

Minutes
Regular Meeting
Bluff City Board of Mayor and Aldermen
October 13, 2011

Mayor Irene Wells called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Members present were Brian Mullins, Lon Gene Leonard, and Sheena Cornwell.

Melvin Carrier and Robert Miller were absent.

Also present: City Attorney Paul Frye and City Engineer Dave Wilson.

Prayer given by Richard Boling, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Wells presented the minutes from March 10, 2011 for consideration by the board. City Manager Dulaney stated that the previous board did not approve them, and she was told by the former vice-mayor not to put them on the Agenda for the last meeting prior to July 1st. Alderwoman Cornwell said that these minutes were six month ago and she was not on the board and did not feel comfortable in approving them. Vice Mayor Leonard asked how they could vote on something they had nothing to do with. Ms. Dulaney stated that the auditor told her the minutes needed to be approved by the board. Alderman Melvin Carrier arrived at the meeting. Ms. Dulaney stated the board could wait until Aldermen Miller was present as he and Alderman Carrier were on the previous board. Motion to postpone the March 10, 2011 minutes until the next meeting was made by Alderman Mullins. Second by Alderwoman Cornwell.

Roll Call Vote:	Alderman Carrier	yes
	Alderman Mullins	yes
	Vice-Mayor Leonard	yes
	Alderwoman Cornwell	yes

Mayor Wells presented the minutes for the August 11, 2011 regular meeting to the board for consideration. Vice Mayor Leonard made a motion to approve the August 11, 2011 minutes. Second by Alderwoman Cornwell.

Roll Call Vote:	Alderman Carrier	yes
	Alderman Mullins	yes
	Vice-Mayor Leonard	yes
	Alderwoman Cornwell	yes

Mayor Wells presented the minutes for the September 14, 2011 Special Called Meeting. Alderman Mullins made a motion to approve the September 14, 2011 minutes. Second by Alderman Carrier.

Roll Call Vote:	Alderman Carrier	yes
	Alderman Mullins	yes
	Vice-Mayor Leonard	yes
	Alderwoman Cornwell	yes

Mayor Wells presented the minutes for the October 6, 2011 Special Called Meeting. Vice-Mayor Leonard made a motion to approve the October 6, 2011 minutes. Second by Alderman Mullins.

Roll Call Vote:	Alderman Carrier	yes
	Alderman Mullins	yes
	Vice-Mayor Leonard	yes
	Alderwoman Cornwell	yes

Mayor Wells opened the floor for Citizen Comments – First Section.

1. Ron Odom of 4756 Bluff City Highway commented on the fact that Aldermen get paid ten dollars (\$10.00) per month and he suggested that the pay be increased to one hundred dollars (\$100.00) per month which would be twelve hundred dollars (\$1200.00) per year and pay the Mayor fifteen hundred dollars (\$1500.00) per year. Mayor Wells asked if it would be legal to approve a salary for your own self. City Attorney Paul Frye stated yes, that it would take a charter change and an act of the legislature to do it. Mr. Mullins stated that he did not want to disrespect Mr. Odom but when he took the seat it was not for the money it was to help the town.
2. Julie Venable of 209 Smith Street Extension stated that she wanted to make it clear that a couple of Boards ago it was their idea to lower to ten dollars (\$10.00) because they were trying to help the city out. Vice Mayor Leonard stated that he did not think that was correct because he was on the board in the early 1990's . Ms. Venable stated they were paid twenty five dollars. Mr. Leonard stated he was never paid twenty five dollars.
3. Sabrina Arnold of 199 Main Street, Assistant Principal of Bluff City Middle School, stated that she knew that their job is a thankless one and she would not want any part of it. Mrs. Arnold stated that she appreciated what this board has done and everyone on this board has helped her either professionally or personally. Mrs. Arnold also thanked Chief Depew for assistance with the school traffic, as he and Vice-Mayor Leonard met with the school at the beginning of the school year and implemented some changes making the travel better. Mrs. Arnold stated that they had requested more crosswalks and the city agreed to put new cross walks in. Mrs. Arnold presented a token of appreciation to the BMA from the school, along with a card from her.
4. Jerry Malone of 372 Smith Street thanked the Police Department for their support on the fund raiser at the park. Mr. Malone thanked the BMA for their support of the United Fund. Mr. Malone reported that next Friday night the United Fund of Bluff City and the Elementary School Athletic Boosters will be doing a Bluegrass in Bluff City.
5. Lillian Cutten of 204 Duty Drive stated that the Board deserves a raise. Mrs. Cutten stated that they are always ready to talk to anybody, not just the time they are spending at meetings but also when they are out or when they are called. Mrs. Cutten stated that she feels that the board should invite different preachers from our community to come to the meetings and have prayer. Mayor Wells stated that she had talked to some. Mrs. Cutten stated that she felt that it would be nice if we could do that, and get our board and our city back on the right track and all work together.

