



**City of Bellemeade Commission Meeting Minutes  
May 9, 2022**

**Commission Members Present**

Mayor James Martin  
Commissioner Halle Brumleve  
Commissioner Sandy Walker  
Commissioner Ben Zickel  
City Attorney Stephen Porter  
City Treasurer Geri Huff  
City Clerk Trish Scott

**Others Present**

Bob Elliott

**Call to Order** - Mayor James Martin called the meeting to order at 7:09 pm at the Steel Technologies Building, The 700 Room, 1st Floor 700 North Hurstbourne Parkway, Louisville, KY 40222.

**Approval of Minutes** - The April 11, 2022 Commission Meeting minutes were read. James Martin made a general comment regarding certain sensitive items that are discussed in Commission meetings. Discussion centered on what type of information should be included publicly in the minutes. James Martin moved to approve the minutes as presented. Ben Zickel seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

**Reports**

*Treasurer's Report* - Geri Huff presented the Treasurer's Report. There was no further tax revenue at this time. Last month's expenses were as expected and included Arbor Day expenses. Investment values dropped due to the recent market losses.

Geri commented on how the increased tax valuation will raise the rate value past the 4% limit for a hearing. She feels that it would be worth the increased revenue to go ahead and have a public hearing.

James Martin moved to approve the Treasurer's Report as presented, Halle Brumleve seconded and the Treasurer's Report was approved unanimously.

*Mayor's Report* - Mayor Martin reported that during the working meeting he had asked that all in attendance please run for office again this year so we can maintain a full slate of officers. He also commented that we are considering reimbursement for the cost of running for office (\$50). The city attorney opined that this is likely a private expenditure, not a public expense.

ARPA - James suggested that we begin to use funds for the city expenses including LG&E, Lighting, Security and Rumpke costs, since these are acceptable uses for the funds.

ARPA Funds are in the Liberty Account at this time. Bank limits for FDIC were discussed, and the possibility that we will need to open a second account when we receive our next ARPA check so that all our deposits are fully FDIC insured.

Sandra Walker made a motion to spend ARPA funds on LG&E, Security and Rumpke starting May 9. Halle Brumleve seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

## **Commissioner Reports**

*Public Works Report* - Sandy Walker reported that she has been working reaching out to contractors regarding possible drainage ditch cleaning where the tree trimming contractors left their cuttings behind. She informed the commission that the stop signs have been installed, but she has not received the invoice yet. Some of the potholes will be filled now that the weather is warm enough for the filler product to work properly. She has called MSD to fix the sewer damage in the center of N. Chadwick at Whipps Mill.

Sandy and James will meet on May 15 at 1pm to repair the potholes.

*Public Safety Report* - As Robin Mountain was not in attendance, Sandra Walker reported on a call she received from a resident on Whipps Bend Road. A neighbor behind her has installed a light that is coming in her kitchen window. Steve Porter commented that he has written an ordinance for another community to assess fines for lighting violations.

Commissioner Walker reported that she checked with Kentucky Law Enforcement to confirm they have adjusted the schedule as requested for April and May. She will monitor to see if the patrols are being done as scheduled.

*Public Events Report* - Halle Brumleve updated the commission on the August 20, city-wide yard sale. The Yummiest Food Truck will once again be available, and she is working on getting an ice cream truck scheduled. Holly Springs has scheduled their city wide yard sale to coincide with Bellemeade's.

The Block Party is scheduled for May 28, and City Clerk Trish Scott will send a letter to Blaine Road residents and adjoining properties, informing them of the street closure for that day. Residents will bring their own food, drinks and chairs, and a dish to share.

*Public Lands Report* - Ben Zickel reported that all is well with Public Lands.

**Public Comments** - Bob Elliott expressed his opposition to the License Plate Cameras being considered to support better public safety. He commented on the expense and feels the additional patrols would be a much bigger deterrent than the cameras would be. Additionally the issue of solar panel stations to power the cameras is another concern, as they are unsightly and large and they would likely have to be put on private property. He stated that he is formally opposed to the Entrance/License Plate cameras. James Martin commented that he agreed with many of Bob's concerns. Bob believes individual reimbursement for private cameras was a more effective approach.

Sandra Walker made a motion to table discussion of License Plate Cameras until further reports are available. Halle Brumleve seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

## **New Business –**

The block party ordinance was presented for second reading, addressing the closing of Blaine Road from 5 pm - 8pm. James Martin read the ordinance and moved to pass it as presented. Halle Brumleve seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

James Martin presented for first reading the Budget for the Fiscal Year beginning July 20, 2023. Increases of \$7,584 for Sanitation expenses, and \$650 for additional taxes on the city employee

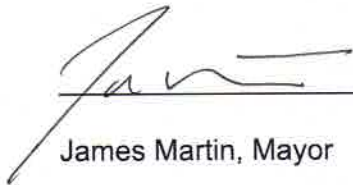
salaries, as well as Kentucky League of Cities increase in membership dues were discussed. Discussion continued regarding a possible salary increase for the city employees. A possible 10% increase for the Treasurer and City Clerk salaries was discussed. There have been no increases for two years, so a cost of living seems advisable. Additional increases in the budget included Beautification allocation of \$15,000. Geri Huff will add ARPA segregation. Some discussion centered around increasing income as increasing expenses from inflation is expected. The recent tax assessment increase will cause our income from taxes to increase if we keep the rate at 6.6%. A hearing would be necessary to keep the rate the same. Geri Huff will adjust figures on the ordinance and the tax rate will be discussed at next month's meeting.

James Martin informed the commission that the Canopy Tree Ordinance will be discussed further at our next meeting.

*June Meeting Locations* - The next working meeting will be via Zoom on Monday, June 6, 2022 at 7 PM. The Regular Commission Meeting will be held in person at The Steel Technologies Building on Monday, June 13, 2022 at 7 PM.

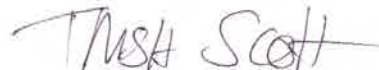
**Adjournment** - Mayor James Martin adjourned the meeting at 8:58 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,



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James Martin, Mayor



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Trish Scott, City Clerk