

David McMackin is first City Judge

The City Commissioners voted November 17 to hire retired attorney David McMackin as the City's first judge.

McMackin, a Forest Hills resident, will hear and adjudicate cases for violations of the City's laws and ordinances.

Judge McMackin will convene court as often as six times per year, if necessary, for



Judge David McMackin is congratulated by Mayor Bill Coke.

which he will be paid \$100 per day. He will convene court at 10 a.m. on the third Tuesday of even-numbered months if there are cases to hear.

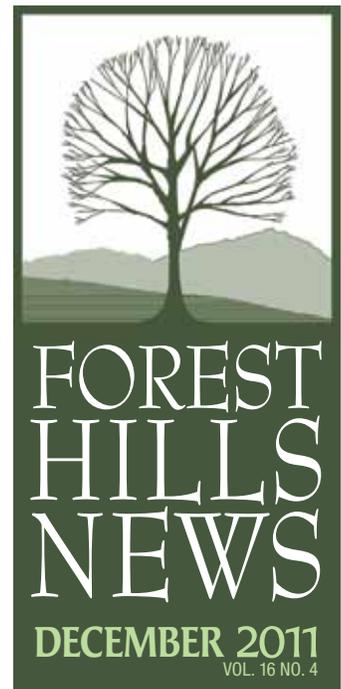
If there are no cases to be heard, court will be cancelled and the judge will not be paid.

The judge said he is extremely pleased at the appointment. "I look forward to being of service to the community," he said.

McMackin's term as judge runs through December 1, 2012.

About Judge David McMackin

- Practiced law in Nashville and Brentwood, specializing in real estate, commercial law and loan closings, 35 years
- Vice president and general counsel of Associates Financial Services, 8 years
- Tennessee Assistant Attorney General, 3 years
- Graduate of Vanderbilt Law School, 1962
- Graduate of University of Illinois, Bachelor of Science in Business Management, 1959



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New City Hall opens for business

Years of planning and months of construction came to fruition in November as City officials moved into the new Forest Hills City Hall, located at 6300 Hillsboro Pike.

The Board of Commissioners held the December 1 meeting at the new City Hall as the first official function of the new facility. City manager Al Deck and administrative assistant Cynthia Despot managed to move operations while keeping City business up and running, with minimal disruption of services to residents.

Plans to make the City Hall a reality date back to June 2009, when the Board of Commissioners knew the City had to have better facilities to serve the needs of residents.

After looking at options for renting office space in Green Hills, the Commissioners

approved the project to build a City Hall on eight acres of land to be leased from Nashville Electric Service for 99 years at \$250 per year. With an estimated construction cost of \$1,700,000, building the facility was an economically viable investment, as opposed to the greater expense of \$100,000 to rent.

The Board appointed a task force led by David Waller and in November 2009 accepted its recommendation to hire Allard Ward architecture firm to design the new structure. Hodgson & Douglas Landscape Architects designed a comprehensive site plan, and R.C. Mathews Contractor was construction manager.

The official groundbreaking in January 2011 kicked off a year of activity that made the vision a reality in December.

OPEN HOUSE AT CITY HALL

**SATURDAY,
FEBRUARY 4, 2012**

10AM-NOON

See the new facility and
chat with City officials.
Watch for details.

New contact information

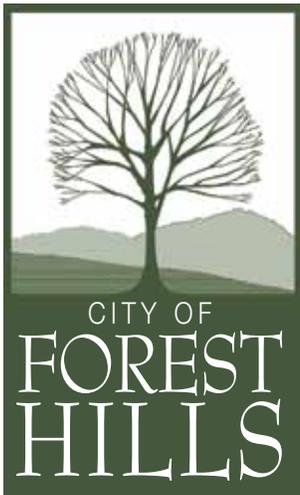
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CityofForestHills.com

City Manager

Al Deck w 383-8447

Board of Commissioners

William G. Coke, Mayor H 665-1992

John Lovell, Vice Mayor H 371-1716
w 292-9925

Lanson Hyde III H 714-9699

City Attorney

Matthew Foster w 256-0500

City Judge

David McMackin H 394-9365

City Engineer

Brad Bivens w 383-8420

Planning Commission

E. Warner Bass, Chair w 742-6210

Winston Evans, Vice Chair w 259-4685

James C. Gardner III H 665-0936

Em Ghianni H 373-1359

Carroll Kimball 665-8998

Sandy Moore H 373-0239
w 850-2723

George David Waller III H 373-2360

The Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Commissioner also sit on this commission.

