

MAYOR • Rusty Moore VICE-MAYOR • Haley Dale COMMISSIONERS: James V. Hunt • Louise Bryan • Neal Clayton • Jennifer Moody, 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 2023

ANNUAL COMMISSIONER RETREAT – 2023

The Commissioners held their annual retreat meetings on February 15-16. Department Heads from Police, Public Works, Building and Codes, and Finance were present to discuss their issues, ideas, and proposals for the upcoming year. Also present was new City Manager Jennifer Moody.

POLICE

- Change city-issued firearms from a standard duty caliber of 45 to smaller 9mm
- Hire additional F/T officer for 12-hour shift and move motorcycle officer to flexible 8-hour shift, 40 hrs./week to offer better use of this patrol option and more visibility at different times of day.
- Hire additional part-time, traffic-only patrol officer if grant funding is available
- Christmas Parade on Belle Meade Blvd. in conjunction with annual Santa on a Firetruck sponsored by Metro Council member Thom Druffel

PUBLIC WORKS

- Research and evaluation of the best pump types for our system. E-One and Myers pumps are currently used. PW Director is currently researching other manufacturers.
- State required Utility Training for all Commissioners - now offered as online classes.

BUILDING & ZONING

- Revise Tree Ordinance. Add permit fee and inspection requirement to verify compliance. Notification to neighbors when permit issued.
- Permitting and Review Process Improvements, including watermarking of plans, documentation of all inspections, upgrading software to include ability for information to be accessible to staff, commissioners, contractors and residents and ability to produce detailed reports of all activities.
- Consider a different code codification vendor that allows changes to be made immediately, therefore Code is always up to date.
- Recruit one new member on BZA and MPC

- Update by Vice-Mayor Dale on progress of zoning code re-write.
- Require state training classes for all BZA members. Currently, Belle Meade has opted out.

STORMWATER

- Encourage permeable pavers in water-prone areas instead of asphalt paving.
- Create a stormwater approval process for a group of neighbors jointly working on a solution.
- Create a guide for best practices to be used in design of stormwater compliance on site plans

FINANCE/HUMAN RESOURCES

- Online payment system with more payment options - currently in progress
- Update Personnel Manual - Leigh Mills and Jennifer Moody will work on this with MTAS
- Re-establish process for annual staff reviews
- Discuss policy for deposits of excess funds - currently city uses the Local Government Investment Pool (liquid) and CD Laddering Program with First Horizon. When to transfer, redeem CD's?

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS

- Belle Meade Blvd. left lane - maintain pass/turn only with transitions, grooved pavement, additional conspicuous signage, or paint message on pavement
- Identify sidewalk project - Lynwood Blvd.; from existing on Lynwood Terr. to Harding Rd.; other?
- Adopt and begin installation of a consistent design scheme for all signage in city - create a unique look that is different from the rest of Davidson County.
- Consider speed humps/transitions on Gerald Pl similar to lower Jackson Blvd
- Develop a plan in conjunction with Beautification Committee to clear donated land near Hillwood Bridge of invasives. Consider signage signifying entrance to Belle Meade city limits.

BUILDING ACTIVITY REPORT

February 2023 building activity resulted in issuance of nine (9) new building permits, conducting 23 residential code inspections, and the abatement of two (2) code enforcement cases. Residents will soon see implementation of a new signage program that will identify the approved hours of construction for all projects

permitted by the City of Belle Meade. The signage will provide notice to neighbors that approved work may begin. Signs will identify the permit holder, project specific information on parking requirements, and restricted hours of construction, including that no work may be done on any Sunday or federal holiday.

Belle Meade Newsletter

Contractors may request an inspection appointment online at inspectmyproject.com. Files can also be uploaded to this site, as needed. All inspections are completed within 48 hours of an online request.

The City's Interim Building Official is Andrew Pieri of Municipal Inspection Partners. Beginning March 6, his office

hours are Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays at City Hall. He can be reached at inspector@citybellemeade.org or by phone at 615-297-2364 (office) or 615-961-2289 (cell). We welcome your feedback regarding any of the new processes or to report a concern, please contact Jennifer Moody, City Manager, at 615-297-6041 or jmoody@citybellemeade.org.

