

Minutes  
Bluff City Board of Mayor and Aldermen  
Regular Meeting  
August 2, 2022

Vice Mayor Jeff Broyles called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm

Members present were Carol Keith, Sandra Madison, Jeff Broyles and Ben Adams

Eric Ward was absent

Prayer was given by Jeff Broyles, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance

Vice Mayor Broyles opened the floor for the following:

Citizen Comments

Julie Venable Carty of 209 Smith Street Extension stated I just want to ask you to consider what the Police Chief asked you to do. The City and the County would get help.

Carolyn Payne of 4818 Bluff City Highway stated I am going to ask again that we are allowed, when these items are on the agenda where is says discussion, that we are allowed to discuss and ask questions. Vice Mayor Broyles stated yes you are welcome to make any comment you like. You actually have about 4 minutes and 40 seconds left. Mrs Payne stated am I going to be able to ask questions on the ordinances on here. Mayor Broyles stated at the will and pleasure of the Board we are not required to answer questions on the ordinances, but we may accommodate. Mrs Payne stated you are going to be sworn in as Mayor. Vice Mayor Broyles stated I don't need to be sworn in, I am already sworn in. Mrs Payne stated you are going to be City Manager. Vice Mayor Broyles stated yes. Mrs Payne asked if there was a salary involved. Vice Mayor Broyles stated no mam. Mrs Payne stated I want to be considered for one of the open Alderman seats.

Update on Water / Sewer Project- Calvin Clifton of Mattern & Craig

Randy Beckner, with Mattern & Craig stated we have made some really good progress this month. I got in touch with our Rural Development contact, Matt Kider to talk about where we stand on the project. He is going to allow the pump station work to be change ordered into the project. They will be submitted to Rural Development and TDEC for final approval. I don't see any reason that Thomas should not be back on sight and under construction before your next meeting. First Tn. Development District had asked us to put together a preliminary engineering report for a new water storage plant in the system, in hopes of seeking Covid Relief money for that project. I have started putting together plans about the problem with Chinquapin Booster station and that should be ready to go out for bids very shortly. Vice Mayor Broyles stated we will set down as a staff and analyze it and be back to you soon. Vice Mayor Broyles asked Mr Clifton if he had any comments. Mr Clifton stated no.

Discussion / Action – Regular Meeting Minutes – July 5, 2022

Motion to approve was made by Alderman Ben Adams. Second by Alderwoman Keith. Vote went as follows: Alderwoman Keith – Yes, Alderwoman Madison – Yes and Alderman Adams – Yes. Motion carried.

Discussion / Action – Resignation / Retirement of Mayor Richard Bowling

Vice Mayor Broyles stated that Mr Bowling came on board at a very difficult and stood up when we lost Mayor Wells. He has worked tirelessly for the benefit of the City. There is no way to thank Richard enough for leading us. Vice Mayor Broyles asked Mr Bowling if he would like to say anything. Mayor Bowling stated it has been a real privilege to work with the city officials. I have enjoyed it. My health is declining some and Suzanne and I talked about it and prayed about it and decided it would be the best thing for my health. I know I am turning it over to good hands. Anytime I can help any of you, give me a call.

Vice Mayor Broyles asked if there were any comments from fellow board members. Alderwoman Keith said I would like to say thank you Mayor Bowling. Motion to accept Mayor Bowling's resignation was made by Alderman Adams. Second by Alderwoman Madison. Vote went as follows: Alderwoman Keith – Yes, Alderwoman Madison – Yes and Alderman Adams – Yes. Motion carried.

Vice Mayor Broyles stated upon the resignation and retirement of Mayor Richard Bowling, I hear by assume duties as Mayor and Town Manager.

Discussion / Action – Resignation of Alderman Eric Ward

Mayor Broyles stated we will discuss a resignation of fellow Board Member Alderman Eric Ward. Eric came onto the Board as an appointed Alderman and then was elected in 2019. He has had a strong voice on this Board. It is the desire of his family to move back to their home town of Johnson City. Motion to approve his resignation was made by Alderwoman Keith. Second by Alderwoman Madison. Vote went as follows: Alderwoman Keith – Yes, Alderwoman Madison – Yes and Alderman Adams – Yes. Motion carried.

Discussion / Action – Ordinance 2022-006

City Attorney Paul Frye read the ordinance which is To Provide for the General Revenue of the Town of Bluff City TN for the Fiscal 2022-2023 (Property Tax Levy). This amount would be \$1.179 cents for each \$100.00 of assessed value. Mayor Broyles reported that the tax rate is the same as last year. Motion to approve on First Reading was made by Alderwoman Keith. Second by Alderman Adams. Vote went as follows: Alderwoman Keith – Yes, Alderwoman Madison – Yes and Alderman Adams – Yes. Motion carried.

