



COMMISSIONERS: Gray O. Thornburg, *Mayor* • James V. Hunt, Sr., *Vice Mayor* • Cathy Altenbern, Stephen Rick, Ed Freeman, Beth Reardon, City Manager/Treasurer • Tim Eads, Chief of Police • Linda Berner, City Recorder

Belle Meade City Hall (615) 297-6041 / Belle Meade Police Department (615) 297-0241

NEWSLETTER TO RESIDENTS OF BELLE MEADE

February 2011

## Finance Notes \$\$\$

• **HALL TAX** – Once again, the Hall income tax is a topic of conversation within the state legislature, but with a little different twist this year. In past years, the proposed legislation was often centered on the state retaining the local share in order to ease budget shortfalls. This year, some legislators are proposing changes that would mean the state, as well as the local governments, could lose some or all of the Hall tax revenue. The changes being considered include raising the taxable exemption limits, changing requirements for who is required to pay the tax, and even gradually eliminating the tax in the next several years. Currently, the state collects the Hall tax and returns 3/8 of collections back to the local governments based on residency of the individual taxpayer. A 2004 study of Hall Income Tax Distributions by the Tennessee Advisory Commission on Intergovernmental Relations showed that Belle Meade is one of only a few cities in the state that are very dependent on this revenue for funding city operations. More than a third of Belle Meade's total revenue stream comes from Hall tax collections. The Commissioners and city staff realize there are many challenges ahead in the budgeting and planning process and are committed to explore all possible alternatives for additional revenue sources and necessary modifications in spending.

• The Annual Report of Audited Financial Statements for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2010 has been approved by the Commissioners and is available for review. We have paper copies available and the Report is posted on the City website – [www.citybellemeade.org](http://www.citybellemeade.org). Any questions about the report can be directed to City Manager Beth Reardon, at 297-6041 or [breardon@citybellemeade.org](mailto:breardon@citybellemeade.org).

• **DON'T FORGET!** Belle Meade 2010 PROPERTY TAXES are due on or before February 28, 2011. Beginning March 1st, a penalty of 2% per month will be added to the base tax amount. If you are mailing your tax payment, make sure the postmark is no later than Feb. 28th. If you hand deliver your payment after city hall is closed, you may give it to the police dispatcher, who will note the date and time of receipt. Questions? Please contact Linda Berner at 297-6041 or [lberner@citybellemeade.org](mailto:lberner@citybellemeade.org).

## FROM THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT:

**Street Maintenance** - The City awarded the contract for street re-striping to Kerr Brothers and they will begin work as soon as weather permits in the upcoming weeks. Metro Water Services estimates they will begin the repaving and striping of Belle Meade Boulevard, Jackson Boulevard, Glen Eden Drive and Harding Road in early spring. This is the final phase of the Water Main Replacement Project.

Have You Noticed?? A large mirror has been installed on the utility pole in the median in front of Tyne Boulevard so that motorists traveling west on Tyne Boulevard have a view of northbound traffic on Belle Meade Boulevard when they come to the stop sign at the intersection. This should prevent cars on Tyne Boulevard from having to "creep" out onto Belle Meade Boulevard to see oncoming traffic. Please send your questions or comments to George Bartlett, Director of Public Works.



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## **RECAP OF REGULAR BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS' MEETINGS**

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The Commissioners took action on the following items at the December 15, 2010 and January 19, 2011 regular meetings:

- Deferred action on the donation request from Friends of Warner Parks until the April meeting.
- Approved a proposal from RPM Transportation Consultants, LLC for traffic engineering services related to a Traffic Calming & Safety Study, for a “not-to-exceed” fee of \$15,450.
- Approved the purchase of sixteen body cameras for Police Officers from Wireless Plus Inc., at a cost of \$115 each. A state grant from the Governor’s Highway Safety Office will reimburse the City \$1,265.00 for the cost of eleven cameras.
- Awarded the 2010 Sewer Line Cleaning and Television Inspection Project to AUI, LLC, with the low bid of \$21,729.60.
- Re-appointed Nick Spiva and appointed Kathryn Rolfe to 3-years terms on the Municipal Planning Commission.
- Approved guidelines for enforcement of the City’s Zoning Code by the Board of Zoning Appeals.
- Deferred action on Belle Meade Plantation’s Activity Permit request.
- Approved the 2010 annual audit report.
- Deferred action on the second reading of Ordinance 2010-8, which amends the zoning code to expand the Board of Zoning Appeals ability to grant “conditional uses” within the City of Belle Meade. The ordinance is currently in front of the Municipal Planning Commission for review.

