

**Board of Directors
Bluefield, West Virginia
December 3, 2013
12 p.m.**

The Board of Directors of the City of Bluefield, West Virginia met in regular session December 3, 2013 at 12 p.m. in the Municipal Boardroom. Present were Mayor Thomas Cole, Vice-Mayor Barbara Thompson-Smith, Directors Chuck McGonagle, Ellen Light and Michael Gibson, City Manager Jim Ferguson, City Attorney Brian Cochran, Chief Financial Officer Ken Mulkey and City Clerk Bobbi Kersey.

Mayor Thomas Cole welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Invocation and Pledge

The invocation was given by Vice-Mayor Barbara Thompson-Smith, who then led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes

The minutes from the November 26, 2013 meeting were unanimously approved with a motion made by Vice-Mayor Barbara Thompson-Smith and seconded by Director Ellen Light.

Discussion Items

City Manager Jim Ferguson said he had attended the lighting ceremony conducted on December 2 for the Bluefield Christmas Tree, located at the Rotary Club Park. Manager Ferguson said it was a very festive event and he was pleased with the attendance. City Manager Ferguson thanked everyone who made the event a success.

City Manager Ferguson said he attended the Holiday of Lights at the City Park and thought the displays were spectacular. Manager Ferguson thanked the citizens who volunteer their time and the Recreation Department for all of their hard work. Manager Ferguson expressed how lucky the City of Bluefield is to have such a beautiful display of light for all to enjoy. The Holiday of Lights will run until New Year's Eve and there is no charge for admission, but donations will be accepted.

Action Items

- Director Chuck McGonagle made a motion to approve the Second Reading of *an ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE SUBDIVIDING AND BOUNDARY ADJUSTMENT OF PARCELS OF REAL ESTATE IN THE CITY OF BLUEFIELD*, seconded by Director Ellen Light. Unanimously approved and so ordered.

AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE SUBDIVIDING AND BOUNDARY ADJUSTMENT OF PARCELS OF REAL ESTATE IN THE CITY OF BLUEFIELD, AS SHOWN ON THE EXHIBIT HERETO ATTACHED AND DECLARED TO BE A PART OF THIS ORDINANCE AS IF THE SAME WAS FULLY SET FORTH HEREIN.

WHEREAS, Karen C. Brown petitioned the Bluefield Planning Commission for the subdivision of Parcel 323, Tax Map 33, Lot 24, Section 957 Grandview, and Tax Map

33, Parcel 322, Lots 4 and 25, Section 957 Grandview for the purpose of adjusting the boundary lines and providing two parcels of land currently zoned R-1; and

WHEREAS, this property is Bounded on the North by Tax Map 33, Parcel 324, Pt Lot 23, Section 957, Grandview owned by Joseph I. Rodgin, and Tax Map 33, Parcel 327, Lot 1-2 Pt 21-22-23, Section 957 owned by Robert D. and Nancy May Jr, Bounded on the East by Bland Road, Bounded on the South by Tax May 33, Parcel 321, Lot 5-26, Section 957, Bland Road owned by William G. Hageman, Bounded on the West by Grandview Avenue.

WHEREAS, on Wednesday, November 13, 2013, the Planning Commission of the City of Bluefield, sitting as the Zoning Commission of said City, held public hearing upon and thereafter made its recommendation to the Board of Directors of said City that this property be adjusted and divided into Two Parcels.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE CITY OF BLUEFIELD, MERCER COUNTY West Virginia, IN REGULAR SESSION ASSEMBLED AS FOLLOWS:

Parcel 323, Tax Map 33, Lot 24, Section 957 Grandview, and Tax Map 33, Parcel 322, Lots 4 and 25, Section 957 are hereby adjusted as reflected on the attached survey which is declared to be a part of this Ordinance as if the same was fully set forth herein.

FIRST READING: November 26, 2013

SECOND READING AND ADOPTION: December 3, 2013

FILED: December 4, 2013

RECORDED: December 4, 2013

Thomas J. Cole, Mayor

Bobbi Kersey, City Clerk

- Police Chief Dillow requested the purchase of a Ford Explorer (\$25,000/state bid) for wintertime use and a Ford Taurus (\$24,000/state bid) to be used for patrol. Funding for the vehicles will be acquired through the coal severance tax, which is not a part of the city's general budget. Vice-Mayor Barbara Thompson-Smith made a motion to purchase the two vehicles, seconded by Director Ellen Light. Unanimously approved and so ordered.
- Director Chuck McGonagle made a motion that the board meet on December 10 at 9:00 a.m. for an executive session only to return for adjournment. This motion was seconded by Director Ellen Light. The motion was unanimously approved.

