

Minutes  
Regular Meeting  
Bluff City Board of Mayor and Aldermen  
November 11, 2011

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

Members present were Melvin Carrier, Bryan Mullins, Robert Miller, Lon Gene Leonard and Sheena Cornwell.

Also present: City Manager Judy Dulaney, Police Chief Greg Depew and City Attorney Paul Frye.

Prayer was given by Mayor Wells, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes for the March 10, 2011 meeting were approved with a motion by Alderman Miller. Second by Alderman Mullins.

Roll Call Vote:

Alderman Carrier	yes
Alderman Mullins	yes
Alderman Miller	yes
Vice-Mayor Leonard	abstained
Alderwoman Cornwell	abstained

Mayor Wells presented the September 8, 2011 minutes to the BMA for consideration. Vice-Mayor Leonard made a motion to approve the September 8, 2011 minutes Second by Alderman Carrier. Mayor Wells requested a correction on page 3 where it says the City Attorney is working with the City Recorder and the City Auditor on the debt police, it should be debt policy.

Roll Call Vote:

Alderman Carrier	yes
Alderman Mullins	yes
Alderman Miller	yes
Vice-Mayor Leonard	yes
Alderwoman Cornwell	yes

Mayor Wells presented the minutes for the September 28, 2011 Special Called Meeting to the BMA for consideration. Alderman Miller made a motion to approve the September 28, 2011 minutes. Second by Alderwoman Cornwell. Mayor Wells requested that on page 2, 3<sup>rd</sup> paragraph referencing Ordinance 2011-022 that the vote on the ordinance needed to be added to reflect that the Ordinance No. 2011-022 was approved. City Manager Dulaney stated that she would make that correction.

Roll Call Vote:

Alderman Carrier	yes
Alderman Mullins	yes
Alderman Miller	yes
Vice-Mayor Leonard	yes
Alderwoman Cornwell	yes

Mayor Wells presented the minutes of October 13, 2011 to the BMA for consideration. Alderman Carrier made a motion to approve the minutes of October 13, 2011. Second by Alderwoman Cornwell.

Roll Call Vote:

Alderman Carrier	yes
Alderman Mullins	yes
Alderman Miller	abstained

Vice-Mayor Leonard	yes
Alderwoman Cornwell	yes

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

1. Martha Kittell of 454 Cedar Street stated that she appreciated the staff that worked on Heritage Day's. Mrs. Kittell stated the setup was phenomenal and on the cleanup, everything was back to normal by 4:00.
2. Lillian Cutten stated that it is time for this board to clean up the mess that was left by the last board. Mrs. Cutten stated it can't be done in one day but we need to put personalities and hurt feelings behind us and work for the city. Mrs. Cutten stated that problems should be heard in this building and not on TV.
3. Nick Crumley of 297 Summit Drive requested that a street light be put at the end of McClelland Street for the flag pole at the cemetery to help keep people out of the cemetery at night and aid the police to be able to see better. Vice-Mayor Leonard stated that he and the Mayor had discussed it. City Manager Dulaney stated that it would have to be a board decision since it is not in the city limits.
4. Connie Leonard of 314 Main Street stated that she wanted to address the recent media information regarding the Mayor's complaint to the NAACP and the EEOC. Ms. Leonard stated that there are other victims that have been harassed and discriminated against at her hand and the previous board members. Ms. Leonard read her statement. (SEE ATTACHMENT I)
5. Carol Keith of 305 Lakeview Circle stated that the past is the past. Mrs. Keith asked if her office became a storage room. Mayor Wells stated yes. Mrs. Keith stated that it seems like we can't get things straightened out and if we can't get things straightened out perhaps we need somebody to come to straighten things out. Mrs. Keith stated that she did not know if it is racism, but she has zero tolerance for it. Mrs. Keith stated I am behind you all the way.
6. Lillian Cutten asked if the last two Mayors had had a private office. City Manager Dulaney stated no. Vice-Mayor Leonard stated that only the City Manager had an office; there has never been a Mayor's office.
7. Connie Leonard stated that the board at that time felt that it was not necessary to build it to the specs of the architects so they cut the size down so it left us without room for records. Ms. Leonard asked how many times had she asked how we were going to store records as they are being destroyed. Ms. Leonard asked if there was not another office in City Hall that the Mayor could use. Vice-Mayor Leonard stated yes, the same one he uses. Ms. Leonard stated that she believes that there is an office in City Hall that can be used one office is being used for records and the other office that is used by the Storm Coordinator that everybody could use. Mrs. Wells stated that she was told that there were file cabinets in there. Ms. Leonard stated that she did not feel that it was anything with race as we had always thought a lot of her and Billy Wells and supported and campaigned for him as Mayor for years. Ms. Leonard stated that it is nothing against her it is times past and things that have gone on that has not been above board.

