

MINUTES

The White Bluff Town Council met in regular session on Tuesday, January 7, 2025, at White Bluff Town Hall. Present were Council members Stephanie Murrell, Connie Reed, Carl Kincaid, Scott Glover, Bryan Hill, and Jacob Puckett. Also present included Deputy Town Recorder Misty Rodgers, Town Attorney Andrew Mills, Projects Administrator and Public Works Director Jeff Martin, Fire Chief Eric Deal, Police Chief Chris Fulcher, Codes Administrator Roy Frizzell and members of the public.

Mayor Stephanie Murrell called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

The Pledge to the Flag was recited.

1473 Motion to approve minutes of the December 3, 2024, regular meeting:

Motion by Connie Reed, second by Bryan Hill, carried 5-0.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

- Mr. Michael McArdle, Diane Loop, addressed the Council regarding Fire Department Equipment and Financing.
- Ms. Sheila Ellis, Old Charlotte Rd., addressed the Council regarding Fire Department Equipment and Financing and the Hwy 47N Speed Limit.
- Mr. Garland Frazier addressed the Council regarding the Parks and Recreation Master Plan.

PUBLIC HEARINGS:

- A Public Hearing was conducted before considering on second and final reading an Ordinance to Amend the Town of White Bluff Zoning Map by rezoning Map 096I Group A Parcel 023.04 (Mann's Produce on Hwy 70E) from C-2 (Highway Commercial) to C-1 (Central Business District). **No one spoke for or against the measure.**

COMMUNICATION FROM THE MAYOR:

- **Appointment of Vice Mayor.** Mayor Stephanie Murrell opened the floor for nominations and nominated Council member Scott Glover to be Vice Mayor. Council member Bryan Hill nominated Council member Connie Reed for Vice Mayor. Being no other nominations, Mayor Murrell closed nominations and asked for a voice vote for either Glover or Reed for Vice Mayor. Glover voted for Glover with Hill, Puckett, Kincaid and Reed voting for Reed. **Council member Connie Reed was elected Vice Mayor by a vote of 4-1.**
- **Appointment of Council Representative on the Planning Commission.** Mayor Stephanie Murrell opened the floor for nominations and nominated Council member Connie Reed to be the Council Representative on the Planning Commission. Being no other nominations, Mayor Murrell closed nominations and asked for a voice vote for Reed for Council Representative on the Planning Commission. Glover, Hill, Puckett, Kincaid and Reed voted for Reed. **Council member Connie Reed was elected Council Representative on the Planning Commission by a vote of 5-0.**
- **Appointment of Department Heads.** Mayor Stephanie Murrell reviewed the current department heads with the Town Council. She recommended promotion of Deputy Town Recorder Misty Rodgers to Town Recorder (position vacated due to retirement of long-

time Town Recorder Melody Lewis) and recommended the following current department heads to retain their positions with the Town of White Bluff:

- Chris Fulcher as Police Chief
- Eric Deal as Fire Chief
- Jeff Martin as Projects Administrator and Public Works Director
- Andrew Mills as Town Attorney

#1474 Motion to approve Mayor's recommendation to promote Misty Rodgers to Town Recorder and to retain all Department Heads listed above.

Motion by Carl Kincaid, second by Connie Reed, carried 5-0.

BUDGET AND FINANCE:

- Town Recorder Misty Rodgers provided the Council with a copy of the November 2024 financial reports and responded to Council questions.

- **Consider State Contract for Access Control and authorize the Mayor to enter into a contract.**

Town Recorder Misty Rodgers solicited the following quotes regarding an Access Control solution for the Town of White Bluff. The Town had previously budgeted \$87,875.00 for this solution.

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| ○ RJ Young (State Contract) | \$52,320.03 |
| ○ Hiscall | \$74,749.15 |
| ○ Covergint (State Contract) | \$85,611.74 |

Mr. Tucker Day from RJ Young attended the Town Council meeting and was available to answer Council questions. After lengthy discussion;

#1475 Motion by Bryan Hill to approve RJ Young (State Contract) amount of \$52,320.03 for an Access Control solution for the Town of White Bluff, second by Jacob Puckett, carried 5-0.

- **Consider State Contract for Document Scanning and authorize the Mayor to enter into a contract.**

Town Recorder Misty Rodgers solicited the following quotes regarding a Document Scanning solution for the Town of White Bluff. The Town had previously budgeted \$42,000.00 for this solution.

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| ○ RJ Young (State Contract) | \$26,310.00 |
| ○ Data Bank (State Contract) | \$36,060.65 |

Mr. Tucker Day from RJ Young attended the Town Council meeting and was available to answer Council questions. After lengthy discussion;

#1476 Motion by Carl Kincaid to approve RJ Young (State Contract) amount of \$26,310.00 for a Document Scanning solution for the Town of White Bluff, second by Connie Reed, carried 5-0.

- **Consider a Resolution of the Town of White Bluff, Tennessee Designating Authorized Signatories for Bank Accounts.**

Town Attorney Andrew Mills reviewed the Resolution with the Council. After discussion;

#1477 Motion to approve Resolution Designating Authorized Signatories for Bank Accounts by Connie Reed, second by Carl Kincaid, carried 5-0.

