

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 JUNE 2020

### FROM MAYOR HUNT: NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH, NES OUTAGES, COVID-19 AND NATIONWIDE PROTESTS



The straight-line wind furiously whistled through Belle Meade on May 3rd entering our city like a LION and exiting the same way. As all of us know, the storm wreaked havoc on our trees and power lines, electrical and internet. More than 25% of our homes were affected, some having no

power for as many as five days or more.

During all this havoc, our community remains steadfast, vigilant and supportive. I want to thank all of the forty two (42) Neighborhood Watch Captains and many of the affected residents for their immediate, effective and accurate reporting in response to notices generated by City Hall.

**Electrical Outages:** The Police continued to show responses to resident's questions. Determining residents without power and reporting it allowed us to inform NES of critical outages, their addresses and any vulnerable residents needing assistance. Live electrical and cable wires were everywhere as well as downed power poles. Patience and persistence were necessary, and power was finally restored to everyone. I would be remiss not to recognize certain Watch Captains who went beyond the call: AnnMarie McNamara, Tammy Gray, Sharalena Miller and Katie Weien.

**Demonstrations – both peaceful and violent:** With the tragic death of George Floyd in Minneapolis, massive protests nationwide spread showing both respect for his death and calling for reform of police. Demonstrations were limited to downtown Nashville and were mainly peaceful with the major exception of one night where violence erupted downtown. The Metro Court House and lower Broad suffered unnecessary and costly damage.

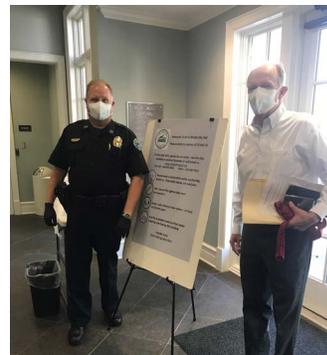
Rumors ran rampant that the protest would mean marches on Belle Meade Blvd and threats to businesses in Green Hills. Police managed the false rumors quickly and effectively, assuring residents of their safety. Thankfully, we have not heard of a single Belle Meade resident seeking defunding of our wonderful police department.

**COVID-19** – While this pandemic forced closure of our City Hall, no staff or police were furloughed. Business as "usual" continued without disruption of any services. Virtual meetings replaced City Hall as a meeting place using Zoom, a new technology that has become popular and effective and will remain in many applications. Residents showed discipline in practicing safer at home and continued social distancing as certain restrictions are being eased.

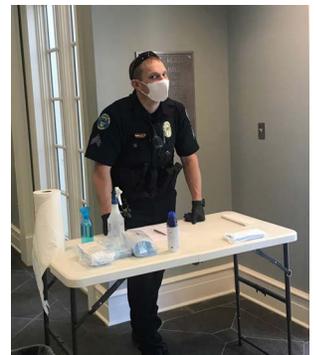
Neighborhood Watch continues and will become an even greater source of important information to all residents. I really appreciate the wonderful support that has been shown to the commissioners and staff of Belle Meade.

### TRAFFIC COURT RESUMES AT BELLE MEADE

With City Hall closed to the public in April and May, no traffic courts were held and had to be rescheduled. Letters to hundreds of recipients of traffic tickets were mailed notifying them of their new court dates in June and July. City Judge Mark Beveridge assisted the Police department and city staff in preparing a required Plan for Reopening Court that was sent to the 20th judicial district judge for ultimate approval by Tennessee Supreme Court. On June 3rd and 4th, the first of the rescheduled traffic courts were held with great success. The Plan required officers to take temperatures of all attendees prior to them entering City Hall, have masks and hand sanitizer available, and maintain social distancing of at least 6 feet during court and the payment process



Chief Eads & Judge Beveridge



Sgt. Mangrum



**FROM THE POLICE DEPARTMENT – CHIEF TIM EADS:**



- **THANK YOU** - I would like to thank everyone for their support the last few months during the COVID-19 crisis. Many of you have sent meals and other expressions of gratitude to the police department and city hall. We are grateful and really love serving this community!
- **CAR BURGLARIES** - Over the past few weeks, we have experienced a few vehicle burglaries and we appreciate those in Belle Meade and surrounding neighborhoods who submitted video of the incidents. All of the video has been very helpful to Belle Meade and Metro PD's investigation. We are working closely as a team to get these criminals off the street.
- **SEE SOMETHING, SAY SOMETHING** - A reminder that if you witness a vehicle burglary in progress to call us

297-0241 or 911 immediately and do not confront them. Suspects in some of the recent thefts in the area have been armed with weapons and in a few Metro cases, shot at victims, striking at least one victim in the leg.