Discussion / Action – Ordinance 2022-007

City Attorney Paul Frye the ordinance which is an Appropriation Ordinance for Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2023. Mayor Broyles stated you will see the Comptroller's guidance in your paper work. Mr Broyles states to surmise, when are we getting the budget. Alderwoman Keith stated I would like to postpone discussing the budget because I have a lot more questions concerning it. Mayor Broyles stated would you mind if I finish the presentation. Mrs Keith stated I don't mind. Mayor Broyles stated the highlights of next year's budget are these: No property tax increase. We are reviewing an increase on Utility Rates and Sewer Rates.

This last year we had to do refurbishment of our water tank and went over budget about \$99,000.00. We have to show the state that we have figured out a way to put money back to make it solvent and make it work. The increase we are discussing is 4%, so on a 100 dollar water bill we are talking a little less than 2 dollars. Mayor Broyles stated the next thing in this budget is increases, needed increases for our employees. If we can we are going to implement the Watson E-Ticket program headed up by Chief Depew. The next thing is we have found it necessary to hire another police officer.

Mayor Broyles stated we are encouraging and happy to receive the invitation to Detective Smith to join the Joint Drug Task Force. We will have to pay an annual fee to be included in this task force. If a bust is made monies from the task force, are evenly distributed to every agency. I am giving credit to Former Mayor Bowling and Sharon all the credit for this.

Mayor Broyles stated I have set down for hours with our CMFO. I have heard the recommendation of our former Mayor and I would suggest that we move forward with this. Alderwoman Keith stated everything looks good, but my concern is the increase. I would like to have a short workshop one day next week. Alderman Adams stated no one wants an increase. It wasn't mandated by the State, but what is mandated by the State is for us to perform service on our water tower every 5 years. Mr Adams stated do we continue to kick the can down the road or do we address it now with an increase, or we can send a Budget to the State with a \$99,000.00 shortfall in it. We can either take a small increase now or keep kicking it until we get hit with a 12 to 15 percent increase. Mayor Broyles stated let me address the salaries. There is an increase for every single employee. Mayor Broyles stated every employee will be evaluated. Mayor Broyles stated I strongly recommend that we vote on and pass this budget. Alderwoman Keith stated I still want to meet one day and ask some questions. Motion to approve Ordinance 2022-007 was made by Alderman Adams. Motion failed for lack of a Second. Mayor Broyles asked if there was a motion to postpone this item. Alderwoman Keith made a motion to postpone this item. Second by Alderwoman Madison. Vote went as follows: Alderwoman Keith – Yes, Alderwoman Madison – Yes and Alderman Adams – Yes. Decision postponed.

Mayor Broyles stated the next 3 items on the agenda are commensurate with the Budget that was just postponed and that being said I would like for someone to craft a motion to postpone Discussion / Action on Ordinance's 2022-008, 2022-009, and 2022-10. Motion to postpone was made by Alderwoman Keith. Second by Alderwoman Madison. Vote went as follows: Alderwoman Keith – Yes, Alderwoman Madison – Yes and Alderman Adams – Yes. Items postponed.

#### Report from Mayor and Town Manager- Jeff Broyles

Mayor Broyles stated that the last couple of days have been wonderful. I cannot say enough about my team mates on the Board and the staff welcoming me. Sharon has really been there for me. The transition with Richard was amazing. In regard to my duties I am fully prepared to fulfill the role of Town Manager and Mayor. There are some things coming up that we will be considering as far as the formalization of the Town Manager. I want to do the best job I can.

Report from City Attorney Paul Frye

City Attorney Paul Frye stated I have begun working on the collection of the 2021 property taxes.

Discussion / Action – Financial Report – Sharon Greene, Recorder / CMFO

Ms Greene reported the following Fund Balances as of June 31, 2022

General Fund- \$2,196,332.00, Sanitation Fund - \$40,134.00, Special Police Fund - \$8,494.00, Debt Service Fund- \$113,498.00, Sinking Fund - \$3,094.00, Water / Sewer Fund- \$842,683.00  
Motion to approve was made by Alderwoman Keith. Second by Alderman Adams. Vote went as follows: Alderwoman Keith – Yes, Alderwoman Madison – Yes and Alderman Adams – Yes.  
Motion carried.

