

Bell Buckle Board of Mayor and Aldermen
Meeting Minutes
March 8, 2022

Bell Buckle Board of Mayor and Aldermen met in regular session on Tuesday, March 8, 2022 at 6 PM. Members present were Mayor Ronnie Lokey, VM Wheeler, and Aldermen Vannatta. Alderman Akers & Alderman McRady were absent. There was a public hearing prior to the meeting to discuss updates to the schedule of fees. There was no public input.

Mayor Lokey called the meeting to order. VM Wheeler, seconded by Alderman Vannatta, made a motion to approve the minutes from the February 8 meeting. Motion carried. Alderman Vannatta, seconded by VM Wheeler, made a motion to accept the financial reports. All aye.

The Water Report was given by Mark McBryant. The water loss was down a little this month at 42%. Mr. McBryant stated that two major leaks had been repaired on Cemetery Road & Emily Lane. The sewer lines were also cleaned, and flushing was done, so that contributed to the loss as well.

Firefighter Mark McBryant gave the Fire Department Report. There was a total of 13 calls in February. Seven of these were medical & six were fire calls including 2 grass fires, 1 false alarm, 1 structure & 1 severe weather alarm. The fire department hosted a benefit for Police Chief Wiley, and then the annual chili cook-off. Both were well attended and a huge success.

Mayor Lokey reported for the Police Department. There were 24 citations and 4 county assists. There has been more patrolling, and several citations have been given in the school zone.

There was no Planning Commission Report.

The Chamber, Park & Historical Commission Reports were all given by Jenny Hunt.

Chamber of Commerce: Daffodil Day & the Best of the Butts BBQ cook-off is coming up next Saturday, March 19. The new Chamber website is live! They met with EMA officials to review RCMP safety plans & needs.

Park & Recreation: The board opened the mowing bids and recommended NuView LLC for the 2022-23 year. (see Old Business) They are working on the demolition estimate for the old school building since the hazardous material removal has been done. Reminder that the Citizen of the Year will be announced on Daffodil Day & nominations need be turned in soon. The summer concert series is coming together nicely & will be advertised soon.

Historic Commission: The commission met with Landscape Architect Josh Henrick at the last meeting regarding the Historic Preservation Alleyway grant and had lots of good input. They are working toward getting AT&T to remove the spiderweb of wires in the alley. The Façade/Downtown Improvement grant applications were approved for the Wellness Emporium and Lisa Schimeca/Artlet's Joy. Round 2 will probably be in May.

There was no report for the Beautification Committee. They will meet on March 17th

Janie Becker reported for the Arts Council. They requested dates for this year's Art Saturdays on April 9, June 11, August 13 and November 12. Mrs. Becker stated they had received permission from Greg Heinike for use of the downtown pavilion for these dates. VM Wheeler, seconded by Alderman Vannatta, made a motion to approve. All aye.

Mayoral Updates: none

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Old Business: Bell Buckle Park recommended the bid from NuView for their Lawn Maintenance Agreement for a total of \$13,200 for the year to be paid over 12 months. They also recommended NuView for the playground sitting area, Daffodil sculpture & Four Corners landscaping & mulching for a total of \$6,386.42. VM Wheeler, seconded by Alderman Vannatta, made a motion to approve their recommendation. All aye.

The Town received two bids on the right aways and the water areas. One was from Freedom Lawn Care & Tree Service for a total of \$515 per mowing figured at estimated 32 weeks at \$16,480 plus \$125 annual brush cleaning. Roberts Lawn Service bid a total of \$545 per mowing figured at estimated 32 weeks at a total of \$17,440. After discussion, it was decided that since Roberts Lawn Service had shown they were dependable and did a good job down through the years, to continue with their service. Alderman Vannatta, seconded by VM Wheeler, made a motion to approve. Motion carried.

The ordinance for the updates to the Schedule of Fees was presented on 2nd reading. These include changes to the court fees, planning fees & other fees. VM Wheeler, seconded by Alderman Vannatta, made a motion to approve on 2nd reading. All aye.

New Business: Resolution 22-002 regarding the 2022 CDBG grant for the sewer system was presented. This grant is for \$630K with the total cost of the project not to exceed \$818,181 and the matching portion of town funds, which will be provided by the water fund, to not exceed \$188,181. This is a 23% match using the Three Star Incentive. VM Wheeler, seconded by Alderman Vannatta, made a motion to approve. All aye.

Resolution 22-003 to support restoring the historic revenue sharing relationship between the State of TN & its local governments and to return the local share of the single article cap to local governments, was presented. Alderman Vannatta, seconded by VM Wheeler, made a motion to approve. Motion carried.

Public Input: Janie Becker requested the minutes from the meetings and the ordinances & resolutions be put on the website to make it easier for the public to access them. Town Recorder Robinson will work on getting that done.

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

Ronnie Lokey, Mayor _____



Janet Robinson, Town Recorder _____