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### **FROM POLICE CHIEF, TIM EADS:**

It certainly has been winter here in Belle Meade. Please remember to be on guard when driving on snow or ice. Allow plenty of time to slowly stop and anticipate road conditions well in advance of reaching them. If your tires are spinning, you have no control of your vehicle so remember to accelerate gently and try to maintain a steady and constant speed that will allow you plenty of time to react to whatever surprises the road has for you. February could be another snowy month so please be careful!

We have only had two auto burglaries in Belle Meade but they are still occurring in significant numbers in areas surrounding Belle Meade, so please continue to practice good crime prevention by locking your vehicle doors and securing items such as purses, laptops, GPS and other valuables in the trunk or take them inside. Please continue to call in any activity that may seem out of place or suspicious. 297-0241

**NOTE:** We will be having a Neighborhood Watch outreach meeting at Belle Meade City Hall on Thursday, April 7th, 2011 from 7:00 to 8:00 p.m. If you are interested in starting a Neighborhood Watch Program and want to get more information on the subject then please join us. Officer Dee Howell is program director for our watch program. If you have any questions prior to the April meeting, please give her a call at the police department Wednesday through Sunday after 2:00 p.m. - 297-0241.

#### **REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETINGS FOR FEBRUARY & MARCH 2011**

**ALL MEETINGS WILL BE HELD AT  
BELLE MEADE CITY HALL,  
4705 HARDING ROAD**

Municipal Planning Commission

~~Tuesday, February 15th at 5:00 p.m.~~ (No Meeting)

Tuesday, March 15th at 5:00 p.m.

Board of Zoning Appeals

Tuesday, February 15th at 7:30 p.m.

Tuesday, March 15th at 7:30 p.m.

Board of Commissioners

Wednesday, February 16th at 4:00 p.m.

Wednesday, March 16th at 4:00 p.m.

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

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## *Society of Ceres Donations – Forth Quarter 2010*

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\* Represents New Members

Mr. & Mrs. Tom Andrews  
Mr. & Mrs. David Baker  
Belle Meade Plantation  
Ms. Alice Mathews Bohannon  
Mr. & Mrs. Niles Borop  
Mrs. James C. Bradford, Jr.  
Dr. Ravi Chari & Dr. Sharon Albers  
Mr. & Mrs. Jeffrey Ceccacci \*  
Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Chapman  
Dr. & Dr. Ravis Chari  
Mr. & Mrs. John Cheadle, Jr.  
Mr. James H. Cheek, III  
Mr. & Mrs. Andrew Crawford  
Mr. & Mrs. J. Bradford Currie  
Mr. & Mrs. Harry Demetros  
Mr. & Mrs. Marty Dickens  
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Echols  
Mr. & Mrs. Edward Edwards  
Mr. & Mrs. Ross Evans  
Mr. & Mrs. Jack Fleischer  
Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Founce  
Mr. Sam Franklin  
Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Gambill  
Mr. & Mrs. Sam Girgus  
Mr. & Mrs. Al Gore  
Mr. & Mrs. Daniel Gremillion \*  
Mr. & Mrs. Richard Hanselman  
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Harwell  
Mr. & Mrs. Spencer Hays  
Mr. & Mrs. Richard Heller  
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Hilton  
Dr. & Mrs. Robert Hutton  
Mr. & Mrs. John Ingram \*  
Mr. & Mrs. Granberry Jackson  
Mr. & Mrs. Oscar Jones  
Mr. & Mrs. Stephen Kerr  
Mr. & Mrs. Randall Kinnard  
Mr. & Mrs. Arthur Laffer \*  
Mr. & Mrs. Randolph M. LaGasse  
Mr. & Mrs. Bryan Larson  
Mr. & Mrs. Kenneth Lester  
Mr. & Mrs. Michael Lewis \*  
Mrs. Rosemary Lombardy \*  
Mrs. Jack Massey  
Mr. & Mrs. David Mastran  
Mr. Frank Mastrapasqua \*

