

Minutes
Bluff City Board of Mayor and Aldermen
Regular Meeting
April 4, 2017

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

Members present were Jack Stratton, Ray Harrington, John Harrison.

Members absent : Sandra Madison and Richard Bowling

Prayer was given by Reverend Jack Stratton, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Wells opened the floor for the following:

Citizen comments- First Session

Julie Venable Carty 209 Smith Street Ext. stated that her brother-in-law drives a tractor trailer and parked at the ball park. Mrs Carty stated that he was told to move it and was told that you could not park a tractor and trailer anywhere in the city limits. Mrs Venable stated that the man that owns the United Station told him that he could park his truck on his property. Mrs Carty asked if that meant he could not park it there and Chief Depew stated that parking on private property was up to the property owner.

Carolyn Payne 538-9108 stated that she had requested that when it says see attached that the reports are attached. Ms Payne stated that she wants to make sure that reports from Allen Moultrie, Dean Fields and Chief Depew are included in minutes of meetings. Ms Payne stated that at the last meeting Allen stated that our entire infrastructure was failing and she hopes that the minutes of the last meeting reflects that statement.

Becky Buchannan of 750 Drybranch Road thanked the Board for the good job they are doing and thanked all the city workers for all the hard work they are doing. Mayor Wells stated we appreciate that. Mrs Buchannan stated that some people are campaigning and saying that if elected they will lower water bills and Mrs Buchannan stated that they can't be lowered because they are state mandated. Mrs Buchannan stated that the city needs to appreciate this board for going to Nashville instead of paying 15% every year as they got it lowered down. Mrs Buchannan stated that Ms Payne didn't want to be the Mayor to begin with, and all she does is get up here and cause trouble and even accused a contractor that's building houses inside the city limits of not having a license. Ms Buchannan stated that he is building houses to bring more people in and to pay taxes.

Comments from City Engineer Dave Wilson with Mattern and Craig

Mr Wilson stated that he has basic updates. Mr Wilson stated that they had submitted a sewer overflow response plan to TDEC. He stated that he is in the process of completing the CMOM, Capacity Management Operations Maintenance Plan. He has left some paperwork with Allen for him to take a look at and then he will present it to the Board before submission. Mr Wilson stated that final plans and specifications for the next phase of our Water/Sewer project as submitted are with Allen also. Mr Wilson stated that when they had time he would like to schedule a meeting with them to go over it line item by line item.

Minutes for the March 7, 2017 were approved with a motion by Vice Mayor Harrington. Second by Alderman Stratton. All present in favor. Motion carried

Discussion / Action – Agreement for the Execution of a Home Investment Partnership Program.

City Attorney Paul Frye stated that this is the contract for the Home Consortium Group that we are a member of, and Bristol is the lead entity. Mr Frye stated that this is to help people rehab their homes that can't afford to do so here in Bluff City. Mr Frye stated that this is a routine renewal for that contract. Person from the audience asked Mr Frye how people applied for that if they know someone that needs repairs on their house. Mr Frye stated that when the monies are available First Tn. Human Resources administers that. Mayor Wells stated that she had forms that they could get to take to anyone in the city that might qualify.

Report from Mayor / City Manager

Mayor Wells reported that things are going well and the men have been working hard and have faced problems and have not complained. Mayor Wells stated that she wanted to appreciate them and have the board appreciate them because they do have to work hard, and just like Becky Buchanan had said they have to get out here whether it's rain, snow or whatever and she just wants to appreciate them.

She attended a meeting at First Tn Human Resources. They have a group that picks up people and takes them to the hospital, they take food and deliver meals on wheels. Mayor Wells reported that the federal government has cut that program so they have been trying to figure out where the money is going to come from to continue that program. Some people have contributed but she does not know how long that money will last. Mayor Wells stated that it may come to the cities involved in the program may have to invest a little bit of money.

Motion to approve the agreement for the Home Investment Program was made by Vice Mayor Ray Harrington. Second by Alderman Harrison. All in favor. Motion carried.

Report from City Attorney Paul Frye

Mayor Wells asked City Attorney Paul Frye if he had an update on the taxes. Mr Frye stated that he had collected \$8,000.00 this month on delinquent taxes.

Discussion / Action – Financial Report

City Recorder / Finance Officer Sharon Greene reported that the fund balances as of February 28th, 2017 are as follows: General Fund - \$837,926.00, Sanitation Fund - \$9700.00, Special Police Fund - \$7369.00, Debit Service - \$124,328.00, Sinking Fund - \$3095.00, FHA Reserve Fund - \$691.00, Water / Sewer fund - \$582,200.00. Motion to approve the financial report was made by Vice Mayor Harrington. Second by Alderman Stratton. All in favor. Motion carried.

Comments from Board Members

Alderman Stratton thanked the people that are here and thanked the police department. Mr Stratton stated that he understands that they got the new car in. Chief Depew stated that when they were delivered some equipment had not been installed but the Ford Company is taking care of it and they will be installing the equipment. Mayor Wells stated that this will help on spending money on repairs.

