



**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 NOVEMBER 2024

### FROM THE POLICE DEPARTMENT – CHIEF CHUCK WILLIAMS

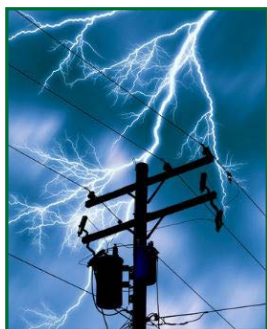
**ARE YOU A NEW RESIDENT?** If anyone needs assistance getting connected to their neighborhood block captain, please contact me, Chief Williams at [cwilliams@citybellemeade.org](mailto:cwilliams@citybellemeade.org). I'd also like to provide you with resources and information to introduce you to our community's services, including home watch services and alarm registry, and help you to stay informed about community news. You should sign up to receive road closure information, crime alerts, or other important notices. We also have a monthly resident newsletter, the Belle Meade Connect app for alerts to your cell phone or email, as well as our active groups of Neighborhood Watch throughout the community.



*Chief and Mayor with IACP safety award*

#### COMMUNITY SAFETY AWARD

The Belle Meade Police Department was recognized by StarChase with the Community Safety Award at the International Association of Chiefs of Police Conference in Boston, Massachusetts on October 19, 2024. Belle Meade Police Department implemented its StarChase program in January 2024 and the StarChase Technology has significantly reduced the occurrence of high-risk vehicle pursuits events. Their technology provides law enforcement with the ability to tag, track, and safely apprehend a suspect without the need to engage in a potentially deadly high-speed pursuit. We appreciate the recognition and are proud of the community's support for these tools with proven benefits that help us to meet our mission to protect life and property in the City of Belle Meade.



*Lightning and Power Pole*

#### PROTECTING PROPERTY FROM STORM DAMAGE

On September 24th, a storm came through Belle Meade with an intense wind on the front line of the storm that took down more than a dozen large trees, including some that fell on homes and others that blocked our roadways. Unfortunately, storm events are becoming more intense and are more frequently occurring in the middle Tennessee area. After the storm, we learned that approximately 1,600 NES customers, including some Belle Meade residents, experienced power outages. Additionally, NES reports that a powerful

lightning strike caused significant damage not only to their equipment, but also thousands in damages to individual properties by sending a powerful surge of energy through the system that overwhelmed electronics, including home appliances, HVACs, lighting systems, sewer



grinder pumps and more. Some damage reports included damage from small fires that erupted from outlets within these homes.

Following this event, City Commissioners and representatives of NES have met to discuss preventative measures that could help to prevent future losses. In this specific event, the lighting strike is believed to be a rare, or low-probability and infrequent, very powerful lightning strike that overwhelmed the capacity of both NES protective equipment and power surge protection devices installed by homeowners. This is evidence unfortunately that even the best protection devices cannot prevent every event or may not work in every instance. They can, however, be beneficial in most events.

According to the National Electrical Manufacturers Association, up to 80% of all surges originate from inside a building and are generally quite small. These happen as the result of loose wires, malfunctioning appliances, static electricity, load switching, or even when turning on a hair dryer or AC unit. Homes today have an estimated \$15,000 worth of electronics and may experience up to 100 surges per month that can degrade or damage our electronics, overtime, these seemingly minor surges will shorten the life of electronics.

# Belle Meade Newsletter

City Commissioners and NES identified the following steps that residents may consider to be prepared for surge events, both large and small, and to protect your homes and personal property against potential, future losses:

- Have a licensed electrician confirm your home is grounded and verify the grounding wire is intact; a properly grounded home has a conductor attached to the ground to carry excess current away from the home and reduces risk of electric shock and fire.
- Consider purchasing home protection devices, including whole-home surge protection and individual (at the outlet) surge protectors – a good rule of thumb is to look for the highest kA rating; kA stands for kiloamperage, which is the unit used to measure the surge current capacity of a product and this is the maximum current that the device can handle without being damaged; the price will increase as the kA rating increases so you must balance affordability with the risk.
- Consider purchasing high quality surge protectors for all electronic devices within your home; these can be placed at the outlet to protect those home electronics and appliances

connected to that outlet; these will not protect the most expensive electronics that are most typically wired directly to your electrical panel such as electric stoves, range hoods, washers, dryers, and HVAC systems.