Reports of Officers, Boards and Standing Committees

Director Chuck McGonagle commended the volunteers and Recreation Department for the Holiday of Lights. Director McGonagle said the citizens of Bluefield should be proud of this yearly event.

Director Ellen Light attended the Bluefield Tree Lighting Ceremony and encouraged all citizens to get involved in the many activities taking place in the City of Bluefield. Director Light reminded everyone of the upcoming Blue Holly Days and the Summit Theatre production of the *Nun-crackers*. Director Light thanked the City Crew for their

extra work picking up garbage after Thanksgiving and the snow removal. Director Light said they "went above and beyond the call of duty" and she admired their efforts.

Vice-Mayor Barbara Thompson-Smith encouraged everyone to visit the Holiday and Winter Farmer's Market held each Tuesday through December 17 from 10:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. at the Herb Sims Recreation Center on Stadium Drive. Baked and canned good, produce and various crafts including Christmas crafts are being offered. Vice-mayor Smith wished everyone a Merry Christmas.

Director Michael Gibson wished everyone a Very Merry Christmas.

Mayor Thomas Cole requested that citizens take advantage of events and patronize businesses in the City. Mayor Cole stated citizens need to support and appreciate what we have and not take things for granted. The City is lucky to have volunteers who are dedicated and willing to work to make events like the Christmas Parade continue. Mayor Cole wished everyone a safe and wonderful Christmas Holiday Season.

City Attorney Brian Cochran congratulated the Bluefield High School Football Team for a great season. Attorney Cochran wished the Bluefield High School Basketball Team "good luck" going into the playoffs. Attorney Cochran said both teams are a positive reflection on the athletic programs and youth in our city.

Public Comment

Art Riley, representing the Downtown Merchants Association, made the following points:

- The Bluefield Christmas tree in Rotary Square was a great celebration. Mr. Riley commended the Beautification Commission, Rotary Club, all the volunteers, David Hardin and Terry Whittington for all of their hard work.
- The Christmas Parade and Blue Holly Day will be December 14. The parade will begin at 1 p.m. and entries will be taken all the way up until the start of the parade that day. Floats will be charged \$25, but all other entries are free. Entry forms can be found at City Hall and on the city's website. The Blue Holly Day activities will open at 11:00 a.m. with an ice skating rink, Santa Clause in the Granada Theater, and more.
- Thanked the Board of Directors for "a job well done" and support to the Downtown Merchants Association.
- Wished everyone a Merry Christmas

Announcements and Other

East River Mountain Town Band will have its 17th Annual Christmas Concert on Thursday, December 5, 2013 at 7:30 p.m. in the Bluefield High School Performing Arts Auditorium. Also, on Sunday, December 8, 2013 at 3:00 p.m. the band will perform at the McKeever Lodge at Pipestem Resort State Park. Admission is free for the concert. For more information, citizens are asked to call 304.952.1792.

December 14 activities held downtown including the Christmas Parade and Blue Holly Day events. That night Santa and his elves will be at the Ridge Runner Train Station at the Holiday of Lights in City Park for children.

Mobile Live Trainer for fire fighting will be held at the Princeton Fire Department with members of all local fire departments invited. Members of the Board are invited to see simulations of various fire fighting scenarios. This will be held on December 6, 2013 at 3:00 p.m.

The Animal Control Officer received a new truck on November 26, 2013. This comes with much enthusiasm. Mayor Cole stated that a new vehicle comes with a new image for the Animal Control Department as well.

Eva McGuire from Craft Memorial Library shared that on December 7 the library will host a Holiday Open House with food items and a performance by Westminster's hand bell choir. This event is open to the public. On December 14, the library will offer family friendly crafts and activities throughout the day.

Mayor Cole reminded everyone that there will not be a Board of Directors meeting December 10 or 24. An Executive Session will be held on December 10 at 9 a.m. to discuss personnel items.

Director Chuck McGonagle made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Director Ellen Light. Unanimously approved and so ordered.

Bobbi Kersey, City Clerk

Thomas J. Cole, Mayor