



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

DECEMBER 2011



THE COMMISSIONERS AND STAFF WISH EVERYONE A JOYOUS AND SAFE HOLIDAY SEASON AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR!!



### FROM THE POLICE DEPARTMENT, CHIEF TIM EADS:



Happy Holidays to everyone from all the members of the Belle Meade Police Department! Please remember to take advantage of our House Check Program if you are traveling over the Holidays. If you have filled out a request in the past year just give us a call to update your file.

Thefts generally increase during this time of year so it is very important to follow the Park Smart recommendations. Always lock your vehicle no matter where you are, even at home. Remove all valuables and, if out shopping, place your items in the trunk or cover them up with something. Be alert to anyone that is walking around a parking lot looking into vehicles. This activity should be immediately reported to the local police department or store security. Have your keys out and ready before approaching your vehicle. If you have a large amount of packages and you don't feel comfortable taking these packages to your vehicle then request store security to assist you.

We talk a lot about security during this time but please do not forget about Fire Safety as well. Inspect all electrical decorations, keep the tree watered, and make sure those chimneys are clean and inspected before roasting any chestnuts!

Please continue to call us anytime you see anything that may cause concern or seem out of place. If someone is soliciting and you are not sure if they have the proper permits, give us a call and we will verify if they have a permit to do so in Belle Meade. It's a good idea to program our number (615-297-0241) into all your phones. It will save you valuable time should you need to contact us. Make sure the Belle Meade Police are listed as the first responder or the primary law enforcement agency that responds to any alarm calls from your home.

**Neighborhood Watch** - I want to thank everyone that is participating in the Neighborhood Watch Program and especially those who have volunteered a little extra time to serve as a Block Captain. We currently have thirty-six groups participating in the program and we are still growing. Thank you again to all our residents! The City has ordered Neighborhood Watch signs that will be placed on existing signposts in the areas where a program has been established.

While we are on the subject, please remember to avoid parking on the street if at all possible. A lot of times thieves will try to blend in by parking on the street with other vehicles. In addition, if you are in an area where this is not common place, it can alert officers and citizens that suspicious activity may be occurring. If a visitor to your home has the option of parking in the driveway, then have them do so. Of course, there will be times when this is not convenient. If you do see an unusual or suspicious vehicle parked on the side of the road, please call and the police will be happy to check the situation out to verify no criminal activity is occurring.

**NOTICE:** Annual invoices for the **Stormwater User Fee** will be mailed to each property owner this month. Information about the fee will be included with the invoice. Please call City Hall at 297-6041 if you have any questions.

## CITIZEN SURVEY AND COMMISSIONERS' RETREAT

The marketing research firm approved by the Commissioners is in the final stages of conducting the telephone survey of randomly selected Belle Meade residents. The City will email a copy of the survey to all the residents in the newsletter group, and will have copies of the survey here at City Hall. The survey is optional (must be 18 and older), and anonymous. The survey questions cover a range of topics, including quality of life/amenities, finances, planning/zoning, and city

services. Please return your completed surveys to City Hall via mail or drop-off.

Results of the survey will assist the Commissioners in planning for the future of Belle Meade. They have scheduled a retreat for January 13 and 14, 2012, which will be facilitated by a consultant from the Municipal Technical Advisory Service. Their goal is to develop the framework for a long range plan that will guide future city leaders and staff for many years.

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## RECAP OF BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS' MEETING

The Commissioners took action on the following items at the **November 16th** regular meeting:

- Approved the extension of the Street Maintenance Contract with Gibbs Brothers for one year, ending December 31, 2012, at the current contract pricing for labor, equipment, and materials. The Street Maintenance Contract allows the City to make repairs to streets and rights-of-way as long as the repair projects are less than \$10,000. All others must be publicly bid
- Approved the purchase of three diesel powered Volkswagen Passats for use as marked police vehicles from Harper Dealerships of Knoxville (holder of the state contract) for \$26,622 each.

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## DON'T BE A GRINCH TO YOUR GRINDER PUMP!

Holiday parties, guests from out of town, extra cooking, baking, and laundry during this time of year can be taxing to the grinder pump system. Below are some tips for keeping your grinder pump in good working order during and after the busy holidays.

### Care and use of your Grinder Pump

The Grinder Pump is capable of accepting and pumping a wide range of materials. Regulatory agencies advise the following items should NOT be introduced into any sewer either directly or through a kitchen waste disposal unit:

- **Cooking oil or grease;** glass; metal; seafood shells; diapers, socks, rags, or cloth; plastic objects such as toys or utensils; sanitary napkins or tampons.

In addition, you must **NEVER** introduce into any sewer:

- Explosives; flammable material; paint; lubricating oil and/or grease; strong chemicals; gasoline.

### Weekly Maintenance

Homeowner can provide weekly maintenance by applying ½ cup of bleach once a week to the garbage disposal/sink in the late evening after all use. This eliminates failures due to grease in the Grinder Pump, and will also deodorize and clear laterals in the internal plumbing.

### Quarterly Maintenance

Add 1 pack of bread yeast or 1 tablespoon of yeast per each toilet every three (3) months for natural maintenance of the lines within your house.

### Periods of Disuse

If your home or building is left unoccupied for longer than a couple of weeks, use the following procedures:

1. Purge the system - Run clean water into the unit until the pump activates. Immediately turn off the water and allow the Grinder Pump to run until it shuts off automatically.
2. Duplex Units - Special attention must be taken to make certain that both pumps turn on when clean water is added to the tank.

