

CITY OF

# Belle Meade

TENNESSEE



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

## NEWSLETTER TO RESIDENTS OF BELLE MEADE JUNE 2025

### BELLE MEADE CONDUCTS FIVE-YEAR RATE STUDY OF SEWER USER FEE

The City has contracted with Buddy Petty of RateStudies, Inc. to review the Belle Meade sewer collection system's rate structure and make recommendations for the appropriate rate necessary to continue operating the system safely and legally. Following best practices, a rate study is conducted every five years to recommend rate adjustments to ensure financial stability and that the sewer fees are sufficient to cover all costs and maintenance. The City's sewer collection system consists of residential grinder pump systems, force-main lines, and gravity lines that carry wastewater from residents' homes to Metro-Nashville's sewer lines for treatment.

The Belle Meade Sewer User Fee is billed and collected by Metro Water Department on residents' monthly water bills. The last rate study was completed for fiscal years 2022 – 2026 and recommended an initial increase of 10% in 2022 followed by a 2% increase in each subsequent year. City Commissioners will consider final approval of a 2% increase for the upcoming fiscal year, July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2026, at their June board meeting. Once complete, the results of the new rate study will provide recommendations for supporting the system's operating and capital costs for the next five budget years, from July 1, 2026 through June 30, 2031.

### SHRED DAY RESULTS

At the Annual Community Shred Event, on Saturday, April 5th, Belle Meade residents dropped off a total of 4,000 lbs of paper for secure document shredding! Thank you to all residents for participating, despite the forecasted rain. Your shredded paper is recycled into recycled paper products. THANK YOU!

### BELLE MEADE ANNUAL BUDGET REVIEW

The City of Belle Meade's proposed budget for the 12-months beginning July 1, 2025 and ending June 30, 2026 is now available on the City's homepage at [Citybellemeade.org](http://Citybellemeade.org). Past budgets and audited financial reports for prior years are available on the Finance Department webpage at [Citybellemeade.org/Finance](http://Citybellemeade.org/Finance). City Commissioners approved the annual budget on the 1st of 2 readings at their May board meeting. A public hearing and final consideration will occur at the June 18th board meeting. All residents are encouraged to review and comment on the proposed budget.

#### COMMUNITY INPUT WORKSHOP HARDING PIKE SIDEWALK GRANT

The City of Belle Meade will be hosting a workshop to get citizen input on the existing Harding Pike sidewalk project from Belle Meade Boulevard to Lynwood Boulevard.

**JUNE 24<sup>TH</sup> AT 4:00PM**  
**BELLE MEADE CITY HALL**  
**4705 HARDING ROAD**



### FROM THE POLICE DEPARTMENT – CHIEF CHUCK WILLIAMS

#### ADDITIONAL SECURITY CAMERAS FOR BELLE MEADE

In the annual budget proposed for July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2026, the Belle Meade Police Department has requested funding for three (3) additional camera locations to add to the City's existing Security System. During the February board retreat, City Commissioners initiated this effort to identify any additional locations that would expand the benefits of the program, expressing that many residents would like to see more cameras in the city. We appreciate the community's ardent support of the Security System as it continues to prove an excellent crime deterrent and a valuable asset for our agency and community. The system not only deters crime within Belle Meade, but Detective Sexton routinely uses it to assist our partner agencies in identifying potential suspects in their cases.

#### BIRTHDAYS WITH BELLE MEADE PATROL

The Belle Meade Police Department swore in our newest (and youngest) police officer on May 16th. Officer Avery invited us

to his birthday party at the Belle Meade Country Club. We were grateful to be able to attend, and the police cars were a big hit! Happy Birthday, Avery, and thank you to the Fitzgerald Family for the invitation!





### **EXPLORING BELLE MEADE HISTORY: Raccoon Statues on Belle Meade Boulevard**

On October 22, 1995, the city of Belle Meade welcomed a whimsical addition to its landscape: Raccoons and the Magic Horseshoes, a bronze sculpture installation by renowned artist Nancy Schön. Best known for her beloved Make Way for Duckling sculpture in the Boston Public Garden, Schön brought her storytelling artistry to the South with a group of raccoons nestled between two large stone horseshoes beside the Children's Bridge. The artist is well known for producing bronze statues. Crafted from native Tennessee stone, the horseshoes represent the area's deep-rooted equestrian heritage. According to the playful legend that accompanies the piece, the bridge was once visited by a powerful horse named Rex, who left behind magical horseshoes.

Generations of raccoons, including Rodney, Randy,

Ricky, Ruthie, and Rosie, have since made their homes within these enchanted stone walls. Rex decreed that every raccoon born there must have a name beginning with the letter "R", a charming detail that ties the story together. The Belle Meade raccoon installation was designed to engage children and families, adding a playful and imaginative element to the local landscape.

### **GOOD NEIGHBOR REMINDERS**

Noise disturbance complaints typically increase during the summer months, please be mindful of how your neighbors may be negatively affected by noise from your outdoor activities, pool parties, music, and yard maintenance equipment. The City's anti-noise regulations prohibit noise that is "of such character, intensity, and/or duration as to be unreasonably loud and disturbing". In the City of Belle Meade, the regulations require "quiet" in the evenings and early morning hours by prohibiting noises above 50 decibels between 10 p.m. and 7 a.m., Sunday through Thursday, and 11 p.m. and 7:00 a.m. on Fridays and Saturdays.

**What does 50 decibels sound like?** A quiet conversation between two people, the sound created by a moderate rainfall, or the quiet noise of a running refrigerator in your home are common examples of noise at or below 50 decibels. This is the recognized standard because 50 decibels is considered a moderate noise level, generally non-harmful to human hearing. A person's distance from the source of a noise is the greatest factor determining how soft or loud the sound is perceived to be, so be thoughtful, especially at times when close neighbors are also enjoying the outdoors. It

may be helpful to proactively speak with your neighbors and work out schedules with one another. Giving neighbors advance notice of the intended start and end times of outdoor events, likely to be above normal noise levels at any time of day, would be a simple courtesy to extend. Thank you in advance for being conscientious neighbors while enjoying outdoor activities this summer!





# Belle Meade Newsletter

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## CERES SOCIETY DONATIONS – MAY 2025

### **OAK SOCIETY-\$1,000 or more**

Mr. Michael Dixon & Mr. Brian Setzer  
Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Frist, III  
Mr. & Mrs. Britt Hunt  
Mr. & Mrs. Richard Miller  
Dr. & Mrs. Scott Standard

### **MAGNOLIA SOCIETY-\$500-\$999**

Mr. & Mrs. J. Barry Banker  
Mr. & Mrs. John Cheadle  
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Coleman  
Mr. & Mrs. Seth Eskin  
Dr. & Mrs. Robert Frist  
Mr. & Mrs. Charles Gibson  
Mr. & Mrs. Mark Isaacs  
Mr. & Mrs. Douglas McDowell  
Mr. & Mrs. Lee Noel  
Mr. & Mrs. Edward Stack  
Mr. & Mrs. James Stadler  
Dr. & Mrs. Paul Sternberg  
Mr. & Mrs. Johnson Wallace  
Mr. David Wiley

### **TULIP SOCIETY-\$250-\$499**

Mr. & Mrs. Alan Abrams  
Mr. & Mrs. David Amiot  
Mr. & Mrs. Jeffrey Calk  
Mr. & Mrs. Alphonse Davis  
Mr. & Mrs. John Ferguson  
Mr. & Mrs. Lyle Finley  
Ms. Katherine Follin  
Mr. & Mrs. Eric Helman  
Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Hooper  
Mr. & Mrs. Jerry Ishee  
Mr. & Mrs. Douglas Joyce  
Mr. & Mrs. Randall Kinnard  
Dr. & Mrs. Robert Mallard  
Mr. & Mrs. French McKnight  
Mr. & Mrs. Martin McNamara  
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Napier  
Mr. & Mrs. Charles Niewold  
Mr. & Mrs. Jimmy Pickel  
Ms. Diana Thompson  
Mrs. Sandra Welborn  
Ms. Eleanor Whitworth

### **DONORS**

Mr. & Mrs. Henry Bright  
Mr. David Cohen  
Mr. & Mrs. Elliot Greenberg  
Dr. & Mrs. Seth Karp  
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Ramsey

### **IN HONOR OF:**

Mr. & Mrs. J. Barry Banker  
**(In Honor of Lucy Ann Wilt)**



## RECAP OF BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS' MEETINGS

The Commissioners took action on the following items at the, **May 14, 2025** meeting:



- Adopted an Ordinance 2025-6, on the 1st of 2 readings, amending Title 16 ("Streets and Sidewalks") of the Belle Meade Municipal Code to Add a New Chapter 4 Governing the Design, Construction, and Maintenance of Improvements to Belle Meade Boulevard.
- Approved a one-year contract extension with Franklin Disposal for waste and recycling collections through June 30, 2026.
- Approved a bid award to Client Contractor, totaling \$39,735, for installation of a new shop door at the Public Works Shop.
- Approved a proposal with LDA Engineering, totaling \$15,000, for initial implementation, training, and support for a new work order management system for the city's sewer system.
- Announced Mayoral appointments to the Municipal Planning Commission for three members' terms beginning in June 2025.
- Commissioners confirmed the mayoral appointments to the Board of Zoning Appeals for two members' terms beginning in June 2025.
- Ratified approval of a purchase of labor and materials from Landscape Services Inc., totaling \$12,228.00, for grading and other landscape services at the Caldwell Meadow.
- Received a monthly report from the City Manager, including a 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 April, and approved all invoices over \$5,000.
- Adopted Ordinance 2025-2, on the 1st of 2 readings, to amend Sewer User Charges (an increase of 2% over last year's rate) for fiscal year 2025-2026.
- Adopted Ordinance 2025-3, on the 1st of 2 readings, to fix the Tax Rate for fiscal year 2025-2026 (the City anticipates receiving the state certified tax rate, which would significantly lower the rate as a result of the property tax reappraisals, and anticipates amending the tax rate on second reading).
- Set a Public Hearing for 4:00 p.m. on June 18, 2025 on Ordinance 2025-3 setting the Tax Rate for fiscal year 2025-2026.
- Adopted Ordinance 2025-4, on the 1st of 2 readings, adopting the Annual Budget for fiscal year July 1, 2025 – June 30, 2026.
- Set a Public Hearing for 4:00 p.m. on June 18, 2025 on Ordinance 2025-4 establishing the Annual Budget for fiscal year 2025-2026.
- Adopted Ordinance 2025-5, on the 1st of 2 readings, amending Ordinance 2025-1, budget appropriations for fiscal year 2024-2025 (current budget).
- The Board of Commissioners' next regular meeting will be held on Wednesday, June 18th at 4:00 p.m. and will include Public Hearings on the Annual Budget and Tax Rate for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2025 and ending June 30, 2026.

**REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETINGS**

**JUNE & JULY 2025**

**All Meetings Held at Belle Meade City Hall**

**Board of Commissioners**

Wednesday, June 18th at 4:00 pm

Wednesday, July 16th at 4:00 pm

**Historic Zoning Commission**

Tuesday, June 10th at 3:00 pm

Tuesday, July 8th at 3:00 pm

**Municipal Planning Commission**

No Meeting in June

Tuesday, July 15th at 4:00 pm

**Board of Zoning Appeals**

Tuesday, June 17th at 5:00 pm

Tuesday, July 15th at 5:00 pm

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

**REMINDERS:**



**EXPOSITION OF ELEGANCE: Classic Cars at Cheekwood** will be held June 14 and 15 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. The Tour d'Elegance Parade of Cars through Belle Meade will begin at 4 p.m. on Sunday. For more information about this event, please visit [Cheekwood.org](http://Cheekwood.org). For a parade route map visit [citybellemeade.org](http://citybellemeade.org).



CITY OF BELLE MEADE  
4705 Harding Road  
Nashville, Tennessee 37205

return service requested