BELLEMEADE PLAZA REDEVELOPMENT PROJECT - UPDATE



AJ Capital Partners held public meetings on February 25th and 26th to discuss stormwater, traffic and creek restoration. These meetings were livestreamed and the recording of these and all other December, January and February meetings can be found on their website, using the link below.

The next public meeting of importance is the Metro Planning Commission meeting scheduled for Thursday, March 9th at 4:00 pm at the Sonny West Conference Center, 700 President Ronald Reagan Way. More information will be available on March 6th [HERE](#) for

the Notice of a Zoning Public Hearing that gives further details about the request to rezone the property at 4500 Harding Pike.

Link to Developer, AJ Capital Partners' website:
<https://www.bellemeadeplazaredevelopment.com/>

This site also contains YouTube recordings of the meetings on December 21, 2022, January 5, 2023 and January 21, 2023 as well as links to the Preliminary Rezoning Submittal and the Traffic Study.

Link to Metro Council Members:

Kathleen Murphy:

<https://www.nashville.gov/departments/council/people/kathleen-murphy/>

Councilmember Murphy's [Belle Meade Plaza Rezoning Request Feedback form](#)

Thom Druffel:

<https://www.nashville.gov/departments/council/people/thom-druffel/>



FROM THE POLICE DEPARTMENT – CHIEF CHUCK WILLIAMS



The Belle Meade Police Department is hosting another Women's Self-Defense Class on Thursday, March 30th, 2023, from 5:30 PM-7:30 PM at St. George's Episcopal Church.

This class will teach women simple yet effective techniques to escape an attacker. If you are interested in attending, RSVP at cwilliams@citybellemeade.org. Class size is

limited, so please reserve your spot soon.

In recent weeks, we received various complaints about dogs running at large or being "walked" by their owners without leashes. Please remember that it violates city ordinance 10-203 for any person to knowingly permit any dog to run at large within the city limits.



RECAP OF BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS' MEETINGS

The Commissioners took action on the following items at the February 15, 2023 meeting:



- Awarded contract for annual street resurfacing project to the lowest and best bidder, Sessions Paving, in the amount of \$294,255.00. Streets to be paved: Canterbury Dr., Deer Park Circle, Park Center Dr., and Sunnybrook Dr.
- Approved request for 3 additional LPR and video camera locations: Westover at Leake Ave., Harding Rd. and Davidson, Lynwood Blvd. at Trimble. Cost for equipment & installation: \$49,145.00
- Approved purchase of 3 security cameras for city hall parking lots at cost of \$3,180.00
- Approved annual permit for St. George's Farmer's Market
- Approved the following invoices over \$5,000:

o Civil & Environmental Consultants	\$ 9,602.62
o Miller & Martin PLLC	\$12,140.00
o Wascon Inc.	\$16,005.20
o Wascon Inc.	\$ 8,656.78
o Wascon Inc.	\$ 8,632.70

FROM the BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE:

A NOVICE GARDNER

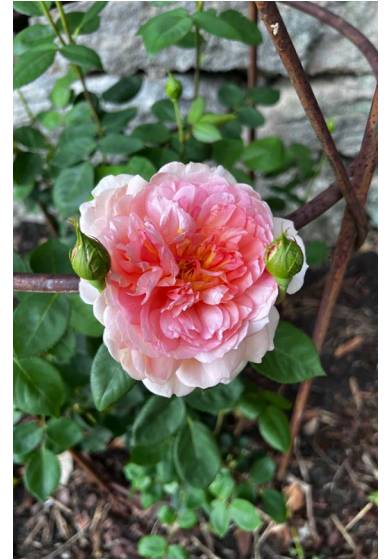


A Saturday in April 2022 was a picturesque Tennessee spring day. I had woken around 5:30 am full of energy, and had a free day ahead of me. The winter prior, during the frigid days and nights, I thought about restoring the gardens that were once in my back yard at Stonesthrow, nee Renraw Gardens. I got in my car and headed towards Moore & Moore nursery, ready to find my new medium. Upon arrival I stumbled upon David Austen Roses, my favorite. I purchased yellow, pink, and coral roses, ready to plant the entire day! I posted on Instagram, my new hobby I was going to master; I channeled my inner Martha Stewart and got to digging. I was naming the various bugs I found, and thought these guys were going to help me in the garden. Throughout the rest of the spring, into May, I was at peace with the blooms and my results, and then June arrived.



