



**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](http://www.citybellemeade.org)

## NEWSLETTER TO RESIDENTS OF BELLE MEADE MARCH 2024



### PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARY VOTING ON ELECTION DAY FOR BELLE MEADE RESIDENTS AT BELLE MEADE CITY HALL

On Election Day, March 5th, Polls will be open from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Belle Meade

residents are assigned to vote at Belle Meade City Hall. According to the Election Commission, you must vote at your assigned location, found on your voter registration card and you must present a photo ID issued by the federal or Tennessee state government, unless exemption applies.



past five years in Tennessee alone, Weed Wrangle® has averaged over 60 sites per year and has logged over 30,000 volunteer hours, removed approximately 150,300 invasive plants and replanted 2,200 native plants and trees!



Many invasive plant species, such as privet and bush honeysuckle, have taken hold in Middle Tennessee and are harming our native ecosystems. These invasives consume nutrients, disrupt the ecological balance and disfigure the outdoor world where Nashvillians hike, bike, picnic, ride horses or just relax. The objective is not just to remove these invasive species from our public lands, but also to educate volunteers as to the importance of this mission so they in turn will use these practices when managing their own yards and properties. We are so fortunate to have Invasive Plant Control, LLC, a world-renown leader in invasive plant management, headquartered here in Nashville! IPC has been a wonderful professional resource to host sites and help to take the Weed Wrangle® movement to a national level. While Weed Wrangle® was started just ten years ago, the mission has spread nationally to 27 states! Many other cities like Washington, D.C., New Orleans, Dallas and Houston are joining in the fight against invasive plants through Weed Wrangle®.

Article provided by Carter Dawson and Laura Katherine Wood, Belle Meade Ceres Society

### WEED WRANGLE 2024

Mark your Calendar for Weed Wrangle® 2024 is coming to Nashville on Saturday March 2nd! There will be 12 sites located in or near Nashville this year! Go to Hands on Nashville to register for a Weed Wrangle® site close to your home or close to your heart. It is a wonderful way to take care of the environment and give back to the Nashville community!

What is Weed Wrangle® you ask? Weed Wrangle® is a grassroots, volunteer initiative started 10 years ago by the Garden Club of Nashville, a member of the Garden Club of America. Their mission is “to establish partnerships that connect volunteers and public lands for the purpose of education and eradication of non-native invasive plant species followed with the planned restoration of native plant communities.” Over the

### Updates to the Belle Meade Zoning Code

We are currently seeking comments from residents and design professionals comments on the proposed new Zoning Ordinance. The comment period opened in January when the proposed draft of the new code was first presented to the Municipal Planning Commission. All comments received prior to the Planning Commission’s

February meeting have been compiled and reviewed by the members. At the next meeting, any additional or new comments will be considered and Planning Commissioners will begin making decisions regarding approval and or amendments of the draft new code.

**Copies of the draft Zoning Ordinance, presentation materials, meeting videos, as well as a summary of the proposed changes, are available on the city’s homepage at [citybellemeade.org](http://citybellemeade.org). Please provide all comments to Planning Director Mary Samaniego, [msamaniego@citybellemeade.org](mailto:msamaniego@citybellemeade.org).**

**NEW  
UPDATE**

Belle Meade  
**ZONING  
ORDINANCE**

## WALNUT DRIVE STORMWATER IMPROVEMENT DELAYED

The project, which was slated to begin construction in March, is now delayed until new bids for construction can be solicited. The City of Belle Meade solicited proposals to reconstruct a residential cul-de-sac street with underground storage for stormwater drainage under the road surface and a permeable paver surface. The street is also proposed for

widening in some areas to create on-street parking along both sides of the street with the additional benefit of expanding the surface area available to capture stormwater. Bid proposals were opened on February 1st; however, only one bid was received. Upon review, the single bid was rejected for both lack of competitiveness and for being unreasonable as to cost. For more information about the project, please see the city's webpage at: <https://citybellemeade.org/walnut-drive-project/>

## HARDING PIKE SIDEWALK

With 95% project funding from the Tennessee Department of Transportation, the City of Belle Meade is currently working with engineers to complete a new portion of sidewalks that will be on the east side of Harding Pike connecting pedestrians from the intersection with Belle Meade Blvd into existing sidewalk just past the Hillwood Blvd/Lynwood Blvd intersection. The new sidewalk will be 5 feet in width and comply with the Americans for

Disabilities Act, including providing a new crosswalk at the Lynwood Blvd intersection with pedestrian signals and push buttons that provide audible tones to alert pedestrians when it is safe to cross. The project is in the first of four project phases, currently all required environmental and historical assessments have been submitted for TDOT's review and the City is awaiting the required approval prior to moving into the next phase, which is full engineering design/plans. Construction is anticipated for 2026.



## GOOD NEIGHBOR REMINDERS

Belle Meade Police receive many reports of barking dogs negatively impacting their neighbors. Most often, the barking is over before the officer arrives making it difficult to enforce the noise ordinance. Obviously, we want law

enforcement to only be used as a last resort. Residents can help to preserve the peaceful community by remembering to bring barking dogs inside, not leaving dogs out overnight, and considering training for new pets, particularly on how to respond to doorbells, deliveries, and pedestrians/visitors. Dog owners may also want to consider introducing dogs to neighbors, with permission, so that perhaps if the dog is more comfortable, they will not bark at neighbors enjoying the outdoors. Thank you in advance for helping our canine friends be a joy to the neighborhood!



