



MAYOR • Rusty Moore VICE-MAYOR • Haley Dale COMMISSIONERS: Marty Dickens • 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 NOVEMBER 2023



Public Works Director Larry Smith Retiring

After 23 years of outstanding and dedicated service to the residents of Belle Meade, Public Works Director Larry Smith is retiring effective November 21st. Smith submitted a letter to the Mayor and Commissioners on October 30th, shared with his permission:



"It has become evident to me over the past few weeks that my health is not going to allow me to return in my capacity as Public Works Director for the City of Belle Meade. Consequently, I will be taking early retirement. I have not come to this decision lightly. It has been my honor and privilege to have

served the City of Belle Meade and its many residents over the past 23 years. Some of my most highly regarded memories are of co-workers and the many residents with whom I have come to know personally. I will miss each and every one of you greatly. Thank you for your continued prayers and support as I continue to battle this illness.

Respectfully, Larry J. Smith, Public Works Director"

During his tenure, Larry Smith oversaw the city's grinder pumps and sewer collection system, brush and leaf collection, garbage and recycling services, street maintenance and paving, all street signage, driveway and land disturbance permitting, the stormwater management program, and many more contributions that have left the city better than he found it. City Manager Moody shared her thoughts in learning of Smith's intent to retire, "As I recently joined the City as City Manager, I learned quickly that Smith's knowledge of the community is unmatched. Like anyone who spent time with him, I saw his passion for this community and how he viewed his work as a personal duty to be a good steward of its assets. I would often see him correct an issue before anyone else had a chance to notice, let alone report it. He truly gave his best every day and demonstrated outstanding commitment to ensuring all operations under his control ran smoothly and that residents' concerns were addressed promptly. He is going to be tremendously missed by both city staff and residents."

A public reception honoring Larry Smith for his more than 23 years of outstanding service will be held at Belle Meade City Hall – please check the City's website for details

www.citybellemeade.org

Annual Stormwater Bills Now Past Due

As a reminder, Stormwater User Fee Invoices were due on September 25, invoices are now incurring late fees of 12.25 percent per month (or any part thereof) on the original amount due. For

example, if your original bill amount was \$268.92, you now owe \$334.80. As of this October 31st, there are 20 residents who have not yet paid this fee. Questions? Please contact Belle Meade City Hall at 615-297-6041.

PROPERTY MAINTENANCE COMPLAINTS HOPE TO GET RELIEF FROM NEW CITY CODES COURT

Belle Meade City Court Judge Mark Beveridge recently announced a new partnership with the city to improve the enforcement of property maintenance and other non-traffic code violations by holding a special court date to hear such cases.

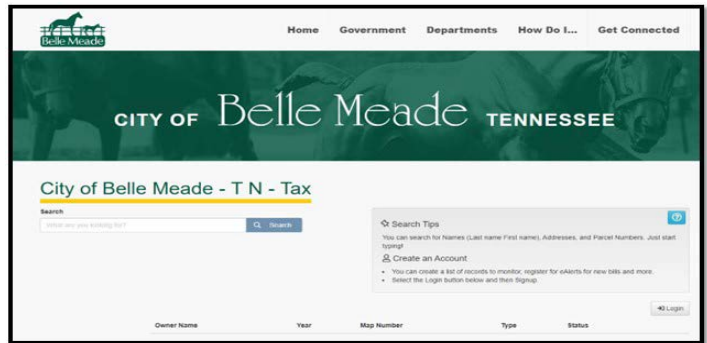
Code Citations issued this month will be the first of such cases heard at the Belle Meade Codes Court scheduled for January 17, 2024. Thereafter, the new Codes Court will be held on the third Wednesday each month.



NEW ONLINE – View and Make Property Tax Payments on the City Website

City Recorder Rusty Terry has been working diligently to make property tax billing statements available to the public online and to enable the City to accept all forms of payment through the website. You may pay by e-check, credit card or PayPal utilizing our new online portal. For now, only the current year's tax bills are available. In the coming months, we will enable public access for the previous 10 years of past property tax records. Need Help accessing the Online Portal? Please contact Belle Meade City Hall at 615-297-6041.

