

**COMMISSIONERS:** George W. Crook, *Mayor* • Thomas F. Corcoran, *Vice Mayor* • Gray O. Thornburg  
Beth Reardon, *City Manager/Treasurer* • Tim Eads, *Chief* • Dottie Wheeler, *City Recorder*



NEWSLETTER TO RESIDENTS OF BELLE MEADE

January 2007

## Letter to Belle Meade Residents From the Commissioners

We write to make you aware of a recent increase in the rate charged by the Metropolitan Government of Nashville and Davidson County for sewer services and to explain our ongoing efforts to negotiate better rates for the citizens of Belle Meade.

Metro Water and Sewer (MWS) controls our water and sewer services. While the City of Belle Meade owns the sewer lines, those lines connect to the Metro sewer lines that transport the sewage to wastewater treatment plants likewise owned by Metro. The City of Belle Meade, as a wholesale customer, contracts with MWS to process the sewage from the City. Furthermore, MWS administers the billing for these services to residents of Belle Meade, employing rates established pursuant to a contract between MWS and Belle Meade. Metro has cancelled our current contract, and during the process of re-negotiating a new contract, has asserted its right to collect much higher charges for sewer services. As a practical matter, the City has little choice but to contract with Metro for these services but continues to uphold its right to negotiate a fair and reasonable sewer rate for our citizens.

Beginning in 2004, MWS commissioned several studies that concluded it was not recovering its cost for providing water and sewer services. As a consequence, Metro initiated the process by which our sewer rates were increased, beginning with the December 2006 billing statements. Although the impact on any single residence is relatively minor and may not have even been noticed, the aggregate amount of the impact to our citizens is projected to be a three hundred percent increase in rates over the next three years, resulting in an additional \$800,000 of revenue per year to Metro.

We are continuing to monitor Metro's actions and the City has banded together with other smaller cities who are also wholesale customers of MWS to examine and critique Metro's cost of service studies. These other wholesale customers are experiencing similar sewer rate increases from MWS. Once all parties have a chance to fully process the information from these studies, we should then be in a position to advise you as to our possible next step.



### New Commissioners Sworn In

Congratulations to the newly elected/re-elected officials, Mrs. Gray Thornburg and Mr. Thomas Corcoran, who were sworn in as Commissioners at their December meeting by the Honorable Pat Moskal of Boulton Cummings Connors & Berry. The three Commissioners then voted to re-appoint George Crook as Mayor and Tom Corcoran as Vice-Mayor for a two-year term. Out-going Commissioner Julia Landstreet was thanked by the others for her four years of leadership and commitment to many issues, especially her attentiveness to the City Hall construction project, diligent review of the Zoning Code and her assistance in the implementation of new staff recruitment and development programs.

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### REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETINGS FOR CITY OF BELLE MEADE JANUARY & FEBRUARY 2007

Municipal Planning Commission  
Tuesday, January 16th at 5:00 p.m.  
Tuesday, February 20th at 5:00 p.m.

Board of Zoning Appeals  
Tuesday, January 16th at 7:30 p.m.  
Tuesday, February 20th at 7:30 p.m.

Board of Commissioners  
Thursday, January 25th at 4:00 p.m.  
Wednesday, February 21st at 4:00 p.m.

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

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## RECAP OF REGULAR BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS' MEETING, December 20, 2006 SPECIAL BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS' MEETING, December 29, 2006

### The Commissioners took action on the following items:

- Approved the request for a traffic engineer to study and make recommendation for traffic calming on Herbert Place and removal or redesign of two small islands on Lynwood Boulevard near Millrace Lane.
- Approved proposed landscape enhancements at four locations in the City for a total cost of \$8,977. (See related article).
- Approved the purchase of a new computer and printer for the Police Investigator from Dell Marketing in the amount of \$2,109.
- Considered and approved the addition of two trench drains at City Hall to alleviate standing water at a cost not to exceed \$20,000.
- Approved an unrestricted contribution in the amount of \$10,000 in support of Friends of Warner Parks.
- Deferred action on proposed Ordinance 2006-6, regarding revisions to the Zoning Code.
- Approved, unanimously, on second reading, Ordinance 2006-7, changing Malone Avenue to Malone Place.
- Awarded the contract for 14 in-car video cameras for the Police Department to the low bidder, Kustom Signals, in the amount of \$48,058, after rebate.