- **PARK SMART** - Lock your vehicle and remove anything of value. Please make it routine to use your home alarms and know how to maximize the features on your alarm system.
- **NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH PROGRAM** - I encourage you to join, as this program has been updated and has grown. We use this program to push out valuable crime alerts and other public safety information. If you need more information on the program, I encourage you to give us a call at 615-297-0241 to get connected.

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**RECAP OF BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS' MEETINGS**



The Commissioners took action on the following items at the May 20, 2020 meeting:

- Approved the Proposal from Smith Landscaping & Excavating Inc. for Sidewalk Removal & Disposal at 712 Enquirer Avenue in the amount of \$3,500.00
- Approved the design of the replacement street light fixture and mast arm for Belle Meade Boulevard light poles
- Approved one invoice over \$5,000 from Wascon, Inc. in the amount of \$5,925.26
- Adopted Ordinance 2019-11, ("Tree Ordinance") Amending Title Twelve of the Belle Meade Code and Adding a new Chapter Five, Adopting Building Regulations for the Management and Protection of Trees, on second and final reading



- Approved Ordinance 2020-1, Budget Appropriations for Fiscal Year 2020-2021, on first reading
- Approved Ordinance 2020-2, Fix Tax Rate for Fiscal Year 2020-2021 at .30 cents per \$100.00 of assessed value, on first reading
- Approved Ordinance 2020-3, Amending Section 12-407(A)(2) of the Belle Meade Code to Modify Certain Provisions for Flood Hazard Reduction, on first reading
- Approved Resolution 2020-03, Adopting the 2020 Metropolitan Nashville & Davidson County Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan
- Approved Resolution 2020-04, Application for Governor's Local Government Support Grants Project

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**COMMISSIONERS APPROVE ORDINANCE 2019-11 "TREE ORDINANCE"**

At long last the Tree Ordinance passes!

Ordinance 2019-11 was presented at this past Commissioners' meeting on May 20, 2020 and passed the second and final reading. What does this mean for you and your trees?

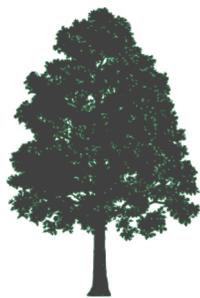
The ordinance provides a sound way to protect trees during construction. Some developers have clear cut beautiful lots with little or no thought to the lot's natural resource.

Temporary barricades around the drip edge of the limbs during construction will protect trees and help prevent vehicles from parking over the roots. All trees on a lot under construction

must now be shown on a survey. The survey will show what trees are to be taken down and which ones are to remain and be protected. There is a ratio of tree replacement standards, under which trees are to be replaced with required replacement caliper minimum. Every effort will be given to protect monarch trees by re-working driveways, additions and pools.

Whenever a building permit or any land disturbance activity is proposed which requires a permit from the City of Belle Meade, unless exempted in accordance with Section 12-504 of the ordinance, the permit applicant and all other persons with a legal interest in the real property shall meet all tree management and protection standards pursuant to this ordinance.

What about those who have not pulled a building permit wish-



# Belle Meade Newsletter

ing to cut down a tree? No property owner or other person with an interest in the property may remove any acceptable tree as defined in Section 12-510, of 15 inches in caliper, without replacing said tree with four replacement trees. There are of course exceptions:

- Removal of a dead or diseased tree or naturally fallen tree
- Limited removal of trees necessary to obtain clear visibility at drives and intersections
- Actions of public and private utility companies within their easements
- Removal of trees listed in the current edition of Invasive Exotic Pest Plants

- Trees causing damage to public facilities or improvements to the subject property.

A tree removal permit shall be required for the removal of trees. The permit will be available on the City Website or by emailing the Building Codes department. The tree removal permit application shall include a stamped report from a certified arborist. There will be NO cost for the permit.

