

Minutes
Bluff City Board of Mayor and Aldermen
Regular Meeting
March 1, 2022

Mayor Richard Bowling called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Members present were Carol Keith, Sandra Madison, Jeff Broyles and Eric Ward.

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

Mayor Bowling opened the floor for the following:

Mayor Bowling stated Dave Wilson with Mattern & Craig is not going to be here tonight but he gave an agenda showing what is going on and I put one in each one of your packets. The first one is the garage pump station. The pump station is currently down. We have 2 pumps messed up. We had to rent 2 bypass pumps while we are working on the one pump. The Chinquapin booster station is well under way. Mayor Bowling stated we have 2 bids on the manhole replacement bids and we need 1 more and we are going to have to put it up for bid again.

Mayor Bowling stated in reference to the sidewalk project, Sharon and I have a meeting with them this Wednesday and next week. Alderwoman Keith asked about when they think we will have that manhole. Mayor Bowling stated we have to bid for it 1 more time and we have to wait until the 13th before we can bid on it again.

Discussion / Action- Bryan Glover Property

Mr Glover stated in the last meeting he made an offer to the City to purchase an existing alleyway behind my residence at 453 Shawnee Drive. This alleyway is approximately 314 feet in length and 12 feet wide. My original offer was to make an offer to purchase 214 feet of the alleyway due to the remainder being behind my neighbors existing lot. Mr Glover stated that at the last meeting Alderman Ward stated the remainder of the alleyway would be land locked and there would be no way for the city to access the remaining 100 feet. Mr Glover stated that they had discussed buying the remaining 100 feet but then realized that there trees on that section that could become a liability. Mr Glover stated he would like to maintain his original proposal for the 214 feet by 12 feet with an offer to sign a permanent easement agreement with the City to allow maintenance crews to access this small strip. Vice Mayor Bowling stated I am going to rely on council from our attorney because I am not sure how to proceed. Mr Glover stated if the city would take the trees down they would consider buying that part. City Attorney Paul Frye stated that with this new wrinkle he recommend not entertaining this tonight. Vice Mayor Broyles made a motion to postpone the action on this until the next regular meeting in April. Second by Alderwoman Keith. Vote went as follows: Alderwoman Keith – Yes, Alderwoman Madison – Yes, Vice Mayor Broyles – Yes, and Alderman Ward – Yes. Motion carried.

Mayor Bowling introduced Betsy Carrier and Jerry Malone – Museum in Bluff City

Mrs Carrier spoke about the museum called Scenes from the Bluffs Heritage Museum. Mrs Carrier stated that their benefactor to make this possible is Chris Laisure along with the Impact Community Center. The purpose of the museum is to collect, protect and exhibit the unique physical and cultural history of our area. This will be located in the rock building (near the Impact Center).

Jack Hurlbert was present to show pictures of the plans. Mr Hurlbert stated he saw what a value this would be. Mr Hurlbert stated it would start with a mural of different stages of our history.

Jerry Malone stated he was a resident of Bluff City and had been with the Fire Department for 17 years and explained his involvement the Fire Department, Rescue Squad and now the Museum Project. Mr Malone stated that a lady was going to help them. The lady was the curator for the Birthplace of Country Music. Mr Malone asked for a grant of \$25,000.00 like the City gave to the War Memorial. Vice Mayor Broyles thanked them for coming. Mr Broyles asked when they expected to have 501-C3 established. Mr Malone stated that it was in the process now. Mr Broyles asked what our town board's involvement be in this action. Mr Malone stated they hoped they would get involved with the City's history. Alderwoman Keith stated it's wonderful and you all are doing a good job. Mayor Bowling asked if the inside of the building was about ready to go. Mrs. Carried invited them to come and look at it.

Citizens Comments – None

Discussion / Action – Minutes – Special Called Meeting Feb 7, 2022

Motion to approve was made by Vice Mayor Broyles. Second by Alderwoman Keith. Vote went as follows: Alderwoman Keith – Yes, Alderwoman Madison – Yes, Vice Mayor Broyles – Yes, and Alderman Ward – Yes. Motion carried.

Discussion / Action - Public Hearing and Second Reading on Ordinance 2022-002

City Attorney Paul Frye read the ordinance which amends Ordinance 2021-008 Known as the Appropriation Ordinance for the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2022. Line Item 413- Water and Sewer Fund to be amended as follows: Water and Sewer Fund --\$1,200,340.00. Mr Frye reported that it was for the purchase of water meters. Mayor Bowling stated that the amount for the water meters would be approximately \$13,000.00. We are trying to change all of them out. Public hearing opened at 6:60 pm. No comments. Hearing closed at 6:61 pm. Motion to approve was made by Alderman Ward. Second by Vice Mayor Broyles. Vote went as follows: Alderwoman Keith – Yes, Alderwoman Madison – Yes, Vice Mayor Broyles – Yes, and Alderman Ward – Yes. Motion carried.

Discussion / Action – Resolution 2022-001

City Attorney Paul Frye read the resolution which requests amendments to our Charter. Mr Frye stated that it was mainly to bring it into line with what our practices actually are. Section 3 is an amendment for the salary for the Mayor to be \$1,200.00 per annum and in the event the Mayor is performing duties of Town Manager - \$24,000.00 per annum and salaries for Aldermen would be \$300.00 per annum. Mr Frye stated this would need 4 votes for passage. Alderman Ward asked where the \$24,000.00 come from. Mr Ward stated I am good with \$1,200.00 for the Mayor and \$300.00 for the Aldermen. Vice Mayor Broyles stated I believe anyone performing in the capacity of Town Manager should be compensated as such. Alderwoman Keith stated I totally agree with you, the Town Manager needs to be paid. Mr Broyles stated I did research this for cities of our size and this compensation is fair and under what towns of our size are compensating folks for.

Alderman Ward asked if there were other towns where the Mayor fills the Town Managers duties. Vice Mayor Broyles stated there are towns in West Tennessee, and they are compensated at full salary with benefits and a contract. Mayor Bowling stated I did not ask for this. Vice Mayor Broyles stated no you did not, I am the sponsor of this resolution. Alderwoman Keith stated as long as you do what is right and fair you deserve to be paid. Alderman Ward stated I would be good with giving the Mayor more than the \$1,200.00 but I just don't like the fact that you have the Mayor doing the Town Managers job and you are never going to get a Town Manager. City Attorney Paul Frye stated if this resolution is passed and goes to the Legislature signed by the Governor and it has to come back to Bluff City for another two thirds vote. Alderman Ward asked if they could make a motion to approve it and strike the 24,000. Vice Mayor Broyles stated I want this resolution to go completely as is. Motion to adopt the resolution was made by Vice Mayor Broyles. Second by Alderwoman Keith. Vote went as follows: Alderwoman Keith – Yes, Alderwoman Madison – Yes, Vice Mayor Broyles – Yes, and Alderman Ward – No. Motion failed.

Discussion / Action – For the following Non-Profit Groups

RESOLUTION NO. 2022-002	Bluff City Volunteer Fire Dept.
RESOLUTION NO. 2022-003	Piney Flats Volunteer Fire Dept.
RESOLUTION NO. 2022-004	Bluff City Senior Citizens Center
RESOLUTION NO. 2022-005	Second Harvest Food Bank
RESOLUTION NO. 2022-006	Friends of Thomas Memorial Library
RESOLUTION NO. 2022-007	Bluff City Community Aid
RESOLUTION NO. 2022-008	Children's Advocacy Center
RESOLUTION NO. 2022-009	Bluff City Rescue Squad
RESOLUTION NO. 2022-010	Boone Lake Association
RESOLUTION NO. 2022-011	Keep Bristol Beautiful
RESOLUTION NO. 2022-012	Bluff City Boys and Girls Club
RESOLUTION NO. 2022-013	Over Mountain Trail

City Attorney Paul Frye stated there is a typo here that's for 2021-2022 and I will correct that.

