

**Minutes  
Board of Commissioners  
Of the City of Belle Meade  
May 20, 2020**

**Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order by James Hunt, Mayor t 4:00pm

**Commissioner present by "Zoom" software platform**

James Hunt, Mayor                      Louise Bryan, Vice Mayor                      Cathy Altenbern  
Rusty Moore                              Bob Weigel

**City Staff Members present**

Beth Reardon, City Manager                      Tim Eads, Police Chief  
Lyle Patterson, Assistant City Manager and Building Official  
Doug Berry, Attorney                              Leigh Mills, Finance and HR Director  
Larry Smith, Public Works Director      Edie Glaser, City Recorder

I.     **Pledge of Allegiance** - lead by Mayor Jim Hunt

II.    **Public Comments** - None

III.   **Minutes** - regular meeting held April 15, 2020

**Motion to approve: More                      Second: Bryan                      Vote: All aye**

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

2. **Proposal for sidewalk removal at 712 Enquirer Avenue**

**Motion to approve the proposal of the sidewalk removal at 712 Enquirer Avenue: Moore                      Second: Weigel                      Vote: All aye**

3. **Proposal of Belle Meade Boulevard streetlight fixture and mass arm**

Mayor Hunt is suggesting a group meeting with NES to discuss the breakdown of the charge of \$36,000.00 a year. The monthly charge on the bill reads investment charge with no break down. The new light fixture amount they are proposing is an addition \$3,000.00 per month. Mayor Hunt would like to meet with NES to discuss.

Moore commented he likes the new light fixture with metal arm design. Reardon added this is the design that was chosen at the Commissioner's retreat. There is a limited number that NES can stock. We would start with an order of 114, two to each pole.

Smith commented that we are unable to repair any of the older fixtures due to the parts being unavailable. Because of their age the parts are discontinued. The older fixtures would have to be replaced. We currently have three lights out on the Boulevard now.

Weigle asked if we knew what the price comparison is between the different streetlight fixtures to choose from?

Peggy Warner, 4428 Shepard Place, think it's time to have the lights readily available.

**Motion to approve the design of the light fixture for the streetlights on Belle Meade Boulevard understanding that we are approving the design but not authorizing the purchase at this time: Moore                      Second: Bryan  
Vote: All aye**

**4. National Public Works Week - Recognition of Public Works Staff**

Mayor Hunt and the Commissioner's thanked the department and clapped for their outstanding service. Appreciation lunch scheduled for Thursday, May 21.

**V. City Services**

**A. Public Safety** - Reports submitted by Chief T. Eads reviewed.  
Statistics Summary April 2020

<u>12</u> Traffic Citations	<u>0</u> Traffic Crashed	<u>25</u> Alarms
<u>2</u> Burglary	<u>2</u> Theft	<u>4</u> Arrests

LPR Report April 2020

<u>11</u> Stolen Vehicle	<u>1</u> Stolen Tag	<u>1</u> Missing Person
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Chief commented there are 10 people currently signed up for Operation Blue Light.

**B. Health and Sanitation** - Reports submitted by Nathan McVay reviewed. Smith commented that the inventory for the rebuilds was good at this time. There are 13 Myers in stock and a few E-1's.

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

<u>9</u> Permits Issued \$1,234,800.00 Estimated construction cost
<u>1</u> Permit Closed
<u>2</u> Grading /Soil Disturbance Permits
<u>0</u> Closed
<u>0</u> Stormwater Complaints Filed

Patterson stated that the HZC looks at design, ratio, and scale. An applicant would go to the BZA for something non-compliant or a swimming pool. The only time you would go to the BZA after going through HZC on an older home would be for an addition that might be outside the building envelope. The BZA and HZC are separate entities.

Moore commented that as a Commission he feels they have some responsibility to look at what the BZA is doing and attend the meetings even if it's on a rotating basis.

**D. Waste Collection - NO MATTERS**

**E. Beautification/ Landscape**

**1. Monthly Report** by Laura Katherine Wood

The Beautification Committee met on May 11<sup>th</sup> via ZOOM. Topics discussed were fundraising for 2020 and the master plan. As of April 3, 2020, Ceres has received \$46,905.

Wood announced the Ceres Committee is currently organizing to all City of Belle Meade residents a planting that will be delivered or installed for their mailbox with a donation. There will be three donation levels. A small annual around the base for the lowest level, a clematis for a higher tear, and for an extra \$100 they will plant it for you. Thank you, Mayor Hunt, for the suggestion. This will be started in the next couple of weeks.

In the March meeting they identified the areas of the City they would like to focus on. The areas are the entrance and median on Belle Meade Boulevard.

Bryan commented that Ceres Committee and the City Master Plan Committee work together and communicate.

Mayor Hunt announced the Selection Committed members. They are Louise Bryan, Rusty Moore, Beth Reardon, Lyle Patterson, Randy Gross and Jim Beckner.

The Steering Committee will meet in July.

**F. City Communications - NO MATTERS**

**IV. ADMINISTRATION**

**A. Finance**

1. Reports submitted by Leigh Mills reviewed.
2. Investment Schedule - April 2020

Weigle asked if there had been any negative affect on the financials on the revenue side?

Reardon responded next month financials will show a full month of Covid shut down and will give us a better indication.

