

Bell Buckle Board of Mayor and Aldermen  
Meeting Minutes  
January 11, 2022

Bell Buckle Board of Mayor and Aldermen met in regular session on Tuesday, January 11, 2022 at 6 PM. Members present were Mayor Ronnie Lokey, VM Wheeler, and Aldermen Vannatta, Alderman Akers & Alderman McRady.

Mayor Lokey called the meeting to order. Alderman McRady, seconded by Alderman Vannatta, made a motion to approve the minutes from the December 14 meeting. Motion carried. VM Wheeler, seconded by Alderman McRady made a motion to accept the financial reports. All aye.

The Water & Sewer Report was given by Eddy Lamb. The water loss was down to 12%. Several taps have been installed. There was no Water/Sewer Board Report.

Fire Chief Lokey gave the Fire Department Report. There was a total of 12 calls in December. Ten of these were medical & two were fire calls including 1 severe weather fire, and 1 car fire. For the year of 2021, there were 196 total calls, including 98 medical and 98 fire related calls.

There was no Police Department Report, nor report from the Planning Commission.

The Chamber, Park & Historical Commission Reports were all written by Jenny Hunt and read by Mayor Lokey.

Chamber of Commerce: The Car Cache event will be held Saturday, February 5<sup>th</sup> on the event grounds behind the stores & is basically a scavenger hunt in your car. The new website should debut the end of the month and the 2022 event planning is going hard & strong.

Park & Recreation: The Park has applied for the TNRMT Safety grant funds to put lights in the park in phases. The full \$20K was applied for and hoped to be funded. The hazardous material removal of the old school building started yesterday & is expected to be completed by the end of the week. It is safe to use the park while the project is underway.

Historic Commission: Work will begin later this month on the alleyway grant. A public meeting will be held some time in February & will be announced. A Zoom call was held regarding the Façade/Downtown Improvement grant providing information to eligible business/property owners. Applications are due February 7<sup>th</sup> for the review board (Mayor Lokey has appointed Kim Mashe, Ted Birtcil & David Robinson to that committee). Notification of Awards will be announced February 10<sup>th</sup> and Historic Commission Review will be February 15<sup>th</sup>.

There were no reports from the Beautification Committee or the Arts Council.

Mayoral Updates: The Town has not heard anything about the TDOT intermodel grant for the sidewalks. The CCTV company has begun inspection of the manholes & sewer lines in the town. Mayor Lokey announced that he does plan to run for reelection.

Old Business: VM Wheeler reported the Safety Meeting met & the traffic calming was discussed. She presented five proposals from them. 1: The Town has already agreed to pursue funding for sidewalks on all streets leading to Bell Buckle by applying for future intermodal grants or from other grant sources. 2. The Town funds law enforcement 60 hours a week. To maximize the use of these hours, it as agreed to begin exporting and analyzing data to specify locations/times for presence of law enforcement. The recording and

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analysis of data is to be spearheaded by Gary Coonan with the assistance of Alderman Vannatta. The next three proposals were presented for approval.

3. Law enforcement officers to be instructed to write citations for all drivers exceeding the speed limit by more than five miles per hour. 4. Install 4 internet speed signs to place at town limits (one donated by Webb School, one donated by Gary Coonan, and two donated by VM Wheeler). The Town will be willing to accept the donations and to install the signs. 5. Propose speed limit of 15 miles per hour on all streets in Bell Buckle except Hwy 82 and Hwy 269. Method to be used to replace current 25 mph signs to be determined by BOMA. (Mayor Lokey stated the signs would cost approximately \$21.60 each and to expend the funds from the General Fund). There was much discussion regarding the lowering of the speed limit to 15 mph with the suggestion of just lowering it to 20 mph. VM Wheeler, seconded by Alderman McRady, made a motion to approve the three proposals as is. Motion carried with all voting aye and Alderman Akers voting no.

Mayor Lokey stated he would send a letter to Webb School about these decisions to advise their students, teachers and parents of students.

New Business: none

There being no further business, VM Wheeler, seconded by Alderman McRady, made a motion to adjourn. Motion carried.

Ronnie Lokey, Mayor 

Janet Robinson, Town Recorder 