



MAYOR • Rusty Moore VICE-MAYOR • Haley Dale COMMISSIONERS:
Louise Bryan • Neal Clayton • Marty Dickens • 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 FEBRUARY 2024

RECORD BREAKING SNOWFALL IN NASHVILLE

According to the Tennessee Emergency Management Agency, the extreme cold and winter storms experienced in early January led to 34 deaths across the state of Tennessee. Nashville officially received 1.3" of snow on Sunday, January 14th and 6.3" on Monday, January 15th for a total of 7.6" of snow over the first two days. Normal snowfall is around 4.7". This one event was equivalent to an entire winter's worth of snow. The weather damaged water pipes and other infrastructure, including a few water line breaks in the City of Belle Meade. However, we were fortunate to experience very few power outages locally and statewide.



The City of Belle Meade has a snow and ice removal policy in place to strategically clear streets during winter weather. The snow and ice removal is performed by a private service under contract with the City. The Public

Works Director is responsible for direct supervision of the contractor's crew while they are in the City. To review a list and map of the hills, curves, and streets that have been identified for priority clearing, please see the city website at citybellemeade.org/streets/.

From January 14th through January 23rd, approximately 10-days, temperatures remained extremely low while Belle Meade's priority hills, curves and roads were treated and cleared repeatedly as thawing during the day and then, new snowfall and/or refreezing would occur overnight. The City of Belle Meade estimates approximately \$125,000 in snow and ice removal expenses were incurred due to this record breaking event. Nearly 1,500 bags of calcium chloride were used to treat the primary streets over the 10-day period. This exceeds what the City typically anticipates to use for an entire winter's worth of calcium chloride. The Belle Meade Police Department, city staff, and its contractors want to especially thank our residents for primarily staying off the roads and being patient during this extreme weather event. We did not experience a large number of vehicle or other weather-related accidents because of your cautious actions. We also know that there were inconveniences due to garbage and brush services being suspended for the week and we appreciate your patience as everyone has been working hard to return to normal routes once road conditions improved and temperatures warmed up.

**NEW
UPDATE**

Belle Meade ZONING ORDINANCE

Updates to the Belle Meade Zoning Code

The existing zoning regulations have not been comprehensively updated since 1997. In the past few decades, development patterns and building trends have changed in some significant ways. The current Zoning Ordinance was identified to be revised to better fulfill the community's vision to preserve the

"thoughtfully curated" character and distinctly "beautiful city in a meadow" described within the Belle Meade Together Plan.

An internal review team was formed consisting of Commissioner Haley Dale, Municipal Planning Commission member Larry Wieck, City Manager Jennifer Moody, Planning Director Mary Samaniego, in consultation with City Attorney

Doug Berry. This taskforce of city officials worked for several months to complete a comprehensive rewrite of the code that uses plain language, illustrations, and simple charts when applicable, and definitions of key words so that there is less variability in interpretation of how to carry out permitted activities within the code.

A formal presentation of the Draft Zoning Ordinance was given during the Municipal Planning Commission on January 23rd, 2024. The meeting video and presentation slides, as well as a summary of the proposed changes, are available on the city's homepage at citybellemeade.org. Additionally, the draft ordinance is available for review and comment by the public and design professionals. Please provide all comments to Planning Director Mary Samaniego, msamaniego@citybellemeade.org or (615) 297-6041.

Continued on next page . . .

Belle Meade Newsletter

Continued from page 1 . . .

All public comments will be considered by the Municipal Planning Commission and a public hearing will be held prior to consideration for approval by the Board of Commissioners. The Commissioners must vote on new ordinances on two readings, meaning at two separate board meetings, prior to

the amendments taking effect. According to the anticipated timeline, a new zoning ordinance could be in effect this spring.

Please check the city's calendar on our website for updates: www.citybellemeade.org and, once a draft is complete, it will also be available on the website. Questions or Comments? Contact Planning Director Mary Samaniego, msamaniego@citybellemeade.org or (615) 297-6041.

COMMISSIONERS ANNUAL RETREAT

The Belle Meade Board of Commissioners will hold their annual retreat on February 27th and 28th to discuss opportunities and issues of concern in the community. The retreat format allows Commissioners and city staff to think strategically about the future of Belle Meade and have informational, focused discussions on various topics.

No voting or formal decision-making occurs during this time. The agenda for the meeting will be published on the City's website at least 48 hours prior to these meetings. If any resident has a topic they would like to propose for consideration, please email City Manager Jennifer Moody at jmoody@citybellemeade.org.