Board of Zoning Appeals

Janie Rowland, Chair H 665-0642

Jim Littlejohn H 371-0008
w 385-4144

Mark Richard Banks H 447-4262

Emergency and
Information Line
298-5389

New City census to be conducted in 2012

The 2010 Census reported City of Forest Hills' population well below expected levels. The new count was 4,812, just a bare 2.2% above the 2000 level of 4,710.

The City anticipated the current population would be much closer to 6,000. The low count encouraged the Board of Commissioners to challenge the results; however, the Bureau requires a waiting period before the City can have a new census conducted.

A challenge to the census number would involve confirming the City boundaries by verifying the addresses of every house along the boundary lines. Once those addresses are determined, a comparison with the houses reported in the census would be much easier.

Why would the City spend the time and money to conduct a special census? The answer is revenue. The state of Tennessee distributes portions of its collections to cities and counties on a per-capita basis. Revenues come from various sources, and the allocations for 2011 were approximately \$104 for every man, woman, and child within each political subdivision of the state. If the actual were 5,812, as the City believes, versus the government's count of 4,812, the annual state shared revenues would increase by \$104,000 for the balance of the decade.

The City would have the option of conducting the census in-house, hiring a firm, or paying the Census Bureau to handle it. The



ON DECK
with **Al Deck**
City Manager

Bureau charges \$200 to provide a cost estimate for a special census. That information allows officials to compare the cost of hiring a firm to canvass the City's population.

The process will be more difficult now than in the past. The Office of Local Planning previously provided assistance to cities wishing to confirm their growth. However, the office was recently eliminated in a cost-reduction effort by the state.

One of the most important aspects of conducting this undertaking is communication. The City will follow this newsletter with information on the website and special mailing to keep you aware of its efforts.

The second important fact to explain is that this is not increasing the taxes you pay. Our goal is to ensure the collected taxes are properly allocated. The pool of money will not grow; if we can confirm our estimates, the funds simply will flow from one city to another—us.

Hyde replaces Douglas as Commissioner

Lanson Hyde III was sworn in November 3 as Commissioner of the City of Forest Hills, completing the term left vacant by the resignation of Tim Douglas.

Hyde, a resident of Forest Hills for more than 20 years, had served on the Board of Zoning Appeals since November 2008. He is chief operating officer of Surgical Development Partners, a healthcare company that develops and manages acute care hospitals and outpatient surgery centers.

Hyde said the Board of Commissioners has a responsibility to protect the City and its residents.

"When the economy comes back, aggressive, ill-considered development will threaten Forest Hills again. The easy lots have already been developed," he said. "We should protect the beauty and natural resources of Forest Hills by permitting only responsible, compatible new development."

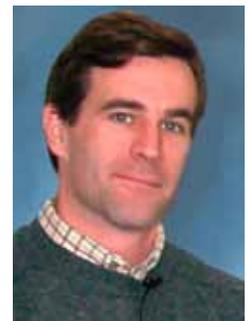
He said the City's new ordinances dealing with remodeling issues achieve a balance

between homeowners' needs and community standards.

"We need to ensure our residents have the flexibility to update and improve their homes. It can be difficult having restrictions designed to protect the beauty of the city and overall property values while allowing families the freedom to enjoy their property," he said. "There has to be a balance, and I think the newly revised ordinances do a nice job of addressing that balance."

Another important issue Hyde sees is investigating options for household recycling. "My wife and I are tired of having recycling sitting in the garage and then loading it into a car and driving it to another city every week," he said. "I think we can find better options."

His term expires in November 2012.



The Commissioner's Corner

2011 was a busy year for Forest Hills

The past year has been a busy one for the City of Forest Hills. Some activities—the construction of a new City Hall for example—are highly visible. Others, like the review and revision of our Zoning Ordinances, less so. This article is an attempt to provide a state of the City report as we look ahead to 2012.

