

Minutes
Bluff City Board of Mayor and Aldermen
Special Called Meeting
June 11, 2018

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

Members present were Sandra Madison, Jack Stratton, Ray Harrington, David Smith and Richard Bowling.

Prayer was given by Jack Stratton, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Wells opened the floor for the following:

Citizen Comments – First Session

Carolyn Payne of 4818 Bluff City Highway stated that what she has to say will take more than 3 minutes. Mrs Payne voiced concerns about Resolution 2018-002, questions about the excessive non- revenue water lost survey, and lights flashing at the pump station.

Becky Buchanan of 750 Drybranch Road stated that she thinks the city workers are doing a fine job.

Mayor Wells stated that she was tired of people coming to meetings and saying things that are not true and if we had a quorum the other night we would have had a meeting. Mayor Wells asked Public Works Director Allen Moultrie to speak. Mr Moultrie reported that on the overflow they had during the major rain event we had, Mrs Payne called him and was boasting about the overflow and he felt that was distasteful. Mr Moultrie stated he found it hard to work in conditions like that. Mr Moultrie stated that the atmosphere here is toxic, and explained that he gives the city his nights, weekends, and time off, because whenever the alarm goes off, he is here.

Billy Wells of 198 Holston Drive stated that the guys have been doing a good job. We learned honor and dignity. Mr Wells stated if you are going to vote to let everybody talk all night you need to change the 3 minute rule.

Alderman Bowling asked Allen if he knew that it had overflowed before she called you. Mr Moultrie stated no it was not until the Mayor called him that we had high level float alarms. Mr Moultrie stated that he dispatched Robert Potter to the station and he made it there 10 minutes before I got there and said it was not overflowing, by the time I got there it was overflowing. Mr

Bowling asked if the power had been off that night. Mr Moultrie stated that it had. Mr Moultrie stated that we have a storm water issue. We do not have an issue with the actual pump station. This situation happens when we have heavy rains.

Alderman Madison stated that she was sorry he was going through this. Mayor Wells stated you should not have to put up with all of that.

Discussion / Action – Minutes for April 2 and April 24, 2018

Motion to approve minutes for the regular meeting on April 2, 2018 and the special called meeting of April 24, 2018 was made by Alderman Bowling. Second by Vice Mayor Harrington. All in favor. Motion carried.

Discussion / Action – City Engineer Dave Wilson with Mattern and Craig

Mr Wilson stated that he thinks some of the issues coming up boils down to communication and if they want an informal meeting where everyone is aware and can ask any of these questions. Mr Wilson stated that the item coming up next (Res. 2018-002) is not related to our project at all. Board members stated no it is not; it was borrowing from one fund and paying it back to another. Mr Wilson stated that this is the first overflow in 11 months and we can have up to 5 with no regulatory action because they know in every waste water system this happens. Mr Wilson explained that when they went to Nashville, they found that during the same event Jonesborough had 9 overflows, Bristol Tn. had 19 overflows. Mr Wilson stated that he feels they need to do a work session. Mayor Wells stated that they need to do that to get the correct information out there.

Mr Wilson reported that contract 2 was awarded and our notice to proceed date was May 28, 2018 so those guys are on the clock. He is going to find an exact start date and why they are not already here. On Contract 3 you are aware we had issues of turbidity coming out of the spring to the water plant causing shutdowns. We are going on as planned with Contract 3 and will look into another project to address those turbidity issues. Mayor Wells asked how much money will we get from the contractors if they go past their contract times. Mr Wilson stated that it is \$1,000.00 per day.

Mayor Wells reported that Teresa (Nidiffer) has 2 or 3 businesses and could not take care of her businesses and take care of us. Mrs Wells stated that she appreciates everything that she has done.

Discussion / Action – Resolution 2018-002

CMFO Sharon Greene read the resolution which is The Issuance, Sale and Payment of Water and Sewer Fund Inter Fund Capital Outlay Extension Notes, Series 2017, not to exceed \$66,667.00. Ms Greene reported that this was an inter fund loan that was made in 2014 that was supposed to

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have been paid off and they got an extension 3 years ago and the last extension is the one that they are doing now. Vice Mayor Harrington stated that this is where the Water Fund borrowed money from the General to pay off the leak that happened on the swinging bridge when Judy Dulaney was here and it got swept under the books and so we are paying it back and it has nothing to do with the loans now. Motion to approve Resolution 2018-002 was made by Vice Mayor Harrington. Second by Alderman Bowling. All in favor. Motion carried.

Discussion / Action – First Reading Ordinance 2018-002

CMFO Sharon Greene read the ordinance which is to Adopt a Continuing Budget and Tax Rate for the Fiscal Year beginning July 1, 2018. Motion to approve Ordinance 2018-003 on first reading was made by Alderman Bowling. Second by Vice Mayor Harrington. All in favor. Motion carried.

