

Minutes
Regular Meeting
Bluff City Board of Mayor and Aldermen
June 12, 2014

Mayor Wells called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Mayor Wells stated "All individuals will be recognized by raising your hand and if I need help holding this meeting I will ask for it. I am sorry for what happened at the last meeting and I am mostly sorry for Mr. Harrison." Chief would you like to apologize to Mr. Harrison. Chief Depew stated that he would not apologize for doing his job. Mayor Wells stated she was holding the meeting and she was supposed to tell him when she needed help. Chief Depew stated again that he would not apologize for doing his job. Mr. Harrison (from audience) said why did you throw me out. Chief Depew stated to help keep order. Mr. Harrison stated I didn't do nothing. Chief Depew stated I am not here to argue. Mayor Wells stated I did not ask for your help and if I need it tonight I will ask for it otherwise I am holding the meeting.

Members present were Melvin Carrier, David Harmon, Ray Harrington, Lon Gene Leonard and Richard Bowling.

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

Mayor Wells opened the floor for the following:

Citizens Comments -- First section.

Rick Hill resident of 204 Jarrell Drive, stated that he is a retired federal agent serving almost 30 years. Mr. Hill read a statement reflecting on past meetings and cited the City Charter Article 3 Section 9 in reference to keeping good order of the proceedings. Mr. Hill also cited City Charter Article 14, Section 2 stating that the Chief of Police and the police force to preserve order in the town.

Tom Jarrell representative for the First Baptist Church, requested that the one way on Railroad Street be reconsidered to go back to two ways from J Forrest Thomas Street to Dr. Ronald E. Carrier Street to make the church parking lot more accessible.

Julie Venable Carty of 209 Smith Street Extension stated that the city crew should pick up brush that they go past even if there is no work order for it.

Becky Buchanan of 750 DryBranch Road thanked the board and the employees for finishing up the bathrooms at the park. Mrs. Buchanan stated that since the city is hurting for money, has Melvin Carrier paid his fine. City Attorney Paul Frye stated that there has been a lien placed on his property.

Action on the Old City Hall bid.

City Attorney Paul Frye stated that the board needed to either accept the winning bid or reject all bids. Motion to reject all bids was made by Alderman Carrier. Second by Alderman Harmon. Vote was as follows: Alderman Carrier-Yes, Alderman Harmon-Yes, Vice Mayor Harrington-No, Alderman Leonard- Abstained, and Alderman Bowling- Yes. Motion carried.

Motion to have sealed bids on the old City Hall building starting at \$15,000.00 was made by Vice-Mayor Harrington. Second by Alderman Harmon. Vote was as follows: Alderman Leonard abstained and all others voted in favor. Motion carried.

Bylaws for Networks

Clay Walker thanked the BMA for their participation in Networks. Mr. Walker stated that the by-laws that had changed did not have an impact on the structure with Bluff City but they are going from a 25 member board to a 13 member board to be more efficient. Mr. Walker asked the BMA to approve the Mayor to sign off on the changes. City Attorney Paul Frye asked if the change effected Bluff City's membership on the board any. Mr. Walker stated, no it does not. Mayor Wells stated that they had 2 before and now only have 1. Alderman Leonard stated that he sat on that executive committee and was informed that he no longer was involved. Motion to approve the bylaws was made by Vice-Mayor Harrington. Second by Alderman Bowling. All in favor. Motion carried.

Contract between Bluff City and FTDD for Planning / Advisory. Motion to approve was made by Alderman Leonard. Second by Alderman Harmon. All in favor. Motion carried.

Public Hearing on Ordinance 2014-001 opened at 7:16 p.m. City Attorney Paul Frye read the ordinance which is a cell phone use policy for employees. With no comments the hearing closed at 7:18 p.m. City Manager Dulaney reported that she had asked Mr. Frye to make an amendment stating that an employee may not carry their personal cell phone on the jobsite as this is a problem.

Motion to approve Ordinance 2014-001 as amended, on second reading was made by Alderman Leonard. Second by Vice-Mayor Harrington. All in favor. Motion carried.

