Minutes Regular Meeting Bluff City Board of Mayor & Aldermen March 7, 2017

Mayor Wells called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M.

This is a business meeting. Not a court of law. No personal attacks. I welcome each of you here tonight. Anyone wanting to comment has three minutes in the first session and three minutes in the second session. The Board members do not have to comment unless they want to. Anyone wanting to comment must come to the podium and give their name, address and telephone number. No talking out in the meeting. If you would like to talk while the meeting is going on, you must go outside or in the hallway. Others want to be able to hear. You can be asked to leave if you are out of order. If you have a request for information, you must come to the office at City Hall during office hours 8 AM to 4:30 PM and fill out the proper request form.

Members present were Alderwoman Madison, Alderman Stratton, Vice Mayor Harrington, Alderman Harrison and Alderman Bowling.

Prayer was given by Vice Mayor Ray Harrington, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Discussion/Action: SBK (Pet Works-Regional Animal Service) Joe Herron: Thank you Mayor and Board of Mayor and Alderman and distinguished guests. We appreciate the opportunity to be here and what I would like to do if we could utilize this. I have brought with me Mr. Russ Atkins, he is the Vice President/Board of Directors for SBK he is going to start out and I will cap it off when he gets through. Mr. Atkins states, I brought this power point presentation today because I want to be able to show the pictures of the condition of our current shelter. It's a history of where we have been and where we are. SBK stands for Sullivan County Bluff City Kingsport Animal Control, Inc. It is a non-profit corporation that was established by those public entities back in 2011. We have two shelters, one on Massengill Road in Blountville and the other of Idlehour Road which is the back of Home Depot in Kingsport. We have a nine member Board of Directors. It includes Mayor Wells from Bluff City. We have representation from several County Commissioners, County Mayor, the Kingsport City Manager and Kingsport Alderman so we have a great deal of public office holders. In 2010 we had separate operations for the Counties and the Cities. Both animal shelters were very inadequate. You can see in red there 8200 were brought in a year and we had a 60% euthanasia rate. That's 5,000 animals euthanized each year. Around 6,000 complaints a year with a very negative public image and combined operating expensed of almost \$850,000.00. So a study was commissioned by MTAS which is you all know advises municipalities about their operations. The Commission goals were to come up with a higher level of service for animals and a lower cost for citizens. MTAS recommended that we establish a new consolidated organization managed by a Board of Directors of elected officials and community leaders. Five years later we have consolidated our operations, our staffs, and our procedures. We have the representative diverse Board of Directors. We are financially stable. We actually have some money in reserve right now that we are going to be using toward our property purchase. We need about \$500,000.00 in repairs to our existing facilities just to make them workable. Roofing, foundation work HVAC. We are very proud of this... no euthanized dogs for fourteen months through the end of last year. We went back to MTAS and CTAS, we think it's time to do another study to see how we are doing. They did an operations audit and reached the conclusions, we are successfully providing the expected results and the expected cost savings that had been anticipated. Estimated annual savings of \$140,000.00 and again they said you really need to replace these shelters. They used the words woefully inadequate. Our suggested contribution from Bluff City would be \$1,000.00.

Mr. Herron takes over and states, we would like to ask Bluff City to donate \$1,000.00 to the property for this project. If anyone has any questions I would be glad to address those questions at this time.

Motion by Vice Mayor Harrington. Second by Alderman Harrison Motion Carried

Alderwoman Madison Yes
Alderman Stratton Yes
Vice Mayor Harrington Yes
Alderman Harrison Yes
Alderman Bowling Yes

Mayor Wells opened the floor for Citizen Comments-First Section.

Julie Venable-Carty, 209 Smith Street Ext., 423-538-7931: I just want to say I came to City Hall yesterday and I noticed a basket of flowers in there. I asked the ladies could I read the card, they said sure. I read it and it said to Judy Dulaney from the citizens and the employees of Bluff City. I thought that was wonderful that you included the citizens of Bluff City and I would not have known that. Unfortunately, they were rejected. Which that's fine, I mean the family had that right and I do not take it personally and I hope nobody else does. Because we all have our own ways of grieving and if the flowers really upset them that much at least they did not just throw them away at least they did send them back to the City. I want to thank the City for including the citizens because Judy was a long time worker here. We had our differences. Nobody wishes somebody that type of death. I just appreciate you all. Because if you didn't send her flowers to me that would have been very insensitive. So I think you did the right thing. Thank you.