First, it is important to note that we are in excellent financial shape. Before committing to the capital outlay projects described below, the Board of Commissioners employed a financial consultant to build a detailed spreadsheet that would calculate the City's cash positions based on various income and expenditure assumptions. As actual figures replace budgeted ones the model updates and extends its projections.

So far, we are right on track. With City Hall more than three-quarters paid for and with virtually no other outstanding bills, the City's cash reserves are more than 40% higher than they were a decade ago.

New City Hall

Since its beginning, the City has occupied the same small office space in Green Hills. It became inadequate long ago with its lack of privacy and storage space. Citizens attending meetings were often without seats and unable to clearly see or hear the presentations or discussions. In addition, it was apparent that as Green Hills continued its upscale redevelopment, it was only a matter of time before our space would at some point be unavailable.

When NES built its substation at the corner of Hillsboro Pike and Old Hickory Boulevard the City was able to negotiate a 99-year ground lease of approximately eight acres adjacent to the NES site for \$250 per year. With virtually free land and comfortable cash reserves, the Board of Commissioners voted to build a City Hall in which Forest Hills residents could take pride. Ground was broken in January 2011, the first Commissioners' meeting was held in December, and an Open House is scheduled for February 2012.



City branding

Several years ago new street signs with a distinctive look and logo were installed throughout the City. A stone entranceway on the southern portion of Hillsboro Pike was built along with a number of stone monuments at key entrances into Forest Hills. This year a complementing stone entrance on the northern portion of Hillsboro Pike was

completed. Plans were also finalized to continue the planting of dogwoods and cherry trees along Hillsboro Pike from Tyne to Old Hickory. (In 2010 a similar planting, the gift of Japanese Consul General Hiroshi Suto, was done from Harding Place to South Stanford Drive.)

Contributions

Over the years Forest Hills has supported the Warner Parks, Radnor Lake, and Percy Priest School, all of which benefit our residents. This year the City donated \$100,000 to Friends of Radnor Lake to help rebuild trails that were washed out during the floods of 2010; \$300,000 to Percy Priest School to help it build a new, million-dollar state-of-the-art library; and \$33,000 to Friends of Warner Parks.



Plans and ordinances

In 2008 the City hired consultants to review our existing zoning ordinances with an eye towards protecting our natural and cultural resources while allowing for reasonable development. After meeting with a number of citizen groups, the consultants produced the Green Community Framework Report, which led to a revision of the City's Comprehensive Plan in January 2010. For the next two years the Planning Commission, with assistance from our City Attorney Matt Foster, City Engineer Brad Bivens, and City Planner Mort Stein, met regularly to review and revise our Zoning Ordinance to match the goals of the Comprehensive

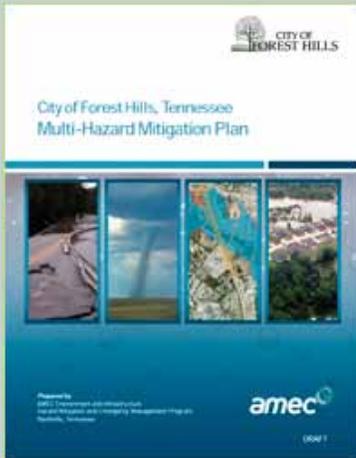


John Lovell
Vice Mayor



Plan. Those revisions are almost completed, and a new Zoning Ordinance will be in place the first of the year.

The City also worked this year to formulate a Hazard Mitigation Plan, which is required to be eligible for FEMA funds in the event of an emergency. Members of the Board of Commissioners, Planning Commission, Board of Zoning Appeals, concerned citizens, and staff met regularly with consultant Cindy Popplewell of AMEC to work through the four-step process needed for developing a plan. Work was finished in late fall and the plan has been submitted to FEMA for approval.



City Court

In November retired attorney David McMackin was appointed as Forest Hills' first judge. Judge McMackin is authorized to hear cases pertaining to Forest Hills' laws and regulations. While the City has gone to great lengths to adopt regulations and ordinances to ensure that our quality of life remains high, it has no municipal court of its own to enforce those ordinances. Metro General Sessions Courts do not have legal authority to hear these cases, which leaves the City without a cost-effective means of enforcing its regulations.