CODES AND PERMITS:

- **Consider on second and final reading an Ordinance to Amend the Town of White**

Bluff Zoning Map by rezoning Map 096I Group A Parcel 023.04 (Mann's Produce on Hwy 70E) from C-2 (Highway Commercial) to C-1 (Central Business District). After discussion;

#1478 Motion to approve on second and final reading an Ordinance to Amend the Town of White Bluff Zoning Map by rezoning Map 096I Group A Parcel 023.04 (Mann's Produce on Hwy 70E) from C-2 (Highway Commercial) to C-1 (Central Business District).

Motion by Carl Kincaid, second by Bryan Hill, carried 5-0.

- Public Works Director Jeff Martin reported that the White Bluff Codes Department issued five (5) residential building permits, one (1) accessory building permit, and one (1) porch remodel permit during the month of December 2024 and responded to Council questions.

PUBLIC SAFETY:

- Police Chief Chris Fulcher reported that the White Bluff Police Department responded to 361 calls during the month of December 2024 and responded to Council questions.
- Chief Fulcher notified the Council of a totaled 2017 Cruiser (deer strike) with insurance settlement of approximately \$31,000.00 and damaged 2017 Cruiser (wreck) with insurance settlement of approximately \$4,000.00. Chief Fulcher asked the Council to consider purchasing a new Cruiser (approximately \$56,794.00) using the insurance settlement funds plus revenue generated from the sale of the old Police fleet and money from the Drug Fund. After lengthy discussion;
#1479 Motion to approve purchase of one (1) additional Police Cruiser (approximately \$56,794.00) using the insurance settlement funds described above (approximately \$35,000.00) plus revenue generated from the sale of the old Police fleet and money from the Drug Fund.
Motion by Bryan Hill, second by Carl Kincaid, carried 5-0.
- Fire Chief Eric Deal reported that the White Bluff Fire Department responded to 88 calls during the month of December 2024 and responded to Council questions. Chief Deal also reported a yearly call volume increase of 9%+ from 2023 to 2024.
- **Consider Fire Department Equipment (Ladder Truck and Tanker Truck).** Mayor Murrell and Chief Deal reviewed proposals for a new ladder truck and a new tanker truck from various suppliers. Suppliers and (Manufacturers) included:
 - Safe Industries (E-One and Fire Master)
 - NAFECO (Rosenbauer)
 - Siddons-Martin (Pierce)
 - Tristar Fire (Sutphen and Southeast Apparatus)

Delivery timeline was a consideration. Used equipment was discussed as well. Town Recorder Misty Rodgers reviewed financing options. Town Attorney Andrew Mills discussed procedures for purchase. After lengthy discussion;

#1480 Motion to approve Fire Master Tanker (\$455,500.00) from Safe Industries and to authorize the Mayor to enter into a contract and capital outlay note through the Tennessee Municipal Bond Fund (TMBF) (length of note and interest rate to be determined). All aspects of this agenda item are subject to legal review.

Motion by Bryan Hill, second by Connie Reed, carried 5-0.

#1481 Motion to approve E-One Ladder Truck (\$1,439,900.00) from Safe Industries and to authorize the Mayor to enter into a contract and capital outlay note through the Tennessee Municipal Bond Fund (TMBF) (length of note and interest rate to be determined). All aspects of this agenda item are subject to legal review.

Motion by Connie Reed, second by Carl Kincaid, with voting as follows: Reed and Kincaid voting yes, Puckett, Hill and Glover voting no, motion failed 3-2.

- Court Clerk Dixie Kerr reported via printed document that the White Bluff Municipal and General Sessions Court processed 77 cases during the month of December 2024.

STREETS AND SIDEWALKS:

- Consider Street Light at the end of Hatley St. Light pole #134672. After discussion; #1482 Motion to approve a Street Light at the end of Hatley St. Light pole #134672. Motion by Connie Reed, second by Bryan Hill, carried 5-0.

- Consider Hwy 47N Speed Limit. After lengthy discussion; #1483 Motion to approve on first reading an Ordinance to increase the speed limit on Hwy 47N from 30mph to 45mph from Spann Street northward to the Town Limits.

Motion by Scott Glover, second by Jacob Puckett, carried 4-1 with Reed voting no.

PARKS AND RECREATION:

- Consider Resolution acknowledging receipt and endorsing the White Bluff Parks and Recreation Master Plan. After discussion; #1484 Motion to amend Parks and Recreation Master Plan as presented by adding the following short-term goals for Veterans Memorial Park:

- Add/upgrade lighting at all ballfields
- Upgrade restrooms

Motion by Carl Kincaid, second by Jacob Puckett, carried 5-0.

#1485 Motion to acknowledge receipt and endorse the White Bluff Parks and Recreation Master Plan as amended above.

Motion by Connie Reed, second by Scott Glover, carried 5-0.

OLD BUSINESS:

NEW BUSINESS:

- Consider Town Hall Digital Sign Usage Policy. After discussion; #1486 Motion to approve Town Hall Digital Sign Usage Policy. Motion by Carl Kincaid, second by Bryan Hill, carried 5-0.
- Mayor Murrell reminded the Council that the annual Statement of Interest (Ethics Statement) is due by the end of January.

ADJOURNMENT:

1487 Motion to adjourn at 9:23 p.m.:

Motion by Connie Reed, second by Bryan Hill, carried 5-0.


Mayor


Recorder