Allen Greene, 1351 Elizabethton Hwy., 760-458-8395: I want to talk about Elizabethton Highway and I will tell you why. Between Ridgewood Barbecue and the county line when it is raining when the fog is rolling in even on a dry night there is no lines that you can see on those roads. We have been over correcting and almost running into each other for the last three or four years. I mean it is bad. There is not even a white stripe along the edge so you can even tell where the dirt starts. I consider it life threatening to be honest with you. Because I have had to pull over at the last minute. Especially if somebody has their bright lights on and they don't know it like on a rainy night. I have contacted a gentleman named Jim at the County. His number is 279-2820 and he said he would contact someone in this City named Jason. I believe he is responsible for striping or something on our roads here. That is what he told me. Mayor Wells states that would be the County not the City. He states Jim told him that he would get back with him right away and let him know. But he never got a call back. The lines have not been addressed yet. This was the perfect night to bring this up. If you get a chance tonight go that way and you will see what I am talking about. That is an issue that has got to be dealt with before somebody gets hurt. I don't know if that's happened yet or not. Mayor Wells states that has to be taken care of by Carter County.

Carolyn Payne, 4818 Bluff City Hwy., 538-9108: I have numerous questions tonight. First, I really want to know why the sewer pump station failed? We have paid it off it's a signed done deal. Yes, it did rain but if we ended up paying over a half a million dollars for that, is that the best we can expect? I just found out the other one actually failed as well. I have only saw one complaint. Bluff City is going to be presented again with another director's order. What have we done with the other Director's order? PC3 16-0037 how much have we paid off on that? I

am glad Mattern and Craig are here tonight. I hope that they will stick around and respond to these questions since it is within their capability to answer them. My note is on the agenda. We seem to be presenting 1,686,000 loan approved. Now tonight its going to be the other 1,182,000 loan and you are seeking more loans. I want to know exactly how many streets are going to get water lines replaced in and I want to know how many streets we are going to get sewer line replacements in? Over the past ten years Bluff City's water and sewer increases have gone up over 60 some %. This is outrageous! How can people afford to live here? We are paying for this. We deserve answers. I did fill out a request form to utilize this facility as a town hall meeting and I was told never been done before not going to start now. Does this facility belong to.... Did we pay for this facility? The answer is yes. I would like to request a form and be granted permission for a town hall meeting. Thank you.

Carol Keith, 305 Lakeview Circle: Good evening everybody. I would like to ask Mr. Bowling if he would put in for a vote. Correct me if I am wrong. I think it is like \$3250.00 to have a sewer/water tap for a new home. If we could get it in Bristol I think it is like \$1800.00. if we could get it maybe like \$1700.00 here. That way it would be a little bit cheaper and maybe we could draw more people in. Do you think we could do that? Also, the cutoff fee instead of \$50.00 is there any way we could adjust the fee to maybe like \$25.00. Could you put in a vote for that? Richard states he will check on it and see what he can do. Mrs. Keith states also as you know that I travel quite a bit so I have only been home a couple of weeks out of the month. I am talking about my water bill again. I got a print off copy of the last twelve months if anybody wants to see it. This month it was \$118.00. I have only been home a couple of weeks. And since I have got a little bit more time... I don't know if you all know this or not but I met with a lot of citizens here in Bluff City and I was really surprised that so many people are having trouble with sewage. I met this one lady and she told me that sewage was coming up in their bath tub. I said well did you report it? She said they did once and I think she said Allen had used a snake or something. She said it has gotten to the point that she don't say anything about it. She showed me her hands where they were so irritated because she has to bleach her tub all the time. It was two or three people that I have spoke with about that and I hope and pray that they will come forward and speak out. Because it is very hazardous and there are a lot of people that is having sewage coming up in their bath tub. Did you guys know that? Allen asks what is the address on that? Mrs. Keith states you know where the Middle School is? It's the trailer park up on the hill. Goods trailer park. I just wanted to let you know because it is hazardous. Its raw sewage.