Mayor Wells opened the Public Hearing on Ordinance No. 2011-023 at 7:27 p.m. City Attorney Paul Frye read Ordinance 2011-023, which is an ordinance setting speed limits for the Town of Bluff City and amending Ordinance No. 97-009, Ordinance No. 2002-006, and Ordinance No. 2004-009, Title 15, Chapter 2 of the Bluff City Municipal Code. There was no public comment. Mayor Wells closed the public hearing at 729 p.m.

Mayor Wells presented Ordinance 2011-023 to the BMA for consideration on second reading. Vice-Mayor Leonard made a motion to approve Ordinance No. 2011-023 on second reading. Second by Alderman Carrier.

Roll Call Vote:	Alderman Carrier	yes
	Alderman Mullins	yes
	Vice-Mayor Leonard	yes
	Alderwoman Cornwell	yes

Mayor Wells presented Resolution No. 2011-003 to the BMA for consideration. City Attorney Paul Frye read Resolution 2011-003, a resolution authorizing the issuance, sale and payment of the Town of Bluff City Inter-fund Loan (from the General Fund to the Water / Sewer Fund) Capital Outlay Notes not to exceed \$200,000.00. Mr. Frye stated that this was to be used to restore the water line across the bridge. Alderman Carrier made a motion to approve Resolution No. 2011-003 Second by Alderman Mullins.

Roll Call Vote:	Alderman Carrier	yes
	Alderman Mullins	yes
	Vice-Mayor Leonard	yes
	Alderwoman Cornwell	yes

City Attorney Paul Frye reported that on the lawsuit of Cawood vs. Bluff City he recommended the board hire the firm of Milligan and Coleman in Greenville and Eric Herron to defend the lawsuit in U S District Court at the rate of one hundred and ninety dollars (\$190.00) per hour. Alderwoman Cornwell made a motion to hire the Law Firm of Milligan & Coleman and Attorney Eric Herron to represent the city on the Cawood Vs Bluff City Lawsuit. Second by Alderman Mullins.

Roll Call Vote:	Alderman Carrier	yes
	Alderman Mullins	yes
	Vice-Mayor Leonard	yes
	Alderwoman Cornwell	yes

Mayor Wells turned the floor over to City Engineer Dave Wilson of Mattern & Craig to present an update on water projects. Mr. Wilson reported that he and Cody McElroy, who also worked on the plans, were there to update the board on the water line across the bridge project. Mr. Wilson reported that the plans were submitted to the Tennessee Department of Transportation and were approved this week and they have authorization to advertise. Mr. Wilson stated that he hoped to be within the two hundred thousand

dollars (\$200,000.00). Mr. Wilson reported that in addition they have had a couple other projects and should meet in a workshop to discuss them.

City Manager Dulaney stated that she would like to discuss the retaining wall at the park, the parking lot and the poles und the boardwalk. Ms. Dulaney stated that she felt that the retaining wall in the parking lot is the most crucial and asked Mr. Wilson to break down the costs separately. Mr. Wilson stated that they had put together an exhibit for improvements and to advertise for a contractor to come in and make the improvements, and they do have them separated. Ms. Dulaney stated that they were not separated on the paperwork she had. Mr. Wilson stated that the letter of September 23rd was in reference to the parking lot, taking down the existing retaining wall and replacing it, along with creating another entrance to the park. Ms. Dulaney asked what it would cost to do the parking lot, retaining wall and entrance. Mr. Wilson stated his estimate was (\$65,000.00) based on current costs. Mr. Wilson stated that if they did the post protection on the board walk it would be an additional estimated (\$20,000.00). Mr. Wilson stated that those estimations were based on bids received last fall, which would be approximately \$250.00 to \$300.00 per post. Vice-Mayor Leonard made a motion to approve the \$65,000.00 for parking lot repairs and alterations and to authorize Mattern & Craig to put the job out on bid. Second by Alderwoman Cornwell.

