



COMMISSIONERS: James V. Hunt, Sr., *Mayor* • Bob Weigel, *Vice Mayor* • Gray O. Thornburg, Cathy Altenbern • Blair Wilson • Beth Reardon, City Manager • Tim Eads, Chief of Police

City Hall (615) 297-6041 / Police Dept. (615) 297-0241 / [www.citybellemeade.org](http://www.citybellemeade.org)

## NEWSLETTER TO RESIDENTS OF BELLE MEADE APRIL 2018

### ANNUAL BUDGET PREPARATION AND THE CITY'S FINANCIAL CONDITION

Spring each year is the time all local governments are preparing their budgets for the upcoming year and finalizing the details on revenues that will provide for the proposed purchases and projects. Many months of planning and discussion are required of the City staff when preparing the annual budget. The Finance Director, Aspen Collins, prepares a very detailed line item budget for each Fund as well as a summarized budget that is compared to the current year projected totals and prior year actual totals. A five-year Capital Improvements Plan is also prepared. These budget documents are presented to the Commissioners in several workshops where every detail is reviewed prior to the Commissioners passing the final Budget Ordinance.

Most people would agree that the City is in excellent financial condition. We have no debt, and have over 13 million dollars in reserve in the General Fund, of which almost half is designated or assigned for various expenses and liabilities.

For more than a dozen years, there was talk in the State Legislature that the Hall tax would be reduced or eliminated. Throughout all this time, Commissioners and staff prepared

annual budgets with a conservative approach, knowing that the day would come when Hall Tax would no longer be a source of revenue for Belle Meade. Two years ago, Mayor Hunt held several public meetings to discuss with citizens how the City has been planning for this for many years by building up the Fund Balance and educating the citizens on the need for the property tax to replace the lost Hall Tax revenue. In 2016, the Commissioners passed Resolution 2016-03, which stated that each year, as budgets are reviewed, the Commissioners will evaluate the City's financial position to determine if a property tax increase is necessary to offset needed deficiencies. The property tax was increased in 2016 by 7.5 cents. 2017 was a re-appraisal year in Davidson County, and no tax increase was passed. There is no property tax increase proposed in the budget for 2018.

Both past and present Commissioners and City staff should be commended for the healthy financial shape of the City. Their forethought and careful planning for the City's future financial position has prevented a financial emergency with the elimination of over 50% of total revenue (Hall Tax).

### CITY OF BELLE MEADE FUND BALANCE

■ 2013-14 Actual ■ 2014-15 Actual ■ 2015-16 Actual ■ 2016-17 Actual ■ 2017-18 Estimated



GENERAL FUND



SEWER FUND



## FROM THE POLICE DEPARTMENT – CHIEF TIM EADS:



- Spring storm season - download a weather alert app on your mobile phone or purchase a special weather radio.
- Inspect trees on your property for disease or dead limbs needing removal before they cause damage to your property.
- Recently there was a car burglary at the Belle Meade Country Club indoor tennis courts. The victim left the vehicle unlocked but the bandit broke open the console and stole the owner's manual. The suspect in the case was caught on video and has been identified and a warrant issued. The suspect was an out of town solicitor, so remember to call of us if you suspect someone is soliciting without a permit. 615-297-0241.
- Park Smart and remove or secure valuables out of sight in your vehicle.

### **SAFETY UPDATE – Joint Task Force on Teen Violence**

A joint Task force composed of Metro West Precinct Police and Brentwood Police have arrested some Juveniles involved in “Bump & Rob” type violent incidents. A “Bump & Rob” is where someone bumps into your car on purpose, and when you get out of your car to see if they are okay and check the damage to your vehicle, someone approaches and robs you of your personal belongings, then flees as a hit & run.

