

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

JULY 22, 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, July 22, 2009 at 4:00 p.m. Those present were: Mayor Gray Thornburg, Vice Mayor James Hunt, Commissioner Cathy Altenbern, Commissioner Tom Corcoran, City Manager and Treasurer Beth Reardon, City Recorder Linda Berner, City Building Official Terry Franklin, Public Works Superintendent George Bartlett, Lieutenant Vince Higgins, and City Attorney Bob Patterson. Commissioner George Crook was out of town.

Mayor Thornburg presided over and called the meeting to order. The first item on the agenda was the public hearing and the Mayor deferred resident Ed Freeman's comments until later in the meeting. No one else requested recognition and, accordingly, Mayor Thornburg closed the public hearing.

Mayor Thornburg asked for consideration of the minutes of the regular Commissioners' meeting held June 17, 2009, and the special meeting held June 30, 2009. Vice Mayor Hunt moved for approval of the June regular meeting minutes and Commissioner Altenbern seconded the motion. Upon vote, the June regular meeting minutes

were unanimously approved. Commissioner Corcoran moved for approval of the special June meeting minutes and Vice Mayor Hunt seconded the motion. Upon vote, the special June meeting minutes were unanimously approved,

Mayor Thornburg next addressed the proposal from Hodgson Douglas to provide an estimate of construction cost for the Glen Eden Sidewalk project under consideration. In the memo, Mr. Jim Douglas outlined the challenges to this project will be locating the walk in a manner to miss as many trees as possible, maintain existing drainage, and minimize grading (tree roots). The fee proposal will be on an hourly basis not to exceed \$1,900. The Mayor then allowed Mr. Freeman to address the Board.

Mr. Freeman stated he was representing the Glen Eden Sidewalk Association and was joined by several of his neighbors. He reiterated the request for the sidewalks in his neighborhood and urged the Board to vote for the Hodgson Douglas proposal, highlighting several reasons. Discussion followed regarding budgetary issues, project feasibility, long term goals of the city, the Metro Government's responsibility to Belle Meade, and a previous side-walk study conducted in 2007. Mr. John Hayes and Mrs. Ann Harmer also spoke in favor of the sidewalk project. Commissioner Corcoran said he would support the proposal from Hodgson Douglas but wanted it separated (cost estimates) in two plans: Lynwood to Westview, then Westview to Jackson. He then

made the motion to approve the proposal as amended, and Vice Mayor Hunt seconded the motion. Upon vote, everyone voted aye except Mayor Thornburg who voted against.

The next item of business, taken out of order, was the request of an activity permit by the Belle Meade Plantation. Mr. Alton Kelley, President, reported that they have finished the summer youth camp involving over 500 children with the ponies. The winery is progressing along, with the tanks scheduled to arrive next week. Mr. Kelley noted they had met over 270 requirements for the winery thus far and were still not finished with the process. He then introduced Mr. Brian Hainley, who will be the owner/operator of the new restaurant within the Plantation, aptly named The Belle. The restaurant will open shortly serving lunch and Saturday/Sunday brunch, then progress to dinner later. There will be some interior renovations but no major construction. Vice Mayor Hunt made the motion to approve the new restaurant permit and Commissioner Altenbern seconded the motion. Upon vote, the approval was unanimous.

Mayor Thornburg recognized Mr. Bartlett for his June 2009 Public Works report, which was reviewed. Mr. Bartlett asked if there were any questions and there were none. The Mayor noted there was not a change order request at this time for the stormwater infrastructure improvement project. Mr. Bartlett stated they have completed the portion of this project at Westover

and Harding Place, and are working at Park Hill now. He also noted that the annual Creek Debris Maintenance work had begun.

The Mayor recognized Lieutenant Higgins for the monthly Public Safety report, which was distributed to the Commissioners prior to the meeting. The Lieutenant asked if there were any questions related to the monthly report and there were none. It was noted there were 252 traffic citations, fourteen traffic crashes (two resulted in personal injuries), seven arrests, 37 alarm calls, one burglary, and thirteen incident reports filed. Lieutenant introduced to the Board newly hired patrol officer Brienne Splittgerber, who previously worked for the Hoover, Alabama police department. The Board welcomed Officer Splittgerber to the City.