Metro has sued the City to prevent the formation of our court, citing its belief that the Metro Charter precludes us from doing so. Our City Attorney, and the attorneys hired by the Tennessee Municipal League to represent us, strongly disagree with that theory. The case is currently in Chancery Court and we are pressing for a speedy trial to resolve the issue.

Communications

The City has worked with marketing firm Armour&Armour to develop a new website (www.cityofforesthills.com) that offers residents easier access to more information. The home page offers links to the most requested information, a calendar of events, agendas and minutes from various board meetings, and late breaking news.



There is an opportunity to sign up for electronic delivery of the City newsletter, e-blasts and, with a click, residents can send an e-mail with questions and comments directly to City Hall.

New faces

This year has seen the addition of several new members of the City's boards. In November, Lanson Hyde III was appointed to the Board of Commissioners to replace Commissioner Tim Douglas, who resigned due to increased business demands. Replacing him on the BZA is Mark Banks.

Summary

It has, in fact, been a busy year. The Board of Commissioners anticipates—indeed looks forward to—a quieter 2012. We will revisit plans to expand our system of bike paths and walking trails and continue with efforts to preserve our City's open spaces. We do invite all residents to visit our new City Hall, familiarize themselves our new Zoning Ordinance, log onto our website, and enjoy the trees along Hillsboro Pike. As always, we appreciate and encourage any thoughts and comments you have about how to keep Forest Hills such a special place to call home.



Chipper service to take Christmas trees

The chipper service provided by the City of Forest Hills will pick up residents' Christmas trees on its regular monthly routes in January. (*See schedule below.*)

Remove all ornaments, metal and stands from the tree before placing as close to the street as possible, but not in the ditch, said Dan Beasley, manager of the tree division at The Parke Company.

Beasley said Forest Hills residents can also call 665-2370 and request to have their trees picked up before their regular monthly service.

Week 1 and 2

Alcott, Arco, Ash Valley, Balbade, Beauregard, Beekman, Carlton, Chateau, Chickering Park, Crater Hill, Dresden, Everett, Foxwood, Fredericksburg, Granny White, Harding Place, Hemingway, Hillcott, Laurel Ridge, Lynmont, Lynnwood, Maplemere, Mary Helen, McGrace, Merrimac, Otter Valley, Priest, R.E. Lee Court, R.E. Lee Drive, Ridgewood, Roselawn, Saxon, Skymont, Stanford, Still Hollow, Stuart Glen, Sunset Hill Terrace, Tara, Timothy, Toddington, Tyne, Twinmont, Tynewood, Vintage, Wayland, Yancey

Week 3 and 4

Andover, Ashland, Beddington, Bridleway Trail, Carl Seyfert, Cherry Blossom, Chickering Court, Chickering Lane, Chickering Road, Clifftee, Confederate, Cromwell, Earlington, Edenbridge, Gardendale, General Forrest, Goldstone, Havering Chase, Hickory Springs, Hillsboro, Jefferson Davis, Kenwood, Kingsbury, Litchfield Way, Melbourne, Montcrest, Norton, Old Hickory, Otter Creek, Page, Piccadilly Place, Pinehurst, Sherwood, Stonehaven, Stonehurst, St. James Place, Taggartwood, Timberwood Drive, Timberwood Place

NOTE: The City cannot provide the specific day of collection in your neighborhood.

The Commissioner's Corner

New judge to ensure City laws are enforced

At its regular meeting on Thursday, November 17, the three members of the Board of Commissioners of the City of Forest Hills unanimously passed Resolution 2011-05 appointing David McMackin as City Judge for the City of Forest Hills.

The resolution cited several sections of the Tennessee Code giving the City of Forest Hills the authority for appointing Mr. McMackin. In particular, TCA 6-21-501 grants to the Board of Commissioners the power to appoint a City Judge who shall serve at the pleasure of the Board.

The resolution went on to state "that the Board of Commissioners desires to appoint a city judge for the purpose of hearing and adjudicating cases for violations of the laws and ordinances of the City of Forest Hills and arising under the law and ordinances of the City of Forest Hills."

In the past, the City has had to rely on the good will of its citizens to make sure that the ordinances of the City are followed. By and large the great majority of Forest Hills residents abide by these ordinances

Banks named to BZA

Mark Richard Banks has been appointed to the Board of Zoning Appeals, filling the position previously held by Lanson Hyde III.

