



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 OCTOBER 2026

HARDING PIKE AND LYNNWOOD TERRACE SIDEWALK PROJECTS

The City continues to work with project engineers at TDOT to coordinate design plans for a new sidewalk segment along Harding Pike, generally from Lynnwood Terrace to Belle Meade Boulevard. The sidewalk will be 5-feet wide and run along the front of Belle Meade City Hall and St. George's Church property. A small portion will be built from the intersection of Lynnwood Terrace to the existing sidewalk at the Eskind bridge on Harding Pike. The design and review process is lengthy and regimented because the project is primarily funded with a grant from the state of Tennessee Department of Transportation (TDOT). Design is anticipated to continue through the end of this calendar year as

the City also works to obtain some temporary construction easements and small areas of permanent easement. Construction bidding is currently estimated for May 2027.

Additionally, the City is beginning a new design effort with engineers from Civil and Environmental Consultants, Inc. (CEC) to create plans for a new segment of sidewalk on Lynnwood Terrace from Harding Pike to existing sidewalk at Westhampton Place. The project will include stormwater drainage improvements and take into consideration relocation and reconstruction of the historic stone wall along the western side of Lynnwood Terrace. The project will include public engagement meetings to occur in early 2027 once preliminary plans with sample images of the proposed improvements have been developed.

Bringing Belle Meade Together:

The 4th Annual Holiday Parade is Coming December 5th!



From Commissioner Neal Clayton

Four years ago, in my first year as a commissioner of the City of Belle Meade, Police Chief Chuck Williams came to me with a heartfelt calling for our community and a simple goal: to create an event that would bring all of Belle Meade together.

Chief Williams absolutely loves the citizens of our city. He and our entire police force deeply cherish the everyday moments that make this job special—from the enthusiastic waves of children

on the sidewalk to the warm expressions of gratitude from

adults who appreciate keeping our neighborhoods safe.

To celebrate that strong bond, Chief and I pitched a new tradition: an annual holiday parade.

Year one was an incredible experience, to say the least. The excitement from the families and individuals who lined the boulevard was amazing, with over 1,000 spectators and 28 creative floats kicking off our inaugural run. In years two and three, that energy only grew, bringing our lineup into the mid-thirties.

Now, 2026 marks our **4th Annual Belle Meade Holiday Parade**, and we are anticipating our best year yet!

New for 2026: Parade Float Awards To add a little friendly competition to the fun, we are officially introducing float judging across three distinct categories:

- **Best Theme:** Awarded to the float that tells its holiday story most effectively.
- **People's Choice:** Voted on directly by spectators along the route via a live online poll.
- **Mayor's Award:** Awarded by the parade leadership committee for outstanding execution and overall spirit.

Mark your calendars for a fantastic Saturday on December 5th, 2026. Mother Nature promises to cooperate, so gather your neighbors, bring the kids, and come out to celebrate the community spirit that makes the City of Belle Meade such a wonderful place to call home. We can't wait to see you along the route!

CITY COMMISSIONER CANDIDATE FORUM *Monday, October 12 at 7:00 pm, Belle Meade City Hall*



Four candidates for City Commissioner will participate in an open, public forum at City Hall. The evening will include introductions from each candidate and an open question and answer period.

Election Day is November 3rd and will include the Belle Meade municipal election of three City Commissioners. Early voting will be held October 14 to 29th. Election information is available at www.nashville.gov/departments/elections.

BELLE MEADE MUNICIPAL ELECTION

On Tuesday, November 3rd, Belle Meade residents will have the option to elect three (3) City Commissioners to serve

new 4-year terms. Four (4) candidates are running for Three (3) open seats.



Louise Bryan

*** Resident of Iroquois Avenue ***

A twenty-year Belle Meade resident and community leader, Louise Bryan is committed to protecting the character of the city she and her family are proud to call home.

A native of New Orleans, Louise first came to Nashville as an undergraduate at Vanderbilt University. She went on to earn her MBA from Northwestern University while pursuing a career in finance. In 2001, Louise and her husband, John, a native of West Point, Mississippi, purchased Savannah Food Company, a Tennessee-based food manufacturer, and later made Belle Meade their home.

