



COMMISSIONERS: James V. Hunt, Sr., Mayor • Rusty Moore, Vice-Mayor • Bob Weigel
Louise Bryan • Haley Dale • Beth Reardon, City Manager • Chuck Williams, Chief of Police

City Hall (615) 297-6041 / Police Dept. (615) 297-0241 / www.citybellemeade.org

NEWSLETTER TO RESIDENTS OF BELLE MEADE MARCH 2021

FROM MAYOR HUNT: Recap of Commissioner Retreat - February 24-25, 2021



The Commissioners, City Manager and Assistant City Manager held intense day and evening sessions at the “Loft” at Belle Meade Historic Site on February 24th and 25th.

Agenda items included: Zoning Codes; Communications – to residents and between boards and commissions; potential candidates for future boards and commissions; City budget; Master Plan (Belle Meade Together); Parmer Park potential and strategy; City Beautification; Police Department; City vehicles; Neighborhood Watch and resident databases; Historic Zoning Commission; Stormwater update including rates.

While these were not voting meetings, discussion proved enlightening on particular topics: (1) overall review of current zoning ordinances, especially Special Exceptions, Conditional Uses and Variances, lot sizes, training of new board members. This led to need for updating and clarifying entire set of ordinances. (2) 2021-2022 income and expense budget

considerations in light of Hall Tax phase out (3) New Chief of Police selection process (4) Exemplary Service Award funded by gift from David and Cindy Wilds (5) Combining of the three sources of City resident information: EMMA, Neighborhood Watch and Property Tax/Stormwater. Utilizing intern to coordinate the merger of these resources. (6) Video Surveillance – additional cameras to cover current weaknesses in coverage (7) Exploring better methods of disseminating emergency notices (8) Sneak preview of potential traffic calming ideas presented by Louise Bryan with lengthy discussion of progress of the Belle Meade Together plan reveal this spring and early summer (9) City Attorney position – need for annual review, job description, expectations. (10) Consistent email “signatures” for all employees and Commissioners (11) subtle messages as part of “signature” and website that will increase resident awareness of YouTube Channel, New Resident signup, resident comments, access to other City information with direct links to that information.

As you can tell, this was an important two days, with valuable ideas being discussed. Commissioners and staff will begin the work of studying and implementing these recommendations.



FROM THE POLICE DEPARTMENT:

CONGRATULATIONS to Charles (Chuck) Williams, who transitioned from Sergeant to his new role as Police Chief for the City on March 3rd. Chief Williams has more than 18 years of law enforcement experience, with close to eleven years of service here at Belle Meade. A six-member Selection Committee (Mayor Jim Hunt, Vice-Mayor Rusty Moore, residents Jeb Beasley and Diane Lance, the City Man-

ager and Assistant City Manager) interviewed five very well qualified candidates - four from within the BMPD and a retired Deputy Chief from MNPD. The City Manager and Assistant City Manager, after receiving recommendations from the other Selection Committee members, made the final decision on appointing Chuck Williams as the new Chief.

Chief Williams is excited about leading the department forward and is extremely grateful for the appreciation shown to our police officers by the residents of Belle Meade. Please do not hesitate to contact him at 615-297-0241 or cwilliams@citybellemeade.org, if you need assistance.

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Belle Meade Newsletter

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The David & Cindy Wilds Exemplary Service Award –

Mr. and Mrs. David Wilds recently made a private donation to establish a fund for the benefit of police department employees. The purpose of the David and Cindy Wilds Exemplary Service Award Fund shall be to recognize exemplary service by police department employees in the execution of the duties of the Belle Meade Police Department. A Fund Committee was established consisting of the City Manager, Assistant City Manager, Police Chief, Finance Director and the Mayor or other designated Commissioner. Nominations for this award must be made in writing and submitted to the Committee for consideration. The award amount is set at \$500.00.

The Police Department staff is honored by this show of appreciation from Mr. and Mrs. Wilds.

Scam Alerts – Scammers are always busy creating new ways to obtain your personal information. For instance, poll questions that appear on your phone. Do not answer them and delete them immediately. By answering, you “activate” your phone number with the scammer and more scam attempts will soon follow. Please be on guard and remember, no legitimate business, government agency or financial institution will ever threaten you or request that you release personal information such as social security numbers, date of birth, account numbers, etc. over the phone or online.



Belle Meade Together Plan Update

Kimley-Horn has been busy, holding several meetings with City staff and Commissioner Louise Bryan and two meetings with the Steering Committee in February and March. The Kimley-Horn professionals (engineers, planners, architects, designers) held a “design sprint” for target areas in the City to collaborate on a number of design solutions for these areas that would address traffic calming, pedestrian safety,

stormwater, beautification and branding. The resulting recommendations were presented to both the team and Steering Committee to generate discussion, ideas and feedback on what will and will not work for the proposed Master Plan. The team and Committee members are also identifying several smaller projects that can be installed rather quickly after Plan adoption, but will yield a great benefit to the residents. There will be many more meetings in March and April, with the goal of having outreach and Plan reveal in May. Stay Tuned!