The full copy of Ordinance 2019-11 can be read [here](#) or on the website homepage under “Headlines”. If you have questions, please call Lyle Patterson 615-297-2364 or [lpatterson@citybellemeade.org](mailto:lpatterson@citybellemeade.org)

## FROM THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT:

Lawn Care Reminders: Please remind your landscapers and lawn care services to not block access to the street with their vehicles and trailers while working. Also, they should be instructed not to blow grass clippings and other yard debris out into the street, which is a violation of Belle Meade Code 16-107.

NOTE – If you have a sewer grinder pump, please make the lawn service crews aware of the location of the green grinder tank lid and the 4-inch sewer cleanout caps (see picture), so they do not damage them when mowing.



## Percy Warner Park Entrance at Belle Meade Blvd. Update

Metro Councilman Thom Druffel reported that the construction company will be able to remove the fences at the Belle Meade Gates, finish paving and remove rock stacks and heavy equipment by the first of June, weather permitting. The area is only open to walkers and cyclists at this

time and it will still be awhile before cars are allowed. The upper road is still being worked on and will be closed for some time yet. However, walkers and cyclists entering off Belle Meade Blvd. will be able to access the trails and the 5.8 mile loop.

## AMERICAN FLAG SPONSORSHIPS

The American flags displayed on Belle Meade Blvd. have taken on a stronger meaning in the last few weeks. You may sponsor a flag in memory of or in honor of someone who fought for our country’s freedom or to recognize someone special. Tax-deductible contributions of \$50 or more can be made to the Ceres Society for flag sponsorship. If you wish to honor someone, please include a note with your check or include that information with your online payment on the City website [www.citybellemeade.org](http://www.citybellemeade.org) Recognition of donors will be printed in the Newsletter.



## CERES SOCIETY DONATIONS MAY 2020

### MAGNOLIA SOCIETY - \$500 - \$999

Mr. & Mrs. Brian Cook  
Mr. Richard J. Eskind  
Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Founce

### TULIP SOCIETY - \$250 - \$499

Mr. & Mrs. Lee Barfield

Dr. & Mrs. Phillip Brown  
Dr. & Dr. George Dahir  
Mr. & Mrs. Imaan Ferdowsi  
Mr. & Mrs. John Ferguson  
Mr. & Mrs. Benjamin Mitchell  
Mr. & Mrs. Tim Reynolds  
Mr. & Mrs. John Rochford

Mrs. Judy Simmons  
Mr. & Mrs. Govan White

### AMERICAN FLAG SPONSORSHIP

Ed & Hettie Stuart  
*(In Honor of Jim & Sally Hunt)*

# Belle Meade Newsletter

## REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETINGS

JULY & AUGUST 2020

All Meetings Held at Belle Meade City Hall

### Board of Commissioners

Wednesday, July 15th at 4:00 pm

Wednesday, August 19th at 4:00 pm

### Historic Zoning Commission

Tuesday, July 14th at 3:00 pm

Tuesday, August 11th at 3:00 pm

### Board of Building Code Appeals

Tuesday, July 14th at 4:00 pm

Tuesday, August 11th at 4:00 pm

### Municipal Planning Commission

Tuesday, July 21st at 4:00 pm

Tuesday, August 18th at 4:00 pm

### Board of Zoning Appeals

Tuesday, July 21st at 5:00 pm

Tuesday, August 18th at 5:00 pm

Agendas are available online at [www.citybellemeade.org](http://www.citybellemeade.org)



**CITY HALL OFFICES WILL BE CLOSED ON FRIDAY, JULY 3rd. FOR SEWER, STREET, OR OTHER EMERGENCIES, CALL THE POLICE DEPARTMENT AT 615-297-0241.**

**BRUSH & CHIPPER COLLECTION WILL RUN ON FRIDAY JULY 3RD.**

**WE WISH EVERYONE A SAFE AND ENJOYABLE HOLIDAY!**

#### census facts

2020 Census data will help inform how billions of dollars are distributed to states and communities every year for the next 10 years.



**SUBMIT YOUR 2020 CENSUS INFORMATION:**  
<https://2020census.gov/en.html>

As of June 4th, Belle Meade's response rate was 74.5% - great!

CITY OF BELLE MEADE  
4705 Harding Road  
Nashville, Tennessee 37205

return service requested