FROM THE POLICE DEPARTMENT – CHIEF CHUCK WILLIAMS



BELLE MEADE PURCHASES SUVs AND NEW STARCHASE TOOLS FOR PATROL

In January, the Belle Meade Police Department purchased four new 2023 Ford SUVs. These vehicles replaced 2017 Dodge Chargers, which were in poor mechanical condition and had high mileage. The new vehicles are already on patrol thanks to the efforts of Officer Mike Germany, Dylan Hood (Public Works), and Lt. Mack Mangrum who completed final installation of all equipment on the new vehicles.

With this replacement, there are only five older, high mileage Dodge Chargers remaining in the police fleet which are scheduled to be replaced over the next two fiscal years. Regular replacement of these vehicles results in reduced maintenance cost and increased reliability for the Belle Meade Police Department. Additionally, the use of SUVs has become more prevalent across the country, due to the vast array of utility benefits over sedans, such as increased room and cargo capability, increased visibility to motorists, elevated seating position, and all-wheel drive for better traction during inclement weather and off-road situations.

High-risk vehicle events such as

pursuits are a constant public safety challenge. StarChase Technology addresses this challenge with proven tools that reduce risk to life and property. This new law enforcement tool provides the ability to tag, track, and safely apprehend a suspect without the need to engage in a deadly high-speed pursuit. This equipment was purchased with 100% grant funding from the State of Tennessee, Office of Criminal Justice Programs. In January, the Belle Meade Police Department completed installation and training to begin use of eight StarChase units for our patrol vehicles, which deploy GPS tracking darts from systems mounted on the patrol units.



Belle Meade Police Department purchase of four 2023 Ford SUVs replacing 2017 Dodge Chargers.



EARLY VOTING SCHEDULE

Presidential Preference Primary,
County Primary, Berry Hill Municipal Election
Tuesday, March 5, 2024

All Early Voting Locations Open

Wednesday, February 14, 2024 – Tuesday, February 27, 2024

Wednesday, February 14	8:00 am – 4:30 pm
Thursday, February 15	8:00 am – 7:00 pm
Friday, February 16	8:00 am – 5:30 pm
Saturday, February 17	8:00 am – 4:30 pm
Monday, February 19	*CLOSED FOR PRESIDENTS' DAY
Tuesday, February 20	8:00 am – 7:00 pm
Wednesday, February 21	8:00 am – 4:30 pm
Thursday, February 22	8:00 am – 7:00 pm
Friday, February 23	8:00 am – 5:30 pm
Saturday, February 24	8:00 am – 4:30 pm
Monday, February 26	8:00 am – 5:30 pm
Tuesday, February 27	8:00 am – 7:00 pm

Bellevue Library Bordeaux Library Casa Azafrán Community Center Edmondson Pike Library Goodlettsville Library Green Hills Library Hermitage Library Hillwood High School Metro Office Building Madison Library South Inglewood Community Center Southeast Library	720 Baugh Road, Nashville 37221 4000 Clarksville Pike, Nashville 37218 2195 Nolensville Pike, Nashville 37211 5501 Edmondson Pike, Nashville 37211 205 Rivergate Parkway, Goodlettsville 37072 3701 Benham Avenue, Nashville 37215 3700 James Kay Lane, Hermitage 37076 6215 Hickory Valley Road, Nashville 37205 800 President Ronald Reagan Way, Nashville 37210 610 Gallatin Pike South, Madison 37115 1624 Rebecca Street, Nashville 37216 5260 Hickory Hollow Parkway, Antioch 37013
--	--

Davidson County Election Commission | 1417 Murfreesboro Pike, Nashville, TN 37217 | 615-862-8800 | www.nashville.gov/vote
 *Election Commission Offices also closed on Presidents' Day

EARLY VOTING BEGINS FEBRUARY 14th WITH NEW LOCATIONS

Prior to most elections, Davidson County voters may cast their ballots up to twenty days prior to the election. Typically, the early voting period ends five (5) days prior to Election Day. There are no assigned locations for early voting and some sites are open evenings and on Saturday.

Belle Meade City Hall will no longer serve as an early voting location. With several new locations added, Hillwood High School will be the closest option for Belle Meade residents wishing to vote early.

On Election Day, March 5th, Belle Meade will continue to be assigned to vote at Belle Meade City Hall. According to the Election Commission, waits are usually shorter on Election Day and if you need to update your address, the process may be completed more quickly on Election Day.



