

March 17, 2009

Bell Buckle Board of Mayor and Aldermen met in regular session. Those present were Mayor Webb, Aldermen Hunt, Reagor, Anderson and Rooney. Alderman Anderson, seconded by Alderman Rooney, made a motion to suspend the reading of the minutes from February 10. All Aye. Alderman Anderson, seconded by Alderman Reagor, made a motion to approve the minutes from February 10. Motion carried.

Alderman Anderson, seconded by Alderman Reagor, made a motion to approve the Financial Reports. Motion carried.

Supervisor Ronnie Lokey gave the Water Sewer Report. We fixed 4 service line leaks and 1 main line leak after our meter reading in February. Since then, we have bought very little water from BCUD. Our water loss dropped to 18%. The results of the THMM's and HAA5 tests were down from the 4th quarter of 2008-well below the maximum limit.

Mr. Earl Griner of the company that owns Davco, the builder of our wastewater plant, came & did an assessment of our plant. Overall he found the plant to be in good shape for 29 years of service.

The treatment process at the plant has been giving Randy trouble. The cold temperatures and large amounts of ground water have caused the sludge to be light and fluffy and not settling well. Brett Ward from MTAS and Dwayne Culpepper of TAUD have been helping to find a solution to the problem. We are looking at adding polymers to make the sludge settle better. Because of this situation, the EQ basin is full and we are overflowing to the creek. This is the 2nd overflow for the year.

Michael Bauer/Wayne Neese will be on the April agenda seeking a water and sewer tap on the subdivision beside Jeanette Bauer's house on Peacock Street. The auction is planned for April 25th.

Dr Bill Jones requested a water tap on his 18 acres on Happy Valley Road. Alderman Anderson, seconded by Alderman Reagor, made a motion to approve with the note that he understands that any expenses incurred with the tap going under the road will be his responsibility. All Aye.

Chief Ronnie Lokey gave the Fire Department Report. The siren was tested on Saturday and was successful. The test will be set up for the first Saturday of each month at 12 noon. The ladder truck has been repaired and we continue to train with it. We have bought some hose adapters and large diameter hose and are in the process of testing the hose before we can put it on the truck. We need board approval for spending the money on the hose and adapters. Alderman Reagor, seconded by Alderman Anderson, made a motion to approve. Motion carried.

Alderman Hunt and the department are working on a grant to get equipment for the new truck and to acquire a new smaller truck to replace the grass truck and the first responder unit. We appreciate the work she does for the department and for the support she and the rest of the board gives the department.

The chili cook-off was a huge success. The winner this year is Katie Felices. Joe Hunt won the 5 alarm competition. Congratulations to the winners and thank you to all who supported the event and donated nearly \$1200 to the Bell Buckle Fire Department! The new sign has been installed on the building. There were 11 calls for service during the month with 6 being fire related and 5 medical calls.

An emergency evacuation plan was discussed and we hope to have a test scenario in April.

Mr. Lokey also gave the Police Department Report. There were 12 citations issued, 36 warnings issued and 5 calls with 4 reports. Several comments were made by citizens requesting that Officer Wiley patrol more on Liberty Pike and also that he issue fewer warnings and write more tickets. It was suggested that we needed more speed limit signs to make the speed more clear on Webb Road. Alderman Reagor commented that he is working on the Rules of Engagement for the police officer. Alderman Hunt said that Officer Wiley is working on a budget to present for the Budget meeting. She also stated that she had attended a law enforcement grant meeting and we will receive 1 UHF in car two-way radio, 1 mobile VHF in car two-way radio, 1 handheld UHF two-way radio with remote mike, antennas for these radios with the installation costs included, and 1 respirator (gas mask) for hazardous materials situations. This is a total of approximately \$1500 to \$2000 in equipment. We are also being given a 2002 Impala with 90,000 miles from the City of Brentwood as a donation.

Chairman Rodney Simmons gave the Planning Commission Report. A subdivision was tentatively approved for the Bauer property on Peacock Street with some minor changes being made to the plat and the removal of the accessory buildings. Favorable recommendation was made for the requested water and sewer tap for the divided lot. Also recommended was a water tap for Dr. Bill Jones on Happy Valley Road.

Mr. Rob Crawford of the TN Historical Commission was present to talk about Historical Zoning and how to potentially set up a Historical Zoning Commission. There were questions and discussion on what all this involved and it was decided to invite Mr. Crawford back to give another presentation asking anyone who is interested in this to attend for more information. The Planning Commission also requested permission from the Board to pursue a historical zoning review. Alderman Rooney, seconded by Alderman Anderson, made a motion to approve. Motion carried.

