

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 2022

COMMISSIONER RETREAT – 2022

The Commissioners held their annual retreat meetings on February 15-16. Department Heads from Police, Public Works, Building and Codes, and Finance were also present for the first half of each meeting to discuss their issues, ideas and proposals for the upcoming year.

Police

- Public outreach – develop a Citizen Police Academy, offer a Self Defense class for women.
- Camera Upgrades to the Video Security System
- New equipment – adding one motorcycle to the fleet; tasers for officers
- Develop a peer support program for officers in collaboration with other local agencies

Public Works

- Cardboard dumpster – add additional pickup days or additional dumpster
- Public outreach – develop stormwater regulation handouts for contractors, landscapers
- Overview of sewer grinder pump Telemetry system – functions, costs
- Status update - Sewer Modeling project
- Facilities- add additional parking spaces; use pervious pavers instead of asphalt

Building & Zoning

- Update on cataloging of all homes (50-plus years old) that were surveyed on the TN Historic Preservation website
- Update on the re-write of the Zoning Code

Stormwater

- Study for stormwater user fee increase; fee was established in 2012
- Residential stormwater plan review – lengthy process and wait times; hire engineering consultant to assist several days/month
- Hold annual Stormwater public meetings. One is scheduled this year on Feb. 24th.

Communications

- Develop push notification process with geo-fencing option for important messages to citizens
- Reinstate and update new resident welcome packet
- Election year - outreach to residents interested in serving as commissioner

Finance/Human Resources

- Enhance current online payment system
- Update website for ability to look up property tax information and print statement
- Update Personnel Manual; improve process for staff annual reviews; develop succession depth/cross-training in each department

Capital Improvements

- Prioritize specific sidewalk and traffic calming projects in five-year Capital Impr. Program
- Stormwater infrastructure – schedule projects for upcoming fiscal year; utilize ARPA funds

SIGN REGULATIONS FOR RESIDENTIAL PROPERTIES IN BELLE MEADE

The City's sign regulations were updated in 2019. 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, freestand-

ing, **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.

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- No temporary sign shall be placed in the public right-of-way.
- 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 CHUCK WILLIAMS



March is Women’s History Month. The theme for 2022 – Providing Healing, Promoting Hope – is both a tribute to the ceaseless work of caregivers and frontline workers during this ongoing pandemic and also a recognition of the thousands of ways that women of all cultures have provided both healing and hope throughout history. I want to highlight the two women police officers that serve the citizens of Belle Meade. We are honored that both officers are working with us at BMPD and wish them the best in their careers.

Liberty University, completing her doctorate in Criminal Justice and Homeland Security. Kate loves the residents of Belle Meade. She enjoys community engagement and interacting with people in the community.



Sgt. Kate Cloxton has been with the Belle Meade Police Department since April 23, 2018. Kate played Division 1 basketball at Campbell University. She graduated in 2012 with a Bachelor of Arts degree with a minor in Homeland Security and Spanish. In 2017, she graduated with her Master of Arts degree in Homeland Security. Kate is enrolled at



Officer Hayley Doty has been with the Belle Meade Police Department since September 20, 2021. Hayley attended the University of Tennessee at Martin, obtaining a bachelor’s degree in Interdisciplinary Studies in 2016. Officer Doty began her police career in 2018 for the White House Police Department, where she worked until 2020. Before joining the Belle Meade Police Department, Hayley worked for the Dickson County School System as a first-grade teacher. Officer Doty is an avid runner, and she will be competing at the Boston Marathon next month. Officer Doty is a hard worker and is an asset to our team.



RECAP OF BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS’ MEETINGS



The Commissioners took action on the following items at the February 16, 2022 meeting:

- Approved the low bidder, Sessions Paving Co., for the 2022 Street Resurfacing Improvements project, in the

amount of \$351,090. Streets to be paved are Shepard Pl., Forsythe Pl., Iroquois Ave., Deer Park at intersection of BMB, and restriping at bridges on Warner Pl., Forsythe Pl., and Belle Meade Blvd.

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- Approved the annual Activity Permit for the St. Georges Farmer's Market.
- Approved the following invoices over \$5,000:
 - o Barge Cauthen & Associates \$11,463.82
 - o Master Medical Equipment \$11,280.00
 - o Omnigo \$ 8,216.80
 - o Wascon, Inc. \$ 6,579.32
- Deferred action on Ordinance 2022-1, To Close, Vacate and Abandon the Pedestrian Walkway Easement as Shown on the Plat for the Resubdivision of Royal Oaks Section B, on

second reading.

