

Minutes
Regular Meeting
Bluff City Board of Mayor and Aldermen
September 11, 2014

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

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

Prayer was given by Rev. Erwin Greene of Robinson Memorial Church in Bluff City, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

In reference to the Minutes for the August 14, 2014 City Manager Dulaney addressed Mayor Wells in saying that she (Mayor Wells) had called her about an error in the minutes from August because she (Mayor Wells) had to break a tie vote on Ordinance 2014-004 on second reading and that actually happened on the First reading on July 10th. Minutes for August 14, 2014 were approved with a motion by Alderman Carrier. Second by Vice Mayor Ray Harrington. All in favor.

Mayor Wells opened the floor for the following:

Citizen Comments – 1st Section

David Smith of 200 Highland Circle stated that he had been to the City of Bristol and found that their council members get \$490.00 per month. Mr. Smith stated that he would like the board members to consider getting from \$150 to \$200 per month and the Mayor to receive \$275.

Julie Venable Carty of 209 Smith Street Extension requested the city look into fixing a sewer drain on McClelland near the railroad overpass.

With no more comments, citizen comments closed.

Public hearing on Ordinance 2014-013 opened at 7:07 p.m. City Attorney Paul Frye read the ordinance which amends Title 15, Chapter 8, Section 15-805 known as the Traffic Control Photographic System which makes the court costs that they have already voted on applicable to the camera tickets as well. With no citizen comments, hearing was closed at 7:08 p.m. Motion to approve Ordinance 2014-013 on second reading was approved with a motion by Alderman Bowling. Second by Vice Mayor Harrington. All in favor. Motion carried.

Ordinance 2014-014 on first reading. City Attorney Paul Frye read the ordinance which deals with speed limits on St. Rt. 44 within the corporate limits of Bluff City, Tenn., being set to 35 mph. Motion to approve was made by Alderman Bowling. Motion failed for lack of a second.

Resolution 2014-002. City Attorney Paul Frye read the resolution which deals with Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2014 Budget Amendments. City Manager Dulaney stated that this is a requirement from the Comptroller's office in order to bring the budget into 100% compliance. Motion to approve was made by Alderman Leonard. Second by Alderman Harmon. All in favor. Motion carried.

Discussion/ Action on Appealing Directors order from TDEC No. DWS14-0099 for Bluff City Water Works. Motion to appeal was made by Alderman Carrier. Second by Alderman Harmon. All in favor. Motion carried.

Award bid for Painting and Maintenance on the Water Tank on Carter Street. City Manager Dulaney stated that she had put copies of the bids in their packets and one was \$121,800.00 and the other was from Utility company for \$89,900.00. Mayor Wells asked if we had information on both companies. Ms Dulaney stated that references on the Utility Company with the low bid had been contacted and one was from the town of Smyrna which gave them an excellent review. One was from Tracey, Tennessee and Sparta Tennessee and all were good references. Motion to approve Utility Company bid for \$89,900.00 was made by Alderman Carrier. Second by Alderman Harmon. Alderman Bowling asked when they could start after the bid was approved. Ms. Dulaney stated that they have to begin by October 1st and be done before winter months. City Attorney Paul Frye asked that they clarify that the motion was to approve Preferred Sandblasting and Painting LLC. Upon Mayor Well's request for documentation that stated that it was a mandate, Ms. Dulaney presented documents from the state showing that it was a mandate that had to be done. Ms Dulaney stated that the sanitary survey was included and the score was 97 but there were things that had to be done to maintain the good score. Mayor Wells stated that she wanted to make a correction and she did not say that it was not a mandate, she said that anything that is a mandate the board needs a copy of it and you said that the water person had a copy. Ms. Dulaney stated that she had said that she hadn't seen anything so she got her something to see.

City Attorney Paul Frye reported the following:

We are doing well collecting the delinquent property taxes, and a suite should be filed around the first of the year.

In reference to the cat problem that Ms Dulaney brought up at the last meeting, the only thing he could find was Johnson City had brought up a spay and neuter law that did not pass and in his opinion the city would have to have full time employees to enforce anything like that and the best thing to do is ask for more time from the Animal Control People.

Mayor Wells asked Mr. Frye if we had any taxes that had to be turned over to the court where we had to write off. Mr. Frye stated that some personal property taxes with no real property are uncollectible for example when a business goes out business.

Alderman Bowling stated that they need to vote on the bid for the water tank repairs. With a motion and a second on the floor. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

Mayor Wells reported the following:

Thanked everyone for coming.

TDOT met and the ramps are open now. No problems so far. TDOT meetings will be held every second Wednesday at City Hall thru December.