Mayor Wells opened the floor for comment / approval of the Mission Statement. Alderwoman Cornwell asked Mayor Wells why she was not present at the workshop they held. Mayor Wells stated that she was sick and that is why she did not attend the meeting last night. City Manager Dulaney read the Mission Statement which came from a strategic planning session that the board held to establish some five and ten year goals. Motion to approve was made by Alderman Miller. Second by Alderwoman Cornwell.

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

Mayor Wells opened the floor for the public hearing on the City of Bluff City Debt Policy; at 7:30 p.m. City Attorney Paul Frye read the policy and stated that most of it is already in Tennessee State Law. There were no public comment, Mayor Wells closed the public hearing at 7:34 p.m. Motion to approve was made by Vice-Mayor Leonard. Second by Alderwoman Cornwell.

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

Mayor Wells presented Resolution No. 2011-004 to the BMA for consideration. City Attorney Paul Frye read Resolution No. 2011-004 which allocates the funds in the amount of ten thousand dollars (\$10,000.00) to the Bluff City Volunteer Fire Department. Motion to approve was made by Alderman Carrier. Second by Alderman Miller.

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

Mayor Wells presented Resolution No. 2011-005 to the BMA for consideration. City Attorney Paul Frye read Resolution No. 2011-005 which allocates funds in the amount of five thousand dollars (\$5,000.00) to the Piney Flats Volunteer Fire Department. Motion to approve made by Alderman Carrier. Second by Vice-Mayor Leonard.

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

Mayor Wells presented Resolution No. 2011-006 to the BMA for consideration. City Attorney Paul Frye read Resolution No. 2011-006 which allocates funds in the amount of one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00) to the Bluff City Senior Citizens Center. Motion to approve was made by Alderman Carrier. Second by Alderman Miller.

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

Mayor Wells presented Resolution No. 2011-007 to the BMA for consideration. City Attorney Paul Frye read Resolution No. 2011-007 which allocates funds in the amount of five hundred dollars (\$500.00) to the Second Harvest Food Bank. Motion to approve was made by Alderman Carrier. Second by Alderwoman Cornwell.

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

Mayor Wells presented Resolution No. 2011-008 to the BMA for consideration. City Attorney Paul Frye read Resolution No. 2011-008 which allocates funds in the amount of one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00) to the Thomas Memorial Library. Motion to approve was made by Alderman Carrier. Second by Vice-Mayor Leonard.

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

Mayor Wells presented Resolution No. 2011-009 to the BMA for consideration. City Attorney Paul Frye read Resolution No. 2011-009 which allocates funds in the amount of five hundred dollars (\$500.00) to the Bluff City Community Chest. Motion to approve was made by Alderman Mullins. Second by Alderman Miller.

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

Mayor Wells presented Resolution No. 2011-010 to the BMA for consideration. City Attorney Paul Frye read Resolution No. 2011-010 which allocates funds in the amount of one thousand five hundred dollars (\$1,500.00) to the Children's Advocacy Center. Motion to approve was made by Alderwoman Cornwell. Second by Vice-Mayor Leonard.

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

Mayor Wells presented Resolution No. 2011-011 to the BMA for consideration. City Attorney Paul Frye read Resolution No. 2011-011 which allocates funds in the amount of five thousand dollars (\$5,000.00) to the Bluff City Rescue Squad. Motion to approve was made by Alderman Mullins. Second by Alderman Miller.

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

Mayor Wells presented Resolution No. 2011-012 to the BMA for consideration. City Attorney Paul Frye read Resolution No. 2011-012 which allocates funds in the amount of fifteen thousand dollars (\$15,000.00) to the Bluff City United Fund. Motion to approve was made by Alderman Carrier. Second by Alderwoman Cornwell. .

