

**THE
BELLS
MUNICIPAL
CODE**

Prepared by the

**MUNICIPAL TECHNICAL ADVISORY SERVICE
INSTITUTE FOR PUBLIC SERVICE
THE UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE**

in cooperation with the

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CITY OF BELLS, TENNESSEE

MAYOR

Harold C. Craig

ALDERMEN

David Eubanks
Robert Earl Gaines, II
Eric Jordan
Sam T. Lewis
Victoria Parks

RECORDER

Elizabeth Harber

PREFACE

The Bells Municipal Code contains the codification and revision of the ordinances of the City of Bells, Tennessee. By referring to the historical citation appearing at the end of each section, the user can determine the origin of each particular section. The absence of a historical citation means that the section was added by the codifier. The word "modified" in the historical citation indicates significant modification of the original ordinance.

The code is arranged into titles, chapters, and sections. Related matter is kept together, so far as possible, within the same title. Each section number is complete within itself, containing the title number, the chapter number, and the section of the chapter of which it is a part. Specifically, the first digit, followed by a hyphen, identifies the title number. The second digit identifies the chapter number, and the last two digits identify the section number. For example, title 2, chapter 1, section 6, is designated as section 2-106.

By utilizing the table of contents and the analysis preceding each title and chapter of the code, together with the cross references and explanations included as footnotes, the user should locate all the provisions in the code relating to any question that might arise. However, the user should note that most of the administrative ordinances (e.g. Annual Budget, Zoning Map Amendments, Tax Assessments, etc...) do not appear in the code. Likewise, ordinances that have been passed since the last update of the code do not appear here. Therefore, the user should refer to the city's ordinance book or the city recorder for a comprehensive and up to date review of the city's ordinances.

Following this preface is an outline of the ordinance adoption procedures, if any, prescribed by the city's charter.

The code has been arranged and prepared in loose-leaf form to facilitate keeping it up to date. MTAS will provide updating service under the following conditions:

- (1) That all ordinances relating to subjects treated in the code or which should be added to the code are adopted as amending, adding, or deleting specific chapters or sections of the code (see section 8 of the adopting ordinance).
- (2) That one copy of every ordinance adopted by the city is kept in a separate ordinance book and forwarded to MTAS annually.
- (3) That the city agrees to reimburse MTAS for the actual costs of reproducing replacement pages for the code (no charge is made for the consultant's work, and reproduction costs are usually nominal).

When the foregoing conditions are met MTAS will reproduce replacement pages for the code to reflect the amendments and additions made by such

ordinances. This service will be performed at least annually and more often if justified by the volume of amendments. Replacement pages will be supplied with detailed instructions for utilizing them so as again to make the code complete and up to date.

The able assistance of Sandy Selvage, the MTAS Sr. Word Processing Specialist who did all the typing on this project and Tracy G. Gardner, Administrative Services Assistant is gratefully acknowledged.

Steve Lobertini
Codification Specialist

**ORDINANCE ADOPTION PROCEDURES PRESCRIBED BY THE
CITY CHARTER**

SECTION 12. Any action of the board having a regulatory or penal effect, awarding franchises, or required to be done by ordinance under this charter or the general laws of the state, shall be done only by ordinance. Other actions may be accomplished by resolutions or motions. Ordinances and resolutions shall be in written form before being introduced. The enacting clause of ordinances shall be "Be it ordained by the Board of Mayor and Aldermen of the City of Bells:". Every ordinance must be approved on two (2) readings and there shall be no more than one reading on any one day. An ordinance may receive first reading upon its introduction. Ordinances shall take effect upon final reading, adoption and being signed by the Mayor unless a different effective date is designated in the ordinance.

All ordinances shall be signed by the Mayor before they shall become effective. The Mayor shall affix his approval or disapproval within five (5) days after adoption by the board. If the Mayor withholds his signature for five (5) days, exclusive of Sundays and holidays, the ordinance shall become effective for failure to veto. The Mayor shall state his reasons for vetoing an ordinance in writing and shall transmit his reasons and the ordinance back to the board for its action. The board may pass the ordinance over the veto by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the full membership of the board.