

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

NEWSLETTER TO RESIDENTS OF BELLE MEADE NOVEMBER 2025

TREES ARE PART OF BELLE MEADE'S CULTURAL LANDSCAPE

The value of mature trees is especially striking at this time of year when they create a spectacular display of fall colors. With their expansive canopies and often large size, Belle Meade's trees instantly draw the eye and contribute a sense of natural grandeur and preserved landscape. At least in part, Belle Meade's mature trees, especially in front yards, deserve recognition and preservation for their significance to the unique beauty of this special place.

Unfortunately, each year, some mature trees are being removed due to their condition, disease, and/or related to a recent construction project. Please consider contributing to preservation of this practice by planting a tree or replacing removed trees in your front yard. This tradition can help protect the overall

aesthetic of the city. These trees create a quintessential landscape design for each property while providing a buffer from the street. Autumn and Spring are the ideal time to plant or transplant trees in our region. We recommend consulting with a local arborist or landscaping company to determine the best tree species for your yard.



BELLE MEADE HISTORIC SITE AND WINERY

Holiday Open House

Thursday, November 13th from 5:00 to 8:00 p.m.

Free Admission

Kick off the holiday season at Belle Meade with a magical evening of festive fun! Enjoy Historic Mansion Tours, sparkling lights, live music, and carolers singing Christmas carols. Families can meet Sanat and Elsa, while kids create holiday crafts and visit mini ponies dressed as elves. Adults can sip holiday cocktails, wine and bourbon tastings.

HOLIDAY LIGHTS at CHEEKWOOD

November 21st through January 4th

This Annual Event Features New Mansion Décor and a Dazzling Display of Lights. Former Chief Floral Designer for the White House, Laura Dowling, returns to Cheekwood for the second year in a row to create elaborate custom decorations inside the Historic Mansion that will delight guests and spread



holiday cheer. This year's theme is "Sweet Dreams," and is inspired by visions of sugarplums, candy-colored hues and chestnuts roasting over an open fire. To learn more about Holiday LIGHTS and to purchase tickets, visit <https://cheekwood.org/calendar-events/holiday-lights/>



MANAGING STORMWATER

In April, residents experienced a significant flooding event with more than 6 inches of rain falling over a few days. Following the storms, city staff conducted assessments of areas with reported concerns and observed flooding. We continue to encourage residents to report any drainage concerns to the City. Concerns may range from noticing a clogged drain along the street's edge, water topping or ponding on your street, or areas of erosion near a drainage pipe or culvert.

The City is working to increase the frequency of our routine inspections and to identify both short-term and long-term repairs and public improvement projects as part of a new long-term maintenance plan. Additionally, we will continue

with proactive maintenance efforts such as our monthly street sweeping and annual creek debris removal program. In this fiscal year, the City has budgeted to complete two stormwater repair projects. One project will be completed in the 600 block of Lynnwood Boulevard, where a pipe collapsed and will require replacement with a new culvert under the roadway. Second, a small section of stormwater drainage pipe must be replaced at the cul-de-sac end of Walnut Drive. As soon as a schedule is available from the city's contractor, residents of those areas will be notified of the specific dates for those improvements. These initiatives help to manage runoff from rain, mitigate damage from flooding, and protect the quality of the water in our creeks and streams.



FROM THE POLICE DEPARTMENT – CHIEF CHUCK WILLIAMS

ALL OFFICERS PASS ANNUAL FIREARMS QUALIFICATIONS

In October, Belle Meade Police Department officers completed their annual in-service firearms training. The training focuses on maintaining proficiency, safety, and readiness in the use of firearms. Officers practiced a variety of shooting drills designed to enhance accuracy, decision-making, and tactical response under stress. This annual requirement ensures that all personnel meet state certification standards and uphold the department's commitment to professional excellence and community safety.



BELLE MEADE PUBLIC SAFETY PARTNERS APPRECIATE DAY

On October 28th, 2025, the Belle Meade Country Club hosted an appreciation day for the City of Belle Meade Employees, Metro Nashville Police Department, and the Nashville Fire Department. It was an incredible event, and we cannot thank the Club's staff for their hospitality. It was a memorable day of golf and fellowship for all of us!



EXPLORING BELLE MEADE HISTORY: Iris City USA



In “Belle Meade: A Legacy of Land, Lives, and Love”, author Ridley Wills II recounts how four Nashville residents and their gardens contributed to the state flower, which had been the daisy, becoming the iris in the 1930s. Notably, James Hampton Kirkland, who moved to Belle Meade following his retirement as Chancellor of Vanderbilt University (1893-1937), earned a national reputation as an iris hybridizer that was nearly equal to his renown as Chancellor. He grew iris where the medical school is today and at his home on Jackson Boulevard just east of Belle Meade Boulevard.

In 1938, he won the Dykes Medal for “Copper Lustre”, a striking gold and copper bearded iris, said to “sparkle in the sunlight like a new penny”. This color iris was a novelty until it was first shown in the Chancellor's garden. His garden, behind



his home, was one of the gardens attracting annual visitors from across the country to pay homage to his interesting collection of irises, all attractively planted.

Belle Meade Newsletter



Belle Meade Employee Fund

Dear Belle Meade Residents,
Our employees are the greatest assets of our City of Belle Meade. They work diligently every day to keep the City safe and well maintained. These employees do not receive bonuses of any kind except through the Employee Fund. This fund is managed as a separate account from other city funds and was established to enable residents to acknowledge appreciation for the diligent and consistent work of our loyal personnel throughout the year. The fund purchases gift certificates that are distributed equally among employees. The fund also sponsors events during the year in which all employees participate. Also, floral arrangements and fruit baskets are provided when there is a new baby, an

illness or death in the family.