- For the greatest level of protection, a whole home surge protection device can be purchased and installed by a licensed electrician at the electrical panel to help protect all devices, including those not plugged into an individual surge plug or power strip; the cost of these varies greatly depending upon the specific device chosen.
- Last, talk with your home insurance provider to ensure that you're covered at a level that meets your risk tolerance and ask if any discounts may be applied as a result of installing home surge protection devices.

As a final note, please report any and all power outages (even if you think your neighbor already has reported it) to NES. Their representatives shared that having a detailed account of outage history can aid in restoring power more quickly.

## GOOD NEIGHBOR REMINDERS

The City of Belle Meade needs your help to improve the safety of those walking and biking in our community. Please remember these safety tips:

- **BE VISIBLE** – wear reflective clothing and carry a flashlight when walking in the evenings
- **OBEY THE RULES** – follow traffic signals and signs; use crosswalks when they are available
- **STAY ALERT** – look for traffic in all directions including turning vehicles; don't assume drivers can see you
- **AVOID DISTRACTIONS** – your phone, headphones or earbuds should not be used while walking around cars

**The Belle Meade Police Department will be conducting a Belle Meade Boulevard saturation patrol on Friday, November 15th, 2024.** Extra Officers will be assigned to Belle Meade Blvd to conduct strict enforcement of speeding, distracted driving, and left lane violations. Please use extra caution when driving on Belle Meade Boulevard and stay out of the left lane unless you are passing or turning.

## Fall Lawn Care Reminders

With pumpkin spice lattes and fall football games on our minds,

we're reminded that the leaves will begin falling soon. Leaves need to be raked and trees and shrubs will need to be trimmed. Here are a few reminders about how to dispose of yard trimmings and brush. Also, remember our creeks, small streams, and stormwater drainage areas need to be kept clear of leaves and other debris to function as designed. Leaves, brush, and leftover Halloween pumpkins need to be disposed of properly so they do not clog our stormwater drainage system or create blockages in our waterways.

**Bag it.** Paper yard bags are best and can be purchased at grocery stores, hardware, and garden stores. These bags are for leaves, grass clippings and other small trimmings only. If you have a lawncare company bag the yard trimmings for you, then bags must also be removed by the lawncare company as well. For the City's chipper service, bagged items should not exceed a weight of 50 lbs.

**Bundle it.** The City's chipping service asks that sticks and small branches be bundled with limbs no longer than 8 feet long and 4 inches in diameter.

Brush Collection and Chipper Service is provided weekly on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays. Your pickup day will depend on which street you live. You can view our service routes at [citybellemeade.org/streets/](http://citybellemeade.org/streets/) Belle Meade is a beautiful community in every season, and we are dedicated to keeping it that way. Thank you for helping us take the best care of it.



Holiday Lights

## Celebrating 10 years of Holiday LIGHTS at Cheekwood

Holiday LIGHTS opens to the public November 22 and runs until January 5.

Nashville's classic holiday tradition returns to Cheekwood

Estate & Gardens with exciting new additions courtesy of a world-famous florist and a surprise marquee light installation. To celebrate the 10th annual Holiday LIGHTS at Cheekwood, former Chief Floral Designer for

the White House, Laura Dowling, will create elaborate custom decorations inside the Historic Mansion that will delight guests and spread holiday cheer. Dowling will also debut her new book on Christmas decorating, *Designing Christmas*. Preview copies of the book will be sold exclusively at Cheekwood gift shops and at Dowling's lectures and workshops while supplies last.

The festive scenery begins at the front gates with elegant and creative light displays guests are accustomed to seeing at Holiday LIGHTS. A one-mile walking path will be aglow with over one million twinkling lights and 120 decorated trees. Visitors can also enjoy s'mores stations, seasonal libations, and a holiday marketplace.



