Minutes Bluff City Board of Mayor and Aldermen Special Called Meeting March 17, 2023

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

Members present were Julie Venable, Sandra Madison and Carol Keith

Heather Moritz and Ben Adams were absent

Prayer was given by Carol Keith, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance led by Jeff Broyles

Mayor Broyles opened the floor for the following:

Citizen Comments

Carolyn Payne of 4818 Bluff City Highway voiced concern about whether the Board would accept the resignation of Alderwoman Moritz or remove her from office.

Discussion / Action: Resignation of Alderwoman Moritz

Mayor Broyles presented a copy of a text from Ms Moritz requesting resignation. Mayor Broyles stated he had received a call from Ms Moritz and asked her to email or text the request. Motion to accept was made by Vice Mayor Keith. Second by Alderwoman Madison. Vote went as follows: Alderwoman Venable stated No I think she should be fired rather than accept her resignation. Vice Mayor Keith stated I understand what the Alderwoman is saying, but she is already gone. We have been on this from day one. We took action immediately. The way I understand it is we can't fire somebody that is already gone. Mayor Broyles stated you are not wrong. There have been allegations not a conviction of any crime. Legally in the Charter Alderwoman Moritz can resign and that is all she has requested. Vice Mayor Keith stated if you can't fire somebody that is already gone can it be noted and recorded that I would rather fire her but I have no other option. Mayor Broyles stated we are all on public record now. Mayor Broyles stated if we stayed with Section 10, here's what would happen. We as a Board would come together and decide if we wish to pursue an action in Section 10 of the Charter, we would have to get Mr. Frye (City Attorney) to obtain all legal records together, set a hearing notifying the public and Ms Moritz in a timely manner. Ms Moritz could bring representation or anyone as her witness, according to the Charter, and defend herself. Then we would make our final decision. The only issue we are considering is Alderwoman Moritz wishes to resign. Alderwoman Venable stated you said it may take months if we have to go to court to listen to what she has done, will she still be on the Board and be able to come to meetings. Mayor Broyles stated yes because the legal process, no matter how long it took would still be under way. You could accept her resignation and she is immediately off the Board. Vice Mayor Keith asked if they could suspend her off the Board. Mayor Broyles stated we do not have power of suspension, only removal or acceptance of her resignation. Mayor Broyles stated the only item they are voting on is the resignation. If there is something else that would be a different meeting and would have to be published.

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With a motion and second on the floor to accept Alderwoman Moritz's resignation, vote went as follows Alderwoman Venable – No, Alderwoman Madison- No, Vice Mayor Keith – No. Motion failed.

With no other business, Mayor, Broyles adjourned the meeting at approximately 6:25 pm.

Jeff Broyles, Mayor / City Manager

Attest this 17th day of March 2023

Sharon Greene, Recorder / CMFO