Randy Beckner, Mattern & Craig: Good evening Mayor and Members of the Board. I am just going to report on a few projects that we have going on. I apologize that Dave Wilson could not be here tonight but he had a meeting in North Carolina that he had to attend to. As of now the two new pump stations are fully operable. They are performing as designed. My understanding, with the rain last week the pumps did not fail. They continued to pump like they are supposed to. I will give you a little history on those pump stations and kind of bring you up to speed. The average daily flow expected to the igloo pump station excluding infiltration inflow which is basically your rain water that gets in the sewer system. The expected average daily flow at that location is 110,000 gallons per day plus or minus. Pump stations of that type are normally sized to handle peak flows of 2.5 times the average or 275 gallons per day for that station. Knowing the eye and eye problems at that station we did oversize it. It is designed for right at 504,000 gallons per day. Which is a peak factor of 4.6. that's with a single pump running. There is actually two pumps in there. It is designed as a one pump system with a redundant backup, but during high flows when the levels in the wet well continue to rise the backup pump does come

on and pumps. With both pumps running that pump station will pump on average 750,000 gallons a day. With the rains we had last week both pumps did pump. They just did not completely keep up. So you are looking at eye and eye of induced flow of as much as eight, nine, and ten times the average daily flow. That's the problem. It's not that the pump station has failed or they are under designed. If anything they are over designed. I mean that was a unique rain and I know it seems like we are here saying it was a unique rain but that's just this weather patterns for the past year we have had higher than normal rainfall events. Even though the overall rain may not be that out of whack. We have had some tremendous rains over the past year. With all that said you do have issues in the sewer system. As part of the TDEC order that was mentioned. They have tasked the Town with completing a CMOM a capacity management operations and maintenance plan. Which included a lot of field work, smoke testing of the system, inspection of manholes, looking at flow records where we had them. That field work is complete. When this came about we wanted to get this work complete before we put the sewer line work out for bid to make sure we are spending the dollars the best place it can be spent? The field work did justify the kind of work that we have got designed. Another little side note to that is we had submitted water and sewer plans to rural development. They had asked us to combine those into a single set of contract documents instead of bidding them separately. It makes good sense on one side because there are several streets that have both water and sewer. To have those in the same contract makes sense. That is moving forward we are expecting to get approval of those any day. Does anyone have any questions? The CMOM is complete and I know JR has coordinated with you all on that. We will get you all the complete database of the defects ahead of finalizing the report so we can start looking at those. A lot of the problems are on private property. Roof drains connected. There are some rather large roofs in town that are connected, that when you have a 1.7 inch rainfall and it's on a couple thousand square foot area and every bit of that is getting in the system. It makes a big difference. There will be some difficult things of making sure that private property owners take care of their defects. We will coordinate with you all in sending letters out to private property owners.

Discussion/Action- Regular Meeting Minutes of January 3, 2017

Motion by Alderman Bowling. Second by Alderman Harrison Motion Carried

Alderwoman Madison Abstain
Alderman Stratton Yes
Vice Mayor Harrington Yes
Alderman Harrison Yes
Alderman Bowling Yes

Discussion/Action-Special Called Meeting Minutes of January 30, 2017

Motion by Vice Mayor Harrington. Second by Alderman Bowling Motion Carried

Alderwoman Madison Abstain
Alderman Stratton Yes
Vice Mayor Harrington Yes
Alderman Harrison Yes

Alderman Bowling Yes

Discussion/Action- Regular Meeting Minutes of February 7, 2017

Motion by Alderman Bowling. Second by Vice Mayor Harrington Motion Carried

Alderwoman Madison Abstain
Alderman Stratton Yes
Vice Mayor Harrington Yes
Alderman Harrison Yes
Alderman Bowling Yes

Discussion/Action-Initial Resolution authorizing the issuance of water and sewer revenue and tax bonds by the Town of Bluff City, TN and the amount not to exceed \$1,182,000.00 to finance water and sewer system improvements and extensions and related costs. This is the second phase of the funding for our water and sewer project that we have the grant and loans for.

Motion by Vice Mayor Harrington. Second by Alderman Bowling Motion Carried

Alderwoman Madison Abstain
Alderman Stratton Yes
Vice Mayor Harrington Yes
Alderman Harrison Yes
Alderman Bowling Yes

Discussion/Action- Resolution authorizing the issuance, sale and payment of \$1,182,000.00 of bonds by the Town of Bluff City, TN authorizing the issuance of bond in anticipation of notes prior to the issuance of the bonds and authorizing the pledge of the revenues of the water and sewer system will levy the taxes to pay the bonds and notes.

