

MINUTES OF THE MONTHLY MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF
THE CITY OF BELLE MEADE

SEPTEMBER 16, 2009

The regular monthly meeting of the Board of Commissioners of the City of Belle Meade convened at Belle Meade City Hall, 4705 Harding Road, Nashville, Tennessee, on Wednesday, September 16, 2009 at 4:00 p.m. Those present were: Mayor Gray Thornburg, Vice Mayor James Hunt, Commissioner Cathy Altenbern, Commissioner Tom Corcoran, Commissioner George Crook, City Manager and Treasurer Beth Reardon, City Recorder Linda Berner, Chief Tim Eads, City Building Official Terry Franklin, Public Works Superintendent George Bartlett, and City Attorney Bob Patterson.

Mayor Thornburg presided over and called the meeting to order. The first item on the agenda was the public hearing and Mr. Ed Freeman, 503 Lynwood Boulevard, requested recognition. He reiterated his desire for sidewalks in his neighborhood, and updated the Board on what steps he was taking to promote awareness among the rest of the residents for sidewalks in Belle Meade. He asked the Board to appropriate money for the project, to be built in phases, and utilize federal, state, or metro money. Mrs. Kemp Buntin, resident, showed the signs that will be going in the residents' yard which indicates their support for sidewalks. Commissioner Corcoran spoke on the cost of sidewalks and how they

are funded, stating a potential need for a tax increase which could be a hardship for some residents. Mayor Thornburg reminded everyone of the upcoming meeting with MTAS regarding a capitol improvement plan, which she feels needs to be in place first before major decisions like sidewalks are made. Ms. Emily Evans, Metro Councilwoman, spoke briefly on this issue, saying Metro has finished a sidewalk plan for Davidson County, including the area around Belle Meade, but the plan has not been fully funded. The money Metro has budgeted for sidewalks this year will basically cover repairs to existing sidewalks. The Board thanked Mr. Freeman and Mrs. Buntin for their enthusiasm and work.

Representatives from Metro Water Services (MWS) requested recognition for an update on the Harding Place Phase II Water Main Improvement Project. Mrs. Evans thanked the Belle Meade community for their patience during the disruptions to the city during Phase I of the water main improvement project. Mr. Cyrus Toosi spoke regarding the Phase II portion which includes approximately 30,000 feet of upgrades to the 60-100 year old water mains on some major roads, including Belle Meade Boulevard, Gerald Place, Glen Eden, and Jackson Boulevard. The project should begin in January 2010 and take ten months to complete. MWS will try to minimize disruptions, stagger work hours to avoid rush hour, and notify residents when the water will be turned off. Mr. Toosi answered several questions, and then was thanked for his presentation.

Mayor Thornburg asked for consideration of the minutes of the regular Commissioners' meeting held August 19, 2009. Commissioner Crook moved for approval of the minutes and Commissioner Altenbern seconded the motion. Upon vote, the August minutes were unanimously approved.

Mayor Thornburg recognized Mr. Bartlett for his August 2009 Public Works report, which was reviewed. Commissioner Crook asked, regarding street lighting, if it would be better to be proactive then reactive when new service is requested. It was decided that when the police department conducts their door to door safety campaign that the residents will be asked if they desire more street lighting in their area. Commissioner Altenbern asked what the City was paying for street lighting and Mrs. Reardon answered approximately \$3500 per month for all the lights. Mr. Bartlett asked if there were any further questions and there were none.

The next item of business was the proposal for stonework on Walnut Drive. Three bids were obtained for the installation of stone curbing around the Walnut Drive Island. Gibbs Brothers Construction will complete the initial demolition and repave afterwards per the street maintenance contract.

<u>Contractor</u>	<u>Estimate</u>
Anthony Thompson/ALT Masonry	\$ 9,500
Landscape Services, Inc.	\$10,000
Stonecraft Fabricators, Inc.	\$11,500

Mr. Bartlett recommends hiring ALT Masonry to install the stone curbing. In addition to their estimates being the lowest, they have done stonework in Belle Meade previously and their work is satisfactory. Commissioner Altenbern made the motion to accept the bid from ALT Masonry and Commissioner Crook seconded the motion. Upon vote, the approval was unanimous.

The Mayor recognized Chief Eads for the monthly Public Safety report, which was distributed to the Commissioners prior to the meeting. The Chief stated a correction to the information in the Board's packets, to read one burglary report for the month of August instead of zero. The Mayor thanked the police department for their handling of the incident at Gerald Place. She asked if there were problems with the parking at the entrance to Percy Warner Park, and Chief answered there were no complaints and Metro had approved the request for the entrance gate chains. The Chief had no further comment. It was noted there were 212 traffic citations, eleven traffic crashes (one resulted in personal injury), twelve arrests, 35 alarm calls, one burglary, and nine incident reports filed.

Mayor Thornburg recognized Mr. Bartlett for the Health and Sanitation report, which was distributed prior to the meeting. Mr. Bartlett asked if there were any questions and there were none.

Mayor Thornburg recognized Mr. Franklin for his August 2009 Building/Zoning and Planning reports, which were distributed prior to the meeting. It was noted that ten permits were issued for a total estimated construction cost of \$3,084,367.00 and eleven permits were closed out during the month. There were no questions for Mr. Franklin at this time.

The next item of business was the request for a special events banner for The Temple, promoting the Nashville Jewish Film Festival which runs from November 7th through the 12th. Commissioner Corcoran made the motion to approve the request and Vice Mayor Hunt seconded the motion. Upon vote, the approval was unanimous.

Mayor Thornburg noted there were no matters to report for Waste Collection.

Under Beautification, Mrs. Reardon reported that the annual Ceres Membership renewal letters had been sent out to the residents, and approximately \$18,000 has been received in donations thus far. We hope to exceed last years' total of \$30,000.

Mayor Thornburg noted that under City Communications, both Goodwill Industries and a shredder truck will be available at City Hall on Saturday, September 19. Residents have been notified that they can bring their sensitive documents to be shredded, as well as drop off their donations to Goodwill.

Mayor Thornburg recognized Mrs. Reardon for her August 2009 financial reports, which were distributed prior to the meeting. She offered to answer any questions on the financial statements or investment schedule and there were none. Mrs. Reardon stated that the property tax statements for 2009 will be mailed around the first of October. After discussion and on motion made by Vice Mayor Hunt and seconded by Commissioner Altenbern, the following invoices in excess of \$2,500.00 were approved for payment:

J.R. & Associates	\$37,654.24
J.R. & Associates	\$26,068.32
Martin & Zerfoss	\$ 5,000.00
Wascon Inc.	\$ 4,890.00

The Mayor recognized Chief Eads for the new police hire. Chief Eads introduced Officer Brian McCartherenes to the Commissioners who welcomed him to the City. Chief stated Officer McCartherenes was previously employed by the Tennessee State University police department, is a fully certified officer, and comes highly recommended.

Chief Eads was asked to report on the bike patrol. He stated that Officer Carter has managed to get several morning rides in, and it is going well. Officer Dale Corter is also certified as a bike patrol officer.

Mayor Thornburg noted there were no matters to report for Legislation.

There being no further business to come before the Commissioners, the meeting was thereupon adjourned at 4:50pm until the next meeting on Wednesday, October 21, 2009 at 4:00pm.

Mayor Gray Thornburg

City Recorder Linda Berner