

RESOLUTION 92-03
CITY OF BELLE MEADE, TENNESSEE
IN MEMORIAM
SAM DAVIS BELL, 1900-1992

BE IT LONG REMEMBERED by the Board of Commissioners of the City of Belle Meade, and by its loyal citizens who were his friends, that Sam Davis Bell died at his home on Sunnyside Drive in Belle Meade on 23 February, 1992; he was survived by his beloved wife Frances Kirkpatrick Bell, and his granddaughter Paula Bell and his grandson Sam Davis Bell, III; and

BE IT REMEMBERED that Sam Davis Bell was born in Murfreesboro, TN, in June, 1900, and a son of Robert Trigg and Molly Davis Bell. His mother was a niece of Sam Davis, of Smyrna, Tennessee, the boy hero of the Confederate States of America, for whom he was named; he was later to lead in the organization to restore the Sam Davis home in Rutherford County, Tennessee; and

BE IT REMEMBERED that Sam Davis Bell attended the public schools of Murfreesboro, before enrolling at the Webb School in Bell Buckle, where he completed his formal education, graduating in 1919; he moved to Nashville and was engaged in business for many years, first with his friend Russell Hooper, and later with his friend Cale Haun, in the production and sale of limestone. He served as a member of the National Agricultural Limestone Institute; still later he joined the management of Jim Reed Chevrolet Company, where he remained until his retirement a few months prior to his death; he was also a director of the former Murfreesboro Bank and Trust Company; and

BE IT REMEMBERED that Sam Davis Bell, while busily engaged in the business world in Nashville, also gave liberally of his time, efforts and skills to serve his fellow men, in both charitable and public welfare organizations, including the Big Brothers, the Exchange Club of Nashville, Chairman of the former Community Chest of Nashville, the Tennessee State Fair Board, and the Board of the Davidson County Farmers Market; he also served as a Magistrate on the Davidson County Quarterly Court, and on the Executive Committee of the Democratic Party of Davidson County and as Chairman of the Davidson County Civil War

Centennial Committee; he was a member of First Presbyterian Church; and

BE IT REMEMBERED, that Sam Davis Bell and his loyal, talented and devoted wife Frances, first made their home in Belle Meade on Belle Meade Blvd., later moving in 1955 to 412 Sunnyside Drive, where they resided for the remainder of his life; and

BE IT REMEMBERED, that Sam Davis Bell, upon the request of then mayor Joe Gibson, of the City of Belle Meade, began his services to that City as a member of the Municipal Planning Commission and Board of Zoning Appeals in 1954, readily perceiving the importance to the City of well-organized, well-regulated planning and zoning organization, as well as the importance of a well-administered City government; thus it was that, upon the retirement of Joe Gibson as Mayor, Sam Davis Bell agreed to stand for election for the office of Commissioner, to which he was elected in 1954, and from which he was designated to serve as Mayor in 1956; he served as Mayor until his retirement from office in December of 1974; and

BE IT LONG REMEMBERED, that upon his retirement as Mayor, Sam Davis Bell retained his long held, keen interest in the City of Belle Meade, its citizens, its staff of loyal employees, and its well-kept streets, rights-of-way and small parks, which are, and will remain silent, but eloquent witnesses to his loyal care for years to come;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Commissioners of the City of Belle Meade, in regular monthly meeting assembled, on this 27th day of May, 1992, that the foregoing words of appreciation and tribute for the long, honorable, and valued service rendered by Sam Davis Bell to the City of Belle Meade be adopted and spread upon the minutes of this meeting, and the records of the City, and a copy hereof, suitably authenticated, inscribed and illuminated, be delivered to Mrs. Frances K. Bell, as a lasting expression of affection and esteem for the memory of Sam Davis Bell.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, we have hereunto set our hands at the City of Belle Meade, Davidson County, Tennessee, this ____ day of May, 1992.

The undersigned, Joan B. Coode, City Recorder of the City of Belle Meade, hereby certifies that the foregoing is a true and perfect copy of a resolution duly adopted by the Board of Commissioners of the City of Belle Meade on the 27th day of May, 1992.

JOAN B. COODE
City Recorder

(SEAL)

meade

2/27/92

Joan B. Coode