

COMMISSIONERS: James V. Hunt, Sr., Mayor • Louise Bryan, Vice-Mayor • Bob Weigel,
Cathy Altenbern • Rusty Moore • 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 JANUARY 2019

COMMISSIONER RETREAT - FEBRUARY 20-21, 2019



Belle Meade's Board of Commissioners will hold their 8th annual retreat beginning Wednesday afternoon February 20 and concluding Thursday evening February 21. This annual retreat provides an excellent opportunity to review previous goals and objectives and discuss and set future goals and objectives. Listed below are some of the major topics for this year's retreat:

- Review 2018 retreat agenda
- Traffic discussion focusing on:
 - left turn off of northbound BMB on to Harding Place westbound
 - potential left turn off of northbound BMB on to westbound Harding Road/Pike/Hwy 70.
- Update on Metro Parks parking area at Page Road and Percy Warner Park entrance
- Review criteria necessary for future neighborhood sidewalk consideration
- Consideration for city wide general survey. Do we need? If so, who coordinates and create questions. We will reference the SurveyMonkey of 2015/2016

- Beautification, Budget & Finance committee updates. Any new ad hoc committees to be considered?
- Commissioner assignments defined/clarified. i.e. Safety, Public Works, Finance, Beautification, HR, Zoning, etc.
- Discuss potential candidates for BZA, MPC, committees, commissioner and other citizen volunteer involvement
- Review the staff evaluation process.
- Taxes, fees imposed by city. Consider adjustments, additions
- Evaluation of current speed calming processes/devices. Speed Limits, Police patrol, speed tables/bumps, radar speed indicators, new technology
- Video Security System—update on meeting expectations, successes, shortfalls, needs for improvement, future needs
- Communications—new website review, Facebook, Twitter, Next Door, New resident welcome brochure . . . successes, shortfalls
- Staff leadership discussion; transition update, legal counsel, other
- Zoning changes - updates

If anyone has suggestions for topics in addition to the above, please submit them by email to:

Jim Hunt at jhunt@citybellemeade.org or to Bob Weigel at bobweigell23@gmail.com

The fiscal year **2017-2018 Audit of the City's finances** has been approved by the Board of Commissioners and can be viewed on the City's website, <https://www.citybellemeade.org/finance/>. If you wish to review a paper copy or have any questions about the report, please contact Assistant City Manager/Finance Director, Aspen Collins, 615-297-6041 or acollins@citybellemeade.org.



Weed Wrangle® 2019 is coming to Nashville on Saturday March 2nd. What is Weed Wrangle®, you ask? Weed Wrangle®, now in its 5th year, is a community initiative, started by the Garden Club of Nashville, a member of the Garden Club of America, which joins the community with public parks and green spaces for a one-day volunteer effort of removing invasive plant species. In 2018, Weed Wrangle® had 18 participating parks, greenways, and public gardens with over 600 volunteers citywide. Volunteers register through *HANDS ON NASHVILLE* (<https://www.hon.org/>) and select a Weed Wrangle® site anywhere in the city. It is a wonderful opportunity for community involvement, while giving back to the city and the environment. Volunteers come to their registered site for a half a day of work and are taught how to identify and remove invasive plants.

Many invasive plant species, such as privet and bush honeysuckle, have taken hold in Middle Tennessee and are harming our native ecosystems. Invasive plants choke out our native plant species, which also effect animal and insect populations, while also increasing the risk of wildfire and alter the appearance of public spaces, including those set aside for the enjoyment and recreation of all Nashville residents. Invasive plants introduced in this region decades ago for agricultural or landscaping purposes are now a serious concern for our parks, our public green spaces, and our own backyards. More and more, experts warn, this city's beautiful native trees, plants and wildlife are losing the fight against these aggressive plants, vines, trees and insects that consume nutrients, disrupt the ecological balance

and disfigure the outdoor world where Nashvillians hike, bike, picnic, ride horses and mountain bikes, or just relax. If left unchecked, future generations might never glimpse the forest floor, as alien undergrowth shrouds and chokes trees large and small.

Our objective, while removing invasive species from our public lands, is also to educate our volunteers as to the importance of this mission, so they, in turn, use these practices when managing their own yards and properties. We are fortunate to have Invasive Plant Control, LLC, a world renowned leader in invasive plant management, headquartered here in Nashville. President Steve Manning has been a wonderful professional resource to host sites and is a leader in helping to take the Weed Wrangle® movement to a national level. While Weed Wrangle® was started here in Nashville, the mission has spread nationally to 13 states through the Garden Club of America, and many other cities like New Orleans, Dallas, and Houston are joining in the fight against invasive plants through Weed Wrangle®.

