

Minutes
Bluff City Board of Mayor and Aldermen
Regular Meeting
September 1, 2020

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

Members present were Carol Keith, Jeff Broyles, Ray Harrington, Eric Ward and Richard Bowling.

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

Mayor Wells opened the floor for the following:

Discussion – City Engineer Dave Wilson with Mattern & Craig

Mr Wilson gave a recap of the water sewer project. Mr Wilson stated that the paperwork is under consideration with the USDA for final approval. The paperwork has been submitted and approved by TDEC. Alderman Bowling asked how long he felt it would be before they got started, and will it slow down the overflows. Mr Wilson stated I think it will slow them down when we get the forced main redirected. Mr Wilson stated I think we need to be aggressively pursuing the elimination of the defects found by the smoke detection testing. Alderman Bowling asked if we could force people to fix those defects. Mr Wilson stated that is likely within your authorization to do so. Alderwoman Keith voiced concern about the overflows. Mr Wilson stated the main concern of the work that will be going on is the redirection of the forced main. Mrs Keith stated something's got to be done. Vice Mayor Harrington voiced concern about the effect on Bristol's pump station and the possibility of them saying that we are sending too much.

Citizen Comments

Greg Wallace of 4456 Bluff City Hwy, stated when this overflow happens it goes down the Moore's driveway to the lake bed takes a left and enters the lake on my property. We have waited five and one half years for something to happen about this and it continues to get worse. We have got to get this fixed.

Sandra Madison of 312 Highland Drive stated you all are doing a good job, keep it up.

Discussion / Action – Regular Meeting Minutes- August 4, 2020

Motion to approve was made by Alderman Broyles. Second by Vice Mayor Harrington. Vote was as follows: Alderwoman Keith – Yes, Alderman Broyles – Yes, Vice Mayor Harrington- Yes, Alderman Ward – Yes, Alderman Bowling – Yes. Motion carried.

Discussion / Action – Public Hearing Ordinance 2020-004

City Attorney Paul Frye read the ordinance which is the Appropriation Ordinance for the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2021. Public Hearing opened at 6:26 p.m. With no public comments hearing closed at 6:28 pm. Motion to approve Ordinance 2020-004 on Second Reading was made by Vice Mayor Harrington. Second by Alderman Broyles. Vote was as follows: Alderwoman Keith – Yes, Alderman Broyles – Yes, Vice Mayor Harrington- Yes, Alderman Ward – Yes, Alderman Bowling – Yes. Motion carried.

Discussion / Action – Public Hearing on Ordinance 2020-005

City Attorney Paul Frye read the ordinance which is To Provide for the General Revenue of the town of Bluff City, Tennessee for the Fiscal Year 2020-2021 to be known as the Real and Personal Property Tax Levy Ordinance for the Fiscal Year ending June 30, 2021. Public Hearing opened at 6:29 p.m. With no public comments, hearing closed at 6:30 p.m. Motion to approve on Second Reading was made by Alderman Broyles. Second by Vice Mayor Harrington. Vote was as follows: Alderwoman Keith – Yes, Alderman Broyles – Yes, Vice Mayor Harrington- Yes, Alderman Ward – Yes, Alderman Bowling – Yes. Motion carried.

Discussion / Action – Public Hearing on Ordinance 2020-006

City Attorney Paul Frye read the Ordinance which amends Section 17-111(1) of the Bluff City Municipal Code regarding Garbage Collection Fees within the Town of Bluff City. This will increase the fee to \$11.50 per month. Public Hearing opened at 6:31 p.m. With no public comments, hearing closed at 6:33 p.m. Motion to approve on Second Reading was made by Vice Mayor Harrington. Second by Alderman Broyles. Vote was as follows: Alderwoman Keith – Yes, Alderman Broyles – Yes, Vice Mayor Harrington- Yes, Alderman Ward – Yes, Alderman Bowling – Yes. Motion carried.

Discussion / Action – First Reading on Ordinance 2020-007

City Attorney Paul Frye read the ordinance which changes the Date of Municipal Elections to Coincide with November Elections in Each Even Numbered Year starting 2022. Motion to approve was made by Vice Mayor Harrington. Second by Alderman Broyles. Vote was as follows: Alderwoman Keith – Yes, Alderman Broyles – Yes, Vice Mayor Harrington- Yes, Alderman Ward – No, Alderman Bowling – No. Motion carried.

Discussion / Action – Resolution 2020-003

City Attorney Paul Frye read the Resolution which sets a Regular Workshop for the Board of Mayor and Aldermen of the Town of Bluff City, Tennessee. Motion to approve was made by Alderman Broyles. Second by Vice Mayor Harrington. Vote was as follows: Alderwoman Keith – No, Alderman Broyles – Yes, Vice Mayor Harrington- Yes, Alderman Ward – Yes, Alderman Bowling – No. Motion carried. Alderwoman Keith asked if attendance was mandatory. City Attorney Paul Frye stated that the only way to make anything mandatory for attendance is put it in the Charter like the meetings are.

