

City of Bellemeade Commission Meeting Minutes

May 12, 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 7:05pm at the Steel Technologies Building, The 700 Room, 1st Floor 700 North Hurstbourne Parkway, Louisville, KY 40222.

Approval of Minutes - The April 14, 2025 Minutes were read, and Cindy Oppel requested a correction on her report to amend the proposed minutes to make clear that not all citizen complaints had been resolved. Burt Deutsch made a motion to approve the minutes as corrected. Cindy Oppel seconded the motion, and the minutes were approved unanimously.

Treasurer's Report - Geri Huff presented the Treasurer's Report. The April Financial Statement reflected an increased expenses in community events with Arbor Day costs. The tax revenues continue to drop off as expected, but insurance premium taxes are making up for some of that. James Martin made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report as presented. Halle Brumleve seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Reports

Mayor's Report - Mayor Martin reported that the May working meeting via Zoom was attended by himself and City Treasurer Geri Huff who discussed the City Budget.

He informed the Commission that he updated the website to add Commissioner Burt Deutsch. He also reported that he has provided the vendor contact information to Commissioner Deutsch for his areas of responsibility.

Public Comments - None

Commissioner Reports

Public Events Report - Commissioner Brumleve reported that the Arbor Day celebration was a great success and well attended. The Community Yard Sale is scheduled for August 16, and will not have a rain date. An announcement will be written up for the newsletter. She will once again invite food trucks to attend, but they have not shown a great deal of interest.

Public Lands & Public Works Report - Burt Deutsch and James Martin will meet to discuss Burt's responsibilities as Public Lands & Public Works Commissioner at The 700 Building. Burt will request a map of Bellemeade from Logic.

Public Safety & Roads Report - Sandy Walker asked Geri Huff about the CD at PNC bank. Geri renewed the CD at 4% for four months, and will leave the \$80,000 at PNC. Commissioner Walker then reported that she had reached out to the contractor who performed the tar striping for the roads. She has not heard back from them yet, but will follow up with them.

Code Enforcement Report - Commissioner Cindy Oppel was asked about a food truck that is parked in a driveway on Wood Road. She informed the resident that Metro Louisville has oversight.

New Business

Whipsmill Road Developments - City Attorney Steve Porter attended the meeting for the zoning change at 8210 and 8212 Whipps Mill near Shelbyville Road and informed the commission that not many neighbors attended the meeting to oppose the zoning change. Commissioner Walker commented that she was concerned that more properties would follow suit if this application was approved. A meeting is scheduled for May 15 at 1:00 pm. Mayor Martin asked the Commissioners for their opinion on whether Bellemeade should comment against the re-zoning. Burt Deutsch: believed our resources and goodwill with the planning commission should be saved to deal with the proposed daycare development at the other end of Whipps Mill Road; Cindy Oppel: Same as Commissioner Deutsch. Halle Brumleve: No comment. Sandy Walker: believed the commission should actively engage city attorney Steve Porter to formally oppose the zoning change at 8210 and 8212 Whipps Mill. James Martin: Same as Commissioner Deutsch.

Mayor James Martin called for a vote as to whether Steve Porter should attend the zoning meeting on May 15 to present a formal Bellemeade opposition to the zoning change. Sandy Walker voted yea; James Martin, Cindy Oppel and Halle Brumleve voted nay; Burt Deutsch abstained. As such, Steve Porter will not present any opinion from the City of Bellemeade regarding the rezoning at 8210 and 8212 Whipps Mill. James Martin requested that Steve Porter attend the May 15th meeting remotely through video conference simply to monitor the meeting and to report the outcome at our next commission meeting.

Commissioner Deutsch informed the commission that he was unable to meet with Matt Rickets and Brian Lavin of NTS and UofL since our last meeting, but intends to reach out to them soon to offer his thoughts on alternative locations for the proposed daycare development at the corner of Whipps Mill and Old Whipps Mill in order to possibly induce them to consider other potential locations. Mayor Martin commented that Commissioner Deutsch is welcome to discuss his personal thoughts with Matt Rickets and Brian Lavin. Mayor Martin thanked Commissioner Deutsch for his willingness to speak with these gentlemen and stated that Commissioner Deutsch understands that he does not speak for the City of Bellemeade collectively, but is only providing his own personal opinions and thoughts as an individual commissioner. The Commission discussed various options for the Daycare location, building heights and the berm along the Bellemeade side of the campus were discussed. All commissioners verbalized some opposition to the development on the corner of Whipps Mill and Old Whipps Mill Road. Sandra Walker believes that the commission should firmly take the position that the City of Bellemeade does not want the daycare either on the corner of Whipps Mill road nor in the academic core area near the Shelbyhurst berm. She would like the Bellemeade commission to firmly oppose new development close to the berm so that berm area development can be delayed as long as possible and with as little impact on the city's residents as possible.

Steve Porter informed the commission that no public hearing was set at this time, and he was not sure if a formal application had been submitted. He will find out the status.

City Budget Presentation - The Bellemeade Budget was presented for second reading. City Treasurer Geri Huff inquired of Sandy Walker whether she was in need of increased snow removal funds. Commissioner Walker informed that she would use the road or other funds if needed. Geri discussed the PVA audit and reported that the Goforth & Heron fees had increased from the original estimate of \$7,000 to \$18,000. As they were the only auditors who responded or quoted she will contract with them. James Martin noted that section 2 of the Ordinance contained a typographical error regarding the current year 2025-2026 rather than 2024-2025.

Burt Deutsch made a motion to adopt the budget ordinance as corrected with the date change. Halle Brumleve seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

June Meeting Locations - The next working meeting will be held via Zoom on Monday, June 2, 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, June 9 at 7 PM. Burt Deutsch will check with Shelby House to see if the commission meetings can be held there.

Adjournment - There being no further business, Mayor Martin adjourned the meeting at 8:05 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

James Martin, Mayor

Trish Scott, City Clerk