Motion by Alderman Bowling. Second by Vice Mayor Harrington Motion Carried

Alderwoman Madison Yes
Alderman Stratton Yes
Vice Mayor Harrington Yes
Alderman Harrison Yes
Alderman Bowling Yes

Discussion/Action: Financial Report: Sharon Greene, City Recorder/Finance Officer. Fund balances as of January 31, 2017:

 General Fund
 \$836,747.00

 Sanitation Fund
 \$10,031.00

 Special Police Fund
 \$7,369.00

 Debt Service Fund
 \$124,328.00

 Sinking Fund
 \$3,095.00

FHA Reserve Fund \$691.00 Water/Sewer Fund \$582,291.00 **Total Fund Balance** \$1,564,552.00

Motion by Vice Mayor Harrington. Second by Alderman Bowling Motion Carried

Alderwoman Madison Yes
Alderman Stratton Yes
Vice Mayor Harrington Yes
Alderman Harrison Yes
Alderman Bowling Yes

Report from Mayor/City Manager: We have been spending a lot of money on repairs on the street lights. I have been working with Sullivan County to try and work out something with them so that they can fix our lights and take care of the materials that they have to use on the lights. They have come up with everything except a price. I just wanted to let you know that it is looking good and also they will be able to take care of fixing the light out at Hwy 19. There are some adjustments that need to be made and they feel like that will take care of the turns and everything. They will make sure that we want to do it. I told them that we did because it is going to save us some money. Then they have to take it before their Board after we approve it. They are going to have us a price by the next meeting. Then it will have to go to Sullivan County's Board for them to approve it.

Also, I have the approval and I have received the letter from the State about the traffic light at the Industrial Park. We have spent so much money on that traffic light. I have received the papers from the State to fill out and this project is to be 100% paid through the Johnson City MTPO. That was scheduled to be completed in 2018 but it has been moved to 2017. So it is just a matter of getting all the paperwork and get the project started. I think all of you will be excited about that because that light is so old and we spend \$400.00 to \$600.00 to replace a bulb each time. They do not last that long.

I have attended several meetings to represent the City. Also, to let you know that we continue to work hard on getting the problems solved with the water and sewer project and making sure that we can get the storm water problem taken care of. I feel sure that the citizens are going to want to work with us to get this problem taken care of.

I have a note here that I would like to read that we received from a citizen. Her name is Fairy Crumley. Yes, this is a thank you card to Bluff City Water Department to say thanks for water. I know you receive lots of complaints. I am glad I do not have to carry water. I use to carry water out of a spring. Then you really know how much you use. Thanks for good clean water.

Julie Venable passed on something to us about a no kill animal shelter. Best Friends.org. If the City wants to contact them about additional information they give grants so we might check into that.

Report from City Attorney- We are continuing to collect delinquent property taxes and they are coming in pretty good.

Comments from Board Members:

Alderwoman Madison- I want to thank everyone for coming. Excuse my voice I am hoarse today. Thank God the meeting was peaceful tonight. Thank God for that.

Vice Mayor Harrington- I appreciate everybody coming out. I look forward to seeing you next meeting.

Alderman Harrison-I appreciate everybody coming out. I really don't have much to say.

Richard Bowling- I appreciate everybody coming out. I am glad that we have the citizens comments like we do have. Just keep up with us and give us time to get this stuff worked out. Thank you.

Chief Greg Depew reported the following: (See Report)

Public Works Supervisor Allen Moultrie reported the following: (See Report)

Water Department Dean Fields reported the following: (See Report)

Sullivan County Commissioners- Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen of the Board, thank you for all you do. Let's talk about something really good. Sullivan East High School is going to the State Basketball Tournament for the first time ever. They play Maplewood High School. It is exciting it is an awesome atmosphere. When they Sullivan East they say they are from Bluff City. Bluff City is going to be represented in the state basketball tournament next Saturday. Give them a shout out and be on the record. Let the record state that Andy Hare said good job to Sullivan East High School. Mayor Wells was talking about the agreement with the Highway Department with the traffic lights. I know that Mrs. Grubb was at the administrative committee meeting early this evening. It went through that committee with a favorable recommendation. Which means that is a good thing. Our committee the one I do, the executive committee which we typically meet at this time every Tuesday. I got them to change it. I have a good feeling about that next week that it will go favorably. Good things are happening there. Also, Bluff City Middle School will start playing baseball. So the town will be rocking with the sound of the ping of the bat. Thank you.