## FROM THE POLICE DEPARTMENT – CHIEF CHUCK WILLIAMS

### NEW TOOLS RESULT IN RECOVERY OF STOLEN VEHICLE

In January, Belle Meade police completed training and installation of new GPS-enabled tracking dart systems. These StarChase systems can be launched from the patrol vehicles to safely track and apprehend a suspect without engaging in what can often become a high-speed and potentially dangerous pursuit.



On February 13, 2024, the Belle Meade Police received an LPR hit on West Tyne Blvd. Officer Scarbrough located the stolen vehicle on Belle Meade Blvd. between Gerald Place and Park Center Drive. As soon as the suspect saw Officer Scarbrough turn around, he began to increase speed and flee in the stolen vehicle. Officer Scarbrough successfully deployed his Starchase tracking device and stopped his pursuit. It was noted, upon review of the incident, that the suspect slowed to the speed limit once the officer backed off. The vehicle was tracked by GPS and Metro Police were alerted to his location, where they arrested the suspect while he was sitting in the parked stolen vehicle. The Starchase equipment worked flawlessly and was vital in the suspect's apprehension.



# Belle Meade Newsletter



## RECAP OF BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS' MEETINGS

The Commissioners took action on the following items at the, **February 21, 2024** meeting:



- Received Belle Meade Police Department's Annual Report (the most recent 2023 Annual Report and prior years' reports are available on the city's website at [citybellemeade.org/police-department/](http://citybellemeade.org/police-department/))
- Approved the purchase of a tablet for patrol use from Route 1 Portable Computer Systems Inc, in the amount of \$3,370.73, the purchase was 100% reimbursed by a grant from the Tennessee Highway Safety Office grant program
- Approved a Resolution of support for \$1,500 for Belle Meade Police Department from the Public Entity Partner's "Safety Partners" 2023 Grant Program
- Approved an expense of \$7,142 to support a rate study conducted by Metro-Nashville Water and its other wholesale rate customers, which will determine the rate to be effective on October 1, 2024
- Approved an Agreement with Civil and Environmental Consultants Inc (CEC) for updates to the City's Stormwater Ordinance, at a total cost not to exceed \$38,750
- Approved an annual permit for the St. George's Farmers Market for the 2024 season
- Approved an addendum to the Landscape Maintenance Agreement with LSI to install annual spring plantings in areas throughout the city for a total expense of \$14,525
- Approved an addendum to the Landscape Maintenance Agreement with LSI to install new, replacement for plants lost in the December 2022 winter freeze, at a total expense of \$7,093
- Received a monthly presentation of updates on the city's capital projects in progress
- Considered a bid proposal from Jarrett Builders, in the amount of \$5,163,971, for the Walnut Drive Stormwater Improvement Project – after discussion and presentation from both the City Manager and Project Engineer, the item failed for lack of a motion
- Received a monthly presentation of the city's financial statements
- Approved the following invoices over \$5,000:

1) Kraft CPAs PLLC	\$ 7,580.00
2) Sammie Gibbs Construction (snow/ice)	\$ 127,600.00
3) Wascon Inc. (Sewer)	\$ 7,991.92
4) Omnigo (e-citation software)	\$ 10,394.26
- Approved a proposal, in the amount of \$3,685, from H.E. Parmer Company to replace gutters and downpipes on the Public Works Maintenance Shop
- 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 second and final reading, to amend the current year budget to increase or decrease various expenditure and revenue appropriations.
- Approved a Resolution to update the city's investment account information with FirstHorizon Bank
- The Board of Commissioners' next regular meetings will be held on Wednesday, March 20th at 4:00 p.m. All meetings are open to the public and public comments will be accepted.



**FREE COMMUNITY SHRED DAY – SATURDAY, APRIL 6, 2024** from 9am to 12 noon at City Hall. Bring all your paper

documents for shredding at this community event. Individuals will be limited to no more than 8 boxes or bags as this event is open only to residents, not

businesses. Boxes will not be shredded, only their paper contents. You do not need to remove paperclips or staples. PAPER ONLY - absolutely no batteries, no computers, no tablets will be accepted. This service is for the shredding of confidential paper records, such as credit card statements, old checks, tax returns, to help prevent identity theft or fraud.



## Belle Meade Newsletter

### REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETINGS MARCH, APRIL & MAY 2024 All Meetings Held at Belle Meade City Hall

#### Board of Commissioners

Wednesday, March 20th at 4:00 pm

Monday, April 15th at 4:00 pm\*

\*rescheduled, no meeting on Wed., April 17th

Wednesday, May 15th at 4:00 pm

#### Historic Zoning Commission

Tuesday, March 12th at 3:00 pm

Tuesday, April 9th at 3:00 pm

May 14th at 3:00 pm

#### Municipal Planning Commission

Tuesday, March 19th at 3:00 pm\*

\*note time change

Tuesday, April 16th at 4:00 pm

Tuesday, May 21st at 4:00 pm

#### Board of Zoning Appeals

Tuesday, March 19th at 5:00 pm

Tuesday, April 16th at 5:00 pm

Tuesday, May 21st at 5:00 pm

Agendas are available online at  
[www.citybellemeade.org](http://www.citybellemeade.org)

### REMINDERS:

**Property Taxes** were due by February 28, 2024. 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](http://www.citybellemeade.org) and, for assistance, contact Belle Meade City Recorder Rusty Terry, [rterry@citybellemeade.org](mailto: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](mailto: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 OF BELLE MEADE  
4705 Harding Road  
Nashville, Tennessee 37205

return service requested