### **CRIME PREVENTION TIPS:**

- If you are involved in a fender bender, stop where it occurs.
- Call Police Immediately even for small bumps. Metro 615-862-8600/ Belle Meade 615-297-0241.
- Roll up your windows and lock you're your doors. If they come speak to you, tell them you have called the Police through the rolled up window.
- Ask if they are hurt, so you can let the Police know if an ambulance needs to respond.
- If multiple people come to your car, or if you see any weapons, or if there is any aggression, and it is safe to do so, maneuver away from the crash scene. Call Police and let them know you are moving and the reasons why and give them a location you are going to.
- You can also drive to the nearest Police Station as long as you let Police know you don't feel safe & give them specific reasons why. Get a good description of the other vehicle and people involved.
- Dash cams front & back can be helpful and offer some deterrent. If possible, record the incident to show Police.

## CHANGES TO DUMPSTER ACCESS COMING SOON



We know that Belle Meade residents (as well as some who live outside the City) highly value the convenience of having the 3 dumpsters behind city hall for disposal of excess household trash. However, due to the volume of trash and illegal disposal of prohibited items, the City is forced to make changes that will ensure that only Belle Meade residents use the dumpsters and only acceptable items are thrown away. The contractor, Franklin Disposal, has been fined numerous times at the landfill because unacceptable items are mixed in with his load (tires, liquid paint, carpeting, construction materials, furniture and more). He has also incurred damages to his equipment from items thrown away. Often when the dumpsters are full and the gate is locked, people will throw trash over the fence or push it underneath, leaving a mess for the City staff and Franklin Disposal employees to clean up.

The City is proposing to add barriers to the top and bottom of the fencing, add enhanced video surveillance, and install an intercom and gate control system that will allow City staff to verify residency of the person wanting access to the dumpsters. We anticipate these changes to take effect within the next several months.

## POWER OUTAGES – WHO TO CALL?

There have been numerous power outages this spring, and often residents will call City Hall to ask why there is an outage and when will the power be restored? Unfortunately, the staff does not have answers to these questions. Nashville Electric Service does not communicate their outage locations or expected duration times with the City. If you have no electricity at your location, your best option is to report this directly to NES as soon as possible. According to their website, there are three ways to do this:

### REPORTING A POWER OUTAGE TO NES:

- **Log into My Account**  
Report the outage by logging into MY ACCOUNT. Customers without an online profile can register here: <https://www.nespower.com/login/Register2.aspx>
- **Text “OUT” from your mobile device**  
Quickly report a power outage by texting “OUT” to 637797 (NESPWR). Customers who have not signed up for interactive text message with NES can register here: <https://www.nespower.com/content.aspx?page=NESTextRegister>
- **Call 615-234-0000**  
Provide the NES account number, meter number or phone number associated with your account for the system to recognize your outage.

NES makes every effort to quickly restore outages caused by violent storms, aging equipment, overloads placed on systems, or traffic accidents that damage poles and equipment. You can access their outage map at <https://www.nespower.com/OutageMap/default.aspx>

Also, here is a link to Frequently Asked Power Outage Questions: [https://www.nespower.com/content.aspx?page=po\\_faqs](https://www.nespower.com/content.aspx?page=po_faqs)

RECAP OF BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS' MEETINGS



The Commissioners took action on the following items at the March 21, 2018 Meeting:

- Voted Not to Approve (3 No, 2 Aye) the Harding Place Sidewalk Construction Bids
- Deferred consideration of the Jackson Blvd. Traffic Calming Study for 30 days.  
The report can be seen on our website: [www.citybellemeade.org](http://www.citybellemeade.org)
- Approved the purchase of PowerDMS Accreditation software and annual support for the Police Dept. in the amount of \$4,100.
- Approved the purchase of (17) new First Aid Kits for all Police cars for \$ 74.99 each.
- Approved Invoice from SkyCop for Video/LPR Camera and boxes for \$236,676.96



- Approved the Change Order to the Video Surveillance System Electrical Contract with Kerr Electric, Inc. in the amount of \$20,480.00.
- Approved invoice for \$1,214.35 from AT&T to complete field survey and engineering for the utility pole on Jackson Blvd. and Deer Park Drive.
- Approved request to amend the Trash & Recycle Collection Contract for an increase of \$1,000 each month through June 30th for additional dumpster fees.
- Approved two invoices over \$5,000 from Wascon, Inc. for \$5,459.47 and \$9,531.00
- Deferred decision for 60 days on Ordinance 2018-1, on first reading, Amend Section 15-301, to change Speed Limits on all streets in the City Limits