Louise was elected to the Belle Meade Board of Commissioners in 2018 and was elected Vice Mayor by her fellow Commissioners. During her tenure, she has worked to help establish a long-term vision for Belle Meade, with a focus on preserving the community's distinctive character while maintaining the high-quality services residents expect.

Louise has supported initiatives including a tree ordinance, the for-

mation of the Historic Zoning Commission, select speed-limit reductions, and continued opportunities for residents to provide input on traffic calming, pedestrian safety, and law enforcement.

Her commitment to community extends well beyond Belle Meade. Louise has served on the boards of Friends of Warner Parks, Blood Cancer United, the Monroe Carell Jr. Children's Hospital at Vanderbilt Parent Advisory Board, and the Women's Fund of the Community Foundation of Middle Tennessee. She currently serves on the Board of Directors of Truxton Trust Corporation.

From 2021 through 2025, Louise served as President of the Nashville Parks Foundation, the nonprofit partner to Metro Nashville's 183 parks and 28 community centers. In that role, she helped advance philanthropic investment in Nashville's parks and public spaces.

Drawing on her background in finance, business, and community leadership, Louise is seeking another term as Belle Meade Commissioner. She believes the city can continue to provide excellent services while maintaining a fiscally conservative approach to budgeting and thoughtfully pursuing opportunities that benefit residents.

Louise and John have three children and enjoy spending time together hiking the trails throughout Warner Parks.



Neal Clayton

*** Resident of Harding Place ***

Neal Clayton is a fourth-generation Belle Meade native, dedicated public servant, and elite real estate professional who has spent his life and career investing in the fabric of our community. First elected to the Belle Meade Commission four years ago, Neal's service is driven by a singular, deeply personal motivation: to preserve the safety, charm, and close-knit character of the neighborhood that

shaped him, ensuring it remains extraordinary for generations to come.

With more than 44 years of experience as a premier Realtor and native resident, Neal brings an unmatched depth of local expertise to city governance. Having guided hundreds of real estate transactions within Belle Meade, he possesses a rare, firsthand understanding of what property owners value most. His professional leadership extends across local, state, and national levels, including past service as President of both the Greater Nashville Association of Realtors and the Tennessee Association of Realtors, as well as Director for the National Association of Realtors.

As your Commissioner, Neal's primary commitments to the citizens of Belle Meade focus on three distinct pillars:

- **Listening to Resident Priorities:** Ensuring neighborhood governance remains transparent, collaborative, and directly reflective of community feedback—such as protecting original streetscapes and municipal character.
- **Ensuring Fiscal Integrity:** Fiercely safeguarding the city's tax dollars and long-term financial health through responsible budgeting and strategic oversight.
- **Prioritizing Safety & Security:** Unwaveringly supporting Belle Meade's top-ranked police department with the resources necessary to keep our families and properties secure.

Neal's civic dedication extends into deep local philanthropy, including service as a past vestry member at St. George's Episcopal Church, past trustee of the Currey Ingram Academy, past president of the Nashville Humane Association, an alumnus of Leadership Nashville, and a board director for the Economic Club of Nashville (ECON) Charity.

Neal and his wife, Marguerite, are proud parents to two sons and two daughters-in-law, and the devoted grandparents of four.



Rusty Moore

*** Resident of East Brookfield Avenue ***

Mayor Rusty Moore has been a Commissioner for the City of Belle Meade for 8 years and has served as Mayor for the last 5 years. During his term, the focus has been to preserve and improve the city's beauty, safety and city services. Mayor Moore and the Commission have adopted a conservation ordinance for Belle Meade Boulevard, advanced traffic

calming and safety projects throughout the City, adopted a tree ordinance and established an historic zoning board. I believe the greatest strength I have brought to the city is a calming and collaborative approach to issues that have arisen. I am proud of the Belle Meade Boulevard Committee I promoted and the City's thorough response to the ice storm disaster. And, most importantly, we have continued to balance a responsible budget to maintain valuable city services. I welcome the opportunity to continue to serve our community.

