

ORDINANCE 2024-4

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND TITLE 11, SECTION 812 "COURT COSTS" OF THE MUNICIPAL CODE OF THE CITY OF BELLE MEADE TO RECOVER INCREASED COSTS ASSOCIATED WITH WRITTEN AND ELECTRONIC CITATIONS

WHEREAS, the Municipal Court of the City of Belle Meade regularly hears cases involving traffic and other violations of the Ordinances of the City, which result in some instances in the imposition of a fine upon the guilt party; and

WHEREAS, the City of Belle Meade is authorized under T.C.A. 6-21-507 for the Board of Commissioners to establish rates for the recovery of court costs; and

WHEREAS, the Commissioners are advised that the court clerk currently charges a cost of \$75.00 for each conviction of a moving traffic violation and/or other violations of the ordinances of the city, with or without a hearing, based on a guilty plea; and

WHEREAS, the Commissioners are additionally advised that the authority to charge a separate, additional cost of five dollars (\$5.00) to recover costs associated with electronic citations has sunset, as of July 1, 2020, in accordance with provisions of state law; and

WHEREAS, the administrative costs of operating municipal court have increased upon the City of Belle Meade since court costs were previously amended in 2019.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the City of Belle Meade, as follows:

SECTION 1. That Title 11, Chapter 8 of the Municipal Code of the City of Belle Meade be amended by replacing Section 11-812, in its entirety, to read as follows:

11-812. Court Costs. A court cost of \$95.00 per offense is hereby established for all moving traffic and other criminal offenses in violation of ordinances of the City of Belle Meade, which cost shall be in addition to any fine that may be assessed by the Court, or in addition to any fine that may be due in the form of an Appearance Bond paid in advance of, and/or in lieu of, a trial. The court costs of \$1.00 for state training fees as authorized by T.C.A. 6-18-304 shall not be included in the \$95.00 court cost, but treated as a separate, additional cost.


SECTION 2. This Ordinance shall take effect on July 1, 2024.

Passed on first reading March 20, 2024

Passed on second reading April 15, 2024



Rusty Moore, Mayor



Rusty Terry, City Recorder