The 5 acre resolution was discussed at length and a recommendation was approved for the resolution to be absolved or dropped.

Mayor Webb now addressed this issue. He sited history of Sept 05 the Town passed a motion to stop extending water lines out of the town limits. He showed how a subdivision was an extension and that no municipality can be required to extend its water line. In Sept 06 through Jan 07 the town had a water moratorium while it conducted a water study and no taps were approved outside the town limits during this time. In Dec 06 and Jan 07 the 5 acre modification Resolution was passed. This received much push back from the county since they viewed it as interfering with the county zoning. During this time the town saw the need of applying for regional planning status.

Since 2006 our zoning maps have been updated and we have revamped our subdivision regulations and adapted a phase planning approach. Land trusts have been studied. As it stands now, our present Planning Commission only has power within the town limits. Regional Planning would allow us to apply our subdivision regulations anywhere in our Urban Growth Boundary. This would be the “golden egg” and would do more to help Bell Buckle in the future than anything else we can do. If the county denies our application, we can appeal and hope to get approval through the state. There were many questions and much discussion on this. The Mayor stated that what prompted this decision was the county beginning to work hard on their UGB once again with Charlie Goforth. He is not aware of anyone being interested in developing their property into a subdivision right now.

Alderman Anderson stated this resolution was not intended to be permanent. Mayor Webb recommended deferring on this issue for now and wait on the status for regional planning. Alderman Rooney, seconded by Alderman Anderson, made a motion to defer. Motion carried. Alderman Anderson also stated that he wanted to defend the integrity of the Mayor, Board and the Planning Commission and that communication is a two-way street. He told the audience that it is their responsibility to attend the meetings to be informed about issues.

Alderman Hunt reported for the Sidewalks Committee. We are still on hold for the environmental study. She has a call in to Sara with South Central Development District to check on this.

Alderman Hunt gave the Chamber of Commerce Report. Daffodil Day is this Saturday, March 21st. This is our 9th year to be designated a Tree City USA. We are very pleased to have the Notable Trees of TN Display coming to Bell Buckle this Friday. The display should be up through Friday April 3rd in the Town Hall.

Alderman Rooney said that she had spoken with Mr. James Elkins about trying to gather history on each store. Possibly signs could be made for the stores explaining what was originally in each building for history purposes. This could be done jointly with the Chamber and each store owner.

The Parks and Recreation Report was given by Alderman Hunt. Trees planted for the tree grant are completed. The grant should be closed out shortly with reimbursement of \$2,500.

The mowing and maintenance bid was awarded to Robert’s Lawn Service at \$190 per mowing. The roofing and trusses bid for the amphitheater was awarded to Cooper Steel.

The Judging Class for the BBQ Cook Off is scheduled for Saturday, April 25th at 11:00 at the Capt Rodney Stage.

Florence Hall has been working on getting the paperwork completed and identification labels ordered for Bell Buckle to receive Level I Arboretum certification which certifies that we have at least 30 different species of trees planted and labeled.

On Easter Sunday, April 12th, the Point of Grace Church will be holding a sunrise service from 6:30 to 7:00 and the Bell Buckle Volunteer Fire Department will be holding an Easter Egg hunt during the afternoon.

I was chosen by TDEC to serve as one of 39 judges across the state for the Governor's Environmental Stewardship awards on Friday, April 17th as the representative from Bell Buckle. Bell Buckle Park earned the Governor's Environmental Stewardship award in the parks category in 2008. It will be an honor to represent Bell Buckle at this event.

Park meetings have been changed to the 3rd Monday of each month at 5:00 at Town Hall. However, this month we changed it to the 4th Monday due to conflicts and it will be next Monday, March 23rd.

Mayoral Updates: Mayor Webb and Alderwoman Rooney will attend the Water Board meeting at Wartrace to discuss our water rate. The Mayor will be writing a letter to Mayor Eugene Ray requesting regional planning this week.

Next month a new purchasing ordinance will be presented to raise the amount up to \$10,000 instead of the self imposed amount of \$2500.

A new town survey may be presented in the near future to update the desires and requests of the community.

Old Business: 2nd Reading of the Water/Sewer Rate Increase. There was a public hearing prior to the meeting. Alderman Anderson reiterated that if the Town shows a deficit in the water budget this year, it will be the 4th year. The State could threaten to take over our water system. Alderman Anderson, seconded by Alderman Hunt, made a motion to approve the 2nd Reading. All Aye. Alderman Hunt thanked Alderman Anderson for all the hard work he had done on the financial information to decide on our rate increase.

New Business: None.

There being no further business, Alderman Anderson made a motion to adjourn.

Dennis H. Webb, Mayor _____

Janet Robinson, Town Recorder _____