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

Mayor Wells opened the floor for discussion/action on awarding bid for the project to replace the waterline across the bridge. City Engineer Dave Wilson presented the bids to the BMA for review. Bakers Construction and Excavation was low bid of \$162,500.00. Mr. Wilson recommended this bid proposal. Alderman Miller asked how soon the work would begin. Mr. Wilson stated that construction should begin in 30 days, and they will have 45 days to complete the construction. Alderman Carrier asked if that included taking all the old off the bridge. Mr. Wilson stated yes they would take all the old pipe off the bridge and let the city look at it to see if any of it is usable. Alderman Carrier asked if some of the old line that was usable could be used in the project. Mr. Wilson stated if something went wrong and we used some of the old pipe, who would be responsible. Mr. Frye recommended replacing the pipe for legal reasons. Motion to award the bid of \$162,500.00 to Bakers Construction & Excavation was made by Alderwoman Cornwell. Second by Alderman Miller.

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

Mayor Wells opened the floor for discussion/action on the establishment of a Boy's and Girl's Club Committee. Alderwoman Cornwell reported that she had approximately 200 students respond to her questionnaire that was interested in a Boy's and Girl's Club. Alderwoman Cornwell stated that if the board approved this committee there will be a meeting next Tuesday at 6:00 at City Hall for anyone is interested in participating. Motion to approve the establishment of the committee was made by Vice-Mayor Leonard. Alderman Miller made a second and included that Sheena Cornwell would be the chairperson of the committee.

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

Mayor Wells reported that the city was presented a 3 Star Award at the Networks meeting. Mayor Wells stated that this would help the city if we apply for a grant. Mayor Wells stated that at the meeting they discussed all the different parks and informed them of all the extra jobs from new companies and existing companies. Mayor Wells reported that they have approximately 11 more companies that are looking promising to them.

Mayor Wells reported that she attended the First Tennessee Development District Annual Meeting in Gatlinburg at no charge to the city and that just about all the city and county mayors were present. Mayor Wells thanked all the people for coming out tonight and their comments and encouraged them to invite their neighbors to come.

City Attorney Paul Frye reported that he had collected about \$5,000.00 in delinquent property taxes last month. Mr. Frye reported that responses have been filed to all of our lawsuits and complaints.

Comments from Alderman:

Alderman Carrier stated that he was glad to see everyone out tonight.

Alderman Mullins thanked everyone for coming.

Alderman Miller stated that he appreciated everyone coming out and showing them such support and stated that he looked forward to the meeting with the Boy's and Girl's Club next week.

Vice-Mayor Leonard thanked everyone for coming out and stated that he appreciated their comments and Concerns, and looked forward to seeing them at the next meeting.

Alderwoman Cornwell thanked everyone for coming and encourages everyone to come to the Boys and Girls Club Meeting. Mrs. Cornwell presented Alderman Mullins a bible in lieu of flowers, due to the death of his mother.

City Manager Dulaney reported that project for the retaining wall at the park has been put out for bids.

Ms. Dulaney reported that the two new police vehicles had been ordered and it will take four to six week for them to arrive. Ms. Dulaney reported that there were two vehicles that had hail damage in May. Ms. Dulaney stated that they were not reported to the insurance company as she was not aware of the damage, but they are currently in the process of being fixed.

Ms. Dulaney presented photos of the igloo lift station which showed that it is rusting out and could become dangerous for the men to go into the pit. Ms. Dulaney asked for approval to have the engineer look at the situation. Public Works Supervisor Ron Miller reported that the photos were of the (igloo) main pump station. Alderman Miller made a motion to have the engineers look at the problem. Second by Vice-Mayor Leonard. Alderman Carrier asked that both stations be checked.

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

City Manager Dulaney reported that the water tank is required to be inspected every five years and there is a problem that Public Works Supervisor Ron Miller will go into detail with the BMA during his report.

Ms. Dulaney presented a quote from Mohawk Armory and requested the BMA to consider purchasing a riffle for each cruiser as this goes along with homeland security requirements. Ms. Dulaney stated that with having two schools and a bank in town you never know what may happen.

City Manager Dulaney reported that the cash balance in the General Fund Operating account is \$ 84,330.76. General Fund Savings Account balance is \$ 119,988.92. Traffic Camera Account balance is \$1,570,207.56. Certificate of Deposit balance is \$ 25,906.05. Sanitation Fund is \$7,342.77. Special Police Drug Fund is \$5,211.53. Sinking Fund is \$4,868.43. Service account is \$164,285.46. Water/ Sewer Fund is \$ 255,316.11.

Ms. Dulaney stated that she also gives the board a copy of the financial report that tells how much is spent on every item, including how much money is left and what they spent the money on. Ms. Dulaney stated that she wanted to let everyone know that there is more than one eye on these finances.

Public Works Director Mr. Miller stated that the vent needed to be replaced on the water tank Mr. Miller stated that the other things on the list are not as mandatory as the vent replacement. Mr. Miller presented a quote in the amount of \$ 9,950.00. Motion to approve the quote up to \$9,950.00 was made by Alderman Miller. Second by Alderman Mullins.

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

Public Works Director Ron Miller reported that they repaired a large leak on Kentucky Ave. Mr. Miller reported that they have located two more leaks, one on Lakeview Drive and Tennessee Avenue. Mr. Miller stated that on Lakeview Drive leaks are on the small lines and he has plans to tie the 18 houses onto the larger line. Mr. Miller stated that it would take approximately four weeks to complete. Mr. Miller reported that I they had to make repairs at the igloo pump station and the bridge pump station. Mr. Miller stated that they painted the hole with white paint to increase visibility for the workers. Mr. Miller reported that they have repaired the gate to the garage. Mr. Miller reported that they have paved potholes and did landscaping. Mr. Miller reported that the brush and leaf pick up schedule is working well. Mr. Miller reported that they have been doing work on the garage and they are getting cars ready for auction. Mr. Miller stated that he would like to have the bridge pump station connected to the alarm like the igloo is, as we now have to wait until the light goes out or someone hears the alarm. Alderwoman Cornwell asked if they had taken into consideration a second junk pick up day. Mr. Miller stated that he had not worked on that yet, but he would look into it and report at the next meeting. Mrs. Cornwell asked if there had any progress on finding a new location for the recycling bins. City Manager Dulaney stated that there was just no other place to put them.

Mayor Wells reported that she had received a call from a lady on Lakeview Drive reporting that someone in a city truck was taking pictures of her house. Public Works Director Miller stated that they were not taking pictures. City Manager Dulaney asked who the lady was, that Mr. Miller could go talk to her. Mayor Wells stated Sherri Carrier the second house on the right on Lakeview Drive.

Police Chief Greg Depew presented the Police Report. (SEE ATTACHMENT II) Chief Depew stated that there were a lot of warnings issued because of the change in the speed limits. Chief Depew stated that they were trying to be understanding to people traveling through there.

Chief Depew stated that during the Columbine School shooting the first officer on the scene waited outside for thirty minutes due to the fact that he was not properly equipped to take care of an active shooter situation. Chief Depew stated that he did not want anything like this to happen here. Alderman Miller asked if it would be better to get those with the red dot optics on them. Chief Depew stated that they cost a little more but he could get a quote on that. Mr. Miller asked if remembered how much the red dot optics were for them. Chief Depew stated that he would have to look it up. Alderman Miller asked if they had to be professionally installed or could we do it. Chief Depew stated that we could. Alderman Carrier asked when they were going to continue the neighborhood watch. Chief Depew stated that he was working on it and Mr. Jones was working on getting citizens involved.

Sullivan County Commissioner Dwight King reported that they passed their budget in October without raising any taxes. Mr. King reported that they did some incentives for early retirement in the Highway Department reducing the

department from 139 to 109. Mr. King reported that from his understanding there is going to be 10 or 12 more employees that are going to take the early retirement. Mr. King stated that a lot of the money from the payroll is going into the asphalt account. Mr. King reported that they have paved 38 miles of road this year. Mr. King reported that insurance went up \$600,000.00 this year so employees will have to pay more and they raised the deductible. Mr. King stated that they are starting a wellness program and are asking all employees to take part in the program and if they do not elect to get into the program it will cost an additional \$50.00 per month. Mr. King reported that he had been asked about trying to get turning lanes at the Tri City Flea Market and stated if there was any way they could form letters he would personally deliver them to the Senator and Representative and help any way he could to get the ball rolling. City Manager Dulaney stated that they had already contacted TDOT and they said that it would be up to the property owner, Mr. Baker, to do the turning lanes. Ms. Dulaney reported that they did get them to agree to the 45 MPH speed limit but they would not install the turning lanes. Mr. King stated that they had asked the State to do it on 394 and they were going to do that. Mr. King asked for a copy of the letter from TDOT. Alderman Carrier asked about getting our sewer down in Piney Flats. Mr. King stated that he wished that they had the money to do it.

In Old Business Alderman Carrier made a motion to have City Attorney Paul Frye to send a letter to David Nelson asking him to resign from the 911 Board. Second by Vice-Mayor Leonard. Alderman Miller stated that he felt that the 911 Board should address the issue. Mr. Carrier stated that he had talked to Ike Lowry and he said that Nelson would have to resign. Mr. Miller stated that we lack the authority to force him to resign so it is best left to the by-laws of the 911 Board to handle it.

Roll Call Vote:	Alderman Carrier	yes
	Alderman Mullins	abstained
	Alderman Miller	no
	Vice-Mayor Leonard	yes
	Alderwoman Cornwell	no
	Mayor Wells – tie vote	no

Vice Mayor Leonard asked that they put a sign for City Hall on the front burner and get quotes for it.

Mayor Wells opened the floor for New Business. Alderman Miller made a motion to approve 4442 for rifles for the Police Cruisers with the Red Dot Technology. Second by Vice-Mayor Leonard.

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

Alderman Carrier stated that we have a bad problem with water running into the manholes when we have a lot of rain and it floods the pump station. Mr. Carrier stated that he felt that we needed to raise the manholes above the blacktop. Mr. Carrier made a motion to raise the manholes. City Manager Dulaney stated that she did not need a motion for that she just need to know that they wanted it done.

Alderman Carrier stated that he would like to see about getting a survey about getting the sidewalk done on Main Street from where they stopped across from the Senior Citizen's Building to the red light. City Attorney Paul Frye stated that we would have to get the engineers involved and get easements. Alderman Miller stated that they could start looking into it. Motion to survey for the proposed addition to the sidewalk was made by Vice-Mayor Leonard. Second by Alderman Miller. All in favor. Motion carried. Alderman Carrier asked if they could look into surveying for a sidewalk up Parks Worley to the school. Alderman Miller stated that they should look into a sidewalk in

Highland Sub-division as well. Motion to look into a sidewalk in Highland Sub-division and Parks Worley Street was made by Alderman Miller. Second by Alderman Mullins.

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

Alderman Carrier stated that we needed to see about replacing the old water line on Cedar Street from Carter Street to Summit Dr. which is about 350 feet. Mr. Carrier stated that we need some fire hydrants as we are out.

Mayor Wells opened the floor for Citizen Comment's - Second Section.

1. Connie Leonard asked if the board would reconsider something with the Resolution 2011-007 on the Second Harvest Food Bank. Ms. Leonard asked if we could not give them a little more than \$500 as so many people are out of jobs and have no food. Ms. Leonard asked if they would consider putting a bin at City Hall for food donations and the Second Harvest Food Bank could pick it up.
2. David Watson of 327 Mill Street asked if they would consider putting a sidewalk from the tracks to the park. Mr. Watson stated that there are issues on Smith Street Extension as far as accessing his driveway. Mr. Watson stated that there was a curb there that was put to help with water runoff. Mr. Watson stated that the neighbor put a chain across his driveway. City Manager Dulaney stated that the property reverted back to the property owners. Board stated that the curbing could be moved to allow him to install a driveway.
3. Lillian Cutten asked when they would be getting a sign for out front of the City Hall. City Manager Dulaney stated that she had been instructed to look into it. Mrs. Cutten stated that if they keep it going she would give them \$500 more on the sign. Ms. Dulaney stated that she was going to start working on it ASAP.
4. Carol Keith stated that she was glad that everyone did not vote on removing David Nelson from the 911 Board and praised Mr. Nelson for all he had done for her.
5. Kathy Layne of 257 Carter Street complained that the people from the house on the corner had her van towed and it cost her \$95. Mrs. Layne asked if that area was not the street instead of the neighbor's driveway. Mrs. Layne stated that her van had been parked there for almost a year. Alderman Miller stated "That would be a civil matter". City Attorney Paul Frye stated that we do not have any control over civil matters.

With no other business Mayor Wells adjourned the meeting at 9:25 p.m.

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Irene Wells, Mayor

ATTEST: This 10<sup>th</sup> Day of November, 2011

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Judy Dulaney, City Manager