Hyde left the BZA to serve on the Board of Commissioners.

Banks is owner of Retail Partners Development, a build-to-suit retail development company. He previously was development manager for Newton Oldacre McDonald and affiliate broker for NAI/Mathews.



City to repair tall speed bumps

Residents on Kingsbury Drive, who complained the new speed bumps were too high, will find their drive less jarring in the future.

The City Engineer determined that the contractor added new asphalt on top of the old bumps instead of replacing them. Repairs will be underway soon.



Bill Coke
Mayor

and laws. On occasion, however, there are intentional violations. The new City Judge will have the authority to adjudicate these violations and to see that the laws of the City of Forest Hills are enforced. This will not be a traffic court.

Creating a City Court in Forest Hills will enhance the governance of the City. We look forward to the judgeship of David McMackin in defining that position for the City.



Participating in the first annual Perennial Swap are organizer Mary Roberts Singleton, Cindy Davis and Lisa Whitten from Chickering Lane, Mello Thompson from Bancroft, Tom Collins (a City resident for almost 30 years), and Cindy Luna from Crater Hill.

Neighbors swap perennials

Forest Hills neighbors gathered on Saturday, October 8, at Mary Roberts Singleton's home at 4382 Chickering Lane (corner of Chickering Road and Chickering Lane) for the first annual Perennial Swap.

Residents brought their favorite perennials that they have in abundance and traded them for plantings brought by someone else. The event was a great success, Singleton said, and they intend to do it every year. Everyone is invited to participate.

Watch for details about the second annual Perennial Swap next fall.



Washing your car can send detergents and other contaminants into the storm sewer system. Dumping automotive fluids into storm drains is the same as dumping the materials directly into a waterbody. Use a commercial car wash that recycles its wastewater, or wash your car in your yard. Repair leaks and dispose of fluids and batteries at designated recycling locations.

This stormwater management tip is provided as part of the City's education requirement under its state permit. For more tips visit www.bit.ly/stormwatersolutions.



Be careful this holiday season

Reports of robbery and theft soar around the holidays, as criminals take advantage of unwary shoppers, distracted homeowners, and careless travelers.

If you are victimized, be sure to report any theft, attempted theft, or any other crime to Metro Police at 862-8600. The amount of crime reported in Forest Hills affects how Metro assigns patrol officers to the area.

During the season, use extra precaution along with common sense to keep yourself and your belongings safe.

Lock your car, even in your own driveway, even in "safe" neighborhoods.

Keep the exterior of your house well lit. Leave outside lights on or install motion sensor lights.

Trim bushes and shrubs around the house so they don't provide shielding for intruders.

Stow away valuables like bicycles and sporting equipment.

Boxes from big-ticket items like a television or computer announce your new acquisitions to burglars. Break down the boxes instead of taking them intact

to the curb, to make them less conspicuous.

Shopping tips

Ask a mall security officer to walk you to your car if you are uneasy about going alone.

Avoid strangers handing out information. All too often, this is a con, with a partner sizing up the situation.

Park only in well lit areas. Have your keys out so that you don't have to fumble after you get to the car.

Lock your doors as soon as you get in the car and keep them locked.

Avoid taking large amounts of cash with you. Use credit or debit cards instead. Put away receipts with debit or credit card information on them.

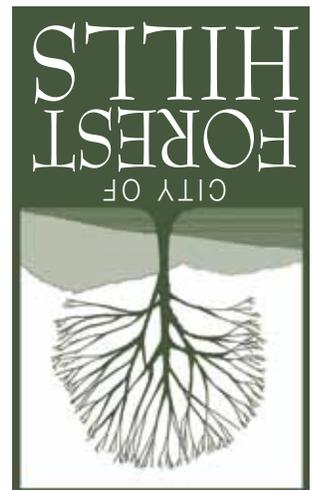
Don't carry a wallet in your back pocket. Keep a purse close to your chest.

Don't walk around overloaded with packages. Instead, take your purchases to the car when your arms get full, and come back to continue shopping.

Don't leave packages or valuable items visible in the car. Lock them in the trunk or put them out of sight.



6300 Hillsboro Pike
Nashville TN 37215



See magnet inside.
Contact information
for new City Hall

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