**3. Approval of Invoices over \$5,000**

Wascon Inc.       \$5,925.26

Motion to approve invoices over \$5,000 as submitted: Moore       Second: Bryan  
Vote: All aye

**B. Facilities - NO MATTERS**

**C. Personnel - NO MATTERS**

**VII. LEGISLATION**

**1. Ordinance 2019-11, An Ordinance to Amend Title Twelve of the Belle Meade Municipal Code and Add a New Chapter Five Thereto Adopting Building Regulations for the Management and Protection of Trees, on a second reading.**

L. Patterson commented that he and Erick Clifford, 712 Belle Meade Boulevard, have a few suggestions that should be added to the Ordinance.

- 12-508, on a lot that is covered in trees based on the placement ratio of 4 to 1 if a tree is cut down there may not be a need to replace the canopy on that lot. There may be the same lot size across the street with very few trees.

- 12-504 there is no mention in Exceptions for damage to property. If the roots are bringing up a sidewalk, driveway, patio or foundation of a house this should be addressed in the ordinance.

These are two additional items that need to be added to the exemptions 12-504.

Moore, I suggest we add item 5 to section 5.04 Exemptions that states removal of trees causing damage to public facilities or improvements to the subject property.

The current tress ratio is from 4-15 inches the ratio is 2 to 1. From 16-30 inch tree the ration is 4 to 1. How do we determine if a lot has more than adequate tree cavity?

Berry, if you adopted the change to 12-504 and the other changes shown on Amendment 1, then came back with 12-508.

Erick Clifford added suggestions for Section 12-512. Mayor Hunt asked him to formalize the addition and get with L. Patterson so it can be presented at next month meeting.

Motion to approve the ordinance 2019-11 on second reading: Bryan  
Second: Weigle Vote: All aye

Motion that we amend this ordinance in the amendment that has been presented to us today as well as adding the section 12-504 and a paragraph 5 that states the removal of trees causing damage to public facilities or improvement to the subject property: Moore Second: Bryan  
Vote: All aye

2. Ordinance 2020-1, Budget Appropriations for Fiscal Year 2020-2021, on first reading.

Motion to approve Ordinance 2020-1 on first reading: Moore  
Second: Altenbern Vote: All aye

3. Ordinance 2020-2, Fix Tax Rate for Fiscal Year 2020-2021, on first reading.

Motion to approve the fix tax rate for 2020-2021: Bryan Second: Moore  
Vote: All aye

4. Ordinance 2020-3, Amending Section 12-407 (A) (2) Of The Belle Meade Municipal Code to Modify Certain Provisions For Flood Hazard Reduction on first reading.

Patterson stated that FEMA determines where the base flood elevation is located. They require that it be one foot above that base flood elevation. The City of Belle Meade requires three feet for a total of 4. I am proposing we lower that requirement to only one foot above FEMA's requirement for a total of two feet.

This does not make any sort of impact as far as flooding it is merely for protection of your home. Every foot above the FEMA requirement saves on insurance. If someone wants to raise their home up to save on insurance, they can do that. Most people do not want to do that and are more caring of the aesthetics from the street.

Weigle, what is the reason we don't leave it as what FEMA requires at one foot?

Steve Casey, there is nothing wrong with doing that it is just a large change from where we are now. We would be going from 4 feet above the base foot elevation to one above. It is nice to have a little buffer and have a 50 percent reduction.

City Hall was built one foot above the base flood elevation in the mid 2000. That required an ordinance amendment in order to allow the non-residential structures to be built one foot above the base flood elevation. That is currently on the ordinance, but the residential structures were left at 4 feet above.

Patterson, this in no way impacts the impact study for flooding in a flood plan. You still have to have a full impact study.

Steve Casey, none of the requirements for doing a flood study for encroachment in a flood way or any of the required compensation for filling in flood plan would go away with this amendment.

Altenbern, does this affect existing houses if they decided to add on?

Patterson, any time you are doing an addition you are allowed to take 50% of the sale value of the property to do improvements. If you go over that 50% you have to raise the floor level of the entire house to meet the FEMA standards as well at Belle Meade.

Weigle, what is the definition of flood way and flood plain?

Casey, flood plain is everywhere that water is going to be covering during a flood. The flood way is something you do in a model where you push in both sides of the flood plain to a point where you have not increased more than one foot in depth. It was set up by FEMA to help flood plain administrators understand that if someone proposes to do something in a flood plain, as long as they stay out of the flood way, there is not going to be more than a foot rise.

**Motion to approve 2020-3: Weigle            Second: Moore            Vote: All aye**

**5. Resolution 2020-03, Adopting the 2020 Metropolitan Nashville and Davidson County Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan**

Chief Eads commented in order to participate in FEMA funds every municipality has to have a mitigation plan. Belle Meade is still in control of Belle Meade but as long as we participate it will allow us if we ever have another flood or declare a disaster FEMA money can be reimbursed. Being a part of this plan and adopting this plan allows us to receive FEMA funds.

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

**6. Resolution 2020-04, Application for Governor's Local Government Support Grants Project**

**Motion to approve: Moore            Second: Bryan            Vote: All aye**

**VII. OTHER MATTERS - NONE**

Boulevard Bolt is going to be submitting their parade permit request per Reardon.

Reardon will get left lane bids for Harding Road after July 1 in order for grant funds to apply.

**Meeting Adjourned at 6:30pm**

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Mayor Jim Hunt

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City Recorder Edie Glaser