## From the Chief Police

To the Citizens of Belle Meade:

I hope everyone had a wonderful Holiday season. I am excited to announce that we have several projects in the development stage that will benefit the residents of Belle Meade. We are looking at developing a Neighborhood Watch program along with various safety classes that would be of interest. I encourage you to call me at 297-0241 or come by the Police Department if you want to learn more about starting a Watch program or participating in a safety class.

Just a reminder; we are here to protect and serve. I am always interested in hearing what the citizens are thinking and will be happy to meet with you to discuss any concerns that you have for the community.



## From Public Works

**RECYCLING** – These are the ONLY items that are currently accepted in our recycling program: Newspapers along with the slicks that are inside – (not items such as cardboard boxes, magazines, telephone books); Plastic – i.e. milk jugs and 2-liter drink bottles – (not 409 bottles, yogurt containers, egg cartons, the square cardboard milk cartons); Glass – i.e. pickle jars, colored and clear wine bottles, but lids need to be removed and discarded in regular garbage; Tin and aluminum cans – i.e. soup cans, dog food cans, and soft drink/beer cans – (not aluminum pie plates or aluminum foil). PLEASE discard only acceptable recycle items in the blue bags provided for the Belle Meade Recycling Program. If there are other items placed inside, the whole bag will be thrown out with the regular garbage. PLEASE - DO NOT USE THE BLUE BAGS FOR YOUR REGULAR GARBAGE. THESE BAGS ARE PROVIDED FOR RECYCLING PURPOSES ONLY.

**DUMPSTERS** – The dumpsters behind City Hall are provided to the citizens of Belle Meade for items too large for the regular twice-a-week trash pickup. However, they are NOT for the disposal of appliances, large pieces of furniture, mattresses, loose Styrofoam packing material, and construction or yard debris. PLEASE be courteous when bringing items to the dumpsters. If they are full, please come back in a day or two. DO NOT PLACE YOUR ITEMS ON THE GROUND AROUND THE DUMPSTERS. This causes trash to blow onto neighboring citizens' properties and means extra work for the trash men. The dumpsters are a convenience for the citizens and we do not want to remove them because of misuse. If you see someone leaving trash on the ground or dumping illegally, please report this to the dispatcher in the police station immediately.

## From Public Works

**BRUSH/CHIPPER SERVICE** - Below is the schedule for brush pick-up days. The Parke Company, Inc. is the new contractor for the weekly brush, leaf removal and chipper service. They will work on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays to complete once-a-week pickup at each household in the City. Please put all brush and bagged leaves at the street and

PLEASE be patient while the new contractor becomes familiar with the route and amount of brush and leaves that need to be collected. Note - bagged leaves will no longer be picked up with your trash. Please call George Bartlett, Public Works Director, at 297-6041, if you have any questions or concerns about this service.

**STREET .....DAY**

Abbott Martin .....Fri  
 Belle Meade Blvd. ....Mon  
 Bellevue Dr. S & W .....Mon  
 Bellevue Dr. W. ....Mon  
 Bonaventure Place .....Mon  
 Carriage Hill .....Mon  
 Canterbury Dr. ....Mon  
 Chancery Ln. ....Wed  
 Chickering Ln.& Rd. ....Wed  
 Clarendon Ave. ....Mon  
 Cornwall Ave. ....Mon  
 Deer Park Cir .....Mon  
 Deer Park Dr. ....Mon  
 Drew Pl. ....Wed  
 E. Brookfield Dr. ....Wed  
 Ellendale Ave. ....Mon  
 Enquirer Ave. ....Mon  
 Evelyn Ave. ....Mon  
 Forsythe Pl. ....Wed  
 Georgian Pl. ....Wed  
 Gerald Pl. ....Wed  
 Glen Eden Dr.-Jackson-West. ....Wed  
 Glen Eden Dr.-Westview-Lyn. ....Fri  
 Harding Place-BMB-Westover .....Mon  
 Harding Place-BMB-Lynwood .....Wed  
 Herbert Pl. ....Wed  
 Honeywood Dr. ....Mon  
 Howell Pl. ....Wed  
 Iroquois Ave.-BMB-Enquirer .....Mon  
 Iroquois Ave.-BMB-Westview .....Wed  
 Iroquois Ave.-Westview-Lynwood .....Fri  
 Jackson Blvd.-Harding-Gerald .....Mon  
 Jackson Blvd.-Gerald-Warner .....Wed  
 Leake Ave. (200-400 even #s) .....Mon  
 Lillywood .....Fri

