

Minutes
Regular Meeting
Bluff City Board of Mayor and Aldermen
July 7, 2015

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

Members present were John Harrison, Sandra Madison, Tanya Cordle, Ray Harrington and Richard Bowling.

Prayer was given by Richard Bowling , followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Wells opened the floor for the following:

Minutes for the May 27, 2015 Special Called BMA meeting were approved with a motion by Alderman Bowling. Second by Vice Mayor Harrington. All in favor. Motion carried.

Minutes for the May 2, 2015 Regular BMA meeting were approved with a motion by Vice Mayor Harrington. Second by Alderman Bowling. All in favor. Motion carried.

Minutes for the June 23, 2015 Special Called BMA meeting were approved with a motion by Vice Mayor Harrington. Second by Alderman Bowling. All in favor. Motion carried.

Citizen Comments- First Section

David Smith of 200 Highland Circle asked the board to consider giving the Rescue Squad and the Library a donation on the budget.

Cody with Mattern & Craig Engineers stated that there is a resolution from Rural Development on the agenda tonight and it is the same resolution that was originally passed. It states that they are applying for additional funding in the amount of \$1,183,000.00. Alderman Harrison asked when they were going to get started on it. Cody stated that he talked to Lewis with Rural Development and he hoped to get this money in August but they are continuing to work on the original design.

With no other comments – Citizen Comments closed.

Discussion/ action on Local Government Data Hardware and Software contract. Motion to approve the contract was made by Alderman Harrison. Second by Vice Mayor Harrington. All in favor. Motion carried.

Discussion / action on sale of confiscated vehicles and misc. tools and equipment on Govdeals.com. Alderman Bowling asked how much stuff we have to put on the site. Mayor Wells stated quite a few tools and 5 vehicles. Motion to sale was made by Vice Mayor Harrington. Second by Alderman Harrison. All in favor. Motion carried.

Discussion / action on Rural Development Loan Resolution. Motion to approve was made by Vice Mayor Harrington. Second by Alderman Bowling. All in favor. Motion carried.

Discussion / action on Road Blocks. City Attorney Paul Frye stated that the only one that can authorize a road block for fundraising is the board and there is a lot of liability associated with it.

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Discussion / action on trees at the park. Alderman Bowling asked about putting trees at the park starting at the boat dock and going all the way around down to the fence and across the front. Mr Bowling stated that for 40 trees the price is \$35.00 each tree, which would be approximately \$1400.00, and things need for planting would make the total cost approximately \$1600.00. Mr Bowling stated that they had said they were going to use some of the money from the sale of the old City Hall building to make the purchase. Motion to approve was made by Vice Mayor Harrington. Second by Alderwoman Cordle. All in favor. Motion carried.

Discussion / action Railroad Property. Mayor Wells stated that she had been trying to get ahold of the individual that handles the property to see if there is a way we can lease the property at the head of the walking trail, and she has not been able to reach him. Mayor Wells asked for a motion if they wanted her to continue looking into the property. Motion was made by Alderman Harrison. Second by Alderwoman Cordle. Mayor Wells stated that someone had mentioned to her to go back and have a referendum to close the street behind the church. City Attorney Paul Frye stated that he needed to look into that because there are only certain things that they can have a referendum on and that may not be one of them. All in favor. Motion carried.

Discussion / action War Memorial. Mayor Wells stated that if we do get the military equipment we have someone that will pick it up if it is in Tennessee. Motion to see if we can get another piece of equipment for the war memorial was made by Alderman Bowling. Second by Vice Mayor Harrington. All in favor. Motion carried.

Mayor Wells reported the following:

She attended the following meetings: Networks, First Tn Dev. District, First Tn. Human Resource Agency and a Storm water Meeting at City Hall and we had a review from our insurance provider TML, and most comments were positive.

Thanked John Harrison for attending his first Animal Board Meeting. Thanked the other board members for their interest in Bluff City and its citizens.

We have a camera court clerk and we also have a company working with us on finance and should have a better report next month.

The current fund balances are as follows: General Fund - \$119,879.15, Sanitation Fund - \$7,899.49, Special Police Fund- \$2,558.90, Debt Service Fund - \$ 242,084.67, Water/ sewer Fund - \$210,511.77.

City Attorney Paul Frye had no report.

Comments from Aldermen:

Alderman Harrison stated he was glad everybody came out and they are going to do the best they can and straighten things out a little bit.

Alderwoman Madison thanked everyone for coming and told them to come again.

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Alderman Cordle thanked everyone for coming and stated she was glad Sandra (Madison) was here.

Vice Mayor Harrington stated that he appreciated everyone coming out and he looks forward to going forward.

Alderman Bowling thanked everyone for being there and stated that he loves to see a full house.

Public Works Director Hugh Thomason reported the following:

Presented the monthly report. Sewer department is going as normal. Street Department replacing boards on boardwalk

They have removed all old records from the old City Hall Building and they are stored under lock and key.

Water Quality Report for 2014 is out and can be viewed on the web site and a copy may be obtained at City Hall.

