

Minutes
Bluff City Board of Mayor and Aldermen
Regular Meeting
October 2, 2018

Mayor Wells called the meeting to order at 6 p.m.

Members present were Sandra Madison, Ray Harrington, David Smith and Richard Bowling.

Prayer was given by Vice Mayor Ray Harrington, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Wells opened the floor for the following:

Discussion / Action- Update on Water/Sewer Project – Engineer Dave Wilson with Mattern & Craig

Mr Wilson reported that the revisions were continuing. Mr Wilson reported that they have billed to date approximately \$572,000 of the \$1,914,000 contract and he anticipates another pay estimate this week. Mr Wilson stated that if they have a meeting next week with Rural Development and Lewis Trivette they would hopefully have some resolution on it by the next BMA meeting. Alderman Bowling asked if they are on schedule. Mr Wilson stated that he felt they would meet the deadline. Vice Mayor Harrington asked how many feet they have down. Mr Wilson stated that as of the last pay request they had a little over 3,000 feet and he thinks they have another third again as much. Mayor Wells asked if they had found out anything out about the sinkholes. Mr Wilson stated that they do have a proposal from the geotechnical engineer of \$2,500 to do an investigation and if they use the city's backhoe and equipment they will knock off some of the price. Mr Wilson recommended that they approve doing that study.

Citizen Comments – First Session

Carolyn Payne of 4818 Bluff City Hwy recommended that the BMA appoint Dave Harmon to fill the vacant position of Jack Stratton.

Discussion / Action- Approval of Minutes

Minutes for the Regular Meeting of September 4, 2018 were approved with a motion by Vice Mayor Harrington. Second by Alderman Bowling. Vote was as follows: Alderwoman Madison – Yes, Vice Mayor Harrington – Yes, Alderman Smith – Yes, Alderman Bowling- Yes

Minutes for the Special Called Meeting of September 18, 2018 were approved with a motion by Vice Mayor Harrington. Second by Alderman Bowling. Vote was as follows: Alderwoman Madison – Yes, Vice Mayor Harrington – Yes, Alderman Smith – Yes, Alderman Bowling- Yes

Discussion / Action – Accept Jack Stratton's resignation from the BMA (Due to illness)

Motion to accept Mr Stratton's resignation was made by Alderman Bowling. Second by Vice Mayor Harrington. Vote was as follows: Alderwoman Madison – Yes, Vice Mayor Harrington – Yes, Alderman Smith – Yes, Alderman Bowling- Yes

Discussion / Action – Appoint someone to fill Jack Stratton's seat on the board.

City Attorney Paul Frye stated that those interested in being considered for the position can come to the podium and state their interest and they would have 3 minutes to do that. Mr Frye stated to be voted on you would have to be nominated and seconded by a member of the board. The first nomination to get 3 votes wins and we do not go on to anyone else if the vote is successful.

Eric Ward of 4530 Bluff City Hwy stated that he was interested in filling the position and would like to see the town grow. Mr Ward reported that he serves on the Planning Commission for Bluff City. Mr Ward stated that he is a graduate from ETSU and has his own construction company.

David Harmon of 200 Holston Drive stated that he cares about Bluff City and has been an Alderman before and thinks that would be an advantage for him to be up there. Mr Harmon stated I think we need to discuss things and I don't think we are doing it now.

Brian Hunt of 191 Lakeview Drive stated that he just relocated here and feels we need fresh blood and new ideas and business sense. I work for Lowes Corporate at the Volunteer Parkway store. I am over the interior remodeling program. I singlehandedly handle about a million dollar business a year for Lowes. I think Bluff City has a lot of opportunities if we look in the right areas and use the resources available to us. Mayor Wells stated are you saying that you want to be considered. Mr Hunt said yes. Mayor Wells stated I just want to be sure.