**CAUTION: DO NOT DISCONNECT POWER TO THE UNIT**

### Power Failure

Your Grinder Pump cannot dispose of wastewater without electrical power. If electrical power service is interrupted, **keep water usage to a minimum!**

### Pump Failure Alarm

**If you are having a problem with internal plumbing, call the City first as this could save you unnecessary plumbing charges.**

Your pump has been manufactured to produce an alarm signal (120 volt) in the event of a high water level in the basin. The homeowner must see the alarm signal (red light) and notify the City in a prompt manner. The visual alarm is to provide adequate warning to the user that maintenance is required. During the interim period prior to the arrival of an authorized service technician, water usage must be limited to the reserve capacity of the tank.

**To report sewer grinder pump emergencies, call city hall at 297-6041, anytime night or day. During non-business hours the police dispatcher will answer and contact service personnel, or write a service ticket for next-day response.**

**Middle Tennessee Code Officials Association Honors Terry Franklin as Code Official of the Year**



*Presenting the award to Terry is Jerry Jackson, MTCOA President.*

Terry was one of the founding members of the Association in 1985. Over the last 26 years he has served as treasurer, vice president and president as well as serving on various committees. He has been influential in working within the Association to improve training for code officials, promote the need for code officials and how they protect the public and enlist a lobbyist for the organization to make improvements to codes in middle Tennessee and the State. Terry has also served on several committees of the Tennessee Building Official's Association.

**WASTE & RECYCLE COLLECTION FIGURES (IN TONS)**

MONTH	COMINGLE	CARDBOARD	GLASS	TOTAL	TRASH	TOTAL
JULY	12.68	1.96	2.72	17.36	80.60	97.96
AUGUST	13.31	1.92	2.54	17.77	73.05	90.82
SEPT. (5 WKS)	16.48	2.11	2.64	21.23	95.04	116.27
OCTOBER	12.98	1.04	2.31	16.33	72.75	89.08
NOVEMBER	13.50	1.04	2.20	16.74	83.06	99.8

**\*\*\*Holiday Trash Pick-Up\*\*\*** Since the Christmas & New Year holidays fall on a weekend this year, there are **NO CHANGES** to the usual Thursday/Friday trash and recycle collection days.

**\*\*\*Extra Dumpster will be available for residents during the week after Christmas for your holiday trash. It will be located in the back parking lot behind the Maintenance Garage. \*\*\***

**PDQ Disposal Reminders:**

- All trash should be in white bags, all recycle in black bag inside container.
- No Loose Trash!! Everything should be bagged and tied shut.
- Cardboard boxes **MUST** be flattened in order for PDQ to pick them up.

**GOODWILL INDUSTRIES DONATION DRIVE**



Please make a note that Goodwill will have a truck at the Belle Meade City Hall parking lot on **Saturday, December 17, 2011 from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.** All donations of usable clothing and household goods are greatly appreciated.



**Employee Fund** – Many thanks to the generous citizens who donated to the Fund this year. The employees are very appreciative of your generosity and thoughtfulness! Thank you also to those who sent treats and homemade goodies for all of us to snack on. Delicious! We appreciate how much the residents think of us. Please don't hesitate to call us when you need help or have a question!

# Belle Meade Newsletter

## MONTHLY SCHEDULED BOARD MEETINGS

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

### **Municipal Planning Commission**

Meets the 3rd Tuesday of each month at 5:00 p.m.

### **Board of Building Code Appeals**

Meets the 3rd Tuesday of each month at 6:30 p.m.

### **Board of Zoning Appeals**

Meets the 3rd Tuesday of each month at 7:30 p.m.

### **Board of Commissioners**

Meets the 3rd Wednesday of each month at 4:00 p.m.

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

## *Society of Ceres Donations*

*November, 2011*

### **\* Represents New Members**

Dr. & Mrs. Allen Anderson

Mr. & Mrs. Jim Bailey \*

Mr. & Mrs. Lee Barfield

Mr. & Mrs. John Beasley \*

Belle Meade Plantation

Mr. John Cain

Mr. & Mrs. Fred Cassetty

Mr. & Mrs. Marc Dennis \*

Mr. & Mrs. Junius Ellis

Mr. & Mrs. John Ferguson

Mr. & Mrs. T. Scott Fillebrown

Mr. & Mrs. Jack Fleischer

Ms. Katherine Follin

Mr. & Mrs. John Fort

Mr. & Mrs. Jerry Fridrich \*

Mr. John Fulcher

Mr. & Mrs. R. Burton Harvey

Mr. & Mrs. Stephen Horrell

Mr. & Mrs. Oscar Jones

Mr. Michael King

Mr. & Mrs. William Knox

Mr. & Mrs. Herbert Ligon

Mr. Shigemitsu Matsumori

Mrs. Susan McCarley

Mr. & Mrs. Wylie McDougall

Ms. Priscilla McKeenan \*

Mr. & Mrs. Martin McNamara

Col. Victor Micol & Mrs. Jane  
Micol \*

Mr. Richard M. Miller, Sr.

Dr. & Dr. Fernando Miranda

Mr. & Mrs. John Pearson

Mr. & Mrs. Keith Pitts

Mr. & Mrs. Stephen Riven

Mr. & Mrs. John Scott

Mr. & Mrs. Ronald Smith \*

Mr. & Mrs. Charles Thornburg

Mr. Anthony Tinghitella

Mr. & Mrs. Govan White \*

Mr. & Mrs. Matthew White

Mr. & Mrs. Blair Wilson

### **Memorial Contributions**

Kay Stahl Scruggs

*Edward Criddle Scruggs, III*

CITY OF BELLE MEADE  
4705 Harding Road  
Nashville, Tennessee 37205

return service requested