Vice Mayor Harrington thanked everyone for coming out and the future is looking good one day at a time they are getting everything done as they said they would and they have a balanced budget right now.

Alderman Harrison thanked everyone for coming and encouraged people to go vote for the guys trying to get back in.

Chief of Police Greg Depew reported the following:

They are thankful that they got their cars.

They completed their in-service this month and they have 5 new reserve officers that were sworn in.

Monthly report – SEE ATTACHED

The sign that they had talked about on Hwy 44 that says reduce speed ahead they had talked about having that sign changed down to another 35 sign. Vice Mayor Harrington asked if it has helped. Chief Depew stated that it has but you are still going to have speeders.

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Chief Depew thanked the reserve officers for all they do and explained that all of their equipment and uniforms they pay for themselves.

Mayor Wells thanked the police department for all they do. The 5 reserve officers are going to be a lot of help for the department.

Public Works Supervisor Allen Moultrie reported the following: SEE ATTACHED

The pump stations are operating as they are supposed to. When it rained the other day they did not have any issues, they did get the high level alarm but they never got to a point of overflowing.

Water Department Report – SEE ATTACHED

Water Plant Operator Dean Fields reported that they had received a letter from TDEC informing Bluff City to update our lead and copper sample site plan. This is a state wide request for all public water systems. Mr Fields stated that they have a total of 15 homes where they sample from so if they get a letter asking the year your home was built and what type of plumbing you have it's not that there is anything wrong with Bluff City this is a state wide request and they just have to have this information.

Mr Fields reported that Bluff City has one of the best water sources in East Tennessee and that is not just his opinion, this is coming from several state officials and people he has talked to.

No Sullivan County Commissioners were present they are working on their budget.

Old Business- None

New Business-

Vice Mayor Harrington asked if they had heard anything about the war memorial. Mayor Wells stated that TVA had approved it and it is just a matter of finding some money as some of the people that had agreed to donate money had backed back a little so they have to get a letter out to businesses and see if they can get some help. Mayor Wells stated that they were not going to be able to get any gunnery equipment for at least 4 years so she does not think we can wait that long and thinks we should go ahead and get a memorial with the names on it.

Mayor Wells stated that they have approval for the street light at the Rescue Squad. It is going to take a little time to get that in place.

Mayor Wells reported that we have had to replace street lights that were around the City Hall

building as they have not been replaced since the building was built in 2007. Mayor Wells stated that they were unsure who they could get to put the bulbs in. She noticed that the men working on the sign had a bucket truck and asked them about replacing the bulbs and they took care of it for around \$300.00.

Citizen Comments – Second Section

Dwight King of 1665 Weaver Branch Rd in Piney Flats, Tn. Mr King asked where the name Underwood Springs came from. He stated that he has had people ask that question. Mayor Wells stated that was before her time. Mr King stated that it had been a while since he first started coming to these meetings. Mr King stated that there is a situation in this area that he thinks is very serious and it is the placement of the new Junior High School in this area and as of right now the Board of Education has okayed it to go at the end of Silver Grove Road at Weaver Pike. Mr King stated that his problem with that is the population of this district is from Bluff City west and Piney Flats is growing, Bluff City is growing and our city limits is down Hwy. 11-E. Mr King stated that they are going to take 2 schools out of Bluff City the first one being the Jr. High. Mr King asked what is that going to do to the city's water and he heard that they use approximately 12 to 14 thousand dollars. Mayor Wells stated 17 thousand dollars approximately. Mr King stated that they will eventually close the Elementary School as well. Mr King voiced concern about the children being on buses for an hour. He suggested they put a K-8 adjacent to our city limits so Bluff City can get some benefit from it. Mr King stated that he would like to see the city draft a letter in opposition of this location and send it to the board members and commissioners. Mayor Wells asked Mr Frye if they need a motion. Mr Frye stated that they could put that on New Business for the next meeting because they have concluded the business on this meeting.

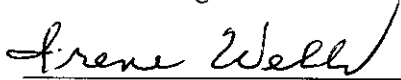
Hershel Glover of 488 Possum Creek Road stated that what Mr King was telling them started a few months ago. Mr Glover stated that the commission was asked to vote on a resolution to appropriate money for the school system. Mr Glover stated that both commissioners that represent Bluff City in district 5 voted yes on this resolution to move the school out of Bluff City to the proposed sight and this will cost probably 18 to 20 thousand dollars a year out of Bluff City's budget. Mr Glover urged the board and citizens to act on this by contacting the commissioners and School Board members Jane Thomas and Michael Hughes. Mr Glover stated that the next commission meeting is the third Monday of the month.