Alderman Bowling made a motion to appoint Eric Ward to fill the seat. Second by Vice Mayor Harrington. Vote was as follows: Alderwoman Madison – No, Vice Mayor Harrington – Yes, Alderman Smith – No, Alderman Bowling – Yes. With a tie vote, Mayor Wells voted Yes. Motion carried to appoint Eric Ward.

Discussion / Action – Ordinance 2018-008 – Drought Management Plan

City Attorney Paul Frye submitted the plan for the record. Alderman Bowling asked on page 3 where it has the backup sources where it says the fire department will supply tankers to haul water from area streams that are available and it says on the last page a portion of the additional funds needed to support this activity will come from fees from revenues generated by standby rates with remaining funds from the fees from the services of farmers. Mr Bowling asked what about the farmers that get free water. City Attorney Paul Frye stated that the standby rates would

be the surcharge in here. Motion to approve Ordinance 2018-008 on first reading was made by Alderman Bowling. Second by Vice Mayor Harrington. Vote was as follows: Alderwoman Madison – No, Vice Mayor Harrington – Yes, Alderman Smith – Yes, Alderman Bowling- Yes. Motion carried.

Report from Mayor / City Manager Irene Wells

Mayor Wells presented a report on the Debt Obligation to the board members. City Recorder / CMFO Sharon Greene reported that every time the city does a loan they have to send this report to the Comptroller's office to notify them and they have to approve it.

Report from City Attorney Paul Frye – No report.

Discussion / Action - Financial Report

City Recorder/ CMFO Sharon Greene reported the following financial report for August, 2018:

General Fund - \$1,409,069, Sanitation Fund- \$20,187, Special Police Fund - \$13,360, Debt Service - \$107,814, Sinking Fund- \$3,095, Water / Sewer Fund - \$707,455

Motion to approve the financial report was made by Vice Mayor Harrington. Second by Alderman Bowling. Vote was as follows: Alderwoman Madison – No, Vice Mayor Harrington – Yes, Alderman Smith – Yes, Alderman Bowling- Yes. Motion carried.

Comments from Board Members

Alderwoman Madison – No comments

Vice Mayor Harrington thanked everyone for coming and thanked Bryan for coming and stated that we have an election coming up in May and we will get you to run.

Alderman Smith thanked everyone for coming and stated that he enjoys seeing a big crowd.

Alderman Bowling thanked everyone for coming and stated that he would like to see a crowd like this every month. Mr Bowling stated that he felt that everyone will be satisfied with Eric Ward.

Report from Chief of Police- Greg Depew

Chief Depew presented the monthly report for September, 2018. (SEE ATTACHED)

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Chief Depew stated that he felt Heritage Days went well and we have had a good month.

Report from Public Works Supervisor – Allen Moultrie

Mr Moultrie presented the monthly report for September, 2018 (SEE ATTACHED)

Mr Moultrie stated that the staff has been working hard to keep up the mowing and brush pickup and they will start picking up leaves in the next week or so.

Report from Water Department – Jon Oliver

Mr Oliver presented the monthly report for the water department (SEE ATTACHED)

Mr Oliver stated that they are working on new valves and a flow meter at the plant. Alderman Smith asked how old the pump was in the pump house. Mr Oliver stated under 10 years old. Alderman Smith asked if we put bigger pumps in when we fixed the igloo station. Mr Moultrie stated that they were bigger. Mr Smith stated that he doesn't understand because we did not have this problem before. Mr Moultrie stated that the problem is storm water. Mr Smith asked if we had all the smoke testing done. Mr Moultrie stated that there is going to be a second round of testing.

Report from Sullivan County Commissioners – Dwight King and Hershhal Glover

Mr King reported that they have been sworn in and presented the commission's schedule. Mr King reported that there would be a change in November and their regular meetings will be third Thursday starting at 6:00 as they have moved it to allow people that work the opportunity to attend.