There isn't a better way to give a heartfelt "thank you" to each of the incredible employees of our city. Previous years' responses have been overwhelming and the employees are truly appreciative of the generosity and support of the residents. We hope you will participate in this special holiday tradition. Mail or deliver a check made out to "Employee Fund" to Belle Meade City Hall, 4705 Harding Road, Nashville, TN 37205. Thanks to you in advance, and Happy Holidays to you and yours.

Rusty Moore
Mayor

Haley Dale
Vice-Mayor

Louise Bryan
Commissioner

Neal Clayton
Commissioner

Tom Starkey
Commissioner

GOOD NEIGHBOR REMINDER

Distracted driving is a major cause of accidents in Belle Meade and Tennessee. Any driver's distraction, whether from a cell phone or some other activity, can lead to fines, points on their license, vehicle accidents, and potentially life-threatening injuries. Please be alert and defensive when driving. Specifically, at the intersection of Belle Meade Blvd and Jackson Blvd, in recent weeks there have been four vehicle crashes, some with injuries, due to drivers running the stop signs. Running a stop sign is a class

C misdemeanor in Tennessee, which can result in fines up to \$50 and/or 30 days in jail. A conviction will add points to a driver's record. Since January 1, 2024, for violations of the Tennessee Hands-Free law by teens under 18, a second or subsequent violation will land 7 points on their driving record, which would likely result in a suspended license as drivers under 18 can only accumulate six points per calendar year. Learn more at handsfreetn.com



RECAP OF BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS' MEETINGS

The Commissioners took action on the following items at the, **October 15, 2025** meeting:



- Approved, on final reading, Ordinance 2025-9 amending Title 5 Municipal Finance and Taxation, to make three (3) amendments to the city's policies:
 - Amending the value of contracts requiring Board of Commissioners' approval from \$3,000 to \$25,000 and aligning it with the existing threshold established for competitive sealed bids.
 - Amending the list of city officials authorized to sign checks to additionally include the city manager; and
 - Amending policies related to internal controls to remove and replace a requirement for the Board of Commissioners to approve all invoices over \$5,000 with a requirement for the Board of Commissioners to review a complete list of all checks written each month.
- Approved, on final reading, Ordinance 2025-10 amending the current year budget; most significant was the addition of \$400,000 in capital expenditures to support the construction of traffic calming islands on West Tyne Drive and Lynnwood Boulevard.
- Approved, on the 1st of 2 readings, Ordinance 2025-12 amending Municipal Court costs from \$95 to \$105 effective January 1, 2026.
- Approved a 1-year contract extension with Clean Earth Collections for brush collection through November 30, 2026 (no cost increase).
- Approved a 1-year contract extension with Sammie Gibbs Construction for snow and ice removal (as needed) through November 30, 2026 (no cost increase).
- Approved a Parade Permit for the annual Belle Meade Boulevard Bolt for Thursday, November 27, 2025 on Belle Meade Boulevard.
- Accepted two grants, totaling \$45,000, from the Tennessee Highway Safety Office supporting traffic enforcement efforts by the Belle Meade Police Department.
- Approved expenditures not to exceed \$25,000 for tree replacements on Belle Meade Boulevard.
- Approved a Resolution No. 2025-08 declaring end-of-life IT hardware as surplus city property.
- Approved all invoices over \$5,000 as presented.
- The Board of Commissioners' next regular meeting will be held on Wednesday, November 19th at 4:00 p.m.

CERES SOCIETY DONATIONS – OCTOBER 2025

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

MAGNOLIA SOCIETY-\$500-\$999
Mr. & Mrs. John Mackin

TULIP SOCIETY-\$250-\$499
Mr. & Mrs. Marshall Brown
Mr. & Mrs. John Campbell, III
Mr. & Mrs. Richard Fitzgerald

IN MEMORY OF:
Mr. & Mrs. David Y. Proctor, III
Mrs. Dean Reeves
Mr. Tom Andrews
Mr. Bill Blevins
Mr. Duncan Callicott

AMERICAN FLAG SPONSORSHIP
Mr. & Mrs. Gary Lee Smith
In Memory of:
Mrs. Dean Gillespie Reeves
Mr. Jefferson Cooper Orr

Belle Meade Newsletter

REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETINGS NOVEMBER & DECEMBER 2025 All Meetings Held at Belle Meade City Hall

Board of Commissioners

Wednesday, November 19th at 4:00 pm

Wednesday, December 17th at 4:00 pm

Historic Zoning Commission

Tuesday, November 11th at 3:00 pm

Tuesday, December 9th at 3:00 pm

Municipal Planning Commission

Tuesday, November 18th at 4:00 pm

Tuesday, December 16th at 4:00 pm

Board of Zoning Appeals

Tuesday, November 18th at 5:00 pm

Tuesday, December 16th at 5:00 pm

Agendas are available online at www.citybellemeade.org

REMINDERS:



**VETERAN'S DAY
Tuesday, November 11th**



THANKSGIVING DAY

City Hall will be closed Thursday and Friday, November 27th and 28th for the holiday.

In case of grinder pump or other emergencies, please call the Belle Meade Police non-emergency line at 615-297-0241.

BELLE MEADE'S ANNUAL HOLIDAY PARADE Saturday, December 6, 2025 at 1:00 p.m.

Join Us! The parade of floats will follow the same route as last year, beginning at the Page Road end of Belle Meade Boulevard and ending at the Belle Meade Country Club/Harding Place intersection. Spectators may park and watch from the southbound lanes.



CITY OF BELLE MEADE
4705 Harding Road
Nashville, Tennessee 37205

return service requested