Ordinance 2014-002 on First Reading. City Attorney Paul Frye read the ordinance which amends and clarifies section 1-102 of the Bluff City Municipal Code dealing with Citizens Comments at Special Called Meetings reflecting that at such meetings citizen comments shall only be made on Agenda items. Motion to approve Ordinance 2014-002 on first reading was made by Alderman Leonard. Second by Alderman Bowling. All in favor. Motion carried.

Ordinance 2014-003 on First Reading. City Attorney Paul Frye read the ordinance which is an ordinance to adopt a continuing budget and tax rate for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2014. Motion to approve on first reading was made by Alderman Harmon. Second by Alderman Lon Gene Leonard. All in favor. Motion carried.

Mayor Wells called for a budget workshop for June 17th at 7:00 p.m.

City Attorney Paul Frye stated that they BMA would need to have a Special Called Meeting for the 2nd reading on the continuing budget ordinance before the end of the month. Mayor Wells scheduled the Special Called Meeting for June 24th at 6:00 p.m.

Mayor Wells reported the following:

She attended a meeting at Networks on May 20th.

Attended the Animal Center Board Meeting on May 22nd.

Attended FTDD Semi Annual Board of Directors Meeting on May 28th.

Attended the Bluff City Planning Commission meeting on June 10th.

City Attorney Paul Frye reported the following:

Looked into the Middle School Girls Softball Team using the Cal Ripken Field and they would have to have an assurance from them stating their insurance would cover the city for the activity or the school would have to obtain a policy and add us as an additional insured to be able to do that.

Comments from the Aldermen:

Alderman Carrier stated that he was glad to see everyone out tonight.

Alderman Harmon stated that he was glad to see everybody here tonight.

Vice-Mayor Harrington stated that he appreciated everybody coming out and their comments.

Alderman Leonard thanked everyone for coming and looks forward to seeing them back again.

Alderman Bowling thanked everyone for coming and for such a calm meeting tonight.

City Manager Dulaney reported the following:

She had presented the board with the financial statements on Tuesday in their packets and this was thru May 31st. Cash balances were as follows: General Fund Operating Acct.- \$176,586.68, Sanitation Fund - \$3,878.50, Special Police Drug Fund \$1,896.74, Sinking Fund - \$3,094.78, Debt Service - \$196,791.11, Water/Sewer Fund - \$257,231.65, and FHA Reserve - \$690.72.

Problem with heat pump in city hall and she has one quote was for \$2,300.00 but she was going to get more quotes to make sure it is the compressor. Alderman Harmon asked how old the unit was and Ms. Dulaney stated 7 years and the warranty was for 5 years.

The city crew is having to pick up brush by hand as the chipper is in the shop. Report that the mowing tractor is also in the shop. We are waiting on the quotes to repair them.

Asked the BMA to take action on the confiscated vehicles and other equipment and allow her to put them on GovDeals.com to auction off.

Coming along on the Rural Development Application and everything looks good.

6-12-14

Letter has been written in response to the Sanitary Inspection findings received from (TDEC) Tennessee Department of Environment.

Motion to advertise on Gov.com was made by Alderman Leonard. Second by Alderman Harmon. All in favor. Motion carried.

Motion to approve financial report was made by Alderman Leonard. Second by Alderman Bowling. All in favor. Motion carried.

Public Works Director Ron Miller reported the following: SEE ATTACHED

Chief of Police Greg Depew reported the following:

Monthly report: SEE ATTACHED

City Manager Dulaney stated that the Chief is working on a cop's grant that consists of paying (2) two police officers plus benefits.

Looking at another grant for equipment in the amount of \$15,000.00

Received overtime grant from Governors Highway Safety for high visibility

Presented Officer Roger Antone the Officer of the Year Award. Officer Antone demonstrated some of Police K-9 dog Neeko's abilities.

No Sullivan County Commissioner was present.

In Old Business, Alderman Harmon asked that Railroad Street be turned back into a two way street and asked City Attorney Paul Frye to draw up an ordinance.

In New Business, Alderman Carrier stated that there was a man interested in putting a hot dog stand in the caboose. City Attorney Paul Frye stated that we would have to have some specifications and put it out on bid for everybody, they could not let just one person look at doing that and he had reported it in the last meeting. Mr. Frye stated that they would have to look into whether it would be taxable.

Mayor Wells opened the floor for Citizen Comments – Second Section.