Mr King reported that he was at the meeting when the (sidewalk) grant was discussed. He stated that Blountville has put in one for sidewalks. He asked at the meeting if they had involved Timothy Hill and John Lundberg because if we get this grant we will have to have a letter from each one of them. Mayor Wells stated it's in the application. Mr King stated that if we get this it will be a sidewalk from City Hall to the bridge it does not have anything to do with the Over Mountain Victory Trail. Mr King stated that he had talked to Amber Torbett and they have the sidewalks for the trail. Mayor Wells stated she was contacted by a lady doing the designing on the sidewalks including a place for bikes. Mr King stated that we could apply for an extension of the Over Mountain Victory Trail. Mayor Wells stated that Amber was aware of it and what they were talking about was having a walking trail from the trail head off Main Street then left on Carter Street. Mr King asked who did the proposal for the grant. Mayor Wells stated First Tn. Development District.

Mr King stated that he had been approached in reference to extending the walkway from the pavilion through Buchanan's camper site, up to the swinging bridge and across and back down by Pratts to the new bridge and a platform on the bridge. He stated that it could be a joint project with Bluff City and Sullivan County. Mr King stated that if they were interested let him know.

County Commissioner Hershal Glover stated that he was sorry to have missed the Called Meeting, as they were sworn in that day. Mr Glover stated to Mayor Wells that they missed her at the ceremony and wished she had been there. Mr Glover stated that they were going to still have the commission work session on the second Thursday of each month. Mr Glover reported that at the first meeting they voted to put SRO (School Resource Officers) in all the county schools taking affect after the first of the year. Mr Glover stated that they are committed to help Bluff City 100% and to call them if they can help in any way.

County Commissioner Dwight King stated that in reference to Drought Management, in the past the fire departments would haul water to farmers for their ponds and they got a grant to reimburse the water departments that they got water from.

Old Business -- None

New Business

Mayor Wells stated Mr Smith we have brought this up before about having board members going down while the employees are trying to work and causing them a bunch of trouble. Mr Smith I understand you went down and was all up in Allen's face and everything and when they are working and doing their job they don't need anyone down there bothering them. Mr Smith stated about 7 or 8:00 I got a call that there was sewer coming out down there and I went down there and told Allen the lights were on. We did get into a little argument but he was all up in my face too. Mayor Wells stated you should not have been there in the first place while they are working. Vice Mayor Harrington stated it's one thing to go down there and watch but it's another to get in their face. Mr Smith stated I wasn't getting in their face. Mr Harrington stated we shouldn't be going to those things. Mayor Wells stated that we don't need this going on when they are trying to do their work. This has been brought up before. It's not the first time.

Mayor Wells reported that we got the conference room light fixed without having to replace all the lights.

Vice Mayor Harrington made a motion to continue with the Geological Survey at a maximum cost of \$2,500.00. Second by Alderman Bowling. Vote was as follows: Alderwoman Madison -- No, Vice Mayor Harrington -- Yes, Alderman Smith -- No, Alderman Bowling -- Yes. Mayor Wells broke the tie vote by voting yes. Motion carried.

Citizen Comments – Second Session

David Harmon of 200 Holston Drive stated you guys are supposed to run the city and if you want to go look at a leak it shows you are interested in the city. Vice Mayor Harrington stated its one thing looking but confrontational. Mr Harmon stated Allen shouldn't have confronted him. Allen (Moultrie) stated I did not confront him that's the thing about it. Our workers shouldn't be confrontational period. If David (Smith) says something to them they should answer his question and David you shouldn't be mean to them. Mayor Wells stated Mr Frye am I not supposed to be over the day to day operation and the men as far as doing their work and other not interfering. City Attorney Paul Frye stated you are over the day to day operations of the city.

Kimberly Arwood of 312 Harr Drive asked David Smith if it was a resident's home that had sewer coming up when you went down there. Mr Smith stated yes I got a call from the residents for him to come down there and I went. They want him to come down there to see. Mr Smith stated that he reports the overflows to the state hot line. Mayor Wells stated that it is all reported to Sandra Vance every time there is one. Mrs Arwood stated that she appreciates him taking up for the residents of the city.

