

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 JULY 2019

CITIZEN SURVEY, TOWN HALL MEETINGS AND 2019 PROPERTY TAX RATE

Two comprehensive presentations were given at Town Hall Meetings on June 6 and June 11 at Belle Meade City Hall. Lively and lengthy discussions followed by questions from citizens were answered by commissioners and staff.

Highlights of the **Citizen Survey**: Residents were generally very pleased with the quality of life in and services offered by the City of Belle Meade. A long-range master plan addressing such issues as walkability, traffic calming, zoning and infrastructure needs is necessary and will be conducted. Community engagement will be relied upon.

Highlights of **Property Tax** considerations: We all know that the annual reduction and eventual elimination of the Tennessee Hall Income Tax has already and will continue to strain Belle Meade finances. Replacement of up to fifty percent of annual revenues will be necessary to offset this

loss. The Finance Committee and Commissioners both believe that smaller annual property tax increases rather than one significant one would be preferred. A property tax increase of .04295 cents per \$100 of assessed property value was passed at the June Commissioners' meeting, raising the property tax from .25705 cents to .30 cents per \$100 of assessed property value. Tax statements will be mailed on or about October 1, 2019.

The full Town Hall Meeting presentation and Citizen Survey results are available on the website under "Headlines" or by clicking here:

http://d31hzhk6di2h5.cloudfront.net/20190612/6f/27/5f/4f/8b430a7d48a76b6f78bf23b1/2019_Citizen_Survey_and_Property_Tax_Presentation.pdf

THE AMERICAN FLAG - MAYOR JIM HUNT



The 60-plus American Flags displayed on Belle Meade Boulevard during the Memorial Day through Independence Day period have been stowed away until the Veterans' Day celebration in early November. The flag has become a powerful symbol of Americanism, a symbol not only of hardiness, valor,

vigilance, perseverance and Justice, it is a symbol of freedom. Freedom that has been fought so hard for over the decades. Our flag is the most respected and recognized symbol in the USA. The City of Belle Meade intends to keep it that way.

Please consider making a donation in honor of or in memory of someone who served in the armed forces. Your donations help to cover the cost of needed flag replacements each year.

NEW REGULATIONS FOR SIGNS ON PRIVATE PROPERTY

At their June meeting, the Commissioners passed Ordinance 2019-3, amending the City's sign regulations which were outdated and in some cases, unenforceable. While the City desires to protect the natural beauty of its residential neighborhoods from obtrusive and unsightly signs, it cannot prohibit signs altogether. The City does have the ability to regulate the location, purpose and size of signs that are installed on private property, as per Section 14-211 of the City Municipal Code:

- Except as otherwise restricted in this chapter or elsewhere in the Municipal Code, temporary, freestanding, non-commercial signs may be placed or erected on any lot in any zoning district at any time. This category includes, but is not limited to: real estate signs, political signs, garage

sale signs, estate sale signs, baby announcements, lost pet signs, special event signs, banners used for parades, and any other non-commercial messages. Home occupation or contractor signs shall be considered commercial signs and are not allowed in any district.

- No temporary sign shall be placed in the public right-of-way.
- Temporary signs may not be illuminated and shall not exceed eight (8) square feet in area.

If you have any questions about the new sign regulations, please feel free to contact City Manager Beth Reardon, 615-297-6041 or breardon@citybellemeade.org.



FROM THE POLICE DEPARTMENT – CHIEF TIM EADS:



- **House Check Services** – If you are traveling, don't forget to sign up for this service at www.citybellemeade.org under How Do I, section House Check. You can also call our dispatcher at 615-297-0241 and request to update or be added to the list.
- **Alarm management** - Know your system well and call your alarm provider if you need a refresher course on your system. Reducing false alarms helps the City to conserve and manage our resources better.
- **See something, say something** - Never hesitate to give us a call if you see something suspicious or anything that may seem out of place. We are happy to dispatch an officer to check the situation. 615-297-0241
- **Scams** - Be suspicious of e-mails and phone calls requesting personal information or requests for help. If you receive a call from law enforcement advising that

you have a warrant or some type of paperwork that requires you to send money or give out financial information, it is a scam! If you are not certain, please give us a call and an officer can assist in determining what is going on.