- Approved Resolution 2022-02, to Approve the Consultant Selection Policy of the Tenn. Dept. of Transportation with Respect to Highway 70 Sidewalk Construction Project.
- Approved Resolution 2022-03, Accept a Donation of Real Property.
- Approved Resolution 2022-04, To Support Restoring the Historic Revenue Sharing Relationship Between the St. of Tenn. and Its Local Governments and to Return the Local Share of the Single Article Cap to Local Governments.

FROM THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT:

Brush & Chipper Service Reminders – Springtime means cleaning up your yard and preparing it for all the warm weather gardening and family activities. A benefit of your property taxes is the once-a-week brush & chipper service that is contracted for roadside pickup of normal yard waste, such as bagged leaves and clippings, small limbs and normal landscape debris. *This service contract does NOT cover the pickup and removal of large trees that have been*

cut down on your property – that is the homeowner's responsibility. If you set out a large amount of trimmings, the contractor may only take a portion of the pile on his weekly stop. Please understand that the contract requires pickup of all residential properties and the contractor has a limited amount of time that his crew can spend at each stop. Also, please do not bring yard waste to the dumpsters behind city hall. Thank you!

CULVERT MAINTENANCE

- Driveway culverts (pipes under driveways that connect the storm drain system on either side) are not part of the public system; they are the property owner's responsibility.
- Private drainage systems (e.g., driveway culverts/bridges, downspouts, etc.) and ground water are the property owner's responsibility. Drainage directed from gutters, downspouts or other private systems to neighboring properties is a civil matter between the property owners.
- Property owners should perform routine grounds maintenance such as grass mowing and trash/debris removal. Owners should ensure that storm grates and drainage structures are kept free of yard waste (grass clippings, tree trimmings, leaves) or other obstructions that may block the flow of water
- Trees, shrubs and other growth within easements should not block stormwater flow or encroach in street.

- The city is not responsible for general upkeep of roadsides ditches or gutters.



STORMWATER INFORMATION PUBLIC MEETING



More than 30 residents showed up for the public meeting held at city hall on February 24th to hear a presentation on storm-

water regulations and issues in the city. Steve Casey, the City's consulting engineer from Civil & Environmental Consultants, Inc. led the discussion on public vs. private stormwater issues, identifying "hot spots" in the city where stormwater problems occur and possible solutions, and describing what residents can do on their own properties to mitigate stormwater flooding. Residents had many comments and questions that city staff and Mr. Casey addressed. Stormwater problems on Walnut Dr., Warner Pl., and Lynwood were discussed at length. Mr. Casey has been directed to proceed with the preparation of a proposal to address the stormwater issues at these locations and any other "hot spots" so that the staff can include these projects in the budget for FY 2022/2023.

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REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETINGS

April & May 2022

All Meetings Held at Belle Meade City Hall

Board of Commissioners

Wednesday, April 20th at 4:00 pm

Wednesday, May 18th at 4:00 pm

Historic Zoning Commission

Tuesday, April 12th at 3:00 pm

Tuesday, May 10th at 3:00 pm

Board of Building Code Appeals

Tuesday, April 12th at 4:00 pm

Tuesday, May 10th at 4:00 pm

Municipal Planning Commission

Tuesday, April 19th at 4:00 pm

Tuesday, May 17th at 4:00 pm

Board of Zoning Appeals

Tuesday, April 19th at 5:00 pm

Tuesday, May 17th at 5:00 pm

Agendas are available online at www.citybellemeade.org

CERES SOCIETY DONATIONS – FEBRUARY 2022

American Flag Sponsorship

Mr. & Mrs. Edgar Stuart

In Honor of Erica Oliver

REMINDERS

Property Tax deadline was February 28th! We have approximately 70 property taxes that are unpaid and now past due. Beginning March 1st and for each month thereafter, a 2% interest penalty will be applied to the unpaid base tax amount. If you have questions, please call Rusty Terry, 615-297-6041 or rterry@citybellemeade.org.



FREE SHRED DAY – SATURDAY, APRIL 2, 2022 from 9am to 12 noon at city hall.

Start gathering your paperwork! This community event is limited to private individuals with no more than 8 boxes or bags and 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 paperclips or staples.** (This service is for Belle Meade residents ONLY and is provided by Shred On The Run.)

DRUG COLLECITON BOX – available 24/7 in the Police Dept. for the safe disposal of unused or expired medication.



CITY OF BELLE MEADE
4705 Harding Road
Nashville, Tennessee 37205

return service requested