Mr. & Mrs. John David McAlister \*  
Mrs. T. T. McCarley, Jr.  
Mr. & Mrs. Mark McDonald  
Mr. & Mrs. Martin McNamara  
Mr. & Mrs. W. Warner McNeilly  
Mr. & Mrs. Richard Miller, Sr.  
Dr. & Dr. Fernando Miranda  
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Moses  
Dr. & Mrs. John Nading  
Mr. & Mrs. Laurence Papel  
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Patterson  
Mr. & Mrs. John Pearson  
Mr. & Mrs. James Perkins  
Mr. & Mrs. John Phillips  
Mrs. Mary Hall Pirtle  
Mr. & Mrs. Keith Pitts  
Mr. & Mrs. Steve Rick  
Mr. & Mrs. E. Wilson Robinson  
Dr. & Mrs. Craig Rutland  
Mr. & Mrs. John Sangervasi  
Mr. & Mrs. Frederic Scarola  
Mr. & Mrs. W. Lucas Simons  
Mr. & Mrs. Roy Slaymaker  
Mr. & Mrs. Chris Smith \*  
Mr. & Mrs. Lemuel Stevens  
Mr. & Mrs. Daniel Tarantin  
Mrs. John Fred Tarkington  
Mr. & Mrs. Bob Thompson  
Dr. & Mrs. John Warner  
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Warner  
Mrs. William C. Weaver, III  
Mr. & Mrs. Peter Weien  
Mrs. Eleanor Whitworth

### **Memorial Contributions**

Mr. & Mrs. John Eakin  
*(In Memory of Mr. James C. Bradford)*  
Mr. & Mrs. James McGregor  
*(In Memory of Geoffrey D. Crisco &  
Dr. William Huntley Oliver)*  
Mr. John B. Platz, Jr.  
*(In Memory of Mrs. John Todd Platz, Jr.)*  
Mrs. David Y. Proctor, Jr.  
*(In Memory of Dr. William Huntley Oliver)*  
Mrs. Jane Lawrence Stone  
*(In Memory of Mr. Josiah (Joe) Ewing Hutton)*

## REMINDERS FROM PDQ DISPOSAL

Do not mix regular household trash with leaves, rocks, and other yard waste! PDQ has recently noticed an increase in yard waste mixed with the household trash. All yard waste should be bagged and put at the curbside for pickup by the City's brush and chipper contractor.

Please do not sort recycle items in separate plastic bags – put ALL recycle items in ONE bag and PDQ will sort everything! Please use these bags ONLY for recyclable items. There are 25 bags to a box, so a box should last an average size household several months, assuming 1-3 bags are used each week for recycling purposes.

The following items are accepted for recycling and should be put in the blue bags for pickup:

**ALL METAL & ALUMINUM CANS:** food and drink cans (please empty cans).

**PAPER:** office paper, magazines, junk mail, newspaper, computer paper, notebook paper, phone book, paperback books, construction paper, brown paper bags.

**BOXES:** milk or juice cartons (empty), cardboard boxes, food boxes (clean – no food). All boxes should be broken down.

**PLASTIC CONTAINERS: #1-7:** drink bottles and their caps, detergent & cleaner bottles and their caps, yogurt/cottage cheese and other dairy “tubs” and their lids (please empty containers) and plastic trays, such as the lunchable type containers (any color except black trays – optical sorting machines can't see them).

**NOT ACCEPTED:** *plastic bags, black plastic trays, clamshells (fast food take out), Styrofoam, paint cans, or aerosol spray cans. NO GLASS!!!!*

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The City staff extends a huge **“THANK YOU”** to all the residents who donated to the Employee Fund recently and sent delicious treats to city hall for us to enjoy. Your donations provided for a nice holiday gift to all city staff. We are so appreciative of the tremendous generosity shown by everyone! We look forward to a great year and hope that you will not hesitate to call on us when you have a question, comment, or need for service!

CITY OF BELLE MEADE  
4705 Harding Road  
Nashville, Tennessee 37205

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED