



**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 DECEMBER 2025



### BELLE MEADE HONORED AT 2025 ENGINEERING EXCELLENCE AWARDS GALA

On November 10, 2025, Belle Meade's City Manager Jennifer Moody and Public Works Director Nathan McVay joined project engineers with LDA Engineering to accept an award for the City's digital asset management plan project. The award was presented by the Tennessee Engineering Foundation and the American Council of Engineering Companies (ACEC) of Tennessee. These awards honor engineering projects that demonstrate innovation, problem-solving, and improve communities.

Belle Meade's project, completed in 2025, has included many hours of field work in order to gather and digitally map the location, age, repair history, and other critical information from each physical part of the city's sewer system. Thank you to all Belle Meade residents for your cooperation as LDA engineers visited your properties, often including back yards, to locate the grinder pumps, sewer force mains or gravity lines on your properties.

The City's partnership with LDA Engineering empowered

the City of Belle Meade to take a major leap forward in sewer system management – transitioning from hard-copy records to a fully digital, geospatial asset management system. Using advanced GPS, ground penetrating radar (GPR), and ESRI GIS tools, LDA mapped over 65 miles of sewer lines and 900+ grinder pumps, delivering a real-time, feature-rich geodatabase and work order system that enhances operational efficiency, budget planning, and long-term asset lifecycle management. Further, maintaining this data in digital format creates the foundation for better, more proactive operations and maintenance of the system. Belle Meade's sewer infrastructure was first installed nearly 50 years ago, and with the completion of this project we have the tools for responsible management for the next 50 years.

During the awards ceremony, the City of Belle Meade was acknowledged as a model for smart, sustainable infrastructure management. The project's outcomes have added significant value to our city's management by increasing data accuracy, streamlining office-to-field workflows, automating maintenance and informing capital planning.

This project was funded largely with support from the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation (TDEC), State Water Infrastructure Grant (SWIG) program. The program's funds are available from the Tennessee's allocation of federal American Rescue Plan Act funds. The City's first-ever asset management plan is fully compliant with best practices and guidance available from TDEC and the State Comptroller's Office.

### CITY ADOPTS FIVE-YEAR RATE STUDY FOR SEWER SYSTEM

Belle Meade Commissioners reviewed results from a recent study recommending 4 percent annual increases in the Belle Meade sewer user rate for the next five years. The purpose of the study is to gain independent analysis of the system's income and expenses and to ensure that user rates are at a level that will support the operations and maintenance needed for continuity of the public system. In the previous study, the City was advised to increase rates by 10 percent in the first year following the study and by 2 percent each following year. On July 1, 2025, the City implemented the final 2 percent increase from the last five-year study and a 4 percent increase will be proposed for adoption in the next fiscal year budget for July 1, 2026. As proposed, a 4 percent increase in the rate would change the minimum monthly sewer bill by \$1.25 per month (from the current rate of \$31.24 to \$32.49).

Belle Meade's sewer collection system consists primarily of residential grinder pump systems at most homes that flow into pressurized lines maintained by the City before transferring into Metro-Nashville's sewer system for final treatment. The main recurring expenses for the system are in repair and replacement of grinder pumps and chemical treatment of lines to reduce corrosion and control odors in the system. The recent study highlighted that Belle Meade's system is nearly 50 years old and the likelihood of costly capital projects increases with the age of the system. Small, annual increases will ensure that the City has funds available for capital projects when needed. Last, the study reminds the City Commissioners that, unlike surrounding systems, our city has no expectation for growth or adding new customers that would significantly increase revenue, therefore raising user rates will continue to be a necessary adjustment to provide adequate income for the Belle Meade sewer system.