Roll Call Vote:	Alderman Carrier	yes
	Alderman Mullins	yes
	Vice-Mayor Leonard	yes
	Alderwoman Cornwell	yes

City Engineer Dave Wilson reported that Tom Jarrell was considering sub dividing more of his property in Jarrell Estates. Mr. Wilson stated that Mr. Jarrell's engineer, David Edwards, requested that they give them flow data for that area, Mr. Wilson reported that it appeared that after doing hydrant testing, that the city may not be able to meet the code 100% to deliver minimum pressure if fighting a fire. Mr. Wilson stated that he needed to look at it further. The BMA scheduled a work shop to discuss Tom Jarrell's development and the Comprehensive Water Study for November 3rd at 6:00 p.m.

Mayor Wells reported that she had attended 3 different meetings representing the city and has continued to visit some of the businesses in town. Mrs. Wells stated that she would like to thank everyone for coming out and hoped the crowd continues to grow.

City Attorney Paul Frye reported that the 2008, 2009 and 2010 delinquent tax letters had been sent out.

Mayor Wells opened the floor for comments from Aldermen:

Alderman Carrier commented that he was glad everyone was here. Alderman Mullins thanked everyone for coming to the meeting.

Vice-Mayor Leonard thanked everyone for coming to the meeting. Alderwoman Cornwell thanked everyone for coming to the meeting and looked forward to working with everyone to see if the city can get some things happening for the kids.

City Manager Dulaney reported that she had been having the streets marked. Ms. Dulaney reported that Lady Equipment had sent a quote for a trailer for the backhoe for \$3500.00. Alderman Carrier made a motion to purchase a flatbed trailer from Equipment for \$3,500.00. Second by Alderman Mullins.

Roll Call Vote:	Alderman Carrier	yes
	Alderman Mullins	yes
	Vice-Mayor Leonard	yes
	Alderwoman Cornwell	yes

City Manager Dulaney reported that the city had received approval from the Comptroller's Office on the budget for Fiscal Year ending June 30, 2012

City Manager Dulaney presented a report of the ATS (American Traffic Solutions) citations issued from July 1, 2011 until September 20, 2011 and the citations that were reviewed and issued on July 24, 2011 by Reserve Officer Housewrite using Officer McClintock's personal password. Ms. Dulaney reported that the total amount to be refunded is forty six thousand and nine hundred dollars (\$46,900.00). Ms. Dulaney reported that they are still working on reviewing the citations, but she would like to get approval for the above mentioned total. Vice-Mayor Leonard made a motion to approve forty six thousand and nine hundred dollars (\$46,900.00) in refunds. Second by Alderwoman Cornwell.

Roll Call Vote:	Alderman Carrier	yes
	Alderman Mullins	yes
	Vice-Mayor Leonard	yes
	Alderwoman Cornwell	yes

City Manager Dulaney presented photos and costs of the proposed new cruisers. Ms. Dulaney stated that the cruisers would cost twenty three thousand five hundred and forty seven dollars (\$23,547.00) each. Ms. Dulaney reported that it is more cost effective for cash flow purposes; to lease the cruisers for three years and the city would be eligible to buy them for one dollar at the end of the three years. Alderman Mullins made a motion to lease the police cruisers. Second by Alderwoman Cornwell.

