## Resolution 1974-04

SAM DAVIS BELL
COMMISSIONER AND MAYOR, CITY OF BELLE MEADE,

1954-1974

## AN APPRECIATION

Belle Meade is a city of homes. It was incorporated in 1938, primarily for the purpose of maintaining its residential character and preserving its property values. From the beginning of its corporate existence, its leading citizens and its elected officials agreed that its policy should be made, and within reasonable limits administered and applied, by elected and appointed officials who would serve without pay. Thirty-six years later this practice continues, even though many important services are now rendered to its citizens which were not provided at first, and much larger demands are consequently made upon both its elected and appointed officials, who continue to serve without pay.

For many years a community leader, SAM DAVIS BELL began his active service to the City of Belle Meade first as a member of the Municipal Planning Commission, and was elected Commissioner in December of 1954. In December of 1956, upon the retirement of Mayor Joe Gibson, Jr., SAM DAVIS BELL was elected Mayor, and has served continuously from that time until this, having been re-elected Commissioner without opposition on four successive occasions, giving more than twenty years of continuous service.

During the period of his service as Mayor, Belle Meade has maintained its reputation for having the best streets and the most stringently enforced zoning ordinances in Davidson County, perhaps in the entire state of Tennessee. Further, Belle Meade has established and enlarged its police department and increased the scope of its services, at the same time

providing fire protection and garbage and trash collection by contract.

Because we, the Board of Commissioners of the City of Belle Meade, believe that the maintenance of the City's principles and its progress in rendering service to its citizens has been in a large measure the result of the dedicated and energetic leadership of SAM DAVIS BELL, today, upon the occasion of the expiration of his term of office as Commissioner and Mayor, we do hereby

RESOLVE, that this expression of appreciation and esteem be spread upon the official records of the City of Belle Meade on this 26th day of December, 1974, and that a copy hereof, transcribed in appropriate form, and bearing the signatures of the Board of Commissioners and City Recorder be presented to SAM DAVIS BELL as a memento of his outstanding service to the citizens of the City of Belle Meade.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF we have hereunto set our hands this 26th day of December, 1974.

MAYOR

COMMISSIONER

VICE MAYOR

CITY RECORDER

Date of Adoption:

December 18, 1974

<sup>\*\*</sup>Original Resolution not found. Copied from minute book June 24, 2009 By City Recorder Linda Berner.