**EARLY VOTING SCHEDULE**  
**DAVIDSON COUNTY**  
**PRIMARY & REFERENDUM ELECTION**  
**TUESDAY, MAY 1, 2018**

**ALL EARLY VOTING LOCATIONS OPEN**

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 11, 2018 THROUGH THURSDAY, APRIL 26, 2018

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 11	8:00 AM – 4:30 PM
THURSDAY, APRIL 12	8:00 AM – 7:00 PM
FRIDAY, APRIL 13	8:00 AM – 5:30 PM
SATURDAY, APRIL 14	8:00 AM – 4:30 PM
MONDAY, APRIL 16	8:00 AM – 5:30 PM
TUESDAY, APRIL 17	8:00 AM – 7:00 PM
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 18	8:00 AM – 4:30 PM
THURSDAY, APRIL 19	8:00 AM – 7:00 PM
FRIDAY, APRIL 20	8:00 AM – 5:30 PM
SATURDAY, APRIL 21	8:00 AM – 4:30 PM
MONDAY, APRIL 23	8:00 AM – 5:30 PM
TUESDAY, APRIL 24	8:00 AM – 7:00 PM
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 25	8:00 AM – 4:30 PM
THURSDAY, APRIL 26	8:00 AM – 7:00 PM

BELLE MEADE CITY HALL	4705 HARDING PIKE, NASHVILLE, TN 37205
BELLEVUE LIBRARY	720 BAUGH ROAD, NASHVILLE, TN 37221
BORDEAUX LIBRARY	4000 CLARKSVILLE PIKE, NASHVILLE, TN 37218
CASA AZAFRÁN COMM. CENTER	2195 NOLENSVILLE PIKE, NASHVILLE, TN 37211
EDMONDSON PIKE LIBRARY	5501 EDMONDSON PIKE, NASHVILLE, TN 37211
GOODLETTSVILLE COMM. CENTER	200 MEMORIAL DR, GOODLETTSVILLE, TN 37072
GREEN HILLS LIBRARY	3701 BENHAM AVE, NASHVILLE, TN 37215
HERMITAGE LIBRARY	3700 JAMES KAY LANE, HERMITAGE, TN 37076
MADISON STATION FIFTY FORWARD	301 MADISON STREET, MADISON, TN 37115
HOWARD OFFICE BUILDING	700 2ND AVE S, NASHVILLE, TN 37210
SOUTHEAST LIBRARY	5260 HICKORY HOLLOW PKWY, ANTIOCH, TN 37013

# Belle Meade Newsletter

## REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETINGS FOR MAY AND JUNE 2018

ALL MEETINGS ARE HELD AT  
BELLE MEADE CITY HALL

### Municipal Planning Commission

Tuesday, May 15th at 4:00 pm  
Tuesday, June 19th at 4:00 pm

### Board of Zoning Appeals

Tuesday, May 8th at 4:00 pm  
Tuesday, June 12th at 4:00 pm

### Board of Building Code Appeals

Tuesday, May 15th at 5:00 pm  
Tuesday, June 19th at 5:00 pm

### Board of Commissioners

Wednesday, May 16th at 4:00 pm  
Wednesday, June 20th at 4:00 pm

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

**PUBLIC NOTICE** – The regular monthly meeting of the Board of Commissioners has been rescheduled to **Monday, April 30, 2018, at 5:00 p.m. at St. George's Episcopal Church, Johnson Hall.** Please contact City Recorder Charlotte Hunter if you have any questions, 615-297-6041 or [chunter@citybellemeade.org](mailto:chunter@citybellemeade.org).

## REMINDERS:

### ST. GEORGE'S FARMERS' MARKET



The Farmers' Market will open for the 2018 season beginning on Thursday, May 3rd from 4:30 to 6:30 pm. The Market will be open every Thursday through October 27th in the small parking lot along Harding Road, near City Hall.

**DRUG COLLECTON BOX** – available 24/7 in the Police Dept. for the safe disposal of unused or expired medication.



CITY OF BELLE MEADE  
4705 Harding Road  
Nashville, Tennessee 37205

return service requested