Tom Starkey



Haley Dale



Marty Dickens

All are cordially invited to attend:  
**PUBLIC RECEPTION**  
HONORING OUTGOING COMMISSIONER MARTY DICKENS  
AND WELCOMING INCOMING COMMISSIONERS

*(following the November 5th City Election)*

at 3:00 p.m.

on Wednesday, November 20, 2024  
at Belle Meade City Hall

Belle Meade City Hall at 4705 Harding Road, Belle Meade, TN 37205.

# Belle Meade Newsletter

## UPDATE ON TRAFFIC CALMING PROJECTS

The City of Belle Meade continues to make progress on the many improvements recommended within the Belle Meade Master Plan. In particular, a variety of design solutions and example images are provided within the Plan for reducing driving speeds within neighborhoods. Most recently, the City selected two hot spot areas of the City, where traffic data supported that speeding significantly above posted limits regularly occurs in these areas, and began working with engineers from KCI Technologies towards a final design concept.

W. Tyne Boulevard and Lynwood Boulevard (in the 400 block and 600 block) have been chosen for traffic calming projects to be designed and installed by the City of Belle Meade with local funding, with construction anticipated in 2025. At the monthly

meeting of the Board of Commissioners on October 16th, the Board approved an engineering design contract that will support the development of final design and construction plans for the project. At this time, the proposed concepts include landscaped islands being added into the medians which will visually narrow the travel lanes and encourage drivers to be more alert and to slow down when driving through in these areas. In the weeks ahead, we will contact residents on these streets and provide images or renderings of the design; as well as posting progress reports and updates our city website. We also intend to have image boards created and made available at City Hall and will hold a public workshop prior to acceptance of the final design and bidding for construction. For updates on progress, please visit our website at [www.citybellemeade.org/capital-projects/](http://www.citybellemeade.org/capital-projects/).



## RECAP OF BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS' MEETINGS

The Commissioners took action on the following items at the, **October 16, 2024** meeting:



- Approved a Parade Permit for St. George's Christmas Eve services at 3:00 pm and 5:30 pm to use a portion of Belle Meade Blvd for overflow parking;
- Approved an amendment to a grant contract with the State of Tennessee for law enforcement training assistance to reduce the total award from \$200,000 to \$50,000 for the five-year grant term;
- Approved two annual grant awards, for \$25,000 and \$31,700, from the Tennessee Highway Safety Office to support traffic enforcement efforts in the City of Belle Meade;
- Approved a non-competitive purchase of ten (10) Myers grinder pumps from Straeffler Pump and Supply, Inc., totaling \$17,440.00, to support sewer maintenance during the current budget year;
- Approved the annual purchase of holiday wreaths, totaling \$6,498.00, from Boy Scouts of America Troop 6;
- Approved an engineering design services proposal with KCI Technologies, not to exceed \$89,470.00, for traffic calming projects on West Tyne Blvd and Lynwood Blvd as recommended in the Belle Meade Together Master Plan
- Received a monthly presentation of updates on the city's capital projects in progress and the city's financial statements; and approved the following invoices over \$5,000:
  1. CEC (monthly engineering review) \$ 5,690.00
  2. Four Star Paving (annual paving) \$ 171,050.00
  3. Wascon Inc. (TDEC Grant – telemetry units) \$ 98,964.13

4. KCI (Belle Meade Blvd Design Concept) \$ 6,905.00
  5. Landscape Services Inc. (October) \$ 6,995.00
  6. Wascon Inc. (Sewer Fund) \$ 7,689.56
  7. Omnigo Software (PD Records Management) \$ 8,600.01
  8. Kraft CPA (FY 2024 Audit) \$ 7,650.00
  9. Franklin Disposal (October) \$ 33,417.20
  10. Landscape Services Inc. (Fall Pine Straw) \$ 9,600.00
  11. Clean Earth Collections LLC (October Brush) \$ 15,700.00
  12. LDA Engineering (TDEC Grant – sewer project) \$ 12,185.00
  13. Landscape Services Inc. (Irrigation repairs) \$ 9,079.54
  14. Miller and Martin (October) \$ 5,000.00
  15. Franklin Disposal (November) \$ 33,417.20
- Approved a one-year contract extension of the janitorial service contract with Chano and Sons, Inc., total contract not to exceed \$25,000, for the year.
  - Approved Ordinance 2024-15, Amending Title 9, Chapter 1 of the Belle Meade Municipal Code to Add Time Restrictions Upon Licensed Peddlers, Solicitors, and Salespersons and to Authorize the Creation of a "Do Not Solicit" List, on the first of two required readings.
  - The Board of Commissioners' next regular meeting will be held on Wednesday, November 20, 2024 at 4:00 p.m. The meeting is open to the public and public comments will be accepted.