Discussion – Veterans Memorial Project – Alderman Broyles

Alderman Broyles presented project information. (SEE ATTACHED)

Mr Broyles asked Chris Laisure - (Owner of the Old Middle School Building) to join him for the presentation for the Veteran's Memorial Project.

Mr Broyles stated that the monument would be black granite. Mr Laisure had his I-pad for them to get a better look at what it will look like. There will be a website for people to submit a name. They would have to provide documentation to show proof of service.

Mr Laisure stated that on the picture that is not shown, there will be 4 granite benches on each side of the concrete pad. There will be lights and a monitored security system at the site.

Mr Laisure stated it could be completed by December 1st.

Alderman Broyles recommended that they allocate \$25,000.00 of the Veterans Memorial Fund just in case there is a few extra expenses that are unforeseen.

A member of the audience voiced concern about the War Memorial instead of a park for children to play. Mayor Wells stated that they have been working on that also.

Alderman Keith voiced concern about putting money toward the memorial when she feels they need to prioritize things like the problem at the Moore's.

Alderman Ward asked how much money they had in the War Memorial Fund. Alderman Broyles stated \$49,500.00. Mr Ward stated we are just looking at taking \$25,000 out of it. Mr Broyles stated yes.

Mayor Wells stated we are not forgetting the Moore's or the problem. We are working on the problem. We have things that we have to work out. We have to decide whether we are going to use Dave Wilson's (City Engineer) inspector or if you want somebody different. Dave is saying we have to send a resume to USDA about Allen to make sure he could qualify to do it. Mayor Wells asked the board members if they want Allen to do it if he qualifies or do they want her to get somebody to come in that they can talk to and make a decision. Alderman Broyles stated it is a great subject for a workshop. Mayor Wells stated we are working on it.

Alderman Broyles made a motion to allocate \$25,000.00 from the Veteran's Memorial Fund for this project. Second by Vice Mayor Harrington. Vote was as follows: Alderman Keith – No, Alderman Broyles – Yes, Vice Mayor Harrington- Yes, Alderman Ward – Yes, Alderman Bowling – Yes. Motion carried.

Report from Mayor / City Manager – Irene Wells

Mayor Wells stated I would like to remind the Board Members about the Utility Board Training that they have to go through. Vice Mayor Harrington and Alderman Bowling need to complete 3 more hours. Alderman Keith, Alderman Broyles and Alderman Ward need to complete 12 hours.

Mayor Wells reported that Nashville, as of the 31st has a Covid-19 case count for Tennessee will include an increase of 1,818 new total cases. Of this number 965 positive cases are associated with the South Central Correctional Facility in Wayne County. In Sullivan County we have 1,651 confirmed cases, probable cases is 86. The number of recovered cases is 1,059, and the number of active cases is 649, death's is 25, currently hospitalized is 21. We need to continue to wear masks. We need to do anything we can to help ourselves and others.

Report from City Attorney Paul Frye

Mr Frye stated you asked me at the last meeting about the Employee Policy and about changing the compensation of the Board Members. Mr Frye stated MTAS now has in place a new H R Consultant and I have spoken with her and we are doing a comprehensive review of our Personnel Policy and when I have something to report, I will bring it to you.

As far as changing the compensation, the question was when would it be effective and it would be effective after the next election.

Report from City Recorder / CMFO – Sharon Greene

Ms. Greene reported the following Fund Balances as of July 31, 2020:
General Fund- \$1,663,560.00, Sanitation Fund - \$48,430.00, Special Police Fund - \$12,860.00,
Debt Service- \$117,520.00, Sinking Fund- \$3,090.00, Water / Sewer Fund - \$654,100.00.
Motion to approve was made by Alderman Broyles. Second by Alderman Bowling. Vote was as follows: Alderwoman Keith – Yes, Alderman Broyles – Yes, Vice Mayor Harrington- Yes, Alderman Ward – Yes, Alderman Bowling – Yes. Motion carried.

Comments from Board Members

Alderwoman Keith stated it's good to see everybody. Mrs Keith stated Sir, I apologize for the problem you are having with the overflow. Mrs Keith stated everybody stay safe and asked for prayer.

Alderman Broyles thanked everyone for the opportunity to sit on the Board and stated we are moving forward. We are working as hard as we can. It is complicated and we inherited some bad infrastructure. Mr Broyles stated that he is very pleased about the Veterans Memorial.

Vice Mayor Harrington stated this has been ongoing and we have been working on it. Mr Harrington stated I have been on the Board 2 terms and we have been working on the sewer issues. Hopefully taking care of the garage pump station issue will help a lot. Mr Harrington stated he was glad to have people at the meeting.

Alderman Ward thanked everyone for coming and stated that he thinks we are moving in the right direction. When you neglect your utility system for half of a century, you are not going to fix it overnight. I would like to see it fixed. Mr Ward stated everyone stay safe.

Alderman Bowling stated I want to reiterate what these guys said, we are working on getting acquainted with all the problems and trying to work them out. Mr Bowling thanked Alderman Broyles for the work he has done on the Veterans Memorial. I appreciate everyone coming tonight.