HARDING PLACE SIDEWALK – PHASE II

Construction of the Harding Place sidewalk at both the Lynwood Blvd. and Belle Meade Blvd. ends will begin in early April and should take 2-3 weeks to complete, weather permitting. The Board of Commissioners approved the low bid of \$77,900 for the project from Nsite, Inc. of Milan, Tennessee. They are the same contractors who installed the sidewalks in 2018. Hodgson Douglas Landscape Architects (HDLA) is

the City’s design consultant and will oversee the construction along with City Public Works staff. A portion of this Phase II project cost is being funded by the 2020-2021 State of Tennessee Local Revenue Grant Fund allocation. Plans are available for review at City Hall. If you have any questions about this project, please contact Public Works Director Larry Smith, 615-297-6041 or lsmith@citybellemeade.org

RECAP OF BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS’ MEETING



The Commissioners took action on the following items at the February 17, 2021 meeting:

- Awarded the contract for the Harding Place Sidewalk-Phase II project to the low bidder, Nsite, Inc., in the amount of 77,900.00.
- Approved the Activity Permit for the annual St. George’s Farmers Market
- Approved the following invoices over \$5,000:
 - Chrysler Dodge Jeep Ram of Columbia \$ 8,652.00

- Digital-Ally \$ 5,338.94
- Kimley Horn \$16,220.00
- SCI Technologies, Inc. \$39,000.00
- Wascon, Inc. \$ 6,149.50

- Deferred Resolution 2021-01, Amending Ordinance 2020-1, Budget Appropriations for Fiscal Year 2020-2021
- Approved Resolution 2021-02, establishing a fund for the benefit of police department employees, hereinafter called the David and Cindy Wilds Exemplary Service Award Fund





point source pollution occurs when water from storms picks up pollutants and carries them into our rivers and streams. Many NPS pollutants are found around the home. These include household chemicals, yard waste (such as grass clippings and leaves), household trash, pesticides, grease, auto products, and excess nutrients (including fertilizers, septic system, and pet waste). We can control water quality by proper disposal of household chemicals, placing leaves and other yard waste in bags to be picked up by the City's brush and chipper contractor (never use streams or street ditches as disposal sites), using organic fertilizers, and protecting the

Preserving Our Water Quality

Many people think water pollution comes from factories and commercial sites. These are examples of 'point source' pollution. NPS or 'nonpoint source' pollution is actually the biggest factor affecting water quality. Non-

stormwater inlets to the storm sewers during all construction and building projects.

Lyle Patterson, Assistant City Manager

Director of Building and Zoning / Floodplain Administrator, Stormwater

FROM THE BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE

The Society of Ceres is launching a webpage! We will be part of the City's website <https://citybellemeade.org/> and will be the source for all things Beautification. Built around our three core tenets, it will focus on Beautification, Preservation and Education.

Our Beautification page will feature many of the gorgeous gardens for which Belle Meade is known. It will also house information on current and upcoming projects around the City.

The Preservation page will be a source of information and links regarding sustainability, responsible gardening and all things green. Additionally, it will house archives of past Ceres projects, garden tours and events from Belle Meade's history.

The Education page is designed to be a gardener's best friend. We have worked diligently to compile resources on everything from seasonal plantings to pruning to composting and responsible horticulture.

There will also be a place for you to get to know your Ceres Board members and make a donation, gift in memory or honor of a loved one, or give to the American Flag fund. And, of course, for you to contact the Ceres Board with any suggestions or comments!

We are excited to introduce this new way to stay in touch with our residents, and hope you will find the pages as helpful and informative as we do. Look for more information about the launch coming soon!

CERES SOCIETY DONATIONS – FEBRUARY 2021

Dr. Jill DeBona

Belle Meade Newsletter

REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETINGS

APRIL & MAY 2021

Meetings held at City Hall OR via ZOOM

Board of Commissioners

Wednesday, April 21st at 4:00 pm

Wednesday, May 19th at 4:00 pm

Historic Zoning Commission

Tuesday, April 13th at 3:00 pm

Tuesday, May 11th at 3:00 pm

Board of Building Code Appeals

Tuesday, April 13th at 4:00 pm

Tuesday, May 11th at 4:00 pm

Municipal Planning Commission

Tuesday, April 20th at 4:00 pm

Tuesday, May 18th at 4:00 pm

Board of Zoning Appeals

Tuesday, April 20th at 5:00 pm

Tuesday, May 18th at 5:00 pm

Agendas are available online at www.citybellemeade.org

REMINDERS:

Property Taxes and Stormwater Fees – If you have not paid these items, they are considered delinquent. Property taxes incur a 2% penalty per month beginning March 1st. Payment can be made by check or on online (service fee applies) <https://citybellemeade.org/pay-online/>. If you are not sure if you paid these items or of the amount due, please contact Edie Glaser, City Recorder, 615-297-6041 or eglaser@citybellemeade.org

FREE SHRED DAY – SATURDAY, APRIL 10, 2021 from 9am to 12 noon at city hall. Start gathering your paperwork! This community event is limited to private individuals with no more than 6 boxes or bags. The free service is not intended for commercial purposes. Some items people may want to consider shredding include: credit card statements, old checks, tax returns and anything a thief can use to steal your identity. You do not need to remove paper-clips or staples. (Service provided by Shred On The Run.)



CITY OF BELLE MEADE
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return service requested