Alderman Bowling asked if we had been buying a lot of water. Mr. Thomason stated that we had to buy for about 12 hours due to turbidity. Mr. Thomason stated that he has asked Bristol Bluff Utilities to give us a different rate structure to help bring the rate down.

Police Chief Greg Depew reported the following:

Monthly Report for June.

1 narcotics arrest led to a seizure of \$1,469.00.

Vice Mayor Harrington commended the Chief on his driving school class and stated it was very informative. Mr Harrington stated that he (Chief Depew) does a great job for the city.

Sullivan County Commissioner not present due to budget meetings.

Mayor Wells stated that she is very proud of the employees, they are doing a good job and working together.

Old Business:

Alderman John Harrison asked for a refund of his money due to his arrest as it had been thrown out. Mayor Wells asked how much money it was. Mr. Harrison stated it was \$370.00. Motion to refund him was made by Alderwoman Cordle. Second by Alderwoman Madison. All in favor. Motion carried.

New Business:

Alderswoman Cordle made a motion to suspend Judy Dulaney, City Recorder, effective immediately pending an ongoing TBI investigation and she thinks it needs to be without pay. Second by Alderman Harrison. Alderman Bowling asked should they not wait until they find out the results of the investigation first before we do this. Ms. Cordle stated that her concern is while the investigation is ongoing the employee should not have access to the building. All in favor. Motion carried.

Alderman Harrison asked if we could get the trees cut down and cleaned up where they are planning to put the war memorial.

Alderman Harrison stated that we need to try to keep the Driving School more here for money wise for the city instead of letting them go anywhere else they want to. City Attorney Paul Frye stated that by State law they are able to go anywhere they want. Mr. Frye stated the Judge runs the traffic court and he follows the state law and he tells them they can go here or request going somewhere else.

Alderswoman Cordle stated that after talking to some representatives at the State she found out that the audit that Eddy & Eddy does for the city actually doesn't look into where the money is spent or if it is spent correctly or ethically it's just if the numbers even out. Ms Cordle made a motion to get a new audit done by the company of their choice and she was given information by the state on how they can get it done free or at a very reduced rate. Second by Alderman Harrison. All in favor. Motion carried.

Citizen Comments – Second Section

David Smith asked to go back several years on the new audit. City Attorney Paul Frye stated that they would have to get costs from people. Mayor Wells stated so you want to get cost to go back at least 3 years. Alderman Harrison asked if that would be long enough. Mayor Wells stated they had to let her know what to get the price on. Mr Harrison stated 5 years. Mayor Wells stated why don't I get 3,4 and 5.

Deborah Wiles of 231 Jonesboro Dr stated that she requested minutes for the May meeting and she filled out her form and was told that they would be approved at the June 2nd meeting. Mrs Wiles stated that she came down on June 30th and was told that they did not know where they are, and was told to check back before coming back. Mrs. Wiles stated that she was told they were in a black book but you (Mayor) said she did not know where the book was. Ms Wiles stated Sandra was looking for the book and it looks like when a citizen requests something and they are told when they are approved they will get a call so that should be done. Mayor Wells stated you will have them in the morning.

Becky Buchanan thanked the board for working together so good and they are doing a good job to help the city.

Matt Wiles 231 Jonesboro Drive following up on what Mrs Wiles said about the minutes, there needs to be more organization in the city. Alderman Bowling stated that they are working on that as fast as they can. Mr Wiles stated that on the memorial they are doing he sees a Gulf War and a Vietnam, nowhere does it say anything about WW1, WW2, or the Civil war. Mr Wiles stated that (sentence interrupted) Alderman Harrison stated that right there (sentence ended) a veteran of a war is a veteran (sentence interrupted) Alderman Harrison stated I'm not saying that all I'm saying is that he told me different things he wanted on there and off the top of my head I just put it on there. Mr Harrison stated I'm not leaving anybody out. Mr. Wiles stated as long as we are not leaving anyone out, if you serve this country you need to (Mayor Wells stated they are all going to be on there) be recognized for serving this country. Mr Harrison stated that was just an example. Mr. Wiles stated that we still have water and sewer problems in his area at 231 Jonesboro Drive. Alderwoman Cordle stated that they have grants to fix that.

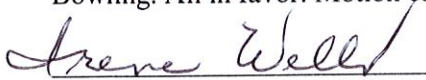
David Smith of 200 Highland Circle stated that they had done this on the war memorial on a hot Saturday morning and on the edge he wanted to add all the wars but the drawing is subject to change.

Chief Depew commented on the driving school saying that a lot of cities mandate that the people with tickets take their driving school. City Attorney Paul Frye stated that he would check into it.

Julie Venable Carty of 209 Smith Street Extension stated that in reference to people saying how slow they are doing things, what about the past board. There would be things that would come up and kept getting postponed, and it's been happening for years and this board has not been up there that long.

Carol Keith of 305 Lakeview Circle thanked the board, Mayor and the Chief for the job that they are doing. Mrs. Keith stated that they had done more in one meeting than has been done in four years.

With no other business motion to adjourn was made by Vice-Mayor Harrington. Second by Alderman Bowling. All in favor. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m.


Irene Wells, Mayor

Attest this 7th day of July, 2015


Sandy Harkleroad, City Clerk