

**Board of Directors  
Bluefield, West Virginia  
July 22, 2014  
6:00 p.m.**

The Board of Directors of the City of Bluefield, West Virginia met in a regularly scheduled meeting July 22, 2014 at 6:00 p.m. in the Municipal Building Boardroom. Present were Mayor Thomas Cole, Vice Mayor Barbara Thompson Smith, Directors Ellen Light and Michael Gibson, Interim City Manager Dennis Dillow, Assistant City Manager Josh Cline, Attorney Brian Cochran and City Clerk Bobbi Kersey. Director Chuck McGonagle was absent.

Mayor Thomas Cole welcomed everyone to the meeting.

**Invocation and Pledge**

Reverend W.D. Hasty from the First Presbyterian Church gave the invocation. Vice Mayor Barbara Thompson Smith led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Minutes**

The minutes from the July 8, 2014 meeting were unanimously approved and so ordered.

**Discussion Items**

Interim City Manager Dennis Dillow gave the following reports:

- Downtown Merchants Street Fair 2014 will be Friday, August 1 from 10:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. and Saturday August 2 from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. A street dance will be held Friday night from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. There will be food, crafts and novelty vendors all around Chicory Square Friday and Saturday. Many events are planned including Little Miss Downtown Bluefield Pageant, the Wade Center Auction, Downhill Derby, and more. The Fair is open to the public.
- Military Family Appreciation Night at Bowen Field with the Bluefield Blue Jays – July 25. The game is free for all active, retired or veteran military family members. Gates open at 6:00 p.m. and the game begins at 7:05 p.m. For more information call [infor@milfamily.org](mailto:infor@milfamily.org).
- Kids Night at Bowen Field with the Bluefield Blue Jays – July 26. Games, prizes, grab bags and lots of family fun. For more information call the Bluefield Baseball Club.
- The 90<sup>th</sup> Wedding between the Two Virginias' was a success.

**Public Comments**

Reverend W.D Hasty, president of the Alliance of the Arts, gave an update and requested that the community and board continue to support the Arts. Reverend Hasty discussed several of the community activities and events sponsored by the Alliance of the Arts. Reverend Hasty intends to have regular reports for the Board of Directors.

The following citizens voiced concerns on the present animal/pit bull code ordinance: John Anderson, Keesha Farmer, Brandon Smith, Bill Elrod, Emily Crawford and Blaine Braithwaite.

Comments and concerns included breed specific legislation, code enforcement within the city, spading and neutering, responsible owners, and Humane Society shelter regulations.

Bill Elrod stated he was new to the City of Bluefield and requested how he could learn more information regarding city ordinances, policies and activities. Mayor Cole requested Mr. Elrod call for Lunch with the Mayor and suggested Mr. Elrod check the city website for local information.

Blaine Braithwaite suggested that city elections be staggered so the Board of Directors would not begin "new" every four years. Mr. Braithwaite also recommended holding elections to coincide with county elections and use the electronic machines.

Art Riley, representing the Downtown Merchants Association, gave the following reports/questions:

1. The Merchants Association 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Street Fair will be August 1 – August 2. This year the event will be bigger and better than ever with new activities. The June Shott Foundation has contributed with a grant for bouncy houses.
2. A request concerning how many business licenses were obtained last year, this year and how many were renewal. This information can be obtained from the treasury department.
3. Questioned what happens to the lot when a building is demolished. Mayor Cole stated the city is responsible to seed and upkeep of the lot. The city is in the process of locating a company that will hydro seed the lots.

