

Minutes
Board of Mayor and Aldermen
Work Session
April 28, 2026

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

Members Present: Ben Adams, Carol Keith, Jerry Malone, Carolyn Payne, Eric Johnson
Prayer, Alderwoman Keith
Pledge of Allegiance, Chief Depew

Mayor Staton opened the work session for the following:

First Session of Public Comments:

Brenda Leonard, 508 Cedar Street, spoke about parking at the ball field and Wells Park.

Discussion of Public Works Vehicle:

Ms. Morris gave the Board of Mayor and Aldermen (BMA) members information on the proposed vehicles for the Public Works Department. The BMA discussed the necessity of purchasing two (2) new vehicles.

Town Manager Announcement:

Ms. Morris announced that Sharon Greene will be retiring in June 2026.

Town Manager Evaluation:

Mr. Pete Auger reviewed the 6-month evaluations by the BMA for Ms. Morris.

Discussion of Resolution 2026-011 - A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE AN AGREEMENT WITH THE CITY OF BRISTOL, TENNESSEE AS LEAD ENTITY FOR THE NORTHEAST TENNESSEE/VIRGINIA HOME CONSORTIUM:

Mayor Staton explained the Home Consortium and services they offer. The BMA unanimously agreed to sign another 3-year extension of the program for Bluff City residents.

Discussion of Parks Advisory Committee and Senior Center:

Ms. Elaine Goode and Mr. Tom Jarrell represented the Senior Center. Ms. Goode explained that current members would like to step down from daily operations of the senior center. They have asked the BMA to consider taking it over. Some discussion was had regarding a parks advisory board and a community garden.

Discussion of Ballfield and Parking:

Ms. Morris explained the current concerns at the ball field and clarified the offer made to the Jr. Patriots regarding parking and the rights of boaters as well as those utilizing the grassy area next to the lake.

The BMA agreed to a Special Called Meeting on May 6, 2026.

Second Session of Public Comments:

Emily Jacobs, 413 Mountain View Drive, Piney Flats, Tennessee, spoke about her time playing baseball at the Bluff City ball fields. Ms. Jacobs explained how happy it made her as a young child.

Brian Hunt, 191 Lakeview Drive, commented that TVA owns the land at the ball field and leased by Bluff City. Mr. Hunt addressed the rumors on Facebook.

Mara McConnell, 411 Bristol Caverns Highway, Bristol, Tennessee, spoke of a conversation she had with a Jr. Patriots board member regarding misinformation about parking at the ball field/boat ramp/recreation area.

Mayor Staton asked Ms. Morris to explain the situation.

Ms. Morris explained the situation and what transpired during her meeting with Mr. Steve McMillian and Chief Depew, and the agreed upon plan by all parties.

Victoria Mills Hunt, 4257 Rockhold Road, spoke about parking at the ball field during games, present and past. She stated she is not part of Jr. Patriots.

Justin Widner, 364 Cedar Street, spoke about parking at the ball field and game times.

Michelle Homer, 504 Cedar Street, spoke about parking at the ball field.

Christopher Gannon, 529 Dear Lick Road, Piney Flats, Tennessee, spoke about parking at the ball field/boat ramp/recreation area during baseball games and the farmers' market, and the flea market.

Miranda Glover, 209 Old Weaver Pike, stated she is the Vice President, Jr. Patriots. She spoke about the support from Bluff City and parking at the ball field/boat ramp/recreation area.

Vice-Mayor Ben Adams spoke about how fundraising supported the purchase of lights at the ball field nearly 40 years ago. He talked about the misinformation on Facebook and the consequences.

Chief Depew explained how other police departments handle parking situations and the going rates for all sorts of venues. Chief Depew stated the Bluff City Police Officers would do extra patrols during busy hours, as well as community outreach.

Ms. Morris stated parking spaces for boats would be marked, as well as no parking areas including in front of the 390 Bridge Pump Station.

Brenda Leonard, 508 Cedar Street, spoke about parking and signs at the ball field/boat ramp/recreation area.

Sarah Malone, 123 Hillcrest Road, explained the Bluff City Family Committee works with Steve McMillian and Jr. Patriots to coordinate schedules. Ms. Malone spoke about the success of the Spring Market. Ms. Malone introduced committee members Trinity Malone, Jolie Stigall, Rene' Briere, and Lia Creater.

Michelle Roberts, 231 Lakeview Drive, congratulated Ms. Sharon Greene on her retirement. She spoke about Jr. Patriots, finding solutions, and community support.

RESOLUTION NO. 2026-011

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE AN AGREEMENT WITH THE CITY OF BRISTOL, TENNESSEE AS LEAD ENTITY FOR THE NORTHEAST TENNESSEE/VIRGINIA HOME CONSORTIUM

WHEREAS, Bluff City is a participating member of the Northeast Tennessee/Virginia HOME Consortium; and

WHEREAS, the participating members are required by the Department of Housing and Urban Development to enter into an agreement as a sub-recipient to the Lead Entity of a HOME Consortium; and

WHEREAS, the Town wishes to implement the activities described in the Consortium's 2020 Consolidated Plan, as approved by the Department of Housing and Urban Development.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF MAYOR AND ALDERMEN OF BLUFF CITY, TENNESSEE AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION I: That the Mayor, is authorized to execute, in a form approved by the Town Attorney, the 2026 agreement with the City of Bristol, Tennessee as the Lead Entity for the Northeast Tennessee/Virginia Home Consortium.

SECTION II: That this resolution shall take effect from and after its adoption, the public welfare requiring it. All resolutions in conflict herewith be and the same rescinded insofar as such conflict exists.

Adopted on this _____ day of May 2026.

Lori Staton, Mayor

Sharon Greene, CMFO, Town Recorder

Approved as to form: _____
J. Paul Frye, Town Attorney