**STREET .....DAY**

Lynwood Blvd. ....Fri  
 Lynwood Ln. ....Fri  
 Lynwood Ter. ....Fri  
 Millrace Ln. ....Fri  
 Malone Ave. ....Mon  
 Manor Dr. ....Wed  
 Nichol Ln. (even #s only) .....Mon  
 Paddock Ln. ....Mon  
 Page Rd. (424 & 426) .....Mon  
 Page Rd. (1300 Block) .....Wed  
 Park Center Dr. ....Mon  
 Park Hill .....Mon  
 Parmer Ave. ....Mon  
 Royal Oaks Dr. ....Fri  
 Royal Oaks Pl. ....Fri  
 Scotland Pl. ....Mon  
 Shepard Pl. ....Wed  
 Signal Hill Dr. ....Fri  
 Sunnybrook Dr. (4300 block) .....Fri  
 Sunnyside Dr. ....Mon  
 Sutherland Ave. ....Mon  
 Trimble Rd.(3912,3915,3917) .....Fri  
 Truxton Pl. ....Mon  
 Tyne Blvd. ....Wed  
 Valley Forge(86,87,88,89,90) .....Fri  
 Walnut Dr. ....Fri  
 Warner Pl. ....Wed  
 Webster Ln. ....Fri  
 W. Brookfield Dr.-400 block .....Mon  
 Westhampton Pl. ....Fri  
 Westover Dr.(even-600 block) .....Mon  
 W. Tyne Dr. ....Mon  
 Westview Ave. (405 - 720) .....Wed  
 Westview Ave. (810 - 923) .....Fri

**FROM THE CITY EMPLOYEES**

Best wishes to all the Belle Meade residents for a Happy and Healthy New Year. A special thanks to all of you who were so gracious and generous to send donations to our Employee Fund and shower us with an abundance of delicious treats throughout the holiday season. Your thoughtful gifts and cards expressing your appreciation for our services are a great motivator! Thank You!

***Make a Note - Goodwill Industries Donation Drives***

Goodwill Industries will conduct donation drives at Belle Meade City Hall on the third Saturday of each month in 2007. A truck will be in the City Hall parking lot from 9:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. to accept donations of usable furniture, clothing and household items. Donation drive dates for the next several months are as follows:

Saturday, January 20<sup>th</sup>, February 17<sup>th</sup>, March 17<sup>th</sup>,  
 April 21<sup>st</sup>, May 19<sup>th</sup>, and June 16<sup>th</sup>.

## **BEAUTIFICATION NEWS**

The Beautification Fund is supported through tax-deductible contributions to the Ceres Society. The Fund is a restricted fund in that monies can only be spent on landscape and beautification projects. Residents can become members of the Ceres Society through annual donations of any amount, although the most common donation is \$100 per year. This year the Beautification Fund provided the monies for many projects, including landscaping for the City Hall property (\$47,253), landscape architect services (\$4,547), turf maintenance for the medians on Belle Meade Boulevard (\$6,460), Holiday greenery for street sign poles and City Hall (\$3,580), bulbs and annuals in the pocket parks, bridges, and islands (\$4,872), and a donation to Metro Parks for Parmer Park (\$3,000).

At their December meeting, the Commissioners approved landscape enhancements to four areas in Belle Meade for the following: 1) replace 6 crabapple trees on Chickering Road and 2 on Belle Meade Boulevard, with 3" caliper Kwansan Cherry Trees, 2) add one 7-gallon Oak Hydrangea on Herbert Place bridge, 3) remove monkey grass, rearrange Nandinas and add 185 sq. ft. of flowers to Abbot Martin island, and 4) remove bermuda grass from island at Georgian Place and fill with topsoil, groundcover and mulch. These four projects totalled \$8,977 and were recommended to the Commissioners by the Chairman of the Beautification Committee, Liz Bass, and the City's landscape contractor, Landscape Services, Inc.

Although the City's General Fund pays for routine landscape maintenance expenditures, such as mowing and irrigation, the Beautification Fund enhances this by providing additional funds for projects such as those mentioned above. These projects contribute greatly to the beauty and park-like atmosphere of our unique City and continue a legacy begun 22 years ago by former Mayor Elizabeth Proctor. As we start the new year, please consider making a donation to initiate or renew a membership in the Ceres Society.

CITY OF BELLE MEADE  
4705 Harding Road  
Nashville, Tennessee 37205

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED