# Belle Meade



MAYOR • Rusty Moore VICE-MAYOR • Haley Dale COMMISSIONERS:

Louise Bryan • Neal Clayton • Tom Starkey • 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 MARCH 2025**

# HARDING PIKE SIDEWALK UPDATE



The City of Belle Meade and engineering consultants with Engireceived official

Notice to Proceed to Preliminary Engineering Design from the Tennessee Department of Transportation. The

project intends to construct a new portion of sidewalk on the east side of Harding Pike connecting from the Hillwood Blvd/Lynwood Terrace intersection to the northeast corner of where Harding Pike intersects with Belle Meade Boulevard. The project is funded 95% by a grant award from TDOT and 5% from local matching funds. According to current estimates, construction is anticipated for 2026.



## FROM THE POLICE DEPARTMENT - CHIEF CHUCK WILLIAMS







Seatbelt Convincer

# **BELLE MEADE SAFETY DAY ON SATURDAY APRIL 5, 2025**

The Belle Meade Police Department is hosting a "Safety Day" on April 5th, 2025, from 9 AM-1 PM in the parking lot of St. George's Episcopal Church (4715 Harding Pike). We have partnered with the Tennessee Highway Patrol, the Metro Nashville Police Department, and the Tennessee Highway Safety Office for this event. There will be a teen driving simulator, a seatbelt convincer, a child passenger safety inspection station, and much more. Please join us at this event. We look forward to seeing you all!

#### **WEED WRANGLE 2025**

Thank you to volunteers who worked to clean up and remove weeds at the Caldwell Meadow on Saturday, March 1st. The annual event was sponsored by Belle Meade's Ceres Society

and The Nashville Garden Club. Educational events such as this help to encourage good stewardship of our environment and specifically help to identify invasive species, while improving the new green, open space on the west side of Harding Pike in Belle Meade.

# BELLE MEADE BOULEVARD BEAUTIFICATION AND PEDESTRIAN SAFETY UPDATE

Beginning the week of March 10th, engineering consultants with Civil and Environmental Consultants, Inc. (CEC) will be taking samples from the medians and median cuts along Belle Meade Boulevard. Crews will be working in the roadway, with traffic control support from the Belle Meade Police Department, in areas between Harding Place and Page Road. The samples are needed to determine depth to bedrock and other soil conditions that will help consultants design stormwater drainage improvements, by studying the speed at which water absorbs into the ground

and the soil characteristics affecting the infiltration rate. The project intends to include recommendations for median improvements to better support stormwater management, address areas of ponding that affect driving conditions on the roadway, and to improve the water quality (i.e. removing pollutants and increasing beneficial nutrients) as it flows beyond the medians into waterways including Richland Creek. For more information about the Boulevard Beautification and Pedestrian Safety Plan, please visit www.citybellemeade.org.

#### LAND CLEARING TO CONTINUE AT NEW "CALDWELL MEADOW"

Many residents have commented on how nice, clean and open the newly cleared land looks just below the bridge at Hillwood Blvd. Landscape Services Inc. (LSI) has been hard at work cutting vines, trimming out vegetation, and carefully keeping all larger caliper trees. In the next phase, the City intends to continue clearing out the remaining length of the property with road frontage along Harding Pike. Then, in the spring, the City intends to work the Ceres Society (beautification committee) to

install magnolia trees that will be planted on the property to help create a consistent landscaping pattern that both matches existing areas along Richland Creek and the beautiful grounds of the Belle Meade Historic Site. Additionally, the intent behind having a consistent landscaping pattern for our community is that it can serve to help identify the city limits with landscaping elements providing the visual cues for where the City of Belle Meade begins and ends.

# WHO OWNS THE VACANT CORNER NEXT TO THE FORMER KROGER?

Over recent weeks, several residents have called City Hall with questions about the ownership and development potential of the vacant land between Hillwood Boulevard viaduct and the former Belle Meade Kroger Plaza. According to an article in the Nashville Post (dated February 6, 2025), H.G. Hill Realty recently sold the 5-acre property to AJ Capital Partners, who own the adjacent property and have plans to redevelop the Belle Meade Plaza. As the article reports, unlike the Belle Meade Plaza acreage, this 5-acre property is located within the city limits of Belle Meade and will be regulated under the City of Belle Meade's zon-

ing code. The potential for any building on the site is limited as it is land in the floodway. The floodway is generally defined as the most dangerous part of the floodplain and is not allowed to be changed in any way that would increase flood levels. However, in some cases, floodplain areas may be beneficial to developers as open or landscaped areas that contribute to stormwater management. AJ Capital has not yet submitted plans nor communicated any intent for the property with the City of Belle Meade.

# FREE COMMUNITY SHRED DAY – SATURDAY, APRIL 5, 2025 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 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.

this event is open only to residents, not businesses. Boxes

### **GOOD NEIGHBOR REMINDERS**



# TREE REMOVAL PER-MITS ARE REQUIRED IN BELLE MEADE

With warm weather on our doorstep, residents may be considering removal of a tree that may be too close to the house or utility lines. The City of Belle Meade adopted

a "TREE ORDINANCE", Ordinance 2019-11, establishing tree management and protection standards for all private properties. The ordinance must be followed by anyone pulling a building permit, land disturbance permit, or a homeowner simply wishing to cut down a tree.

A Tree Removal Permit Application review is required before removal of any tree in the City of Belle Meade. In many instances, based on the type and size of the tree, replacement trees may be required to be planted. Please be aware that some local tree service companies are unfamiliar with the Belle Meade tree removal permit requirement. For questions or additional information, contact the Building and Planning Department at Belle Meade City Hall at 615-297-6041.



### CARDBOARD RECY-CLING COLLECTED AT YOUR BACKDOOR; PLEASE NO GLASS IN THE RECYCLE BINS

Crews with Franklin Disposal collect your household trash and recycling at your backdoor each week. Card-

board boxes may be broken down and left with your trash can or recycling bin and Franklin Disposal will collect it from your residence. The cardboard dumpsters at City Hall are intended for overflow, but not intended to replace your back door service. As a general rule of thumb, up to 10 large broken down boxes will be picked up by back door service and any additional boxes that week may be retained until the next week or brought to the dumpsters at City Hall.

Please remember that NO GLASS is accepted as recycling and, if broken, glass creates a hazard for the crew and may contaminate other recyclables such that they can no longer be recycled. Thank you in advance for recycling!



#### RECAP OF BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS' MEETINGS

The Commissioners took action on the following items at the, February 26, 2025 meeting:



- City Commissioners and staff presented an overview of the proposed Belle Meade Beautification and Pedestrian Safety Plan and accepted public comments on the Plan.
- Approved a Proposal from Olshan Foundation Solutions totaling \$4,740 to improve stormwater drainage in the alley between City Hall and Public Works Garage Building.
- Approved an Agreement with Neel-Schaffer for civil engineering services to support the city's annual paving program.
- Approved a permit for St. George's Church to use Belle Meade Boulevard for overflow parking on Sunday, April 20, 2025.
- Approval of the purchase of seven (7) replacement patrol vehicles from Lonnie Cobb Ford totaling \$373,716 under state contract pricing, to support Belle Meade Police Department.
- Approved the purchase of annual licenses and subscriptions with PowerDMS law enforcement accredidaton software, totaling \$3,367.64 for the Belle Meade Police Department.
- Approved Change Order No.1 to add stream monitoring services to an agreement with Civil and Environmental Consultants, Inc. (CEC) to support the city's stormwater management program.
- Approved a proposal for land clearing (phase 2) of Caldwell Meadow with Landscape Services, Inc. (LSI) for a lump sum of \$11,975.
- Approved a landscape maintenance services proposal, not to exceed \$79,650, for services on an as needed bases through June 30, 2025.

- Approved a proposal from Commissioner Bryan to establish an adhoc committee on communications to make recommendations to the Board of Commissioners on all methods and technology used for city communications to residents.
- Received a monthly report from the City Manager, including review of the status of all capital and grant projects.
- Received a presentation of financial statements and investment schedules from Finance Director Leigh Mills, reviewed all checks issued in January, and approved all invoices over \$5,000.
- Approved Task Order No. 2 for civil engineering services with LDA Engineering, not to exceed \$3,600, for design of a new rollup door addition to the Pubic Works Garage Building.
- Received a report from the City Manager on damage and leaks found in the City Hall roof.
- A Resolution No. 2025-02 to adopt a memorial tree program failed for lack of a motion after some discussion with city staff.
- A Resolution No. 2025-03 to authorize a Treasury Management Services Master Agreement with Pinnacle Financial Partners failed for lack of a motion after some discussion with the City Attorney.
- Approved Ordinance 2025-01 amending the current year's annual budget (FY 2025 Budget) to provide for the increase or decrease in various expenditures and revenue appropriations.
- The Board of Commissioners' next regular meeting will be held on Wednesday, March 19th at 4:00 p.m.

# **CERES SOCIETY DONATIONS - FEBRUARY 2025**

MAGNOLIA SOCIETY-\$500-\$999

Mr. & Mrs. Garry McGuire Mr. & Mrs. Marc Stengel TULIP SOCIETY-\$250-\$499 Mr. & Mrs. Henry Guy AMERICAN FLAG SPONSORSHIP

Mr. & Mrs. Garry McGuire Mr. & Mrs. Marc Stengel

# REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETINGS MARCH & APRIL 2025 All Meetings Held at Belle Meade City Hall

#### **Board of Commissioners**

Wednesday, March 19th at 4:00 pm Wednesday, April 16th at 4:00 pm

#### **Historic Zoning Commission**

Tuesday, March 11th at 3:00 pm Tuesday, April 8th at 3:00 pm

#### Municipal Planning Commission

Tuesday, March 18th at 4:00 pm Tuesday, April 15th at 4:00 pm

#### **Board of Zoning Appeals**

Tuesday, March 18th at 5:00 pm Tuesday, April 15th at 5:00 pm

Agendas are available online at www.citybellemeade.org

#### **REMINDERS:**

STORMWATER PUBLIC WORKSHOP Belle Meade residents and design professionals are invited to attend an informational workshop on the City of Belle Meade's new Stormwater Ordinance and its stormwater management program in general. Public comments and questions will be accepted at this workshop.

Stormwater Public Workshop Friday, April 4, 2025 9:00 am – 11:00 am

JOIN THE "NO SOLICITORS" LIST Belle Meade residents may sign up to add their address to a "No Knock" list to stop door-to-door solicitations from businesses. To sign up online, please visit the Belle Meade Police Department's webpage at citybellemeade. org/police-department/ and scroll to the bottom, where you may submit your name and address to join the registry. If you prefer, please call to be added to the list at Belle Meade City Hall, 615-297-6041, Monday through Friday, 8am to 4pm.

PROPERTY TAXES PAYMENTS. Beginning March 1st, all remaining unpaid property tax bills will incur a 2% penalty and the first of every month an additional 2% will be added until the bill is paid. You may pay online at <a href="https://paycitybellemeade.us/payTaxes.html#/">https://paycitybellemeade.us/payTaxes.html#/</a> by echeck or credit card; you may also drop your payment in the green drop box located by the main entrance to City Hall. Please note, if you pay late and do not pay the penalty you will remain delinquent until the penalty fee is paid. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact our City Recorder, Rusty Terry, at 615-491-1645 or by email at <a href="mailto:rterry@citybellemeade.org">rterry@citybellemeade.org</a>.

CITY OF BELLE MEADE 4705 Harding Road Nashville, Tennessee 37205

return service requested