## *Belle Meade Newsletter*

### NEIGHBORS WELCOME MOTHER DOE IN DEER PARK

Neighbors in the area of Deer Park Circle initiated a request to City Commissioners for permission to raise funds for installation of bronze deer statues in the public green space, also known as the Deer Park “pocket park”, between Jackson Boulevard and Deer Park Circle. With their support, in just a few months, thirty-five (35) individual families contributed \$6,950 towards the effort. The Ceres Society accepted the donations on behalf of the City and neighbors. To date, the funds have supported the purchase of a mother doe statue that was installed in November 2025 and to cover expenses related to purchasing materials for the statue’s base and the labor related to the installation. Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Pirtle, Jr. (Sandra)

and Carter Dawson coordinated the project with city staff and Clay Staley with Natchez Stone completed the installation work. Remaining funds of approximately \$1,500 are intended to be used to further enhance the area with perennial plantings.



### FROM THE POLICE DEPARTMENT – CHIEF CHUCK WILLIAMS

#### TENNESSEE HIGHWAY SAFETY OFFICE AWARDS FOR 2025 SERVICE EXCELLENCE



*Wes Bowker*



*David Read*

Master Patrol Officers Wes Bowker and David Read will be recognized at the Tennessee Highway Safety Office Awards Banquet on December 10th, 2025, for their contributions to child passenger safety and speed enforcement.

MPO Bowker has assisted more than 90 families this year with installing their child’s car seat. He enjoys educating parents, grandparents, and caretakers on how to properly install car seats.

MPO Read issued 1,473 citations. 500 of those citations were for speeding. THSO recognized him for his hard work and dedication to traffic enforcement.

If anyone would like to have a car seat inspected, please call dispatch at 615-297-0241, and the dispatcher will assist with scheduling.



### EXPLORING BELLE MEADE HISTORY:

#### Douglas “Duck” Henry, Our First Mayor



Douglas Selph “Duck” Henry Sr. holds a special place in the history of Belle Meade. Serving from 1938 to 1940, Henry was the city’s very first mayor and helped establish the foundation for the community we know today. Although best remembered locally for his civic leadership, his life story stretches far beyond Belle Meade.

Born on December 30, 1890, in Clifton, Tennessee, Henry attended Vanderbilt University, where he played both football and basketball. His athletic career was vigorous and varied; after briefly leaving school, he became the head football, basketball, and track coach at Birmingham College before returning to Vanderbilt as a player. He graduated with degrees in science and law. Henry went on to serve as a captain in the United States Army during World War I with the 18th Field Artillery of the 3rd Infantry Division. After returning home, he practiced law before beginning a

long career with the National Life and Accident Insurance Company. Over the decades he rose from assistant counsel to vice president, earning widespread respect in Nashville’s business community. His public service included a term in the Tennessee State Senate from 1927 to 1928, representing Davidson County. A decade later, he became Belle Meade’s first mayor, guiding the newly incorporated city in its earliest years. Henry passed away on September 3, 1971, at the age of 80, leaving behind a legacy of leadership, civic commitment, and community pride. His son, Douglas Henry Jr., continued the family tradition of public service as a long-serving Tennessee state senator.

## Belle Meade Newsletter

### Belle Meade Holiday Parade

The Parade will start at 1:00 p.m. on Belle Meade Boulevard at Percy Warner Park/Page Road and ending at Belle Meade Country Club at Harding Place. Police will close Belle Meade Boulevard beginning at 11:30 a.m., from Page Road to Harding Place, and Harding Place will remain open.



Spectators are welcome to park in the southbound right lane of Belle Meade Boulevard and view the parade from the median. City of Belle Meade has received tremendous support with 30 entries for our second-annual holiday parade. Thank you to all City Commissioners, Belle Meade Police Department, and a special thank you to Commissioner Neal Clayton, Murray Clayton and Grace Clayton for their coordination of this event and to all this year's Parade participants for their contributions:

Phillips Toy Mart,  
Harding Academy Dance Team,  
St. George's Kindergarten,  
Warner Parks  
Dental, Caroline  
Sprouse Art,  
The Greathouse Company,  
Ceres Society,  
Waldo's,  
Overbrook School,  
St. Cecilia Academy,  
Nashville Theatre School,  
Nashville Dolphins,  
Nashville Humane Association,  
Tim Douglas / Bag Piper,

