

City of Bellemeade Commission Meeting Minutes

April 14, 2025

Commission Members Present

Mayor James Martin
Commissioner Sandy Walker
Commissioner Cindy Oppel
Commissioner Halle Brumleve
Commissioner Burt Deutsch
City Attorney Stephen Porter
City Treasurer Geri Huff, via phone
City Clerk Trish Scott

Others Present None

Call to Order - Mayor James Martin called the meeting to order at 7:06 pm at the Steel Technologies Building, The 700 Room, 1st Floor 700 North Hurstbourne Parkway, Louisville, KY 40222.

Approval of Minutes - The March 10, 2025 Minutes were read, and Burt Deutsch made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Cindy Oppel seconded the motion, and the minutes were approved unanimously.

Treasurer's Report - Geri Huff presented the Treasurer's Report. In March tax revenues have dropped off as expected. Expenses reflect two months of security patrol invoices, with January and February expenses paid in March. Although the investment account had a negative performance this month, it still shows positive performance from inception. The PNC CD will mature on 5/16, and Geri will report assets available to invest at that time. Burt Deutsch made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report as presented. Halle Brumleve seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Mayor Martin enquired about the city auditor search. Geri Huff has been in contact with other similarly sized cities in the area to inquire about CPAs they use for their audits. She has contacted CPAs Goforth & Heron who will charge from \$6,000-\$7,000. They will provide an official quote shortly. Baldwin has not been responsive after her initial contact with them. Audits are required every other year, however Road Fund monies will be withheld if the audit is not completed. Commissioner Deutsch reported that he has encountered similar issues at Shelby House. He wants to approach KLC to change their policy regarding City Audits. Steve Porter, City Attorney, offered to bring up this issue when he attends the upcoming meeting with the Jefferson County League.

Reports

Mayor's Report - Mayor Martin reported that the working meeting via Zoom on April 7, was well attended, and reminded the commission that the working meeting is strictly voluntary.

He reported that a Bellemeade resident informed him that Rumpke is trying to bill him directly. Geri Huff will confirm that the address is within the City of Bellemeade, and it will be addressed with Rumpke.

Public Comments - None

Commissioner Reports

Public Lands & Public Works Report - Burt Deutsch commented that he is looking forward to working in the

Public Lands and Public Works capacity.

Public Events Report - Commissioner Brumleve reported that the Arbor Day celebration is scheduled for April 26, and is being promoted on Facebook, the newsletter and the yard signs. She had 10 names to draw from and Cindy Opell assisted her with drawing the 5 winners. Coloring sheets will be provided for the coloring contest, and there will be treats provided for the celebration. The location will be determined for the pool of winners.

Public Safety & Roads Report - Sandy Walker reported that Lyndon Police are raising their hourly rate.

Code Enforcement Report - Commissioner Cindy Oppel reported that there have been a total of 24 community complaints and 26 code infractions uncovered via neighborhood canvassing.

New Business

Whipsmill Road Developments - Mayor Martin reiterated the concern over traffic increases due to the proposed zoning changes near Shelbyville Road and Whippsmill as well as Whippsmill at Old Whippsmill Roads. City attorney Steve Porter attended the March 12 meeting regarding the zoning change at 8210 and 8212 Whippsmill near Shelbyville Road and reported that the planning commission is open to zoning changes. Commissioners Deutsch and Oppel also attended the meeting and Burt Deutsch spoke in opposition to the changes. Steve Porter reported that the meeting was well attended and there was much opposition. Steve Porter suggested that Bellemeade officially oppose only the zoning change at Whippsmill and Old Whippsmill Roads that would allow construction of a large daycare center. Cindy Oppel requested that we obtain the best addresses and emails for letters of opposition to provide to Bellemeade residents.

Commissioner Deutsch offered to meet with Matt Rickets and Brian Lavin of NTS and UofL respectively, to offer alternative locations for the daycare development. Burt has worked with them in the past and is familiar with the planning process and history. The Commission was in agreement that it would be beneficial, and Burt will set up a meeting.

City Budget Presentation - The Bellemeade Budget was presented for first reading. City Treasurer Geri Huff reported that the PVA Valuation will be available on April 28, and she will update when she receives it. She informed the commissioners that the only change was an expense of \$10,000 added to cover PVA and Audit fees. Budget details were discussed and the tax increase due to Rumpke cost increase resulted in the city coming under budget. At this time it is not known if another increase is necessary.

The Budget will be presented for second reading at the May meeting, and Mayor Martin requested that all commissioners send their comments to Geri prior to that.

May Meeting Locations - With Mayor Martin's office moving downtown soon, future meeting locations were discussed. Commissioner Deutsch offered that Shelby House would be able to accommodate the meetings in their clubhouse. He again suggested that Bellemeade signage would be a great addition to the Shelby House location. The next working meeting will be held via Zoom on Monday, May 5, at 7:00 pm. The Regular Commission Meeting will be held in person at The Steel Technologies Building, 700 N Hurstbourne Pkwy, Louisville, KY 40222 on Monday, May 12, 2025 at 7 PM.

Adjournment - There being no further business, Mayor Martin adjourned the meeting at 7:55 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

James Martin, Mayor

Trish Scott City Clerk