

Minutes  
Board of Mayor and Aldermen  
Regular Meeting  
January 7, 2025

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

Members present: Ben Adams, Carol Keith, Jerry Malone, Carolyn Payne

Prayer led by Carol Keith; Pledge of Allegiance led by Chief Depew

Mayor Staton opened the floor for the following:

Recognition of Distinguished Officials:

Chief Depew deferred comment to his Department Report.

First Session - Public Comments:

Eric Johnson of Lakeview Drive asked the Board to consider him for the open seat on the Board of Mayor and Aldermen. Mr. Johnson spoke about his 20-year work history as a blasting technician with a local based company. Mr. Johnson reported that he goes through background checks through the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives (ATF) every three (3) years. Mr. Johnson stated that he knows infrastructure. Mr. Johnson stated he is thankful for the current Board and that he cares about Bluff City's future.

Julie Venable of 209 Smith Street Extension spoke about a meeting in December, 2024.

Betsy Carrier of Cedar Street thanked the Board for appointing her Grand Marshal of the Christmas Parade. Ms. Carrier asked the Board to consider Mr. Johnson for the open Alderman position.

David Harmon of 200 Holston Drive spoke about the water bill rates and paying a city manager. Mr. Harmon also stated he did not want taxes raised and spoke about garbage collection.

Brian Hunt of 191 Lakeview Drive spoke about taking time and being patient as citizens and participating in meetings. Mr. Hunt gave an endorsement for Mr. Johnson as Alderman.

James Roberts of 231 Lakeview Drive spoke about Michelle Roberts' performance as Interim Town Manager. He reported unfair treatment by citizens. Mr. Roberts stated support for Mr. Johnson.

Discussion and Action: Vacant Board of Mayor and Alderman Seat

Motion to nominate Mr. Eric Johnson for the open Alderman seat by Alderman Malone. Second by Alderwoman Keith. All in favor. Motion passed. Mr. Johnson was sworn in.

Discussion and Action: Approval of Meeting Minutes for December 3, 2024

Motion to approve by Alderwoman Payne. Second by Alderwoman Keith. Vote: Alderwoman Payne - Yes; Alderman Malone - Yes; Vice-Mayor Adams - Abstain; Alderman Johnson - Yes. Motion passed.

Discussion and Action: Approval of Special Meeting Minutes for December 10, and December 20, 2024

Motion to approve by Alderwoman Payne. Second by Vice-Mayor Adams. Vote: All in favor. Motion passed.

Second Session of Public Comments:

David Harmon of 200 Holston Drive spoke about trash cans and the marquee sign not displaying

Pg. 2  
Bma  
1/7/25

the meetings. He stated he did not want taxes raised and spoke about garbage collection.

Julie Venable of 209 Smith Street Extension asked about trash cans and delivery.

#### Report from Town Manager

Michelle Roberts presented her report for the month of December.

Austin Smith of Mattern & Craig reported on the Carter Street project and coordination with Bluff City Elementary School. Mr. Smith reported that issues at 4406 Bluff City Highway were being evaluated. Mr. Smith reported that the Asset Management applications had not been received.

Report from Town Attorney: No Report.

#### Discussion and Action - Financial Report:

Sharon Greene presented the Financial Report for January 2025.

Motion to approve by Vice-Mayor Adams. Second by Alderwoman Payne. All in favor. Motion carried.

#### Reports from Department Heads:

Chief Depew gave the Police and Public Safety report.

Supervisor Allen Moultrie gave the report for Public Works.

#### Board of Mayor and Aldermen Comments:

Vice-Mayor Adams thanked everyone for attending and welcomed Mr. Johnson to the Board. Vice-Mayor Adams stated he is looking forward to 2025.

Alderwoman Keith thanked everyone for attending and stated she would continue to strive for truth. Alderwoman Keith introduced County Commissioner Joyce Crosswhite.

Commissioner Crosswhite stated she is pleased and proud of the Board. She offered well-wishes for Bluff City's future and reminded everyone the Bluff City is part of Sullivan County. Commissioner Crosswhite discussed the upcoming budget.

Alderman Malone thanked everyone for attending and discussed trash cans logistics regarding streets. Alderman Malone also discussed previous monies for Community Aid.

Alderwoman Payne stated it is wonder to see people in the audience and asked who watched the videos. Alderwoman stated she is available to anyone.

Alderman Johnson thanked those who spoke kindly about him.

Mayor Staton thanked Michelle Roberts for her role in helping Bluff City move forward. Mayor Staton credited Ms. Roberts for her hard work, honesty, and transparency.

#### Old Business:

Alderwoman Payne discussed repairing the audio and video equipment stating the citizens watch the meetings. Alderwoman also asked about the garage gate quotes and F250. Alderwoman Payne asked about minutes for workshops and talk about the 48-hour meeting posting rule.

Pg. 3  
Bma  
1/7/25

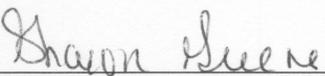
New Business:

Alderwoman Payne discussed workshops to address at-risk children and seniors. Alderwoman Payne asked for a workshop to address the Interim Town Manager salary.

With no other business, Mayor Staton adjourned the meeting at 7:42 p.m.

  
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Lori Staton, Mayor

This 7<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2025

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Sharon Greene, Recorder / CMFO



# City of Bluff City

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## FUND BALANCES

November 30, 2024

GENERAL FUND	110-11214	\$ 2,465,861.00
SANITATION FUND	130-11211	30,490.00
SPECIAL POLICE FUND	143-11214	5,368.00
DEBT SERVICE FUND	211-11321	112,382.00
SINKING FUND	211-11311	3,094.00
WATER / SEWER	413-11216	788,065.00
TOTAL FUND BALANCE		\$ 3,405,260.00

Prepared: January 7, 2025  
By: Sharon Greene, CMFO/City Recorder



# Bluff City Police Department

## MONTHLY REPORT

2024      DECEMBER  
Year      Month



<b>NUMBER OF:</b>				<b>TOTAL</b>
CALLS FOR ASSISTANT(S)				163
ISSUED CITATION(S)				267
WARNING CITATION(S)				92
PATROLED MILE(S)				6,221
ARREST(S)				39
OFFENSE REPORT(S)				33
ALARM(S)				7
ACCIDENTS				19
ANIMAL CALL(S)				0
MSD REPORT(S)				18
FUNERAL ESCORT(S)				3
DOMESTIC ASSAULT(S)				3
VEHICLE SEIZURE(S)				0
MISSING PERSON(S)				0
D.U.I.(S)				1
DRUG VIOLATION(S)				5
USE OF FORCE REPORT(S)				1

Approved by: Chief Depew

# **CITY OF BLUFF CITY**

## **Water Plant & Distribution System**

**Board of Mayor and Alderman Monthly**

**Report for December 2024**

### **Water Plant:**

The Water plant is operating normally pumping an average of 255 thousand gallons per day. Our water tank level was at an average of 47.03 ft. and was at a max level of 56.30 ft. for the month. The Water treatment plant operated well during the month only being down while backwashes were being performed.

### **Distribution System:**

The Water Distribution system is operating great. For the month of December, we didn't have any major waterline repairs during the month. Since making a few repairs last month we have seen gains in our water tank level.

### **Sewer Department:**

The Sewer Department is operating well with there being no overflows in the month of December. All pump stations are operating in a satisfactory manner.

### **Streets Department:**

City workers are working hard maintaining brush and leaf pickup throughout town. Our designated day for brush pickup is Wednesday and Thursday, with work orders being top priority.

If you have any questions please call City Hall at 538-7144. Thank you.

Allen Moultrie  
Public Work Supervisor