Over the last year we have seen an uptick in rear-end collisions on Harding Road when people are turning left onto side streets, especially Jackson Boulevard. While the person behind you is responsible for keeping their vehicle under control at all times, many people are distracted. The safer option would be to make your turn onto Belle Meade Boulevard (which has a turning lane and signal) then go to your destination from there. If you must make a left hand turn onto one of our side streets from Harding Road, I would recommend giving plenty of signal time as a precaution before reaching your left turn.

RECAP OF BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS' MEETINGS



The Commissioners took action on the following items at the June 26, 2019 Regular meeting:

- Approved proposal from Barge Cauthen for engineering services in the amount of \$19,500.00 in connection with the 2019 street resurfacing project.
- Approved proposal from CEC to assist in performing stream monitoring as required by the MS4 (stormwater) permit for \$26,500.00.
- Approved proposal from CEC for assistance in developing a Stormwater Infrastructure Condition Assessment up to \$15,000.00
- Approved purchase of a used Chevy Silverado 1500 truck for a not to exceed cost of \$25,000.00 for the Public Works department.
- Reappointed Steve Horrell, John Eason and Larry Wieck to the Municipal Planning Commission with terms expiring June 30, 2022.
- Approved Belle Meade Plantation's Activity Permit for 2019-2020.
- Approved One (1) invoice from Landscape Services Inc. for \$ 5,860.00
- Approved Ordinance 2019-1, on second and final read-



ing, to Close, Vacate and Abandon the Right of Way of Pendleton Avenue between its intersection with the Right of Way of Lynwood Blvd. and its terminus in the Turner Subdivision.

- Approved Ordinance 2019-3, on second and final reading, Amending Certain Sections of the Belle Meade Municipal Code and Zoning Code to clarify Restrictions Concerning Signs.
- Approved Ordinance 2019-4, on second and final reading, Amending Section 11-408 of the Belle Meade Municipal Code to specifically regulate Turf Fans under the City's Anti-Noise Regulations.
- Approved Ordinance 2019-5, on second and final reading, Budget Appropriations for Fiscal Year 2019-2020.
- Approved Ordinance 2019-6, on second and final reading, Fix Tax Rate for Fiscal Year 2019-2020. The new Belle Meade property tax rate is \$.30 cents.
- Approved Resolution 2019-02, Amending Ordinance 2018-7, Budget Appropriations for Fiscal Year 2019-2020.
- Approved Resolution 2019-03, Amending Employee Benefit Policy for Longevity Pay.

FROM THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT:

- **NES Outages:** Many residents lost power during the recent storms for several hours or more. Some residents called City Hall and asked if we could report the outage to NES, in hopes that we could speed up the process to restore power. Unfortunately, NES will not allow a third party to report an outage. NES provides 3 ways for the outage to be reported by a customer. Detailed instructions are on their website at https://www.nespower.com/content.aspx?page=power_outage
 1. Call 615-234-0000 and provide a phone number associated with your account, your account number or your meter number.
 2. Use your mobile phone to text "OUT". Your mobile phone needs to be registered with NES for this service
 3. Log in to your NES account.
- **Annual Creek Debris Removal Maintenance Contract** is underway. This annual project is one of the Best Management Practices listed in the City's Stormwater Permit with the State of Tennessee. Annual creek debris removal greatly reduces flash flooding on private properties. The contractor, J. R. & Associates, will be working at the following sites over the next several weeks.
 1. Bridge at Jackson Blvd. and Harding Rd.
 2. Richland Creek at The Temple driveway
 3. Leake Ave. to Belle Meade Plantation
 4. Belle Meade Branch culvert under Belle Meade Blvd.
 5. Richland Creek culvert under Chancery Lane
 6. Belle Meade Branch culvert under Forsythe
 7. Herbert Place to Chancery Lane
 8. Chickering Road to Chickering Lane
 9. Chickering Road to Herbert Place
 10. Belle Meade Blvd. to Enquirer
 11. Culvert under Belle Meade Blvd. to Iroquois Ave.
 12. Shepard Pl. to Belle Meade Blvd.
 13. Belle Meade Branch culvert under Lynnwood Blvd.
 14. Sugartree branch at Lynwood Blvd.
 15. 407 Westview ending at St. Georges Church
 16. 804 Westview Bridge
- **Brush & Chipper collection reminders:** Belle Meade provides this contracted service to all residents, for once-a-week pickup of bagged clippings and leaves, small limbs no larger than 3 in. diameter and 8 ft. long. This services does NOT include pickup and removal of large trees. That is the homeowner's responsibility.
- **Hillwood Bridge Construction Update:** Public Works Director Larry Smith recently visited the Hillwood Bridge site to get an update on the construction progress. The contractor reported that the work is still on schedule to be completed by August 1st.