City Attorney Paul Frye stated these are Non-Profit Resolutions we have already passed in the budget. These resolutions have to be adopted to make the payouts to the non-profits. Mr Frye stated you can make a motion to vote on all of them at once. Vice Mayor Broyles stated why have we not paid the non-profits since we passed the budget so long ago. City Recorder / CMFO Sharon Greene stated we usually do it at the end of December but with everything going on we did not get it done. Mr Broyles stated so we just got a little behind. Ms Greene stated yes we did. Mr Broyles asked Ms Greene why we do that. Ms Greene stated they were doing that when I came here. Mr Broyles stated we will look at that. Motion to adopt these Resolutions for the current budget year was made by Vice Mayor Broyles. Second by Alderman Ward. Vote went as follows: Alderwoman Keith – Yes, Alderwoman Madison – Yes, Vice Mayor Broyles – Yes, and Alderman Ward – Yes. Motion carried.

Discussion / Action – Financial Report – City Recorder / CMFO Sharon Greene

Ms Greene presented the following fund balances as of January 31, 2022.

General Fund - \$2,149,444.00, Sanitation Fund - \$15,688.00, Special Police Fund- \$2,103.00, Debt Service Fund - \$140,756.00, Sinking Fund - \$3,094.00, Water / Sewer Fund - \$834,320.00. Motion to approve the Financial Report was made by Vice Mayor Broyles. Second by Alderwoman Madison. Vote went as follows: Alderwoman Keith – Yes, Alderwoman Madison – Yes, Vice Mayor Broyles – Yes, and Alderman Ward – Yes. Motion carried.

Report from Mayor – Mayor Richard Bowling

Mayor Bowling reported that we just purchased a dump truck that they budgeted for last year. The manhole project and the booster pump project are budgeted. We just need to get the bids on it. Mayor Bowling stated everything is going good and I have a good crew working.

Report from City Attorney – Paul Frye

Mr Frye reported that we should be getting the final distribution on the Lester Childs Estate. It should be about \$1,600.00 for the City and would need to be used at our park.

Mayor Bowling reported that in reference to the Park, I received the bid on the playground that we have been working on. They did not go over our budget, so it is ready to start putting in. They told me that they should have it in by the last of May or the first of June.

City Attorney Paul Frye reported that the lawsuit of John Scott vs. Bluff City Police Department and Kevin Smith has been dismissed.

Comments from Board Members

Alderwoman Keith stated it's good to see everybody. Mrs Keith stated Mayor Wells and I were working on that playground and I am thankful we can get this done. I am excited about the Museum.

Alderwoman Madison thanked everyone for coming and invited everyone to come back.

Vice Mayor Broyles thanked everyone for attending. Mr Broyles stated I will be traveling to Nashville tomorrow to visit with our Legislator. It is nice for Bluff City to be invited to Nashville. Mr Broyles stated there is a lot of housekeeping to do.

Alderman Ward thanked everyone for coming out. Mr Ward stated the Museum sounds awesome. Mr Ward stated for everyone to have a good night.

Report from Police Department

In Chief Depew's absence, Officer Kevin Smith presented the monthly report for February 2022. (SEE ATTACHED)

Alderman Ward asked how the new cars were doing. Officer Smith stated they were doing great. All we are waiting on is for one radio and the lights to be installed and it's ready to go. Officer Smith stated we are loving those cars.

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Report from Water Plant Operator – Terry Banner

Mr Banner presented the report for January and February – (SEE ATTACHED)

Mr Banner stated they had to do samples which they came back showing everything is good. Mr Banner stated we are blessed with good water coming from the spring.

Mayor Bowling stated that there were some lines on the gauges at the plant that were getting brittle and we are going to replace all of that. Last month we had to buy extra water because of 2 house fires that used approximately 82,000 gallons of water.

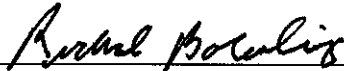
Sullivan County Commissioners – None Present

Old Business

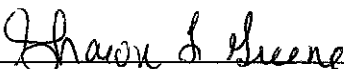
Alderwoman Keith asked if they ever got the GPS's straightened out. Mayor Bowling stated I haven't got them in all the cars yet. They are being worked on.

New Business – None

With no other business a motion to adjourn was made by Alderman Ward. Second by Vice Mayor Broyles. Vote went as follows: Alderwoman Keith – Yes, Alderwoman Madison – Yes, Vice Mayor Broyles – Yes, and Alderman Ward – Yes. Meeting adjourned at 7:20 p.m.


Richard Bowling, Mayor / City Manager

Attest this 1st day of March, 2022


Sharon Greene, Recorder / CMFO