PROPERTY TAX BILLS ARE NOW ONLINE at www.citybellemeade.org



BELLE MEADE PARTNERS WITH MUNICODE

Self-Publishing Software for Belle Meade Municipal Codes

The City's Municipal Code is the compilation of all municipal ordinances passed by the Board of Commissioners that are general and continuing in nature. Most often, cities update their official copy of the complete Municipal Code once a year, usually codifying all of the prior year's ordinances. The Belle Meade Municipal Code has been previously updated annually or every two years and is accessible from the University of Tennessee, Municipal Technical Advisory Services website, along with many other cities in Tennessee.

With the purchase of new self-publishing software subscription, a solution available from CivicPlus@Municode, the City Manager

or other trained staff will be able to make regular updates to the code and host the Municipal Code on the City of Belle Meade's website www.citybellemeade.org. When the Board of Commissioners approve an Ordinance, changes to the code can be scheduled to immediately update in the published Municipal Code on the city website upon its effective date. This should improve ease of access and transparency for residents, while also ensuring that all residents or city staff, including our police officers, have quick, online access to the most current version of all municipal codes. The cost for annual maintenance is \$1,200 and the initial project should be completed over the next 12 weeks.



FROM THE POLICE DEPARTMENT – CHIEF CHUCK WILLIAMS

HELP PREVENT ONLINE CRIMES

In today's digital world, law enforcement agencies are seeing increased cybercrimes. It is essential to be safe when you or your children are online. Many cybercriminals are on the internet trying to scam citizens.

The frustration from a law enforcement standpoint is many of these criminals are not in the United States, which makes identification difficult and prosecution highly unlikely. Most often, the critical information or possessions that are stolen cannot be recovered. Fortunately, however, most of these crimes are preventable! Please be vigilant and always be aware of what you are sharing as it relates to personal information. Here is a top ten list of things to consider when you are browsing the internet or using social media:

1. Use two-factor authentication on all of your Personal and Professional accounts
2. Keep Your Privacy Settings On
3. Practice Safe Browsing
4. Make Sure Your Internet Connection is Secure. Use a Secure VPN Connection
5. Be Careful What You Download
6. Choose Strong Passwords
7. Make Online Purchases from Secure Sites
8. Be Careful What You Post
9. Be Careful Who You Meet Online
10. Keep Your Antivirus Program Up to Date



BELLE MEADE HALLOWEEN

The Belle Meade Police Department had an amazing Halloween celebrating with our friends on Nichol Lane. It was a very fun and safe night and we're already looking forward to next year!



OFFICER LINANE AND SERGEANT CLOXTON RECEIVE OUTSTANDING SERVICE AWARDS



Sgt. Kate Cloxton

On September 2, 2023, Belle Meade Dispatch received a call from a resident advising their elderly neighbor had fallen while attempting to make himself dinner and assistance from officers was needed. Sgt. Cloxton and Officer Linane responded to the scene and was able to help the person that had fallen. We received several calls from witnesses that stated the officers were very caring

and compassionate towards the victim. They stayed around and helped finish the dinner that he was preparing to ensure he was able to eat.

Sgt Cloxton and Officer Linane were selected by the David and Cindy Wilds Committee Members to receive the outstanding service award. They were recognized at the October Board of Commissioners' Meeting.



Ofc. David Linane



RECAP OF BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS' MEETINGS

The Commissioners took action on the following items at the, **the October 18, 2023** meeting:



- Special Presentation by Police Chief Williams recognizing Sergeant Kate Cloxton and Officer David Linane with Outstanding Service Awards.
- Special Presentation by Sheree Kelley, CEO of Belle Meade Historic Site providing review of their Annual Application for Activity Permit
- Approved a 1-year contract extension with Landscape Services Inc. for calendar year 2024
- Approved a 1-year contract extension with Roadrunner Sweeping LLC for services through November 30, 2024
- Approved a Parade Permit for the Annual Boulevard Bolt on November 23, 2023
- Approved the purchase of a portable speed sign, 100% grant funded, from Applied Concepts, Inc.
- Approved the purchase of four (4) police vehicles from Lonnie Cobb Ford, at state contract pricing
- Approved the purchase of a tablet computer and tablet mounting equipment from Portable Computer Systems, Inc., 100% grant funded, for the Belle Meade Police Department
- Approved an Agreement with Metro Water Services to hire consultants to conduct a 5-year rate study and share study expenses among all wholesale rate customers
- Approved an emergency expenditure with Dixon Plumbing, totaling \$8,250, for repair of broken sewer lines near Westview Avenue
- The Board of Commissioners voted to direct the City Attorney

and Planning Director to draft two Ordinances for their consideration, one, a text amendment to the City's Zoning Ordinance to remove language related to granting of special exceptions and the other, a text amendment to the City's Zoning Ordinance to prohibit gates and walls or fences over 3 feet in height in the front yard.