Edley's,  
Milosi Landscape,  
TN Rep. Caleb Hemmer,  
Ensworth Cheerleaders,  
The Picnic Cafe,  
Girl Scout Troop,  
Titans  
T-Rac,  
Cheerleaders (2),  
Blue Crew(5),  
Majorette,  
Grand Marshall,  
Belle Meade Historic Site,  
Alexander Interiors,  
and Metro Council Member Thom Druffel with Santa

### RECAP OF BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS' MEETINGS

The Commissioners took action on the following items at the, **November 19, 2025** meeting:

The Commissioners took action on the following items at the November 19, 2025 meeting:

- Approved a permit for St. George's Church to close a lane of Belle Meade Blvd for overflow parking for Christmas Eve services.
- Approved, on final reading, Ordinance 2025-12 amending Title 11, Section 812 to Increase the Municipal Court Costs for Ordinance Violations, from \$95 to \$105 to take effect January 1, 2026.
- Adopted Resolution 2025-09 accepting recommendations of a

Five-Year Sewer User Rate Study for fiscal years 2026-2030; following a report on the same.

- Received monthly reports from all departments, including monthly financial reports, investment schedules, and reviewed monthly check registers for September and October.
- Received a draft meeting calendar for 2026 and will consider adoption of the schedule next month.
- The Board of Commissioners' next regular meeting will be held on Wednesday, December 17th at 4:00 p.m.

Belle Meade Police Department wishes all residents a Safe and Happy Holiday Season!



On Saturday, December 6th, immediately prior to and following the Belle Meade Holiday Parade, Santa will make the following stops to sing with his elves and hand out treats to children, big and small. For more details on Santa's Stop Spots, his route, or the Parade – go to

[www.santa-alert.com](http://www.santa-alert.com)

### SANTA'S STOPS

**12:15 pm- 12:45 pm** - Brook Hollow Baptist Church at 678 Brook Hollow Road

**1:00 – 2:15 pm** - Belle Meade Parade on Belle Meade Blvd

**2:30 pm – 3:00 pm** - Belle Meade Links / Parmer Park at 578 Leake Avenue

**3:15 pm – 3:45 pm** – West Meade Park – at the intersection of Carnavon Pkwy and Melinda Dr. (across from Westmeade Elementary School)



### CERES SOCIETY DONATIONS – NOVEMBER 2025

**OAK SOCIETY-\$1,000 or more**  
Mrs. James V. Hunt (Sally)

**MAGNOLIA SOCIETY - \$500-\$999**  
Mr. & Mrs. James Fields

**TULIP SOCIETY-\$250-\$499**  
Mr. & Mrs. Lawson Allen  
Mr. & Mrs. Ross Evans, III  
Mr. & Mrs. Marion Hickerson



## *Belle Meade Newsletter*

### **REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETINGS DECEMBER & JANUARY 2025 All Meetings Held at Belle Meade City Hall**

#### **Board of Commissioners**

Wednesday, December 17th at 4:00 pm  
Wednesday, January 21st at 4:00 pm

#### **Historic Zoning Commission**

Tuesday, December 9th at 3:00 pm  
Tuesday, January 13th at 3:00 pm

#### **Municipal Planning Commission**

Tuesday, December 16th at 4:00 pm  
Tuesday, January 20th at 4:00 pm

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

Tuesday, December 16th at 5:00 pm  
Tuesday, January 20th at 5:00 pm

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

### **REMINDERS:**

*The Commissioners and city staff wish everyone a  
joyous and safe holiday season  
and Happy New Year!*

### **CITY HOLIDAY SCHEDULE**

City Hall will be closed Wednesday and Thursday, December 24th and 25th and Thursday, January 1st for the holidays. Garbage and brush collection schedules will not be affected by these holidays. 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.

### **PROPERTY TAX BILLS ONLINE at [www.citybellemeade.org](http://www.citybellemeade.org)**

Belle Meade now accepts all forms of payment through the city website. You may pay by e-check, credit card or PayPal utilizing our new online portal. Need Help? Please contact City Recorder Rusty Terry at Belle Meade City Hall (615) 297-6041.

CITY OF BELLE MEADE  
4705 Harding Road  
Nashville, Tennessee 37205

return service requested