Rusty Moore and his family have been residents of the City of Belle Meade for 34 years. Rusty is a 1981 graduate of the University of Ten-

nessee with a degree in Public Administration and was active in the Phi Sigma Kappa fraternity. After graduation, Rusty was appointed as staff assistant to United States Senator Jim Sasser in his Washington D.C. office. He received his law degree, cum laude, from the University of Tennessee College of Law in 1985 and joined the firm of Stokes & Bartholomew, P.A. in Nashville. His practice focused in the area of real estate and commercial transactions. He is now president of Bankers Title & Escrow Corporation, a real estate closing and title insurance practice formed by Rusty and his colleagues in 1992. Rusty is a frequent speaker for professional groups on real estate closings and title issues.

Rusty Moore is active in our community, serving in leadership and volunteer roles for W.O. Smith Nashville Community Music School, Nashville Area Habitat for Humanity, American Heart Association Heart Gala and myLIFEspeaks in Neely, Haiti. Rusty is an active member of Westminster Presbyterian Church where he is an Elder. He has been an involved member of the parents' associations for the Oak Hill School, Montgomery Bell Academy and the Harpeth Hall School, including leading the Harpeth Hall Fathers' Network. In addition to closing real estate transactions, Rusty enjoys boating, skiing and assisting friends and family with home improvement projects.



Gray Oliver Thornburg
* Resident of Nichol Lane *

Gray Thornburg was born and raised in Belle Meade and has been active in the city in her adult life. She and her husband, Charley, have built two houses and renovated two others in Belle Meade through the years. Their daughter, Anne Gray, lives in Austin, TX. Gray graduated from Harpeth Hall and Vanderbilt. She worked at Lloyd's of London, Life and Casualty Insurance Company and Northwestern Mutual (Member, Million-Dollar Round Table), as well as Editor, The Orthodontic Directory of the World. She has been active in the community serving on various boards including The West End Home Foundation (Treasurer and President), The Junior League and The Senior Trust (distributing \$40 million to agencies throughout the state). She is a reserve Elder at First Presbyterian Church.

Gray is a former Commissioner and Mayor. She was instrumental in establishing a "rainy day fund" for the City and developing and implementing the LPR program.

Gray Thornburg brings institutional knowledge to the city. Safety throughout the city in various areas (driving, walking, personal and home safety) is important to her as well as using technology to increase the efficiency and safety of the city. She understands the system and its capabilities and how it can help the city meet the goals of its citizens.

In running for the Belle Meade Commission, Gray's overall objective is to make the city safer for all citizens. She continues to work for the greater good in the city as well as her personal life. Gray feels that using common sense in decision making allows multiple voices to be heard and results in a better outcome. She has the time, interest and experience needed.



FROM THE POLICE DEPARTMENT – CHIEF CHUCK WILLIAMS



Written by: Chief Williams and Detective Sexton
Recently, there has been significant public discussion surrounding the use of license plate reader technology by law enforcement agencies across the country. Much of that conversation has focused specifically on Flock Safety cameras and concerns regarding privacy, data sharing, and access to information. As that discussion continues, I believe our residents need to understand Belle Meade's Security System, how it



operates, and the safeguards we have in place.

First, Belle Meade does not use Flock Safety as our license plate reader vendor. Our security camera system uses Genetec cameras and software and was developed by our vendor, SkyCop, to meet our community's public safety needs. The Flock Map circulating in the media is not accurate. The sites that they have identified are our solar Genetec Cameras and our hardwired Genetec Cameras.

Our license plate readers are not a traffic enforcement system. They cannot be used to issue traffic citations, and the system is designed to capture and record license plate information rather than identify specific individuals.

Our license plate readers alert officers to vehicles associated with legitimate law enforcement concerns, including stolen vehicles, stolen license plates, wanted persons, and missing persons associated with a vehicle or tag. We can also enter a license plate into the system when it is directly connected to an active criminal investigation.

More importantly, this technology has provided our officers with opportunities to prevent crimes and protect residents before an incident escalates. A recent incident demonstrates this technology's value. An individual was suspected of stalking a Belle Meade resident. As part of the investigation, the suspect's license plate was entered into our system. When that vehicle entered Belle Meade, officers were immediately alerted. This allowed officers to respond directly to the victim's residence and be in position before the suspect could arrive. In situations like this,

technology isn't just helping us investigate a crime after it occurs; it is giving our officers an opportunity to intervene before something happens.