- Approved sending a request letter for the City of Belle Meade to obtain a .gov domain registration for the official city website
- Approved the following invoices over \$5,000:
 - o Dixon Plumbing Company \$ 8,250.00
 - o J.R. and Associates \$ 17,040.00
 - o Keystone Business Solutions \$ 9,083.52
 - o Skycop, Inc. \$ 52,325.00
 - o Commonwealth Chemical Inc. \$ 24,060.00
 - o J.R. and Associates \$ 11,529.00
 - o J.R. and Associates \$ 17,040.00
 - o J.R. and Associates \$ 17,040.00
- Approved Resolution No. 2023-07 – A Resolution amending the fees to be charged by the City of Belle Meade for Secondary Employment – the Resolution increase the rate for off-duty police officers from \$55 to \$65 for an officer without a patrol car and from \$65 to \$75 with a patrol car.
- The Board of Commissioners' next regular meetings will be held on Wednesday, November 15th at 4:00 p.m.

CERES SOCIETY DONATIONS – SEPT. & OCT. 2023

MAGNOLIA SOCIETY-\$500-\$999

Mr. Burton Jablin & Mr. Barron Patterson

TULIP SOCIETY-\$250-\$499

Mr. & Mrs. Joe Howell
Mr. & Mrs. Mark McDonald
Mr. & Mrs. Eric Schneider

AMERICAN FLAG SPONSORSHIP

Mr. & Mrs. Gary Lee Smith

In Memory of:

George McGugin

W. E. Norvell, II

Richard (Red) Norvell

James V. Hunt, Sr.

Major Gen. William Doyle

Tidwell, Jr.

Jo Ann Akers



American Flags that are displayed on Belle Meade Boulevard each year for Memorial Day, July 4th and in honor of Veterans' Day are a powerful symbol of Americanism as well as valor, vigilance, perseverance, justice and freedom. The American Flag is one of the most respected and recognized symbols in our country. Thank you to our

residents who have generously donated in honor of or in memory of someone who served in the armed forces. Your donations help to cover the cost of needed flag replacements each year. Help us to keep the flags flying!

Belle Meade Newsletter

REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETINGS NOVEMBER & DECEMBER 2023 All Meetings Held at Belle Meade City Hall

Board of Commissioners

Wednesday, November 15th at 4:00 pm
Wednesday, December 20th at 4:00 pm

Historic Zoning Commission

Tuesday, November 14th at 3:00 pm
Tuesday, December 12th at 3:00 pm

Municipal Planning Commission

Tuesday, November 14th at 4:00 pm
Tuesday, December 19th at 4:00 pm

Board of Zoning Appeals

Tuesday, November 14th at 5:00 pm
Tuesday, December 19th at 5:00 pm

Agendas are available online at
www.citybellemeade.org

REMINDERS:

VETERAN'S DAY
Saturday, November 11th



THANKSGIVING DAY
Thursday, November 23rd

City Hall offices will be closed Thursday and Friday, November 23rd and 24th for the Thanksgiving holidays. In case of sewer, street, or other emergencies, please call the Police Dept. at 615-297-0241.

Brush/Chipper service will run the normal routes on Monday and Tuesday and PICK UP THE FRIDAY ROUTE ON WEDNESDAY, NOV. 22nd.

REMINDER: Stormwater User Fee invoice payments were due on September 25th. As of this writing, there remain 20 unpaid invoices. Please, if you have not paid your stormwater invoice, we would appreciate you dropping it in the mail or stopping by city hall to pay it. Questions? Contact City Recorder Rusty Terry at 615-297-6041 or rterry@citybellemeade.org

CITY OF BELLE MEADE
4705 Harding Road
Nashville, Tennessee 37205

return service requested