Report from Chief of Police Greg Depew

Chief Depew presented the Monthly Report for August, 2020 (SEE ATTACHED)

Chief Depew reported that they have a box for people to dispose of their unused medications, and in working with the Drug Task Force, they can dispose of it safely. For an example one barrel was 26 pounds and one was 41 pounds of take back drugs.

Chief Depew stated that a few weeks back the Sullivan County Drug Coalition, which we work with as much as possible, set up a tent and did Narcan training. This is a spray to use if someone overdoses and could help save their life. They are going to be here on September 16th from 10 am to 2 pm. They are giving away lock boxes for medication and giving instruction on how to administer, along with a sample of Narcan.

A member of the audience asked about code enforcement on property. Mayor Wells stated that the Building Inspector was going to be taking care of that. Mayor Wells stated that anyone can come and file a written complaint and he will take a look at it.

Report from Public Works Supervisor – Allen Moultrie

Mr Moultrie presented his monthly report. (SEE ATTACHED)

Mr Moultrie reported that they had a sewer overflow from a heavy rain event. Mr Moultrie stated in preparing for the last week event that possibly may have occurred from the hurricane, we got lucky and were spared. He reported that during their prep they pulled the pumps and found mop heads in the sewer pump impeller which slows your capacity that you can pump.

Mr Moultrie stated everything is going fairly well. Mr Moultrie presented a request for inventory so they would have parts they need on hand.

Mr Moultrie reported that after viewing the camera from the smoke testing, a good part of the neglected areas are on Main Street.

Alderman Broyles asked Mr Moultrie if he had a legitimate quote for the parts. Mr Moultrie stated he made a rough estimate of \$16,000.00.

Report from Water Plant Operator – Terry Banner

Mr Banner stated that he had 21 years of experience and he was thankful for the opportunity to be working here.

Mr Banner presented his report on the Water Plant. (SEE ATTACHED)

Mr Banner stated that Allen (Moultrie) is a true asset to this place.

Report from Sullivan County Commissioner's- None Present

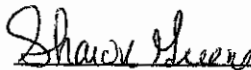
Old Business – None

New Business – None

With no other business a motion to adjourn was made by Alderman Ward. Second by Alderwoman Keith. Vote was as follows: Alderwoman Keith – Yes, Alderman Broyles – Yes, Vice Mayor Harrington- Yes, Alderman Ward – Yes, Alderman Bowling – Yes. Meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

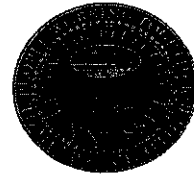

Irene Wells, Mayor / City Manager

Attest this 1st day of September, 2020


Sharon Greene, Recorder / CMFO



Bluff City Police Department



MONTHLY REPORT
2020 August
Year Month

NUMBER OF:	CITY	PINEY	COUNTY	TOTAL
CALLS FOR ASSISTANT(S)	127	110	22	259
ISSUED CITATION(S)	63	66	0	119
WARNING CITATION(S)	34	32	0	66
PATROLED MILE(S)	2819	2802	0	5621
ARREST(S)	11	7	0	18
OFFENSE REPORT(S)	7	4	0	11
ALARM(S)	6	7	3	16
ACCIDENT(S)	4	6	0	10
ANIMAL CALL(S)	3	0	0	3
MSD REPORT(S)	9	5	0	14
FUNERAL ESCORT(S)	1	1	0	2
DOMESTIC ASSAULT(S)	8	4	0	12
VEHICLE SEIZURE(S)	0	0	0	0
MISSING PERSON(S)	0	0	0	0
D.U.I.(S)	1	3	0	4
DRUG VIOLATION(S)	4	3	0	7
USE OF FORCE REPORT(S)	0	0	0	0

approved by Chief Amy Depew Date: 9-1-2020

CITY OF BLUFF CITY

Department Of Public Works

Board of Mayor and Alderman Monthly Report for August 2020

Sewer Department:

The sewer pump stations are operating well, with there being 1 overflow on August 30, 2020. We are continuing the flushing of sewer lines all throughout the system. When we pulled the pumps at the Igloo pump station we discovered a portion of a mop head lodged in the impeller, which could reduce the pumps, pumping capacity. The mop head appeared to be industrial in style, so I will assume it possibly came from one of the school building.

Street Department:

The Staff has been working hard keeping up with the mowing, and brush pick up all throughout town. We will also be focusing our attention back to the Pavilion area to get it fully stained before the lake is set to be refilled.

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

Allen Moultrie
Public Works Supervisor

CITY OF BLUFF CITY
Water Plant & Distribution System
Board of Mayor and Alderman Monthly
Report for August 2020

Water Plant:

The water plant is operating normally pumping an average of 238 thousand gallons per day. Our water tank level was at an average of 42.0 feet with 60 feet being full. In the month of August the Water tank level was completely filled once. The water plant was down 3 days this month due to high turbidity during rain event and 1 day for water line repair.

Distribution System:

We are continuing to repair leaks in our distribution system. We repaired a total of 4 leaks and installed 2 water taps.

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

Terry Banner
Water Plant Operator