Roll Call Vote:	Alderman Carrier	yes
	Alderman Mullins	yes
	Vice-Mayor Leonard	yes
	Alderwoman Cornwell	yes

Public Works Director Ron Miller reported that public works had repaired seven (7) leaks, repaired man hole covers, cleaned the shop area, cleaned some drains and are in the process of building a tool room to keep track of tools and the crew sign will have to sign in and out for tools. Mr. Miller stated that he was getting all of the trucks serviced that have been neglected for some time. Mr. Miller reported that he was trying to implement a schedule for brush pick up to be on Monday's and leaf pick up on Tuesday's, Wednesday's, and Thursday's. Mr. Miller reported that he was starting up a cost procedure for each job. Mr. Miller reported that he was setting up scrap piles of brass, aluminum and steel that may be sold to

recuperate some of the cost. Mr. Miller reported that there were upcoming issues with a filter on the water tank that has to be done by March, and he will get a cost on that. Mr. Miller reported that he had a system where he and two other crew members will evaluate what is to be considered a leak before they start to dig. Mr. Miller stated that he was open for suggestions.

Alderman Cornwell stated that in her subdivision there was a junk pile that had been there for about two weeks. Public Works Director Miller stated we could not pick up those things because we do not have our own landfill. Mrs. Cornwell stated that the city may need a junk day twice a year. Alderman Mullins asked who was on leak detection. Mr. Miller stated that Billy Bowman was doing the leak detection, and then he would listen and then call Milton, the foreman. Alderman Carrier stated that there was no smoking in the trucks or the building. Mr. Miller stated he was aware of that and they are working on a place outside designated for smoking.

Police Chief Depew reported that the police department is doing well and is now in compliance. Chief Depew stated that the reserve program is going well. Chief Depew presented the monthly Police Report for September (SEE ATTACHMENT I). Chief Depew reported that one officer has completed the FTO Program and another officer is currently in the FTO Program. (Field Training)

There were no Sullivan County Commissioners present.

Mayor Wells opened the floor for Old Business.

1. Alderman Cornwell requested that a workshop be scheduled with the executive director of the Boy's and Girl's Club. Mrs. Cornwell asked if they could meet on November 1st at 6:00 p.m.
2. Alderman Cornwell reported that she and Sabrina (Arnold) had discussed the old City Hall Building. Alderman Cornwell reported that they had met with an architect and S&ME to check the status of the building. Alderman Cornwell stated that there is a grant that is available thru TDEC and most of those grants average approximately three hundred and fifty thousand dollars (\$350,000.00), but you have to make a 20% match. Alderman Cornwell stated that the deadline is November 1st 2011, but the city could get started on it for next year.

Mayor Wells opened the floor for New Business.

1. Vice-Mayor Leonard reported that he had found a GMC 2 Ton Dump Truck locally, with good tires on it and a new engine in it and had been well maintained and requested the board to consider purchasing the truck. Vice-Mayor Leonard stated that the price of the truck is seventy five hundred dollars (\$7500.00). Vice-Mayor Leonard made a motion to purchase the truck. Alderman Mullins asked if we had anyone on our crew with a CDL license. Supervisor Ron Miller stated that he was getting his back. Second by Alderman Mullins.

Roll Call Vote:	Alderman Carrier	yes
	Alderman Mullins	yes
	Vice-Mayor Leonard	yes
	Alderman Cornwell	yes

2. Alderwoman Cornwell asked the press to acknowledge the good things that our town does instead of all negative.
3. Alderman Carrier asked the board to consider extending the sidewalk on the side of the street that the Senior Citizens Building is from the Senior Citizens Building to the swinging bridge. City Manager Dulaney stated that she would look into it. Mr. Carrier requested that the city look into putting sidewalks on Parks Worley Street.

Mayor Wells opened the floor for Citizen Comments – Second Section.

1. Lillian Cutten stated that the house next to her on Vickers Road, which is not inside the city, has a house full of cats and when they open the window the cats run in and out all day long and come over into her yard. Mrs. Cutten stated that since they were in the county, did that mean that we can't do anything about them. Alderman Mullins stated that he could tell her who to call. Mrs. Cutten stated that there should be a limit, even in the county as to how many cats or dogs that you can have in a house. Alderwoman Cornwell stated that she works for Sullivan County Planning Codes and they have no restrictions on animals at all unless enforced by the Animal Shelter.
2. Jerry Malone reported that the Bluff City Rescue Squad has Bluegrass on Tuesday nights.

Mayor Wells adjourned the meeting at 8:20 p.m.

Irene Wells, Mayor

ATTEST: This 13th Day of October, 2011

Judy Dulaney, City Recorder