RECAP OF BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS' MEETINGS

The Commissioners took action on the following items at the, **January 24, 2024** meeting:



- Approved a one-year extension of the street repairs and maintenance contract with Gibbs Brothers for term ending December 31, 2024.
- Approved a state grant contract for the Belle Meade Police Department to receive tuition reimbursements for any new officers successfully completing the TLETA basic training academy for a four-year term, from January 2024 through April 2028.
- Declared four (4) city vehicles as surplus property for sale.
- Approved the following invoices over \$5,000:

1) CEC (Walnut Dr Project)	\$ 6,486.00
2) CEC (Walnut Dr Project)	\$ 9,888.25
3) CivicPlus Inc. (Permitting Software)	\$ 15,000.00
4) Lonnie Cobb Ford, LLC	\$ 39,824.00
5) Lonnie Cobb Ford, LLC	\$ 38,324.00
- 6) Lonnie Cobb Ford, LLC \$ 46,324.00
- 7) Lonnie Cobb Ford, LLC \$ 39,824.00
- 8) StarChase \$ 13,396.00
- 9) Commonwealth Chemicals \$ 25,500.00
- 10) KCI (Master Plan/Traffic Calming) \$ 6,268.00
- Deferred an ORDINANCE No. 2024-1, on first of two required readings, to vacate and abandon the right-of-way of Redwing Avenue.
- Approved an ORDINANCE No. 2024-2, on the first of two required readings, to amend the current year budget to increase or decrease various expenditure and revenue appropriations.
- The Board of Commissioners' next regular meetings will be held on Wednesday, February 21st at 4:00 p.m. All meetings are open to the public and public comments will be accepted.

CERES SOCIETY DONATIONS – January 2024

OAK SOCIETY-\$1,000 or more

Mr. & Mrs. Rusty Moore



MAGNOLIA SOCIETY-\$500-\$999

Mr. & Mrs. Steve Riley
 Mr. & Mrs. Marc Stengel

TULIP SOCIETY-\$250-\$499

Mr. & Mrs. Charlie Vaughn

AMERICAN FLAG SPONSORSHIP

Mr. & Mrs. Marc Stengel

Belle Meade Newsletter

REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETINGS

MARCH & APRIL 2024

All Meetings Held at Belle Meade City Hall

Board of Commissioners

Wednesday, March 20th at 4:00 pm

***Rescheduled for Monday, April 15th at 4:00 pm;
(no meeting on Wed., April 17th)***

Historic Zoning Commission

Tuesday, March 12th at 3:00 pm

Tuesday, April 9th at 3:00 pm

Municipal Planning Commission

Tuesday, March 19th at 4:00 pm

Tuesday, April 16th at 4:00 pm

Board of Zoning Appeals

*** A Special Called Meeting will be held

Monday, February 12th at 4:00 pm;

(no meeting on Tues., February 20th)***

Tuesday, March 19th at 5:00 pm

Tuesday, April 16th at 5:00 pm

Agendas are available online at
www.citybellemeade.org

REMINDERS:

Cardboard Dumpster We remind you to not place any cardboard or other items on the ground outside of the dumpsters at City Hall. If the dumpsters are temporarily full, you must take the boxes back with you to return another time or consider disposing of them in the garbage dumpsters on site.

Property Taxes are due by February 28, 2024. If you mail your payment, make sure it is postmarked no later than Feb. 28th. On March 1st, taxes are considered delinquent and incur an additional 2% interest fine each month until paid. You may pay by e-check, credit card or PayPal utilizing our new online portal at www.citybellemeade.org and, for assistance, contact Belle Meade City Recorder Rusty Terry, rterry@citybellemeade.org or 615-297-6041.

Stormwater Annual User The 2023-2024 Stormwater User Fee payments were due on September 25, 2023, payment plus penalty is due immediately.

Contact City Recorder Rusty Terry 615-297-6041 or rterry@citybellemeade.org if you have any questions on either of these payments. You may also drop payments in the Overnight Drop Box located at the main entrance to City Hall.



City Hall offices will be closed on Monday, February 19th for Presidents Day. In case of a sewer, traffic, or other emergency, please call the Police Dept. at 615-297-0241 and the dispatcher will contact city staff, or you may report your concern on the city website, www.citybellemeade.org.

CITY OF BELLE MEADE
4705 Harding Road
Nashville, Tennessee 37205

return service requested