### **Action Items**

Mayor Tom Cole reviewed an **ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF BLUEFIELD TO EXECUTE A DEED GRANTING ABBS VALLEY PIPELINE INC. A PARCEL OF REAL ESTATE, CONTAINING 3.52 ACRES, MORE OR LESS, SITUATED IN BEAVER POND DISTRICT, MERCER COUNTY, WEST VIRGINIA FOR A PRICE OF \$100,000.00.**

**WHEREAS**, the City of Bluefield purchased 3.52 acres, more or less, situated in Beaver Pond District, Mercer County, from the Bluefield Area Transit Authority, by deed dated October 14, 2009, and recorded in the office of the Clerk of the County Commission of Mercer County, West Virginia, in Deed Book No. 942, at Page; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Bluefield declared this property as surplus, having a value of more than \$1,000.00; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Bluefield, pursuant to West Virginia Code § 8-12-18(b), conducted a public auction on June 25, 2014, after proper notice of this auction was advertised as required by law; and

**WHEREAS**, Abbs Valley Pipeline, Inc. submitted the high bid of \$100,000.00 during this auction; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Bluefield agrees that the purchase price of \$100,000.00 represents the fair, adequate, and just compensation for the said property; and

**WHEREAS**, the duly elected governing authority of the City of Bluefield is the Board of Directors thereof

**NOW, THEREFORE, WITNESS THE FOLLOWING ORDINANCE**

Pursuant to West Virginia Code §§ 8-11-3(6) and 8-12-18(b), the City of Bluefield hereby Ordains that the City is authorized to execute a Deed to convey the real property described in the deed attached hereto to Abbs Valley Pipeline, Inc., for the purchase price of \$100,000.00.

Director Michael Gibson made a motion to approve the second reading of an **ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF BLUEFIELD TO EXECUTE A DEED GRANTING ABBS VALLEY PIPELINE INC. A PARCEL OF REAL ESTATE, CONTAINING 3.52 ACRES, MORE OR LESS, SITUATED IN BEAVER POND DISTRICT, MERCER COUNTY, WEST VIRGINIA FOR A PRICE OF \$100,000.00**, seconded by Director Ellen Light. Unanimously approved and so ordered.

First Reading: July 8, 2014

Second Reading and Passage: July 22, 2014

\_\_\_\_\_  
Thomas J. Cole, Mayor

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
Bobbi Kersey, Clerk

Mayor Thomas Cole read a **RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING THE 100<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF THE BLUEFIELD STATE COLLEGE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION.**

**WHEREAS**, the Bluefield State College Alumni Association, Inc. was established one hundred years ago in 1914 to stimulate and encourage an abiding and firm loyalty of all graduates and former students of Bluefield State College, and

**WHEREAS**, the Alumni Association promotes the welfare of Bluefield State College and supports the College toward the realization of its educational goals, and

**WHEREAS**, the BSC Alumni Association promotes efforts to preserve the characteristics and history of Bluefield State College as an Historically Black College, and

**WHEREAS**, the Bluefield State College Alumni Association provides very valuable insight, encouragement, and support that vitally assist the College in fulfilling its mission of "Making Education Possible," and

**WHEREAS**, the Alumni Association's members are leaders in education, business and industry, community involvement, and service, and

**WHEREAS**, Bluefield State College Alumni Association members have returned to the City of Bluefield for their biennial national reunion at the "campus on the terraced hills" to commemorate the centennial year of the Alumni Association's establishment,

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the City of Bluefield joins Bluefield State College and the residents of the region, state and nation in welcoming the Bluefield State College Alumni Association as you return to your alma mater and the City on this historic occasion.

Director Ellen Light made a motion to approve the **RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING THE 100<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF THE BLUEFIELD STATE COLLEGE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION**, seconded by Vice Mayor Barbara Thompson Smith. Unanimously approved and so ordered.

*Dr. Marsha V. Krotseng*, president of Bluefield State College, invited the public to attend activities associated with the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary on Saturday at the Student Center.

**Given under our hands this the 22<sup>nd</sup> day of July 2014.**

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Thomas J. Cole, Mayor

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Ellen Peters Light, Director

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Barbara Thompson Smith, Vice Mayor

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Charles "Chuck" McGonagle, Director

\_\_\_\_\_  
Michael Gibson, Director

Attest:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Bobbi Kersey, City Clerk

**Adjournment**

Director Michael Gibson made a motion to adjourn. Unanimously approved and so ordered.

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Bobbi Kersey, City Clerk

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Thomas J. Cole, Mayor