

Minutes
Bluff City Board of Mayor and Aldermen
Special Called Meeting
January 13, 2022

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

Members present were Carol Keith, Jeff Broyles and Eric Ward

Prayer was given by Carol Keith, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Bowling opened the floor for the following:

Discussion / Action- Appointment of one Alderman

City Attorney Paul Frye explained that we have 2 vacancies on the Board. We have people who have expressed interest. The first vacancy will be filled and it will take 2 votes in their favor to fill it. There will have to be a motion and second just like everything else we do. That person will be sworn in and for the second seat on the Board it will take 3 votes. Everyone who has expressed interest may not be voted on tonight. Alderman Ward stated you say they may not be voted on tonight and it takes 3 votes and you only get 2. Mr Frye stated if you have the first person nominated gets 2 votes you have one seat filled. Then the second person who gets nominated it will take a motion and second and 3 votes. Motion to appoint Brian Hunt was made by Alderman Ward. Motion failed for lack of a second. Alderman Broyles made a motion to appoint Sandra Madison to the Board. Second by Alderwoman Keith. Vote went as follows: Alderwoman Keith – Yes, Alderman Broyles – Yes, Alderman Ward – Yes. Motion carried.

Mayor Bowling swore Sandra Madison in as a member of the Board of Mayor and Aldermen of the Town of Bluff City, Tn.

Discussion / Action – Appointment of Second Alderman

Alderman Ward made a motion to appoint Brandon Hicks. Motion failed for lack of second.

Alderman Ward made a motion to appoint Lon Gene Leonard. Motion failed for lack of second.

Brian Hunt of 191 Lakeview Drive stated if you are in this for a launching pad for politics you are setting in the wrong seats. Mr Hunt stated Alderwoman Keith you say a beautiful prayer and I have a lot of admiration for you and thank you for all you do. Mr Hunt stated I wanted to help not just be a politician. I have invested in a town I want to live in and I want to continue to invest in it. Alderwoman Keith stated I am here to stand up and speak up for people. I am not here for the title.

Discussion / Action – Appointment of Vice- Mayor for Bluff City

Alderman Broyles nominated Alderwoman Keith as Vice Mayor. Alderwoman Keith stated I am honored and thank you for the opportunity, but at this time you are best qualified and proven yourself thus far. I nominate you (Alderman Broyles) for Vice Mayor, and I will stand for you as long as it is right. Second by Alderwoman Madison. Vote went as follows: Alderwoman Keith – Yes, Alderman Broyles – Yes, Alderwoman Madison – Yes, Alderman Ward – Yes.

Motion carried. Mr Broyles thanked the Board for their confidence. Alderwoman Keith stated you are welcome.

Discussion / Action – Purchase 2 Police Vehicles

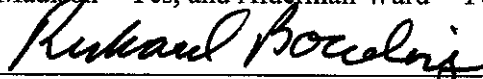
Chief Depew stated he had met with Mayor Bowling and City Recorder / Finance Officer Sharon Greene and they gave him some good information on how the money could be done. I could be done, and I ask the Board to go ahead and approve that for \$50,000.00. There are great vehicles we can purchase. Mayor Bowling stated we did come up with the money and does anyone have any questions for the Chief on this. Alderman Vice Mayor Broyles asked Mrs Greene what are the budgetary mechanics of this. Mrs Greene stated I talked to the Comptroller's Office and we have to do 2 readings on the ordinance and then do an appropriation budget for the \$50,000.00. We do the reserve cash that we have as income/ revenue. We do the expense account on the police vehicles. Mr Broyles stated so we would be amending the current budget. Mrs Greene stated yes. Mr Broyles stated, and moving money from the General Fund to a certain line item in Police. City Attorney Paul Frye asked if that would have to be down before or after they purchase the vehicles. Mrs Greene stated they can go look for the vehicles and we can do the ordinance and 2 readings to do the amendment. Mr Frye stated can we buy the cars then do the budget amendment, or do we have to do the budget amendment then buy the cars. Mrs Greene stated she (lady at comptroller's office) said they can go and purchase the vehicle and we can do the ordinance. Motion to approve was made by Vice Mayor Broyles. Second by Alderwoman Keith. Vote went as follows: Alderwoman Keith – Yes, Vice Mayor Broyles – Yes, Alderwoman Madison – Yes, and Alderman Ward – Yes. Motion carried.

Citizen Comments

Brandon Hicks of 300 Smith Street stated I was one of the ones that had shown interest in the Alderman spot. I have lived in Bluff City 45 years and finally got a chance, with my job, to participate more in the town business. I had talked to a couple of you. I have been a member of the Fire Department for over 29 years and a member of the Rescue Squad for 29 years next week. I thought I would be a good fit and I appreciate your nomination. I was told prior to tonight that we would all have a chance to get up and speak and tell a little bit about ourselves, answer some questions. That didn't happen. It was obvious you all knew who you wanted before myself and Mr Hunt even walked through the doors. You could have saved us some time and called us and said we are not interested. We know who we want. I am highly disappointed. Alderwoman Keith stated I wish I had gotten an opportunity to talk to you because I didn't know who you are. Mr Hicks stated I was told I would have that opportunity, each of the 4 of us that had showed interest, would have a chance to get up and talk about ourselves. It was obvious from the very beginning who you all wanted. If that is the way you conduct business, I don't want to be a part of it. Alderwoman Keith stated you did not reach out to me. Mr Hicks stated I was told- (sentence ended) Vice Mayor Broyles stated you were told that by me and we were both under that impression. The Mayor and I had a discussion and that was our intent, but after the Mayor reviewed the process, he set this agenda. I was told to contact an alderman and express my interest and I did not know I needed to contact each of you individually, or I would have. I thought we were all going to get up here and ask questions we had and answer questions you have and go from there. Obviously that is not what took place and I am highly disappointed.

Alderwoman Keith said I apologize for that. Vice Mayor Broyles stated I apologize too. You reached out to me. Be mindful that we still have an open seat and we have not made a decision. Mr Hicks stated it's obvious I was nominated tonight, Mr Hunt was nominated tonight and others were nominated tonight and only 1 person was interested in all those people. Alderwoman Keith stated you were nominated but how can you expect somebody that has never spoke to you, spoke for you. Mrs Keith stated the only people that reached out to me was Sandra and I talked to Mr Wells and am looking forward for when he is ready to come on board. Mr Hicks stated that is my point, we should have been given a chance to get up hear and answer your questions or ask our own questions or talk about ourselves.

With no other business a motion to adjourn was made by Vice Mayor Broyles. Second by Alderwoman Keith. Vote went as follows: Alderwoman Keith – Yes, Vice Mayor Broyles – Yes, Alderwoman Madison – Yes, and Alderman Ward – Yes. Meeting ended at approximately 6:30 pm.


Richard Bowling, Mayor / City Manager

Attest this 13th day of January, 2022


Sharon Greene, Recorder / CMFO