

MINUTES  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF  
THE CITY OF BELLE MEADE  
MARCH 21, 2018

**Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order by James Hunt, Mayor, at 4:03pm.

**Commissioners present**

James Hunt, Mayor                      Cathy Altenbern                      Blair Wilson  
Gray Thornburg                              Bob Weigel

**City staff members present**

Beth Reardon, City Manager                      Tim Eads, Police Chief  
Aspen Collins, Finance Director                      Lyle Patterson, Building Official  
Larry Smith, Public Works Director                      Doug Berry, City Attorney  
Charlotte Hunter, City Recorder

I. **Pledge of Allegiance** - led by Mayor Hunt

II. **Public Hearing** -

Gary Smith, 220 Deer Park Circle, asked if there would be a vote today on the sidewalks.

Metro Councilwoman Mina Johnson was in attendance to remind us early voting starts April 11<sup>th</sup> and the Mayoral election will be in August.

III. **Minutes** -

Regular Meeting held February 21, 2018

**Motion to approve:** Altenbern    Second: Thornburg    Vote: All aye

IV. **Public Works** - Reports submitted by L. Smith reviewed.

**2. Consideration of Bids-Harding Place Sidewalk Project**

<u>CONTRACTOR</u>	<u>BID AMOUNT</u>
Sessions Paving	\$496,136.00
C D Steger Construction	\$372,000.00
Pavement Restoration, Inc	\$342,800.00

Public Works Director Larry Smith and City Manager Beth Reardon recommend the approval of the low bidder, PRI, Inc. for the project. Commissioner Altenbern asked about the start date. Reardon stated PRI could start as early as April 9th. Commissioner Weigel asked about how many linear feet are involved. Jim Douglas, Landscape Architect, is not sure. The sidewalk will be 4' wide and on both sides of street. The City will not be responsible for any landscaping and each resident is responsible for maintaining the lawn and leaf removal. Commissioner Thornburg says her main concern is financially for the city. She is worried about the effects on the city due to the Hall Tax elimination. She states the Budget & Finance Committee has recommended the City not spend any more money. The City has lowered the speed limit to make Harding Place safer. Commissioner Altenbern asked city attorney Berry if the board can legally pull

the plug on this project. Attorney Berry says yes, as long as no monies are owed.

**Motion to approve:** Altenbern Second: Hunt  
**Vote Aye:** Altenbern, Hunt **Vote No:** Thornburg, Weigel, Wilson **Motion Fails**

Doris Matthews, 4402 Harding Road in Stones Throw Condos, expressed her concerns. A person was killed in an auto accident several years ago on Harding Place. She says you can't put a price on a life and they need sidewalks. Randy Gross, 4416 Harding Place, was very upset with communications between the city and residents. He had no idea this wouldn't pass today as everything has been approved along the way. He wants to know how the city has planned for the Hall Tax elimination.

Commissioner Thornburg replied that each year the Board tries to cut budgets by eliminating or reducing services.

Mayor Hunt states this city is fine financially with millions in the bank. The city raised taxes 2 years ago to prepare for the Hall Tax reduction.

Commissioner Wilson says yes, the City does have plenty of money in reserves but feels the citizens will give push back to increasing the property taxes so you can't count on that money.

Commissioner Weigel states he wasn't in favor of this all along as it was too much money. He voted for it to see exactly how much it would cost. He says people in Belle Meade don't use sidewalks, buses or bicycles.

Mayor Hunt asked Chief Eads to review the traffic count report for Jackson Blvd verses Harding Place. Eads stated the Jackson Blvd. west bound only traffic volume Monday - Friday averaged 1,028 cars weekly. Harding Place has approximately 5,000 vehicles a day, one way.

Commissioner Altenbern stated this sidewalk was already approved in the budget.

Cheryl McGuire, 4412 Harding Place, says her family can't use the front yard for play, only the back yard. There are too many wrecks on Harding Place.

Della Rumore, 4402 Harding Pl., is aware of all the accidents and states the street is very dangerous for walking.

Commissioner Weigel asked the residents in attendance if the traffic calming cones are effective. Most said no, the only thing that works is a police car in sight. Traffic level is too high.

Commissioner Wilson asked how the sidewalks would help the traffic?

Doris Matthews states sidewalks slow down traffic.

**3. Consideration of Jackson Blvd. Traffic Calming Study and next steps**

Ed Stuart, 213 Deer Park Drive, states he prefers speed humps to the calming signs, and the placement location is the key.

**Motion to defer 30 days:** Altenbern Second: Weigel Vote: All aye

**V. City Services**

**A. Public Safety** - Reports submitted by T. Eads reviewed.

279 Traffic citations    5 Traffic crashes    39 Alarm calls

0 Burglaries                      19 Incident reports                      1 Theft reports  
Arrests 11

**2. Request to purchase Accreditation Software**

Sgt. Jon Carter presented a power point presentation about the cloud-based software program called PowerDMS to assist with getting the department accredited. The initial cost for the software, Tennessee module, and annual support is \$4,100. Recurring annual fees will be \$2,100. PowerDMS standardizes all training and will reduce our liability insurance costs. Lt. Carter says the City has completed 80 of the required 161 standards. Lt. Carter is planning on a site visit and completion by April, 2019.