Just as important as what our system can do is how we control its use. Belle Meade's system is governed by departmental policies, and searches must have a legitimate law enforcement purpose. The system also maintains an audit trail that links system activity to users, dates, and times. This provides an additional layer of accountability and allows investigation of unauthorized or inappropriate use.

Misuse of law enforcement technology is not just a violation of departmental policy. Depending on the circumstances, unauthorized access, use, disclosure, or dissemination of information may also violate state or federal laws and carry criminal or civil penalties.

License plate readers do not replace good police work. They are another tool available to our officers and investigators. Like any law enforcement technology, they should be used responsibly, with appropriate policies, accountability, and oversight.

Law enforcement must use technology and equipment responsibly. If technology is misused, those who misuse it must be held accountable—not by eliminating a legitimate investigative tool that helps protect our community.

For Belle Meade, our security system has proven extremely valuable. It has helped our officers identify suspects, locate stolen vehicles, develop investigative leads, and solve crimes. Perhaps even more importantly, it has helped us prevent crimes and protect residents before an incident escalates.

We understand that technology and privacy are important topics, and residents should expect their police department to use technology responsibly. Our goal is to maintain the appropriate balance between protecting individual privacy and providing the level of public safety our residents expect.

Belle Meade has invested in this technology for one reason: to help keep our community safe. We will continue evaluating our security system, maintaining appropriate safeguards, and using technology responsibly as another tool to protect the people who live, work, and travel through our community.



RECAP OF BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS' MEETINGS



The Commissioners took action on the following items at the **August 19, 2026** meeting:

- Special Presentation of Belle Meade Police Department's Outstanding Service Award recognition for Detective Sexton, Officer Bailey, and Dispatcher Byington for their team work in resolving a stolen vehicle case, which resulted in recovery of the undamaged vehicle for a Belle Meade resident.
- Approved a Resolution 2026-10 amending the FY 2027 Budget.
- Approved a Resolution 2026-02 to establish a multi-way stop at the intersection of Belle Meade Boulevard and Tyne Boulevard.
- Approved the purchase of three (3) patrol vehicles, totaling

\$171,867, with Lonnie Cobb Ford under state-contract pricing for budgeted fleet replacements.

- Received monthly reports from all city departments and the City Manager, including review of monthly financial statements, check register, and investment schedules.
- Approved "Rules of Procedure" for the Ceres Society of Belle Meade and appointed eight (8) members to the committee.
- Approved an expenditure totaling \$11,522.90 for legal services in special matters.
- The City Board's next regular meeting will be held on Wednesday, September 23rd at 4:00 p.m.

Belle Meade Newsletter

REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETINGS OCTOBER & NOVEMBER 2026 All Meetings Held at Belle Meade City Hall

Board of Commissioners

Wednesday, October 14th at 4:00 pm
Wednesday, November 18th at 4:00 pm

Historic Zoning Commission

Tuesday, October 13th at 3:00 pm
Tuesday, November 10th at 3:00 pm

Municipal Planning Commission

Tuesday, October 13th at 4:30 pm
Tuesday, November 10th at 4:30 pm

Board of Zoning Appeals

Tuesday, October 20th at 4:30 pm
Tuesday, November 17th at 4:30 pm

Agendas are available online at www.citybellemeade.org

REMINDERS:

HALLOWEEN

Saturday, October 31st

BELLE MEADE, STATE & FEDERAL ELECTION DAY

Tuesday, November 3rd

Voter Registration Deadline is October 5, 2026

Early Voting will be held October 14 – 29, 2026

Voting will be held at City Hall on November 3rd

www.nashville.gov/departments/elections



FALL EVENT REMINDERS

Belle Meade Historic Site hosts many fun and family-friendly events in October:

Trick or Treat will be held on Sunday, October 25th, from 1:00 – 4:00 p.m.

Pumpkin and Petals: An Autumn Garden Paint and Sip event on Thursday, October 1st from 6:00 – 8:30 p.m. (age 21+)

Fall Break Family Days from October 12 – 16 with different activities and crafts each day

For more information or tickets: www.visitbellemeade.com

CITY OF BELLE MEADE
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