Carolyn Payne of 4818 Bluff City Hwy. voiced concerns about an overflow at 4434 Bluff City Hwy on September 23rd that was not reported to TDEC.

Carol Keith of 305 Lakeview Circle voiced concern about no one who got up to speak saying anything about making Bluff City more affordable or any concern for the citizens or anything about making it easier and more tolerable for the workforce. Mrs Keith thanked the new County Commissioners. Mrs Keith voiced concern about the discussion of sidewalks when we have sewer overflowing in people's yards. Mrs Keith asked about the war memorial. Alderman Bowling stated that we have been waiting on a man that helped Johnson City design theirs. Mayor Wells stated I can't dictate to TDOT and other agencies what we can go after a grant for. Whenever they have grants they dictate to us what we can go after. Mrs Keith stated we have to pay 5% of that grant and we can't afford it.

Billy Wells of 198 Holston Drive stated that it used to be that the Mayor could declare all citizens to come out and work so many hours to solve any emergency. It's a good thing we don't have that now because the people gripping would have to get out there and work. Mr Wells thanked the board for the promptness that problems get fixed and for the police department as it makes him feel safe. Mr Wells thanked the fire department as well.

With no other business a motion to adjourn was made by Alderman Smith. Second by Alderwoman Madison. All in favor. Meeting was adjourned at 7:05 p.m.

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Irene Wells
Irene Wells, Mayor / City Manager

Attest this 2nd day of October, 2018

Sharon Greene
Sharon Greene, City Recorder/CMFO



Bluff City Police Department



MONTHLY REPORT
 2018 september
 Year Month

| NUMBER OF: | CITY | PINEY | COUNTY | TOTAL |
|------------------------|------|-------|--------|-------|
| CALLS FOR ASSISTANT(S) | 108 | 85 | 0 | 193 |
| ISSUED CITATION(S) | 62 | 48 | 0 | 110 |
| WARNING CITATION(S) | 22 | 21 | 0 | 43 |
| PATROLED MILE(S) | 2895 | 2165 | 0 | 5060 |
| ARREST(S) | 6 | 4 | 0 | 10 |
| OFFENSE REPORT(S) | 7 | 3 | 0 | 10 |
| ALARM(S) | 3 | 2 | 2 | 7 |
| ACCIDENT(S) | 8 | 6 | 0 | 14 |
| ANIMAL CALL(S) | 3 | 0 | 0 | 3 |
| MSD REPORT(S) | 6 | 4 | 0 | 10 |
| FUNERAL ESCORT(S) | 2 | 0 | 0 | 2 |
| 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) | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| DRUG VIOLATION(S) | 4 | 3 | 0 | 7 |
| USE OF FORCE REPORT(S) | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

approved by: *Chet May Raper* 10/1/2018

CITY OF BLUFF CITY

Department Of Public Works Board of Mayor and Alderman Monthly Report for September 2018

Sewer Department:

The pump stations are operating normally with there being 1 overflow in the month of September. We still are conducting our flushing in our known problem areas along with additional areas in need of flushing.

Street Department:

The staff has been working hard trying to keep up with the mowing and brush pick up all around town. The city will begin leaf pick up in the next week or so once brush pickup gets caught up and some water leaks gets repaired.

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

Allen Moultrie
Public Works Supervisor

September Water Report

In the month of September, we repaired 2 water leaks, the booster pump station at mount Holston road went down on the first we were able to acquire a smaller booster pump that day from first utility of carter county to restore service until our new booster pump arrived, we have the new booster pump installed and the smaller pump is still located in the booster station to serve as an emergency backup. We have verified the raw water actuator at water plant does work and we are in the process of installing a check valve, new valves and flow meter at this time.

Jon Oliver

Water Plant Operator