The next item on the agenda was the request to declare as surplus property patrol car 403, a 2004 Chevrolet Impala with mileage 85,000, as well as several emergency equipment items. Commissioner Altenbern made the motion to approve the request and Commissioner Corcoran seconded the motion. Upon vote, the approval was unanimous.

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 June 2009 Building/Zoning and Planning reports, which were distributed prior to the meeting. It was noted that thirteen permits were issued for a total estimated construction cost of \$22,427.00 and thirteen permits were closed out during the month. There were no questions for Mr. Franklin at this time.

Mayor Thornburg noted there were no matters to report for Waste Collection, Beautification/Landscape, or City Communications.

Mayor Thornburg recognized Mrs. Reardon for her June 2009 financial reports, which were distributed prior to the meeting. Mrs. Reardon reported that the year end financial statements are included for all funds. They are draft statements since the final audit still has to be performed. She offered to answer any questions on the financial statements or investment schedule and there were none. 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:

Bradley Arant Boult Cummings	\$ 3,104.00
Civil & Environmental Consultants, Inc	\$ 2,792.00
Gibbs Brothers Construction	\$ 6,059.12
Local Government Corporation	\$ 9,723.38
Wascon	\$ 4,590.00

Commissioner Altenbern asked for clarification on the Local Government Corporation invoice. Mrs. Reardon answered the invoice

is received once a year for upgrades and support for the court software and accounting software.

The next item was the request to purchase a new copier/fax/scanner/printer for City Hall and the Police Department. Three bids were submitted:

<u>Vendor</u>	<u>Machine Price</u>	<u>Monthly Chg</u>	<u>Copy Cost</u>
Ricoh	\$9,883.71	\$42.50 +add'l	B/W .0085cents Col .0746cents
Xerox	\$9,303.00	\$42 +add'l	B/W .0084cents Col .0890cents
Savin	\$7,867.00	\$35 +add'l	B/W .01cents Col .08cents

It was noted that the machines were test-driven by Mrs. Reardon and Ms. Berner, and they preferred the Savin machine. The advantages are user-friendly touch screen, accessible from desktop computers, simple operation, built-in security and privacy option, service calls are dispatched from the local Nashville office, and it is the lowest priced machine. Commissioner Altenbern made the motion to approve the request for the Savin machine as well as declare the current Cannon copier/fax machine as surplus property, and Commissioner Corcoran seconded the motion. Upon vote, the approval was unanimous. It was noted that Mr. Franklin applauded the purchase of the new copier machine.

Mayor Thornburg noted there were no matters for Facilities.

The next item of business was the consideration of two proposed legislations on second reading:

1) **Ordinance 2009-6** - "Amend Ordinance 2009-4; Fix Tax Rate for 2009-2010". Commissioner Corcoran made the motion to approve the Ordinance on second reading, and Commissioner Altenbern seconded the motion. Upon vote, the approval was unanimous.

2) **Resolution 2009-8** - "Participation in TML Risk Management Pool "Safety Partner" Loss Control Matching Grant Program." Mrs. Reardon stated this has to be submitted every year in order to take advantage of their grant program for safety equipment for the police department. Commissioner Altenbern made the motion to approve the resolution, and Vice Mayor Hunt seconded the motion. Upon vote, the resolution was unanimously approved.

The last item of business was the proposal from Eleanor Willis on behalf of Friends of Warner Park (FWP). Vice Mayor Hunt stated the FWP are returning the \$10,000 donation the City recently gave them because they could not honor the attached stipulations. The FWP suggested a donation to the restoration efforts on the Hodge House which include finish grading and drainage, putting on gutters and downspouts, and landscaping. Commissioner Corcoran reiterated his objection to donating money to Warner Parks, given the current parking situation at the end of Belle Meade Boulevard. Discussion continued regarding the FWP's use of the money, the ongoing problems between Belle Meade and Metro Parks, and what budget year the money needs to be drawn on.

Vice Mayor Hunt made the motion to donate \$10,000 to FWP for use with the Hodge House to be paid out of the current year's budget, and Commissioner Altenbern seconded the motion. Upon vote, the approval was unanimous, except for Commissioner Corcoran who voted against.

There being no further business to come before the Commissioners, the meeting was thereupon adjourned at 5:05pm until the next meeting on Wednesday, August 19, 2009 at 4:00pm.

Mayor Gray Thornburg

City Recorder Linda Berner