

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS
BLUEFIELD, WEST VIRGINIA
July 10, 2012**

The Board of Directors of the City of Bluefield, West Virginia met in regular session July 10, 2012 at 12 p.m. in the Municipal Boardroom. Present were Mayor Linda K. Whalen; Directors Mary Frances Brammer, Tom Blevins, Deb Sarver and Pete Sternloff; City Attorney Brian Cochran and City Clerk Helen L. Mitchell.

INVOCATION/PLEDGE

The Invocation was given by Director Mary Frances Brammer, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Linda Whalen welcomed everyone to the meeting.

MINUTES

Minutes of the June 26, 2012 meeting were unanimously approved as presented on a motion by Director Pete Sternloff and seconded by Director Mary Frances Brammer.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Interim City Manager Brian Cochran discussed the site of the recently demolished Princeton Avenue Parking Garage. The Board agreed to begin placing dirt and seed at the site, and to ask the Bluefield Beautification Commission to help with the project.

Cochran said the grassy area is expected to be temporary, and hopefully the site will be purchased by a prospective business, or if Federal funds become available, it could become a part of the proposed Colonial Intermodal Center.

Interim Manager Cochran updated the Board on the demolition project of the Scott Street Parking Garage. Cochran reminded city residents and area business owners that an informational meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, 2:30 p.m. at City Hall to discuss the planned demolition of the Scott Street Parking Garage. Cochran advised that the purpose of the meeting is to inform the public of the demolition project and answer any questions citizens and business owners may have.

Cochran advised the Board that the ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act) construction project at Mitchell Stadium is on schedule and should be completed by August 16, 2012.

Cochran discussed with the Board that the Second Chance Learning Center is working with the City to accommodate and re-schedule the Second Chance Rocks the Two Virginias Concert that was recently held at Mitchell Stadium and had to be evacuated because of storms and high winds.

Cochran said that because of the ongoing construction project to make Mitchell Stadium compliant with the ADA, the concert will have to be re-scheduled after the project is completed.

ACTION ITEMS

Interim Manager Cochran asked the Board for authorization to allow him to enter into a contract with the band boosters at both Bluefield High School and Graham High School to offer concessions at Mitchell Stadium. Cochran said the contract would be the same as in past years and the city would receive twenty per cent of the proceeds as part of the agreement.

Director Pete Sternloff moved to enter into a contract with the band boosters at Bluefield High School and Graham High School for concessions at Mitchell Stadium, seconded by Director Tom Blevins. Unanimously approved and so ordered.

Manager Cochran asked for authorization from the Board to pay off USDA for Kee Dam water system upgrades in the amount of \$70,506.78.

Director Tom Blevins moved to authorize Finance Director Claude Crigger to pay off USDA for Kee Dam Water system upgrades in the amount of \$70,506.78, seconded by Director Pete Sternloff. Unanimously approved and so ordered.

REPORTS OF OFFICERS, BOARD AND STANDING COMMITTEES

Director Deb Sarver reminded citizens to remember to provide proper shelter and water for animals.

Director Brammer commended Public Works Director, Dallas Fowler and his department for the demolition project on Sussex Street, and road repairs on Monroe Street by the Public Works Department and the Sanitary Board.

Director Mary Frances Brammer urged citizens to check on their neighbors, particularly the elderly.

Director Pete Sternloff thanked all city employees for the wonderful job they did during the Second Chance Concert. Director Sternloff gave special thanks to the Public Works Department for their cleanup of the parking lot after the concert.

Director Sternloff commented that the Fourth of July celebration at Bowen Field was absolutely amazing, and reminded everyone to support the Bluefield Blue Jays.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Art Riley representing the Downtown Merchants thanked Director Brammer and her Energy Express team for bringing water to the past two Chicory Square concerts when the temperatures were in the nineties.

Mr. Riley reminded citizens of the upcoming Downtown Street Fair on August 3-4.

Jim Bailey speaking on behalf of the Bluefield Shrine Club invited the Board of Directors and City Officials to attend the horse show on Friday, August 20, to be recognized and acknowledged for their years of support.

Mr. Bailey reminded all citizens to attend the 44th Annual Bluefield Shrine Horse Show on July 19-21. Proceeds will benefit the Shriner's Children's Hospital.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND OTHER

- Gary Bowling's House of Art - "A Night to Remember" - July 14 - Silent and Live Auctions
- "Hatfield vs. McCoy Night" - Bluefield Blue Jays - Bowen Field - July 17
- Blue Grey Horse Show - Lotito City Park - July 19-21
- Downtown Street Fair - August 3-4
- Concerts Chicory Square - Noon on Fridays'

Mayor Whalen thanked Attorney Brian Cochran for his work as Interim City Manager.

Mayor Whalen wished Director Pete Sternloff a "Happy Birthday."

Hearing no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Helen L. Mitchell, City Clerk

Linda K. Whalen, Mayor