissioner are not proportional to the size of the city, as the City of Belle Meade presents the same issues of governance, politics, long range planning and allocation of scarce resources as cities many times its size;

WHEREAS, in addition to those duties required of anyone involved the governance of a city, the City of Belle Meade presents unique challenges to those charged with preserving its substantial assets, both tangible and intangible;

WHEREAS, in addition to those duties routinely required of those who assume such responsibilities, he has worked diligently, often without public support, to cause the transfer of the Page Road Park to The City of Belle Meade. He is a bulldog!! Even in the face of frustration and disappointment, he continued to pursue the conversion of the plighted lot on Deer Park Drive at Richland Creek into a beautiful park, no, not park, but cleared property. He has withstood the enemies at Town Hall meetings, death threats and the even the considerations of litigation. Persistence won and the cleared lot has become a reality.

WHEREAS, he has valiantly led the effort to preserve the beauty of our fair city without the ability to fall back on architectural review;

WHEREAS, he has contributed to the public discourse of current events and governmental affairs on which this great Country was founded now more than two hundred years ago, eschewing the anonymity of the internet (founded by Belle Meade resident) in honor of the proud traditions of the Constitutional debates of 1787 and today's Sunshine Laws, while holding forth on the affairs of state at the bar at Ted's Montana Grill;

WHEREAS, having undertaken these serious duties, fully understanding the burden of exercising their discretion in deciding matters that excite legitimate debate, and exercising the courage to resolve important issues for the long term benefit of all of our citizens, he has contributed daily much to the welfare of this City and its citizens;

WHEREAS, he has made these contributions using his unique combination of intellect, experience, wisdom, judgment, finely tuned political instincts, public trust, business acumen, not to mention the ability to field random calls at all hours of the day and night about matters not within his control;

WHEREAS, after attending a Newly Elected Officials class sponsored by the Tennessee Municipal League, Ed encouraged his fellow commissioners to begin the tradition of an annual retreat to discuss current issues and plan for the future of this unique City, aided by excellent food and drinks;

WHEREAS, Ed assumed many leadership roles during the course of his service, including Parks management, land reclamation and Finance and Budget;

WHEREAS, as a consequence of his leadership, the City of Belle Meade has been well-managed fiscally through volatile economic times while preserving public services, improving its infrastructure and assuring the general satisfaction of its very demanding citizens;

WHEREAS, he has done so a volunteer, without monetary compensation, acting as an involved and responsible steward of this City's assets while always planning for its future;

WHEREAS, Ed Freeman has served this City with selfless devotion and time-consuming effort, is highly regarded by his fellow Commissioners and respected as leader on our Board of Commissioners and in our community for his invaluable contributions to this City; And,

WHEREAS, his contributions to the City of Belle Meade will be always be appreciated, his presence in the future missed, and his sacrifice for the benefit of our fair City always celebrated;

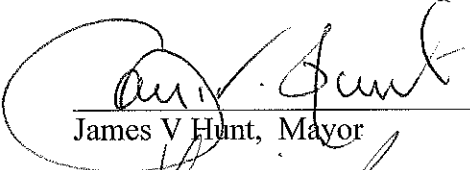
NOW, THEREFORE, in recognition of his many contributions to the City of Belle Meade, be it resolved;

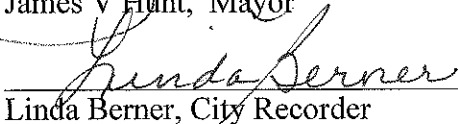
The City of Belle Meade, while bemoaning the retirement of its selfless public servant, J. Edmond Freeman, recognizes his many contributions and wishes him the best in his retirement from public service to this city; And,

The City of Belle Meade, acting through vote of its Commissioners, recognizes, lauds and applauds Ed Freeman upon his retirement as Commissioner of the City of Belle Meade and thanks him for his lasting contributions and enduring legacy of service to its citizens.

Section 2. This Resolution shall take effect from and after the date of its adoption, the welfare of the City of Belle Meade requiring it.

Passed this the 19th day of November, 2014


James V Hunt, Mayor


Linda Berner, City Recorder