Want to participate in the 2019 Weed Wrangle®? There will be 3 sites located in or near Belle Meade: Belle Meade Plantation, Cheekwood, and Warner Parks; along with sites scattered all over the city. Mark your Calendar for Saturday March 2nd and go to *HANDS ON NASHVILLE* (<https://www.hon.org/>) and search for Weed Wrangle® and register for a site close to your home or close to your heart. It is a wonderful way to do your part to take care of the environment and give back to the Nashville community.



The City employees wish to thank all of the wonderful and thoughtful residents who so generously contributed to the Employee Fund and sent delicious edible goodies to city hall over the holidays. We truly appreciate your kindness and extend our best wishes to you for a happy and healthy 2019!

**CERES SOCIETY DONATIONS –
DECEMBER 2018**

Ms. Lavinia Fillebrown
Mr. & Mrs. David Glassford
Mr. & Mrs. E. Dan Smith, II

TULIP SOCIETY - \$250 - \$499

Mr. & Mrs. Lawson Allen
Mr. & Mrs. William Sullivan

MAGNOLIA SOCIETY - \$500 - \$999

Dr. Ravi Chari & Dr. Sharon Albers



FROM THE POLICE DEPARTMENT – CHIEF TIM EADS:



I hope everyone had an excellent Holiday and Happy New Year! We have been fortunate so far this winter with weather conditions being tolerable, but the months of January and February can suddenly bring treacherous snow and ice, so please remember to take extra time while traveling during inclement weather and make sure your tires have adequate tread and your windshield wipers are in good condition. Our Public Works department is prepared for immediate action should the weather take a turn for the worse. The City has a Snow and Ice Removal Policy, which is the department's guide for salting and clearing streets during winter storm conditions. The Policy, along with a map of streets designated for snow and ice removal, can be viewed on the City's website,

<https://www.citybellemeade.org/streets/>

On December 4th, 2018, MADD Tennessee honored Sgt. Chuck Williams with the Power of Community Award. This award is given to a member of the community that helps MADD raise awareness within local communities about the dangers of impaired driving. Sgt. Williams has been a team captain from 2015-2018 at the MADD fundraiser. His team honors a Portland, TN High School Senior that was

killed by a drunk driver two days before his graduation. Sgt. Williams made contact with the student's mother and encouraged her to get involved with MADD and the two work closely to combat impaired driving in Tennessee. Their team has won the top Law Enforcement Agency fundraiser two of the three years. Their team's efforts has raised more than \$12,000 for MADD. The student's mother, Tanya Read, also received the MADD Golden Achievement Award for her dedication to MADD.



To read more about the victim that Sgt. Williams' team honors, please click on the link below:

<https://www.wkrn.com/news/h-s-senior-killed-in-crash-day-before-graduation-woman-charged/1089414274>

RECAP OF BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS' MEETINGS



The Commissioners took action on the following items at the December 19, 2018 meeting:

- Approved for Civil & Environmental Consultants, Inc. to develop a model to identify potential solutions to the excessive head pressure in portions of the City pressurized sanitary sewer system, for a cost not to exceed \$14,500.



- Approved appointment of Bob Weigel to the Municipal Planning Commission until June of 2021.
- Approved the Audit Report from Kraft CPAs for F/Y 2018
- Approved the re-engagement of Kraft CPA's for F/Y 2019 Audit.

Happy New Year!!!

**REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETINGS
FOR FEBRUARY & MARCH 2019**

Board of Building Code Appeals

Tuesday, February 12th at 4:00 pm
Tuesday, March 12th at 4:00 pm

Municipal Planning Commission

Tuesday, February 19th at 4:00 pm
Tuesday, March 19th at 4:00 pm

Board of Zoning Appeals

Tuesday, February 19th at 5:00 pm
Tuesday, March 19th at 5:00 pm

Board of Commissioners

Wednesday, February 20th at 4:00 pm
Wednesday, March 20th at 4:00 pm

Agendas are available online at www.citybellemeade.org

REMINDERS:

We have six residents who still owe their Storm-water User Fee, which was due by August 31, 2018. Penalties will be assessed on delinquent payments.

Property and personalty taxes are due on or before Thursday, Feb. 28, 2019.

Trash or recycle missed? For the quickest response, report all trash/recycle misses directly to City Hall by phone, 615-297-6041, or use the "Report a Concern" feature on the website, www.citybellemeade.org. This generates an email that is sent immediately to several city staff members.

CITY OF BELLE MEADE
4705 Harding Road
Nashville, Tennessee 37205

return service requested