June, and really the entire summer was terrible. I was met with months of no rain and heat that killed everything in the rear of the yard. Down went the pink climbing roses, then the coral roses were the next casualties of the heat. My sweet little yellow roses were near the brink, but then came a cool September day and I saw relief; new growth on

the yellow rose bush. Luckily, our Grandfather Rose Bush made it through! The "Grandfather" refers to it being here before any of the current residents of Stonesthrow. Now entering into fall, and in front of me a brown yard and a bunch of dead flowers, I said "it's time to plant my bulbs for Spring." I purchased about 40 bulbs for my tiny bed. Hyacinths, Tulips, and Daffodils were planted, and once again I was so pleased. I went to my second or third Beautification Committee meeting, proud of what I had done, but was then told I had planted everything too early. Defeated once again, I started planning for spring 2023. I maintained what was alive, winterized everything, and on the last warm day of December, I planted about 75 pansies for color.



The now Jambalaya flower bed I had going, once again had color for winter. It brought the residents of Stonesthrow cheer and happiness. As I prepped for Christmas, Mother Nature had another whammy she was going to throw my way. Not only was Santa Clause coming to town, but he was also bringing his arctic weather with him! It was exciting to have a semi white Christmas, and my plants did not show immediate effects of the severe chill. Then, out of nowhere, it seemed like a scene in a horror movie. I saw in a neighbor's yard, a brown Laurel. I remember thinking, "mine don't look like that,". Oh, but was I wrong; all of mine were brown as well and so were my Hollies. My final defeat was that now, for 2023, not only would I get to focus on one garden bed, but now the entire yard. 2022 said "let him have a totally blank canvas."

Now that I am in 2023 and looking to Spring, I am excited to start from the beginning. I just hope I'm not blindsided by an event that wipes out the boxwoods. As the year goes by, I will update you on the growth at Stonesthrow Garden, and the new mistakes I make and what I can learn from them. Thank goodness for the Master Gardeners in the Ceres Society who will help me along the way!

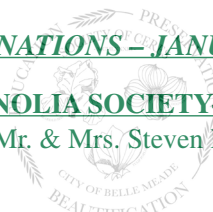
Chip Wilkison
Member, Beautification Committee
Real Estate Advisor

CERES SOCIETY DONATIONS – JANUARY & FEBRUARY 2023

OAK SOCIETY-\$1,000 or more
Mr. & Mrs. Rusty Moore

MAGNOLIA SOCIETY-\$500-\$999
Mr. & Mrs. Steven Riley

TULIP SOCIETY-\$250-\$499
Mr. & Mrs. Charlie Vaughn
Mr. & Mrs. Mark McDonald



Belle Meade Newsletter

REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETINGS

APRIL & MAY 2023

Meetings Are Held at Belle Meade City Hall
& Livestreamed

Board of Commissioners

Wednesday, April 19th at 4:00 pm

Wednesday, May 17th at 4:00 pm

Historic Zoning Commission

Tuesday, April 11th at 3:00 pm

Tuesday, May 9th at 3:00 pm

Board of Building Code Appeals

Tuesday, April 11th at 4:00 pm

Tuesday, May 9th at 4:00 pm

Municipal Planning Commission

Tuesday, April 18th at 4:00 pm

Tuesday, May 16th at 4:00 pm

Board of Zoning Appeals

Tuesday, April 18th at 5:00 pm

Tuesday, May 16th at 5:00 pm

"Find Agendas and Livestream Link at
www.citybellemeade.org"

REMINDERS:

Property Tax deadline was February 28th! We have approximately 100 property tax bills 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.

Stormwater Invoices We currently have 19 invoices still outstanding from September 2022. These residents have been receiving past-due notices. We would appreciate payment! If you have questions, please call Rusty Terry, 615-297-6041 or rterry@citybellemeade.org.

FREE SHRED DAY – SATURDAY, APRIL 1, 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.)



CITY OF BELLE MEADE
4705 Harding Road
Nashville, Tennessee 37205

return service requested