CERES SOCIETY DONATIONS – JUNE 2019

Mr. & Mrs. Stuart Brunson
Dr. & Mrs. Ashish Shah

OAK SOCIETY - \$1,000 and above
Mr. & Mrs. Rusty Moore

TULIP SOCIETY - \$250 - \$499
Mr. & Mrs. James O. Bass, Jr.

Mr. & Mrs. Rick Carlton
• Dr. & Dr. George Dahir
Mr. Imaan Ferdowsi
Mr. & Mrs. Elliot Greenberg
Ms. Michelle & Ms. Sally Knutson
Dr. & Dr. Fernando Miranda
Mr. & Mrs. Stephen Riven

AMERICAN FLAG SPONSORSHIP
Mrs. John White (Dudley)
In Mem: Cpl. Walter M. Morgan, Jr., US Army
& Maj. John Warner White, US Air Force

Belle Meade Newsletter

REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETINGS AUGUST 2019 & SEPTEMBER 2019

Board of Commissioners

Wednesday, August 21st at 4:00 pm

Wednesday, September 18th at 4:00 pm

Board of Building Code Appeals

Tuesday, August 13th at 4:00 pm

Tuesday, September 10th at 4:00 pm

Municipal Planning Commission

Tuesday, August 20th at 4:00 pm

Tuesday, September 17th at 4:00 pm

Board of Zoning Appeals

Tuesday, August 20th at 5:00 pm

Tuesday, September 17th at 5:00 pm

Agendas are available online at
www.citybellemeade.org

EARLY VOTING SCHEDULE – METROPOLITAN GENERAL ELECTION

HOWARD OFFICE BUILDING

700 Second Avenue S, Nashville, TN 37210

Friday, July 12, 2019 - Saturday, July 27, 2019

FRIDAY, JULY 12 8:00 AM – 5:30 PM

SATURDAY, JULY 13 8:00 AM – 4:30 PM

MONDAY, JULY 15 8:00 AM – 5:30 PM

TUESDAY, JULY 16 8:00 AM – 7:00 PM

WEDNESDAY, JULY 17 8:00 AM – 4:30 PM

THURSDAY, JULY 18 8:00 AM – 7:00 PM

ALL EARLY VOTING LOCATIONS OPEN

Friday, July 19, 2019 - Saturday July 27, 2019

FRIDAY, JULY 19 8:00 AM – 5:30 PM

SATURDAY, JULY 20 8:00 AM – 4:30 PM

MONDAY, JULY 22 8:00 AM – 5:30 PM

TUESDAY, JULY 23 8:00 AM – 7:00 PM

WEDNESDAY, JULY 24 8:00 AM – 4:30 PM

THURSDAY, JULY 25 8:00 AM – 7:00 PM

FRIDAY, JULY 26 8:00 AM – 5:30 PM

SATURDAY, JULY 27 8:00 AM – 4:30 PM

Belle Meade City Hall	4705 Harding Pike, Nashville
Bellevue Library	720 Baugh Road Nashville
Bordeaux Library	4000 Clarksville Pike, Nashville
Casa Azafrán Comm. Center	2195 Nolensville Pike, Nashville
Edmondson Pike Library	5501 Edmondson Pike, Nashville
Goodlettsville Comm. Center	200 Memorial Drive, Goodlettsville
Green Hills Library	3701 Benham Avenue, Nashville
Hermitage Library	3700 James Kay Lane, Hermitage
Howard Office Building	700 2nd Avenue S, Nashville
Madison Library	610 Gallatin Pike S, Madison
Southeast Library	5260 Hickory Hollow Pkwy, Antioch

CITY OF BELLE MEADE
4705 Harding Road
Nashville, Tennessee 37205

return service requested