

**Town of Whiteville**  
**Board of Mayor and Aldermen**  
**August 6, 2012**

The August meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m.

Answering roll call were Chandra Johnson, Charles Phillips, Jimmie Lee Robertson, Emily Rosson, Tommy Turner and Sidney Woods.

The minutes of the July 2 and July 16 meeting were read and approved on motion by Sidney Woods, seconded by Charles Phillips. Motion carried.

The Town's attorney, Drew Farmer was present to explain the settlement of the FFRF lawsuit. The two parties have reached an agreement which states that (1) there will be no stand alone crosses on city hall property. (2) the Town will not replace the arm of the cross on the tank; (3) Mayor Bellar will not place a cross on his private sidewalk in front of his business and (4) the Town will pay attorney fees in the amount of \$5,000.00. TML will pay any additional fees. In this settlement, the people filing the initial complaint will not be named. Mayor Bellar asked if the Board would like to accept the settlement as presented. A motion to accept was made by Jimmie Lee Robertson and seconded by Sidney Woods. Motion carried with two voting No.

In grievances of citizens:

Several citizens were present to protest the increase in water bills, but first to speak to the Board was Charles Morrow, our County Commissioner who brought the Board up to date on the proposed county budget for 2012/2013. They propose a .20 cent tax increase to cover proposed needs. Voting on the county budget will be August 16, 2012.

Before citizens spoke regarding the water bill increase, Mayor Bellar explained that rates had to be increased to cover a deficit that has been growing over the last two years. A representative of the State of Tennessee had come here to tell us that we must raise rates to be in compliance. He explained how Whiteville is unique in its sewer system as we do not have a river or creek to discharge in. Several citizens spoke against the increase. After the citizens, the Board members had a long discussion. They determined that they were not given enough notice on the rate increase and that the increase was too much. A motion to deny the increase and revert to the old rates effective September 1, 2012, to allow the state to take over the system and state to determine the necessary rate increase was made by Chandra Johnson and seconded by Tommy Turner. There was a roll call vote with all voting yes. Motion carried.

A contract with Nelson Thornton for local planning was presented for approval to pay. A motion to allow the Mayor to sign the contract was made by Emily Rosson and seconded by Charles Phillips. Motion carried.

Results of the Water System Sanitary Survey have been received. We scored a 97. Mayor Bellar thanked Louis for keeping the system in compliance.

Aldermen's Reports:

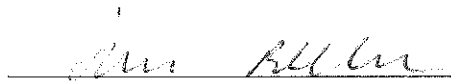
Sidney Woods presented the police report.

Tommy Turner reported that some broken parts on the playground equipment had been replaced.

Emily Rosson asked if Chris Pulliam had passed his test for his license. Mayor Bellar reported that he had not and that Glenda Bellar had retired on August 1 and was going to be working part-time for a while.

Water adjustments totaling \$166.02 were requested. Motion was made by Jimmie Lee Robertson and seconded by Tommy Turner to approve the adjustments. Motion carried.

Having no other business to come before the Board, motion to adjourn was made by Charles Phillips and seconded by Tommy Turner. Motion carried.



James Bellar, Mayor



Patricia Randolph, Recorder