

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS
BLUEFIELD, WEST VIRGINIA
July 24, 2012**

The Board of Directors of the City of Bluefield, West Virginia met in regular session July 24, 2012 at 6 p.m. in the Municipal Boardroom. Present were Mayor Linda K. Whalen, Directors Tom Blevins, Deb Sarver, Pete Sternloff and City Clerk Helen L. Mitchell. Director Mary Frances Brammer and City Attorney Brian Cochran were not in attendance.

INVOCATION/PLEDGE

The Invocation was given by Gene Wyatt, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Linda Whalen welcomed everyone to the meeting. Mayor Whalen advised that Brian Cochran, Interim City Manager was away on a well-deserved vacation.

MINUTES

Minutes of the July 10, 2012 meeting were unanimously approved as presented on a motion by Director Tom Blevins and seconded by Director Pete Sternloff.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Shannon Atwell gave a presentation to the board regarding the placement of a permanent forty-four inch tall bronze sculpture in the City Park in memory of five-year-old Tate Kandas who lost his life to brain cancer. The sculpture will be a mother raccoon and a baby raccoon designed from the children's book, "The Kissing Hand" by author Audrey Penn. The sculpture will be done by Artist Michael Sizemore.

Mayor Whalen advised Ms. Atwell that the placement of this sculpture will be placed on the agenda for action at the next board meeting.

ACTION ITEMS

The first agenda item was a resolution by the City Board declaring August 2012 as Animal Awareness Month in the City of Bluefield, WV, and was read into the record by Director Deb Sarver.

A motion to approve the resolution was made by Director Pete Sternloff, seconded by Director Tom Blevins. Unanimously approved and so ordered.

The resolution was presented to Judy Silbaugh.

A Resolution by the City of Bluefield for the WV Children's Home Society's WE CAN PROGRAM to authorize Brian Cochran, Interim City Manager to act on its behalf to enter into a contractual agreement with the Division of Justice and Community Services to receive and administer grant funds pursuant to provisions of the Justice Assistance Grant Program was read into the record by Mayor Linda K. Whalen.

The board unanimously approved the resolution as read on a motion by Director Tom Blevins and seconded by Director Pete Sternloff.

The agenda then continued with appointments/re-appointments to various commissions.

Mayor Whalen advised that the appointment to the Bluefield Sanitary Board would be carried over to the next board meeting.

A motion to re-appoint Jim Russell, 108 Christie Manor, Bluefield, WV and Ted Curtis, 210 Henry Street, Bluefield, WV to 3-year terms on the Planning Commission was made by Director Blevins, seconded by Director Sternloff. Unanimously approved and so ordered. (Terms expiring July 24, 2015)

A motion to re-appoint David Kersey, 304 Oakdell Avenue, Bluefield, WV to the Municipal Buildings Commission for a 5-year term was made by Director Sternloff, seconded by Director Blevins. Unanimously approved and so ordered. (Term expiring-July 24, 2017)

The board unanimously approved the re-appointments of Virginia Peacock, 325 Oakhurst Avenue, Bluefield, WV, Terry Whittington, 618 Mountain View Avenue, Bluefield, WV and Linda Whalen, 821 Spring Garden Drive, Bluefield, WV to the Historic Landmarks Commission for 3-year terms on a motion by Director Sternloff, seconded by Director Blevins. (Terms expiring July 24, 2015)

The board unanimously voted on a motion by Director Tom Blevins, seconded by Director Pete Sternloff to amend the contract of the Economic Development Director to be a two-year, full-time position with a salary of \$55,000, all other terms of the contract remaining the same.

A resolution to authorize Mayor Linda K. Whalen to act on behalf of the City of Bluefield to enter into a contractual agreement with the Division of Justice and Community Services to receive and administer grant funds pursuant to provision of the Justice Assistance Grant Program was unanimously approved on a motion to by Director Tom Blevins, seconded by Director Sternloff.

The final agenda item was a Resolution to authorize Mayor Linda K. Whalen to act on behalf of the City of Bluefield to enter into a contractual agreement with the Division of Justice and Community Services (DJCS) to receive and administer grant funds pursuant to provisions of the Purdue Pharma Asset Forfeiture Funds.

A motion to approve the resolution as read was made by Director Pete Sternloff, seconded by Director Tom Blevins. Unanimously approved and so ordered.

REPORTS OF OFFICERS, BOARD AND STANDING COMMITTEES

Director Blevins commented that someone had dropped seven Maltese puppies in the city. Director Blevins said we should go on record as finding the person who dropped them and pursue animal cruelty charges.

Director Deb Sarver commented that the Bluefield City Board did not have any intentions of annexing any communities surrounding Bluefield, but would welcome anyone who wished to be annexed into the city.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Art Riley representing the Downtown Merchants Association asked about the enforcement of two hour parking downtown, as vehicles will park all day on Bland and Federal Streets.

Mr. Riley asked if Manor residents could receive stickers allowing them to park closer to their homes during the demolition of the Scott Street Parking Garage.

Mayor Whalen advised that Interim City Manager Cochran would be working with Police Chief Wilson regarding the parking issues downtown and parking for Manor residents.

Mr. Riley reminded everyone to attend the 14th Annual Downtown Street Fair scheduled for August 3-4.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND OTHER

- Downtown Street Fair - August 3-4 beginning at noon Friday
- Concerts Chicory Square - Noon on Fridays'
- "Lemonade Days" - August 4

Hearing no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Helen L. Mitchell, City Clerk

Linda K. Whalen, Mayor