Brenda Leonard of 508 Cedar Street thanked the Police Department for the job they are doing. Mrs. Leonard stated that we should not keep harping on Melvin all the time and should remember how much money has come out of our budget over lawsuits that are not paid back.

Rick Hill 204 Jarrell Drive stated that he must have overlooked the code that states that the Mayor has to approve the police department to do their job and asked where the code is that states that. Mr. Hill stated that the board needs to take care of the city.

Mayor Wells stated that at the last meeting the Chief stated that the Mayor is the head of the meeting and if she has any problem with anyone and she calls you down and you don't follow her instruction then the Mayor can ask to have them removed.

Rick Hill responded to the Mayor stating that he was at the last meeting in uniform helping keep the peace in the meeting.

John Harrison of 206 Main Street stated that the Police Chief would not even tell him why he was taken out that night he never said nothing and never done nothing.

Julie Venable Carty of 209 Smith Street Extension stated that when Mr. Harrison was told to leave he was talking to her and all she was saying to him was that we have been warned to behave and he said I've been warned to behave and I said don't worry all of us were warned.

Becky Buchanan of 750 Drybranch Road asked who would someone turn the sealed bids to on the old city hall. Alderman Harmon stated the City Manager. Mrs. Buchanan stated that she felt that no one associated with the city should have the sealed bids. Mrs. Buchanan stated that in reference to everyone talking about these lawsuits against the city has everyone forgotten that years ago Judy Dulaney had a lawsuit against the city and won the case.

City Manager Dulaney asked that the Mayor to stop allowing people to browbeat her over things that happened years ago or they could get into the reason why she sued the city. Mayor Wells stated you made a big deal about my lawsuit against the city so what is the difference.

Becky Buchanan stated that she had found out from an old newspaper that Mrs. Wells had not told her. Ms. Dulaney asked the Mayor as an employee of the city to quit letting her be abused. Mayor Wells stated Becky just let it go.

Lillian Cutten of Union Park Subdivision stated that we have a beautiful town and we can either build it up or tear it down. Mrs. Cutten stated that we need to work together even if we don't agree with everything.

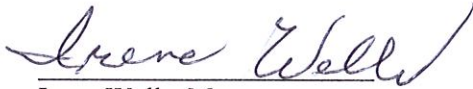
Marie Peterson of 758 Vickers Road stated that her property joins 6 properties in Bluff City. Mrs. Peterson stated that she had known Judy and Lon Gene for a long time and had never had anyone say that they have not done what they were supposed to. Mrs. Peterson stated that as far as Wanda and Sandy they are above board and when they come in there and they were late with their taxes she was there and heard what was said and nobody said anything out of place. Mrs. Peterson stated that if you want a better police chief you are going to have to dig very long to find one. Mrs. Peterson stated that she did not live inside the city but she is just as proud as anyone else but when she hears comments about Lon Gene, Judy, Wanda, Sandy and the police, it is all a bunch of lies.

City Manager Dulaney stated that she wanted to make a comment since Mrs. Buchanan felt it necessary to humiliate me to the public. Ms Dulaney stated yes I did sue the city about 20 years ago along with most of the employees and we did win and it was due to the cruelty, abuse and discrimination by the Board of Mayor and Aldermen at that time.

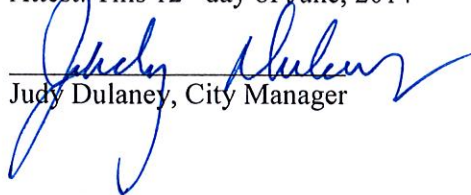
Becky Buchanan apologized for singling her out on that. Ms. Dulaney thanked her.

Karen Morrell of 4380 Bluff City Hwy stated that she had been here at the meetings and has seen some of the outrageous loudness and she feels that no one should be treated that way, the board or the public. Mrs. Morrell stated that there has to be a balance. Mrs. Morrell stated that she heard that Judy would be taking the sealed bids in and she had a suggestion. Ms. Dulaney stated that the board would be opening them. Mrs. Morrell suggested that the bids should be put in a lock box and she and the Mayor both have a lock and a key and she felt that the public would be more comfortable with that.

With no other business, Motion to adjourn was made by Alderman Bowling. Second by Alderman Harmon. Meeting adjourned at 8:05 p.m.