Sherry Grubb- Just to reiterate Andy talking about Sullivan East High School. I was there and I was cheering at the top of my lungs the entire night. It was awesome. This is the first time the boys have gone this far. Coach Dyer has been there twenty-nine years and this has been that one little thing that has kind of eluded him, so we are just tickled to death. It couldn't have happened to a better coach. Great team of boys. Man they played their hearts out last night. That's the good thing. Again we did discuss the agreement between the City. Let me tell you this is something that is near and dear to my heart. That Bluff City and Sullivan County work so good together on sharing these things. That we can do things to help each other. I had long discussion with Chris Salley from the Highway Department tonight. We already have an agreement with you all where we can come in and help you out on the roads. It is a win win situation for both the County and the City. Sometimes our guys can use some extra work and sometimes you guys need some help. If we can help people that live in our County, and our cities. It gives people here work. I have to tell you Chris Salley with the Highway Department and Jim Belgeri are just singing your praises that the Mayor is so good to work with and Allen is so good to work with. Your people are great here. It makes it good for us for Andy and I to bring these things before our fellow commissioners. We are getting ready to start on the new budget for 2018, so the administrative committee will start that the last week of March. We will have our first meeting directed strictly at the

budget. If you have any requests, I suggest you get your heads together and decide what it is that you want to ask for. You might not get it but it doesn't hurt to ask. We are going to hope that you get it. We do have a lot of good things going on.

Mayor Wells opened the floor for the following:

Old Business: None

New Business: John Harrison wants us to check into getting our own trash trucks here in Bluff City see if we can do that. If it's not able. Let's at least look into it.

Mayor Wells states she got a request from the rescue squad about putting up another street light there. The last street light that we put up on Cedar Street was \$4.00 per month. I got a price and its \$11.00 and something a month to put this one up. They are having more and more activities there and they have the bluegrass every week. You just can't see very well in front of the rescue squad building. I was going to ask the Board if they are in agreement with putting up the other street light so that they will be able to see better when they are coming and going up there.

We have made a decision on the beautification committee. We have had one person come forward and wants to make sure that he is involved in it. He wants to be a part of Bluff City and wants to help.

Motion by Alderman Harrison. Second by Vice Mayor Harrington Motion Carried

Alderwoman Madison Yes
Alderman Stratton Yes
Vice Mayor Harrington Yes
Alderman Harrison Yes
Alderman Bowling Yes

Citizen Comments-Second Section:

Shirley Clark, 932 Lona Lane, 878-5707: I just had a question for Mr. Stratton, you had brought up the concern at the last meeting about the school buses and the cars parked on Main Street during school and the buses running the stop signs. I have had some folks on Holston saying they are still noticing that the buses are coming down that hill at a rapid speed. I just wanted to follow up with you to see if you had anything to get back with us on that? Alderman Stratton states nothing but watch when I can. It's a problem everywhere. Its not just Bluff City. You all have seen it on the news. They have got them on radar in different counties and everything there. I have lived there forty some years. It is the worst I have ever seen it. It slows down when the officers are there in the mornings but when they leave it starts all over again. The question I have is I notice that you told us that we don't have enough officers to police that. Chief Depew states that we already send two officers up there every day in the mornings and evenings. If you feel like you do not have enough officers for that, can you not get help from Sullivan County? Chief states yes we can certainly ask them to help us if we need something.

Carolyn Payne, 4818 Bluff City Hwy., 538-9108: I am a little confused. It overflowed it didn't overflow. Septic tank what did they pump out of there. Now it sound like it was storm drain water. I saw that and it clearly states on there that it is a sanitary sewer. I just don't see how you

can get around it. David Wilson was on the news that night. He had a map laying out. We have got four sewer pump stations down here and he said the bulk of the majority leads into that one. They knew that then, they knew when they presented the specs. Why were these issues not addressed at that time? We cannot go back and re-fix it. How much did it cost to pump six thousand gallons? What did we pay Blountville? When is the hemorrhaging going to stop? Who is going to step up and answer the questions down here? It has got to end.