**NOVEMBER 14th from 5 PM to 8PM Belle Meade Historic Site Hosts Free Holiday Open House**

Celebrate the season with a magical evening featuring an art show sponsored by Saddle Up!, festive tours, live carolers, Santa and Mrs. Claus,

mini ponies, wine tastings, delicious food pairings, seasonal drinks, a winter wonderland, and so much more. Don't miss this festive kickoff to the holiday season by reserving your tickets in advance!

Questions? email [info@visitbellemeade.com](mailto:info@visitbellemeade.com) or call 615.356.0501

## SEEKING HOSTS FOR SPRING 2025 GARDEN VISITS

The City of Belle Meade's Society of Ceres is currently seeking volunteers to showcase their gardens in next spring's Garden Visits. Please consider participating in this annual event which helps to encourage and cultivate a love for gardening, landscaping and beautification in our community. If you would like to participate, please contact Mrs. Lisa Ellis at [lemailTN@comcast.net](mailto:lemailTN@comcast.net) for more details.

**CERES SOCIETY DONATIONS – SEPT. & OCT. 2024**

**OAK SOCIETY-\$1,000 or more**  
Mrs. Sally Hunt  
Mr. David Y. Proctor, III

**MAGNOLIA SOCIETY-\$500-\$999**  
Mr. & Mrs. Christopher Dawson

**TULIP SOCIETY-\$250-\$499**  
Mr. & Mrs. Rhett McCraw

**IN MEMORY OF DONATION:**  
Mrs. Sally Hunt  
**In Memory of Mr. James V. (Jim) Hunt, Sr.**

Mr. David Y. Proctor, III  
**(In Memory of: Mayor Elizabeth Proctor, David Proctor, Jr., Glyn**

**Proctor & Jeanette Proctor)**

**AMERICAN FLAG SPONSORSHIP**  
Mrs. James V. Hunt, Sr. (Sally)  
**(In Memory of Capt. James V. Hunt, Sr. USNR)**

Mr. & Mrs. Gary Lee Smith  
**(In Memory of Candice Winsett Ledbetter)**

# Belle Meade Newsletter

## REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETINGS NOVEMBER & DECEMBER 2024 All Meetings Held at Belle Meade City Hall

### Board of Commissioners

Wednesday, November 20th at 4:00 pm\*  
Wednesday, December 18th at 4:00 pm  
\*with Public Reception at 3:00 pm for  
outgoing and incoming City Commissioners

### Historic Zoning Commission

Tuesday, November 12th at 3:00 pm  
Tuesday, December 10th at 3:00 pm

### Municipal Planning Commission

Tuesday, November 19th at 4:00 pm  
Tuesday, December 17th at 4:00 pm

### Board of Zoning Appeals

Tuesday, November 19th at 5:00 pm  
Tuesday, December 17th at 5:00 pm

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



### REMINDERS:

#### ELECTION DAY

Tuesday, November 5, 2024  
BELLE MEADE CITY HALL 7 am to 7 pm  
State & Federal General Election (Presidential)  
Belle Meade Municipal Elections  
Transit Improvement Program Referendum Election



#### VETERAN'S DAY

Monday, November 11th

#### THANKSGIVING DAY

Thursday, November 28th  
City Hall will be closed Thursday and Friday, November 28th  
and 29th for the holiday. In case of grinder pump or other  
emergencies, please call the Belle Meade Police  
non-emergency line at 615-297-0241.

If you have not yet paid your  
Stormwater User Fee Invoice, you are **LATE!**  
Payment was due by August 31 with a 30-day grace period until  
September 30.

CITY OF BELLE MEADE  
4705 Harding Road  
Nashville, Tennessee 37205

return service requested