Carolyn Payne – 538- 9108 stated that she wanted to follow up on Hershel Glover and Dwight King. Ms Payne stated that she was not sure of the specific area they were talking about between here and Piney Flats that we incorporated as once you go under the red light you are outside the city limits. Ms Payne said and said yes they are flourishing. We have no new businesses from the

red light down because we never laid a sewer line. We can't get a school down there because we have to provide them sewer. A man from the audience stated that there is sewer down there right in front of the property. Ms Payne asked who laid it and was informed that the county did. Ms Payne stated that if the schools were going out we would be losing even more revenue. Ms Payne stated that she had heard that there were sewer lines on one side but not on the other side. Ms Payne stated that there needed to be clarification, are there sewer lines on both sides. Man from audience said part of it is on one side and part on the other. Ms Payne stated that this would be a huge issue because we never put sewer lines down there. Ms Payne stated you all say you can't attack people in here. Ms Payne stated' Please do not let Becky Buchanan attack me again. I am running for Mayor because that was my decision. Ms Payne said state mandated 2016-001—002, 3 or 4, whatever it was, we increased the water and sewer long before we got any state mandate. Ms Payne said that the loan agreement does not say state mandated. Ms Payne said the untruths, when is it going to end up here, you can't keep getting away with it. Ms Payne said it's going to come back and bite you. Mayor Wells stated that you need to make sure that you get the correct information before you get up every time and say all these things. Ms Payne stated you know what, if you all would answer my questions I would get my answers. Mayor Wells stated you come in here like you know everything. Ms Payne said I ask questions and I get no response. Mayor Wells stated your time is up. Ms Payne stated that everyone else ran over their time but hopefully the incoming Mayor can't.

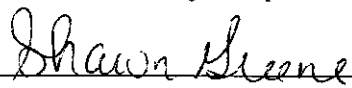
Dwight King stated that he wants to clear up some things about the sewer. Ms Payne stated that you can't speak 2 times in one meeting. Mr King stated that he was going to answer the question about the sewer. Mr King stated that when the industrial Park was built there was a trunk line that came out of the Industrial Park down Rock Lane, down Whitehead to the pump station. When Johnson City put the sewer in it connects to the sewer line from the Industrial Park. All the businesses like Whites are on it. Lady from the audience said if they got a petition drawn up they would take it out. Mayor Wells stated okay. Man spoke from audience about when they announced the night before about Weavers Elementary closing today there were parents lined out the door taking their kids to Avoca and that is the same thing that is going to happen here. Man from audience stated that there were 72 children from the Piney Flats area going to Johnson City Schools today.

With no other business a motion to adjourn was made by Alderman Harrison. Second by Vice Mayor Harrington. All in favor. Meeting was adjourned at 7:59 p.m.



Irene Wells, Mayor/ City Manager

Attest this 4th day of April, 2017



Sharon Greene, City Recorder/ Finance Officer



Bluff City Police Department

MONTHLY REPORT



2017
Year

March
Month

NUMBER OF:	CITY	PINEY	COUNTY	TOTAL
CALLS FOR ASSISTANT(S)	122	65	19	206
ISSUED CITATION(S)	49	37	0	86
WARNING CITATION(S)	20	6	0	26
PATROLED MILE(S)	3,206	20208	0	5,414
ARREST(S)	2	0	0	2
OFFENSE REPORT(S)	6	3	0	9
ALARM(S)	1	5	2	8
ACCIDENTS	2	3	0	5
ANIMAL CALL(S)	3	0	0	3
MSD REPORT(S)	4	1	0	5
FUNERAL ESCORT(S)	3	1	0	4
DOMESTIC ASSAULT(S)	2	1	0	3
VEHICLE SEIZURE(S)	0	0	0	0
MISSING PERSON(S)	0	0	0	0
D.U.I.(S)	0	0	0	0
DRUG VIOLATION(S)	0	0	0	0
USE OF FORCE REPORT(S)	0	0	0	0

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approved by: *Chief Amy Rapow* 8/4/2015

CITY OF BLUFF CITY

Department Of Public Works Board of Mayor and Alderman Monthly Report for April 2017

Sewer Department:

All the pump stations are operating normally, with flushing continuing around town in our known problem areas.

Street Department:

The staff has been working hard keeping up with the brush pickup. We started mowing the pavilion, ballpark, City Hall, and along Bluff City Highway now that the spring season is here. We have also opened up the pavilion bathrooms for use. During the winter months we painted the bathrooms outer doors and inside walls to cover up graffiti that drawn on walls.

If you have any questions, please give me a call 612-4145. Thank you.

Allen Moultrie
Public Works Director

CITY OF BLUFF CITY

Water Plant & Distribution System

Board of Mayor and Alderman Monthly

Report for March 2017

Water Treatment Plant: During the month of March we treated an average of 254,000 GPD. Our water tank level averaged out at 47.2 feet for the month of March. We received a letter from TDEC informing Bluff City to update our Lead and Copper sample site plan. This is a statewide request for all public water systems. We have a total of 15 homes we sample from so if you get a letter asking the year your home was built and what type of plumbing you have, its only Bluff City updating our sample site plan.

Water Distribution System:

In the distribution system we repaired several leaks. With the majority of our leaks coming from old galvanized lines. As noted in earlier meetings we plan to replace these in the near future. We plan to replace these in different phases which will take some time so we ask you to be patient awaiting the upcoming repairs. Although we do have old lines just like any other municipality has, Bluff City has one of the best water sources in East Tennessee.

If you have any questions, please contact City Hall at 423-538-7144

Dean Fields
Water Plant Operator
Distribution Operator