

Bull Shoals City Council

Meeting Minutes

December 28, 2017

I. Call to order, Pledge of Allegiance, & Roll Call

Mayor Nixon called to order the regular meeting of the Bull Shoals City Council at 6:30 pm on December 28, 2017 at 706 CS Woods Dr. Bull Shoals, AR 72619.

Everyone stood and gave Pledge of Allegiance to the United States Flag.

Tina Bailey conducted the roll call. The following persons were present: Mayor David Nixon, Mr. Graley, Mr. Traylor, Mr. Nickels, Mr. Lindman, and Mr. Giannini. Ms. Tuesday Rhodes was absent. Ms. Bailey announced we have a quorum to conduct business.

II. Accepting of the Minutes

Mayor Nixon asked the council members if they had read the minutes from the November meeting. Mayor asked for motion to approve the minutes. Mr. Nickels made the motion to approve and Mr. Graley seconded. The minutes were approved.

III. Treasurer Report

Mr. Doshier presented the November financials. Mr. Doshier reported that we had a total of 32 bank accounts with the total balance of 1.56 million. He also reported for the month of November Income was in the black by \$35,600. He reported that we are still in the red for the year at about \$40,000 however, we were doing well because a year ago we were in the rear at the tune of \$250,000. He reported that the sales tax was up along with the turn backs being up. He also left an Internal Controls document for the city to determine the Best Practices Policies that Ms. Rhodes requested at the last meeting. Mayor Nixon stated that the \$1.56 million balance was monies that had in cumbered funds in it. Mr. Doshier replied that about \$600,000 were in cumbered funds. Mr. Traylor motioned to accept the report and Mr. Nickels seconded. The report was accepted.

IV. Department Reports –

- a) Police Department – Chief Kuchenbecker announced that the Shop with a Cop and Fireman Event was a success. He thanked the community for their help. Mr. Nickels asked the Chief “Why there is a revolving door with our police staff?” Chief replied “Our equipment, salary, and benefits are below the average among the area and the resigning officer received an opportunity that

gave him more money in the private sector”. Mr. Giannini motioned to accept the report and Mr. Graley seconded. The report was accepted.

- b) Fire Department Report –Chief Mitchell reported the Burn Ban has lifted for a short term. We are in dangerous conditions due to lack of moisture. If you decide to burn please do so with extreme caution. Mr. Traylor asked if there were any new people on staff. Chief reported that we had one new volunteer but 2 others had left. Mr. Graley motioned to accept the report and Mr. Traylor seconded. The report was approved.
- c) Public Works – We now have 2 Workforce employees for free help. Mayor Nixon replied that we do have one full time position that we will need to fill. Mr. McConnell said that we can do this around March when Public Works needs more help. Mr. Graley asked for clarification about the disconnect fees and the water lines of the homeowners? Mr. McConnell replied, “That anything from outside of the meter box to the home is the homeowners responsibility and anything within the Meter Box is the City’s responsibility”. “We are no longer doing vacation disconnects.” A homeowner can have a plumber install a shut off valve outside between the meter box and the home.

Mr. Traylor asked about the street signs and the aluminum bales. Mr. McConnell replied that our street sign employee has been out and will be back soon and that he is waiting for the prices to go up for the aluminum bales to be sold. Mayor Nixon asked how the new recycling program is doing. Mr. McConnell replied that it is doing well and we are not in the red. Mr. Nickels motioned to accept the report and Mr. Giannini seconded. The report was approved.

V. Program Reports-

- a) Parks- The parks are closed at this time and therefore there is no report. The Chairman did report that the next meeting will be held on the second Monday of January because the first Monday is New Year’s Day at 6:30.
- b) Planning and Zoning – Mr. Heimbach reported that the proposal requested will have to be postponed until further information is given. Mr. Graley asked if there is a pre-screening before the meeting so that the requestor does not waste the committee’s time. Mr. Heimbach replied that he had asked them to get their information ahead of time. Mayor asked for the confirmation of Mr. Pape’s appointment to the committee. The Council approved with “Aye” and Mr. Pape was approved to serve out the remaining term.

VI. Old Business

- a) Mayor Nixon reported that the Wastewater Plant Project is getting closer. As of today, all of the documents are now in the hands of the USDA. Mayor described the documents that we are going to have to file on a regular basis that were comprised of 2 large books in order to secure the funds. We have knocked the price down and that later in the agenda we will discuss our Water Auditor
- b) Fire Fighter's Pension to LOPFI- All the paperwork is finished.
- c) Reconciling of Minutes have to wait.
- d) Water Audit of 2016 – The Audit is complete however the auditor could not join us due to family emergency. Mayor asked if we wanted to approve tonight or wait. Mayor Nixon stated that the Water Audit shows that there is an account that is able to use for the use of the down payment for the Water/Sewer Plant. Mr. Graley motioned to accept the audit and Mr. Traylor seconded. A roll call vote was taken and everyone said yes.
- e) Internet tax resolution – Mr. Nickels replied that we need more information and therefore it is tabled until a later date. Mr. Traylor spoke about the North Dakota vs. Quill case. Mayor replied that everyone should share their thoughts with their councilmembers.

VII. New Business

- a) Opioid Resolution – Mayor read an email from the Arkansas Municipal League requesting our participation in the Opioid Litigation Resolution. Mayor asked if the councilmembers would like to participate in this litigation or not. Mr. Traylor motioned to dismiss the resolution and Mr. Giannini seconded. The resolution was denied.
- b) Grandfathered Insurance – New Hired Employees will only receive paid benefits for themselves and not their dependents. The existing employees are grandfathered in with the employee receiving 100% benefits and their dependents receive 50% of benefits. Mr. Giannini motioned to accept and Mr. Traylor seconded. A roll call vote was taken and everyone said yes.
- c) 2017-R-07 Budget Resolution – Mayor stated that we are going to continue the budget that is helping us to get back in line. Mr. Traylor stated that we

have cut expenses but we are going to have to ask for revenue. Mr. Nickels asked if we are keeping the same budget as last year. Mayor replied the format has been changed to a standardized nomenclature so that each cost center has its own number and is easily followed. Mr. Nickels commented on the cost centers that makes money. Mayor replied that the Campgrounds contribute money to the city. Mr. Graley motioned to accept the 2017-R-07 and Mr. Traylor seconded. A roll call vote was taken and everyone said yes. Mayor said that if the budget comes in at “0” he is buying a cake!

- d) Water Audit - grants – Mayor is proposing “Ballard & Company” to become our new Water Auditors for the next 3 years. He stated that they are more expensive however they will be doing more work and referred to the 2 large books previously presented in the meeting. He also mentioned that this firm is a “Gold Standard Firm”. Mr. Graley asked, “How many companies has the Mayor contacted before making this consideration?” Mayor responded with 5 and that this company required a lot of information to do business with us. Mr. Traylor motioned to accept the Ballard & Company as our new water auditor and Mr. Giannini seconded. A roll call vote was taken and everyone said yes.

VIII. Citizen Comments

- a) Jerry Eagen – 135 Atwater Cove – Mr. Eagen would like to have clarification of “Beer Sales” on Sundays. Mr. Traylor replied that there has to be a petition and Mayor said that there is a process.

IX. Adjournment

Mr. Graley motioned to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Giannini seconded.
Mayor Nixon adjourned the meeting at 7:42 PM.

Minutes submitted by: Tina Bailey

Minutes approved by: [Name]