Minutes Regular Meeting Bluff City Board of Mayor and Aldermen April 5, 2016

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

Members present were Tanya Cordle, John Harrison and Richard Bowling. Sandra Madison arrived at 7:02 p.m.

Prayer was given by Reverend Ron Whitaker, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Wells opened the floor for the following:

Discussion / Action: Special Called Meeting Minutes for March 3, 2016. Alderwoman Cordle stated that there were no citizen comments on either set of minutes. Mayor Wells stated that we do not have to have Citizen Comments on the minutes. Alderwoman Cordle asked if we no longer were going to have Citizen Comments. Mayor Wells stated that we were going to have citizen comments. Ms Cordle stated on the minutes. Mayor Wells stated no. Alderwoman Cordle stated that her concern is that now meetings minutes are placed on the website so that the people that aren't able to come to the meetings can review them and she feels it is good that they can see if other people have the same concerns. Ms Cordle stated that she feels that the citizen's voice should be heard to all citizens even those that can't come to the meetings. Mayor Wells asked City Attorney Paul Frye to speak to that. Mr Frye stated that the board can, what absolutely has to be in a set of minutes is who is here, what the board discussed, what the board vote is. Mr Frye stated that you can have other things in them but that is what is required by law. Alderwoman Cordle stated I understand what is required but they have always been in there and all of a sudden they are not and she feels that everyone in the city should be able to hear what is said at every meeting. Mayor Wells asked if there were any more comments, and if not is there a motion to approve the minutes of March 3, 2016, Motion to approve was made by Alderman Bowling. Second by Alderman Harrison. Vote was as follows: Alderwoman Madison - No, Alderwoman Cordle - No, Alderman Harrison - Yes, Alderman Bowling - Yes. With a tie vote Mayor Wells voted - Yes. Motion carried. Alderwoman Cordle apologized to the people saving she does not feel this is right so she is resigning and said if the people can't be heard, there is no point in us being here. Alderwoman Cordle left at approximately 7:08 p.m.

Discussion / Action – Minutes for the March 22, 2016 Special Called Meeting. Motion to approve was made by Alderman Bowling. Second by Alderman Harrison. Vote was as follows: Alderwoman Madison – No, Alderman Harrison – Yes, Alderman Bowling – Yes. In lieu of not having 3- Yes votes, minutes were not approved and will be submitted at the next meeting.

Project update from City Engineer Dave Wilson with Mattern & Craig:

Mr Wilson reported that Rural Development approved advertisement on April 10th for bids on the waste water lift stations replacement. Mr Wilson stated, state law is usually 10 days for bid opening but we usually do between 14 and 30 days. Mr Wilson stated that they will have a pre-bid conference in order to encourage contractors to come out and look at the site and they may have better ideas that we may want to incorporate. Mr Wilson stated that the other parts of the project are the water and sewer parts and he anticipates that they will be submitted to TDEC and Rural Development this month.

Mr Wilson stated that since the last meeting they have met with representatives of TVA and they have talked to them about what we can and can't do at the proposed Veterans Memorial site along with required permits. Mr Wilson stated that he feels that they have the main elements for the project and the main thing is a sketch of the improvements and it can't be anything permanent. Mr Wilson stated that he had drawings and encouraged everyone to look at them.

Mr Wilson stated that there is a tourism grant that he feels we should apply for and it is for anything that goes on city land that encourages people to come to town. Mr Wilson stated that we need to work with Ken Ray with First Tn. Development District and the grant can be up to \$50,000.00 and it requires a cash match. An example is in Elizabethton they were asking for a \$5,000.00 match so they were going to make a \$45,000.00 award. Mr Wilson stated that it might be different here. The second grant was an EDA grant for business development and he feels we are a long shot for that. The third one was called a TIGR Grant which is for a conglomeration of cities for example to construct new interchanges, and it is for up to \$500,000,000.00 and he feels that it is not something that the city would be capable of submitting on. We are currently using USDA Rural Development grant for the current project. Alderman Harrison asked if it had anything to with the lake itself. Mr Wilson stated on the tourism. Mr Harrison stated yes. Mr Wilson stated that Mr McNutt with the TVA was working with TWRA and other entities to put in boat ramps because the lake is down. Mr Harrison stated he was more interested in getting the fish back up. Mayor Wells asked Mr Wilson if Mr McNutt had stated that they may fill in with gravel to extend the boat ramp. Mr Wilson stated that the TVA will give help on materials due to the lake being down but the city would have to do the labor.

Citizen Comments – First Section – Audio including Citizen's Comments available upon request for a fee of \$3.00

Discussion / Action – Uniform contract with Cintas No. 40754

Mayor Wells stated that the company that was doing our uniforms took bankruptcy and the company that took over the business took over our contract. Mayor Wells stated that the prices are all the same and we are getting a better quality of clothing. Mayor Wells stated that we really do not have a choice about this contract as someone had signed the contract that did not have the authority and if we were going to take it to court Mr Frye would have to travel to New York. Mayor Wells stated that the public works people wanted the pants that had pockets and they usually cost more but they agreed to give us the better pants for the same price. Alderwoman Madison left the meeting at 7:22 p.m. City Attorney Paul Frye stated that we do not have a quorum and the meeting was adjourned at 7:22 p.m.

Irene Wells, Mayor / City Manager

Attest this 5th day of April, 2016

Sharon Greene, City Recorder/ Finance Officer