Irene Wells, Mayor

Attest, This 12th day of June, 2014


Judy Dulaney, City Manager



Bluff City Police Department

MONTHLY REPORT



2014 JUNE
Year Month

NUMBER OF:	CITY	PINEY	COUNTY	TOTAL
CALLS FOR ASSISTANT(S)	32	58	12	102
ISSUED CITATION(S)	9	94	0	103
WARNING CITATION(S)	10	52	0	62
PATROLED MILE(S)	2080	2197	0	4277
ARREST(S)	2	13	0	15
OFFENSE REPORT(S)	2	9	0	11
ALARM(S)	2	0	0	2
ACCIDENT(S)	0	10	0	10
ANIMAL CALL(S)	4	4	0	8
MSD REPORT(S)	9	13	0	22
FUNERAL ESCORT(S)	0	1	0	1
DOMESTIC ASSAULT(S)	1	0	1	2
VEHICLE SEIZURE(S)	0	3	0	3
MISSING PERSON(S)	0	0	0	0
D.U.I.(S)	0	0	0	0
DRUG VIOLATION(S)	0	5	0	5
USE OF FORCE REPORT(S)	0	0	0	0

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approved by:

Gay Papa

Date: 7/10/2014



CITY OF BLUFF CITY

Department Of Public Works

Director: Ronald L. Miller

Email: ronmillerpwbc@gmail.com

TOWN HALL REPORT

June 12, 2014

STREET MAINTENANCE

We have flushed some sewer back-ups, repaired some small leaks, replaced some bad meters and broken meter boxes, and identified leaks on customers that needed to be fixed. We will be repairing more storm drains like the one on the corner of Carter and Parks Worley. Asphalt repairs will start after July 1st. Also when we have 2 or 3 dry days, we will be starting to fill cracks in the road in the Union Park area.

LANDSCAPING

We are close to catching up on both brush pick up, and mowing. We are still waiting on our Chipper and John Deere tractor to come back from being repaired. That will help us a lot in catching up on these, and they should be back by the beginning of the week sometime. We are also trying to catch up on the areas that need to be landscaped. We evidently had a bad bag of grass seed, so were going back to areas that grass isn't growing and re-seeding and putting straw down.

OTHER NOTES

Bathrooms: The bathrooms have been up and running since Memorial Day week end. We still have some outside work to be done, but that will be after July 1st.

Water Plant: The Water Plant is running on a regular basis without any new problems (major).

Water Distribution: Our distribution officer trainee, Allen, has been doing the monthly water line blow offs and leak detecting.

IRENE WELLS
MAYOR OF BLUFF CITY
MONTHLY REPORT
June 12, 2014 • 7:00 p.m. (Regular Board Meeting)

To: Ray Harrington, Vice Mayor
Melvin Carrier
Richard Bowling
David Harmon

Lon Gene Leonard
Judy Leonard
J. Paul Frye, Attorney

Networks Executive Board
May 20, 2014 - 8 a.m.

Discussed upcoming business
Job growth

Sullivan County, Bluff City and Kingsport
Animal Center Board Meeting
May 22, 2014 - 12 Noon

Audit completed
Discussed budget

Grant writing to help support organization

Donor agreed to pay for 2000 square feet of fencing with double gates for playground for the animals

Group from New York City takes approximately 20 - 30 animals each month from each clinic. They will not take pit bulls. They give the animals shots and anything else they need and then adopt the animals out to good homes. They check out each person before letting individuals adopt the animals.

Each person took letters to help with fund raising for the clinics

Total dogs picked up - 60 in April Year to date - 664

Total cats picked up - 51 in April Year to date - 683

Transport to vets: 42 in April Year to date - 334

Dogs adopted in April - 53 Year to date - 244

Dogs currently housed - 57

Cats adopted in April - 23 Year to date - 116

Cats currently housed - 83

First Tennessee Development District
Semi-Annual Board of Directors Meeting
Redtail Mountain Resort
Mountain City, TN
May 28, 2014

Discussed Objectives:

Continue a process designed to maximize coordination of physical, community, economic and human resource planning and project programming within the district.

Review and update FTDD development strategies by analyzing the area's assets and problems. Identifying its needs, and providing technical assistance.