She attended Networks Executive Board Meeting on Sept. 10th

Attended the Bluff City Planning Commission on Sept. 9th.

Sullivan County, Bluff City, and Kingsport Animal Board classrooms have been moved and animal records can be located easier.

Attended Networks meeting on August 20th.

Comments from Aldermen:

Alderman Carrier thanked everyone for coming.

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

Vice Mayor Harrington thanked everyone for coming and asked that they remember 9-11 and what happened 13 years ago and thanked the service men and firemen and those who served.

Alderman Leonard thanked everyone for coming and stated he had been sick for a while but was glad to be back.

Alderman Bowling stated that he appreciated everyone for coming.

City Manager Judy Dulaney reported the following:

She is limited on her report as she has to wait on the Auditor.

Cash Balances are as follows: General Fund Operating Account -\$119,116.04, Sanitation - \$14,549.00, Special Police Drug Fund- \$1,142.87, Sinking Fund- \$3,094.78, Debt Service - \$224,694.43, Water/Sewer- \$265,184.67, FHA Reserve Account- \$690.72.

Ms Dulaney presented copies to aldermen of the confiscated and old city vehicles to put on Govdeals.org. Ms Dulaney stated that they have 5 confiscated vehicles that will go on the site first. Ms Dulaney stated that some are in really bad shape. Ms Dulaney stated that the city has to pay 2% of the cost to use the site. Ms Dulaney stated that she had a bid for \$5,000.00 for the vehicles as they are.

Reported that we have a very old backhoe and we have a new one. Asked if the backhoe could be sold and money be put on purchasing the arm for the bobcat.

Asked that she be considered for the position on the Animal Board as Alderman Carrier was assigned to the board and has not been attending. Mayor Wells stated that she would like the board to appoint her to the Animal Board. Mayor Wells asked the board to make a motion. No action was taken.

Public Works Director Ron Miller reported the following:

In addition to the normal water and sewer repairs his crew has sealed cracks in asphalt in center of road in Union Park.

Pot holes have been patched in some areas

Making preparations for Heritage Days

New Turbidity meter has been installed

Chief of Police Greg Depew reported the following:

Presented monthly report

No Sullivan County Commissioners Present

In Old Business:

Alderman Harmon made a motion to accept sealed bids starting at \$15,000.00 again for the Old City Building. Second by Alderman Carrier. All present in favor. Motion carried.

Alderman Carrier made a motion to accept the bid of \$5,000.00 for the junk vehicles. Second by Alderman Harmon. All present in favor. Motion carried.

Alderman Carrier made a motion to post the backhoe for sale. Second by Vice Mayor Harrington. All in favor. Motion carried.

In New Business:

Alderman Harmon asked if meeting night could be changed to make it easier for one alderman who has a difficult time getting off work on Thursday night. City Attorney Paul Frye was asked to draw up an ordinance changing the meeting night to the 1st Tuesday each month.

Citizen Comments- Second Section

Ms Dulaney stated that she will be retiring in about 3 years and the BMA needed to think about hiring someone to train.

Julie Venable Carty of 209 Smith Street Extension stated that there is a cat problem in town and between her, Margaret Mitchell from Abingdon and the Paws of Hope, they have spayed and neutered 42 cats.

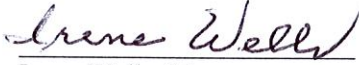
Becky Buchanan 750 Drybranch Road, asked Chief Depew if the sale of guns will be allowed on Main Street on Heritage Days. Chief Depew stated that this would be up to the city because there is no law about what they can sale. Chief Depew stated that he would be looking into it, and asked City Attorney Paul Frye to look into it. Mrs. Buchanan asked what the sealed bid was the last time and Alderman Harmon stated \$15,000.00.

Jerry Malone of Smith Street asked if any money was put back into the budget for the Rescue Squad.

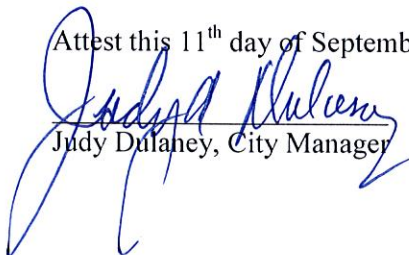
Alderman Carrier asked if the Police Depart could stand by when business are closing for safety reasons. Chief Depew stated that they will continue to do that.

City Manager Dulaney read an e-mail from the City Engineer stating that he had been working with Rural Development and felt that they would have a funding packet by the 30th of this month.

With no other business Mayor Wells adjourned the meeting at 8:10 p.m.


Irene Wells, Mayor

Attest this 11th day of September, 2014


Judy Dulaney, City Manager