Carol Keith, 305 Highland Circle-First of all I would like to thank Mr. Harrison for being concerned about asking Allen about the pipe. At least you show concern of trying to resolve. I wanted to thank you. You are the only person that has done that. Thank you. Also, I know nobody wants to hear this but the bottom line is sewage is in people's yards. It's not helping. If it was in any one of yall's yards you wouldn't like it either. We are not here trying to be ugly. We just want answers. Nobody wants to answer. If you don't know, say I don't know. There is no shame in that. Also Alderman Bowling you said you would check into that. When do you think you will have an answer for me? Probably the next meeting? Also, I know election is coming up in a couple of months but I would also like to ask Mr. Harrington if he would put in for a vote. Whenever somebody has a grievance, instead of going to the person that fired you, can they go before the Board like most companies do. I ask the Board to take their power back and be as somebody says CEO? Could you put that in for a vote? Vice Mayor Harrington states he will check in other cities to see how they do it. Mrs. Keith states you have to check and see.... The Board is over the City Manager I know that. Maybe you will know before the next meeting.

Motion to adjourn was made by Alderman Harrison. Second by Richard Bowling. All in favor. Meeting adjourned at 8:20 pm.

Irene Wells, Mayor

Attest: This 7th day of March, 2017

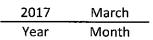
Sharon Greene, City Recorder/Finance Officer



NUMBER OF:

Bluff City Police Department

MONTHLY REPORT





NOMBER OF:	CIT	PINET	COUNTY	IUIAL
CALLS FOR ASSISTANT(S)	122	65	19	206
ISSUED CITATION(S)	49	37	0,	86
WARNING CITATION(S)	20	6	0	26
PATROLED MILE(S)	3,206	20208	0	5,414
ARREST(S)	2	0	0	2
OFFENSE REPORT(S)	6	3	0	9
ALARM(S)	1	5	2	8
ACCIDENTS	2	3	0	5
ANIMAL CALL(S)	3	0	0	3
MSD REPORT(S)	4	1	0	5
FUNERAL ESCORT(S)	3	1	0	4
DOMESTIC ASSAULT(S)	2	1	0	3
VEHICLE SEIZURE(S)	0	0	0	0
MISSING PERSON(S)	0	0	0	0
D.U.I.(S)	0	0	0	0
DRUG VIOLATION(S)	0	0	0	0
USE OF FORCE REPORT(\$)	0	Ó	0	0

approved by: Cheek My Japan 8/4/2015

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CITY OF BLUFF CITY

Department Of Public Works Board of Mayor and Alderman Monthly Report for April 2017

Sewer Department:

All the pump stations are operating normally, with flushing continuing around town in our known problem areas.

Street Department:

The staff has been working hard keeping up with the brush pickup. We started mowing the pavilion, ballpark, City Hall, and along Bluff City Highway now that the spring season is here. We have also opened up the pavilion bathrooms for use. During the winter months we painted the bathrooms outer doors and inside walls to cover up graffiti that drawn on walls.

If you have any questions, please give me a call 612-4145. Thank you.

Allen Moultrie Public Works Director

CITY OF BLUFF CITY

Water Plant & Distribution System Board of Mayor and Alderman Monthly Report for March 2017

Water Treatment Plant: During the month of March we treated an average of 254,000 GPD. Our water tank level averaged out at 47.2 feet for the month of March. We received a letter from TDEC informing Bluff City to update our Lead and Copper sample site plan. This is a statewide request for all public water systems. We have a total of 15 homes we sample from so if you get a letter asking the year your home was built and what type of plumbing you have, its only Bluff City updating our sample site plan.

Water Distribution System:

In the distribution system we repaired several leaks. With the majority of our leaks coming from old galvanized lines. As noted in earlier meetings we plan to replace these in the near future. We plan to replace these in different phases which will take some time so we ask you to be patient awaiting the upcoming repairs. Although we do have old lines just like any other municipality has, Bluff City has one of the best water sources in East Tennessee.

If you have any questions, please contact City Hall at 423-538-7144

Dean Fields Water Plant Operator Distribution Operator