Discussion / Action – Contract with the State of Tn, Signal Upgrades on SR-34 (Bristol Highway, US-11-E/ 19W) at Industrial Park Road, Bluff City, Sullivan County, PIN: 172426.00, Federal Project Number: STP-M-34 (117) State Project Number: 82005-3248-54, Contract No.: 180027

Mayor Wells stated that she had mentioned to them before about replacing the light at Industrial Park Road as it is faded out and way out of date. The money was approved to replace the light and then they had to get someone to install it. She has talked to the State of Tennessee and they have agreed to take on the job of completing the traffic light. Motion to approve was made by Vice Mayor Harrington. Second by Alderman Bowling. All in favor. Motion carried.

Discussion / Action – Approval to hire 1 fulltime and 1 temporary employee for Public Works along with a Full Time Water Plant Operator. Teresa Nidiffer is leaving June 12th due to her private businesses.

Public Works Director Allen Moultrie asked that they consider looking at someone with backhoe experience for the full time position. Motion to approve hiring a full time employee with backhoe experience and a temporary for Public Works was made by Vice Mayor Harrington. Second by Alderman Bowling. All in favor. Motion carried.

Motion to hire a full time Water Plant Operator was made by Vice Mayor Harrington. Second by Alderman Bowling. All in favor. Motion carried.

Report from Mayor / City Manager – Irene Wells

Mayor Wells reported that she is pleased that Sullivan County donated the city \$10,000.00 and they are going to be replacing quite a few boards at the boardwalk and may be replacing the smaller roof on the boardwalk area along with other maintenance.

Discussion / Action – Financial Report – CMFO Sharon Greene

Ms Greene reported the following Fund Balances as of April 31, 2018. General Fund - \$1,195,040.00, Sanitation Fund - \$14,490.00, Special Police Fund- \$13,090.00, Debt Service Fund - \$147,245.00, Sinking Fund - \$3,095.00, Water / Sewer Fund - \$639,184.00. Motion to approve the financial report was made by Vice Mayor Harrington. Second by Alderman Bowling. All in favor. Motion carried.

Comments for Board Members

Alderwoman Madison stated to Public Works Supervisor Allen Moultrie that he was doing a good job and she was sorry for what he is going through and if he needed anything.

Alderman Stratton stated that it has been a good meeting as he thinks everyone wants the same thing we are just not a rich city to be able to buy everything we need. Mr Stratton thanked everyone for hanging in there.

Vice Mayor Harrington stated he would reiterate what Alderwoman Madison said and if he (Allen) needed anything let them know and he appreciates everything he does every day. We are getting there one step at a time.

Alderman Smith thanked everyone for coming out.

Alderman Bowling thanked everyone for coming out and he is glad that people are concerned about the city. I hope we can get along and do things like they are supposed to be done, but we can't do everything at one time.

Report from Chief of Police – Greg Depew

Chief Depew presented the monthly report for May, 2018 (SEE ATTACHED)

Chief Depew said they have had a good month and everyone is working together.

Presented a list of their cars and the mileage and condition. They may need to look into 2 new vehicles.

Chief Depew stated that Allen and the city workers work hard and not one time have they ever asked the crew for anything that they have not gone out of their way to stop and help the officers. I appreciate all they do. All the employees love this town and it does make it difficult when you are put under pressure.

Report from Public Works Supervisor – Allen Moultrie

Mr Moultrie stated Mrs Payne If I came at you the wrong way I do apologize for that, it was not my intentions but I just got a little frustrated.

Presented monthly reports for May – (SEE ATTACHED) We had 2 overflows during May due to the thunderstorms on May 31st knocking out the power to the garage pump station leading to the overflow.

Mr Moultrie stated that they need to put funds into the water plant for updates. Alderman Smith stated that it was worn out 15 years ago. Mayor Wells stated that Congressmen Roe's representative is working with her and the Forestry Service to see if we can put a fence up that would help tremendously because the four-wheelers are up there all the time and messing up the ground.

Mayor Wells notified the board that the election falls on November 6, 2018 so they will not be able to have their meeting on that day.

No County Commissioners were present

Old Business – None

New Business – None

Citizen Comments – Second Session

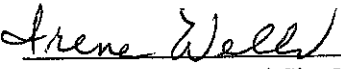
Carolyn Payne of 4818 Bluff City Highway, continued her previous comments and questions about the overflow.

Becky Buchanan of 750 Drybranch Rd, thanked the board members for thanking Allen and standing up for him.

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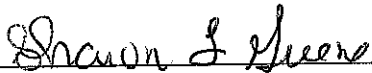
Carol Keith of 305 Lakeview Circle, told Allen (Moultrie) that she was so sorry that he is going thru all of this. Mrs Keith stated when somebody calls Allen giving him a lot of mouth can he say if you have a problem with me call one of the aldermen or the Mayor and end it right there, and let the aldermen handle it.

With no other business, motion to adjourn was made by Alderman Bowling. Second by Vice Mayor Harrington. All in favor. Meeting was adjourned at approximately 7:16 p.m.



Irene Wells, Mayor / City Manager

Attest this 11th day of June, 2018



Sharon Greene, CMFO