**Motion to Approve:** Altenbern    Second: Weigel                      Vote: All aye

**3. Request to Purchase First Aid Kits**

Chief Eads requests replacement of 17 outdated kits for the police cars and obtained the following quotes:

<u>VENDOR</u>	<u>BID AMOUNT</u>	<u>TOTAL AMOUNT</u>
Galls, Inc.	\$74.99 each	\$1,274.83
Global Industries	\$109.95 each	\$1,869.18
First Aid Products	\$109.95 each	\$1,869.18

Chief Eads recommends Galls, Inc for the lowest bid and good past experiences with purchases.

**Motion to approve:** Weigel                      Second: Wilson                      Vote: All aye

**4. Invoice from SkyCop for Video/LPR Cameras and boxes**

Initial invoice from SCI Technologies for \$236.676.96 for all the camera hardware for the surveillance system. SCI will invoice for the remaining fees after all cameras have been installed on the utility poles.

**Motion to approve:** Thornburg                      Second: Altenbern                      Vote: All Aye

**5. Consideration of Change Order to VSS Electrical Service Contract**

Public Works Director Larry Smith is requesting a change order to the current contract with Kerr Electric to install the two decorative poles for private connection to save time and ensure consistency with the work. These poles are located at Page Road/Belle Meade Blvd. and West Tyne/Nichol Lane. Once this work is complete, SkyCop can install the hardware on the poles.

**Motion to approve:** Thornburg                      Second: Weigel                      Vote: All Aye

**6. Request for Approval of A T & T invoice for Field Survey & Engineering**

This is the invoice for the Jackson Blvd and Deer Park Drive camera attachment to the A T & T pole in the amount of \$ 1,214.35.

**Motion to approve:** Weigel Second: Altenbern Vote: All Aye

**B. Health and Sanitation** - Reports submitted by L. Smith reviewed.

**C. Zoning/Planning** - Reports submitted by L. Patterson reviewed.

11 Permits issued \*\* \$3,202,000.00 Estimated construction cost  
4 Permits closed \*\* 0 Grading/soil permits issued \*\* 10 Closed  
0 Stormwater complaints filed

**2. Update from BZA year-end review**

Lyle Patterson says the Board has been discussing variance and special exception with City Attorney Doug Berry to clarify each definition. There will be a new ordinance coming soon on this. Many requests for pools in the city. The Building permits numbers are up but Mr. Patterson expects the total to even out this spring.

**D. Waste Collections**

**1. Request to amend contract for Monthly Dumpster Fees**

PW Director Smith and City Manager Beth Reardon recommend an increase in payment to Franklin Disposal to \$1,300 a month due to the abuse of the dumpsters. His current contract is for \$300 a month to empty the 3 dumpsters behind city hall each week on Monday, Wednesday and Friday. Residents and others are dumping many items that are not permitted (tires, metal poles, recliners, treadmills, mattresses among other items) and have damaged his truck. Reardon recommends the city be responsible to pay for any unacceptable items disposal.

Commissioner Wilson asked who is using the dumpster. Reardon stated the problem is that we don't know who uses it. Commissioner Wilson asked if we can do away with the dumpsters. All responded no.

**Motion to approve increasing monthly fee by \$1000 until the end of current year contract in June:** Weigel Second: Thornburg Vote: All Aye

**E. Beautification/Landscape**- No Matters

**F. City Communications** - No Matters

**VI. Administration** -

**A. Finance**

- 1. **Financial Stmts** - Reports submitted by A. Collins reviewed.
- 2. **Investment Schedules** - Reports submitted by A. Collins reviewed.
- 3. **Approval of invoices over \$5,000 -**
  - Wascon, Inc. \$5,459.47
  - Wascon, Inc. \$9,531.00

**Motion to approve:** Altenbern Second: Thornburg Vote: All aye

**B. Facilities -**

1. TML Risk Mgmt. Pool Property Survey  
City Manager Beth Reardon reported the city passed its annual inspection from the TML Risk Management.

2. Early Voting

Beth Reardon also reminded all of the early voting dates of April 11- April 26. We may need to move the location of the next Board meeting.

**C. Personnel - No Matters**

**VII. Legislation -**

- 1. **Ordinance 2018-1, on first reading, Amend Section 15-301, to change Speed Limits on all streets in the City Limits.**

Commissioner Thornburg stated the city is becoming a cut through for many people. She proposed we lower the speed limit on all streets to 25. It would make the city safer and deter people from using our streets to speed. Commissioner Wilson says people will find another street to cut through. Mayor Hunt says our residents need to have more information on this subject as it was opposed on the citizen survey given two years ago. Commissioner Weigel requests Belle Meade Blvd. and Chickering Road remain at 35 mph.

Resident Earl and Marilyn Henry of 436 Westview Avenue are against the change in speed limit. Enforcement needs to be increased.

**Motion to defer 60 days:** Thornburg Second: Weigel Vote: All aye

**VIII. Other Matters - No Matters**

Meeting adjourned at 6:00pm

  
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 Mayor James Hunt  
  
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 City Recorder Charlotte Hunter