Report from Chief Greg Depew

Chief Depew congratulated Mayor Broyles and thanked Former Mayor Richard Bowling and CMFO Sharon Greene for the hard work that goes into our budget.

Chief Depew presented the monthly report for July. (SEE ATTACHED) Everybody is upbeat and motivated. Alderwoman Keith stated I brought my grandbabies down and they are telling their dad that they are junior police and they met Mr Mayor.

Report from Public Works Supervisor – Allen Moultrie

Mr Moultrie stated in the sewer department we are operating without any issues at this moment. We do have a couple projects that do need to get done.

In the streets and water department we have been fixing a bunch of leaks around town. We have been maintaining the tank at around 50 feet and we are seeing leaks due to increased system pressure. We have a chunk of asphalt that needs to be repaved on Railroad Street. It has been almost a year since it has been like that, but as soon as we get this budget passed we will be able to get a lot more accomplished.

Mr Moultrie stated I hope we can come up with resolve on some of our other issues, like the pump station and other ongoing projects. I appreciate everything you have been doing. Alderwoman Keith stated I believe you will start seeing things taking place. Mayor Broyles stated I really appreciate your work and leadership.

Comments from Board Members

Alderwoman Keith thanked everyone for being here. Mrs Keith congratulated Mayor Broyles. I feel like we are going to move forward.

Alderwoman Madison thanked everyone for coming and invited them to come back.

Alderman Adams stated I like the direction we are headed. We are trying to improve and make things better. We are trying to do what is best for the city. We are doing the best job that we can.

Comments from County Commissioner – Hershhal Glover

Mr Glover stated I am sad to see Mr Bowling go and Mr Ward. Mr Bowling every conversation that you and I have had over the years has always been very professional and treated me with the utmost respect. I appreciate everything you have done for the Town.

Mr Glover stated we did first reading on our budget Thursday night. We will have a Special Called Meeting on the 11<sup>th</sup>. Bluff City's \$10,000.00 for the park is in the budget this year. Mayor Bowling stated we appreciate that. Mr Glover stated that all the Volunteer Fire Departments get the same amount of money. Mr Glover stated unless something drastic happens we will not have a tax increase this year.

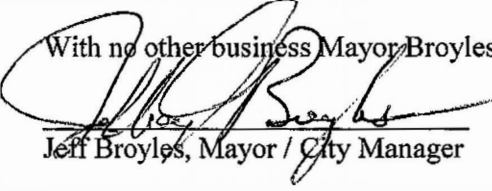
Old Business

Alderwoman Keith stated we are still moving on with the park and everything. Mayor Broyles stated absolutely. We should see installation about the first of September or so.

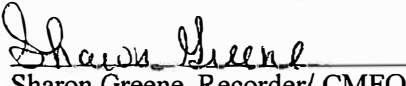
New Business

Alderman Adams stated since your Vice Mayor seat is vacated, I think that is some new business to discuss. Mayor Broyles stated we have 2 open Board seats. Mr Broyles stated I will present a formal announcement to fill those seats. My priority is to fill the board seat first. Alderwoman Keith stated we can appoint a Vice Mayor anytime. Mayor Broyles stated to City Attorney Paul Frye, I think we have to have 4 don't we. Mr Frye stated he would have to look at that. Mayor Broyles stated we will have to appoint another signatory in case of emergency.

With no other business Mayor Broyles adjourned the meeting at 7:00 p.m.

  
Jeff Broyles, Mayor / City Manager

Attest this 2<sup>nd</sup> day of August, 2022

  
Sharon Greene, Recorder/ CMFO



# Bluff City Police Department

## MONTHLY REPORT



2022  
Year

July  
Month

NUMBER OF:	CITY	PINEY	COUNTY	TOTAL
CALLS FOR ASSISTANT(S)	125	135	0	260
ISSUED CITATION(S)	85	113	0	198
WARNING CITATION(S)	32	33	0	65
PATROLED MILE(S)	3289	3247	0	6536
ARREST(S)	10	12	0	22
OFFENSE REPORT(S)	6	9	0	15
ALARM(S)	4	5	2	11
ACCIDENTS	6	5	0	11
ANIMAL CALL(S)	2	0	0	2
MSD REPORT(S)	10	18	0	28
FUNERAL ESCORT(S)	2	1	0	3
DOMESTIC ASSAULT(S)	5	3	0	8
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)	7	6	0	13
USE OF FORCE REPORT(S)	0	0	0	0

Approved by: Chief Depew

8/2/2022