

Bolivar City Council Meeting
Tuesday, July 11, 2017
5:30 PM

The Bolivar City Council met in regular session Tuesday, July 11, 2017, at the Bolivar Municipal Center with the following in attendance:

Present:

Mayor Julian McTizic
Tracy Byrum
Melvin Golden
Jonathan Joy
Todd Lowe
Larry McKinnie
Suzanne Rhea
Page Walley

Absent:

Quintissia Hamer

Others Present: Shelia Dellinger, Atty. Steve Maroney, Tommie Woods, Curtis Stack, Sarah Rice, Danny Cheshier, A.W. Pirtle, Ashley Spence, Steve Trainum, Michael Shearin, Amelia Carson, Jessica Simmons, Bailee Hutchinson, Sabrina McTizic, Wendell Sain, Faye McTizic, Terry Walley, Don Cherry, Shelton Merrell, Cliff Henson, Eddie Vandiver, Lynn Price, Pat Baker

Mayor McTizic called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone present. He stated that each month, the meeting will be opened with prayer by a Chaplain in our community. At this time, Mayor McTizic asked Pastor Wendell Sain to open the meeting with prayer. Prayer was followed by Mayor McTizic leading in the Pledge of Allegiance.

There were three sets of minutes requiring review and approval. After review, motions were made as follows:

- Council Meeting June 13, 2017 – A motion to approve the minutes as written was made by Councilman Rhea, seconded by Councilman Lowe. All voted "Aye"
- Special Called Meeting June 29, 2017 – Councilman Rhea made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Councilman Golden. All voted "Aye".
- Special Called Meeting July 1, 2017 (Oaths of Office) – A motion to approve the minutes as written was made by Councilman Lowe, seconded by Councilman Walley. All voted "Aye".

Mayor's Report

Mayor McTizic reported that the City Council meetings will now be streaming live on our Facebook page if anyone would like to watch the meetings but unable to attend. The meetings will also still be available on Channel 2.

Chief Lynn Price was recommended by Fire Service Management Consultant, Dennis Wolf and nominated by MTAS Executive Director Jim Thomas to serve on the MTAS Fire Advisory Board. This is a state board and their job is to recommend policy or procedural changes and review operating guidelines for the fire service. This board term is for three years. Mayor McTizic stated he was very proud of Chief Price for the service and dedication he gives to the Fire Department.

Ronnie Neill with MTAS has agreed to hold a retreat for council representatives to discuss the rules and regulations of the City Charter/Code book. He could do this any time and suggested three dates/times that were good for him. It was decided to have a class in the afternoon. The date agreed upon was July 31, 2017, at 6:00 PM.

There will be a job fair at the Bolivar-Hardeman County Library on Thursday, July 13th from 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM.

Mrs. Ruby Harvey will be hosting Men/Mothers Against Gun Violence Unity Movement (MAGNUM) on Saturday, July 29th at 5:00 PM on the Bolivar Courthouse Square. There will be live music, motivational messages and food. The Mayor urged everyone to attend this event if they could.

In closing, Mayor McTizic gave congratulations to Mrs. Shelia Dellinger. Shelia has been with the City of Bolivar for 40 years. Also, Happy Birthday to Council Representative Tracy Byrum, Happy 25th Anniversary to Councilman Todd Lowe and the Mayor will himself celebrate his 9 year Anniversary this week.

Standing Committee Reports

Electric – Councilman Todd Lowe

- The Energy Authority is purchasing fiber and fiber installation equipment to run fiber to the sub stations. The cost is approximately \$600,000. The fiber allows better control and video monitoring. The board approved the contract with the possible leasing of dark fiber.
- Bolivar Energy has completed 36 months without any time loss from any injuries

Utilities – Cliff Henson, Director

The Bolivar Utility Board met on Wednesday, July 5th and discussed the following:

- The 2017-2018 budget allowed for security renovation in the billing office. Several contractors were contacted regarding this project but only one, Mr. Tommy Vandiver, was interested in giving an estimate. His carpentry work will be \$6,500. The bullet proof glass and other supplies will be purchased from Red Hawk which is the company who installed the camera system. The total cost of the job will be \$31,900 which is below the budgeted amount. (Mr. Henson asked at this time for Council approval to accept Mr. Tommy Vandiver's estimate)

A motion was made by Councilman Lowe and seconded by Councilwoman Byrum for Mr. Tommy Vandiver to do the contracted work. All voted "Aye".

- The Utility Department has been working on installing a GSI mapping program for several years. State and Federal regulations require all utility departments to have updated maps of all gas, water, and sewer infrastructure. The amount for this program has been budgeted and approved by the Utility Board, contingent on council approval. Costs for two units are \$4,500 and GEO-JOBE will install all equipment and train personnel for approximately \$12,000 - \$13,000. A motion was made by Councilwoman Byrum, seconded by Councilman Lowe to approve the GSI mapping program. All voted "Aye".

- Our Safety Inspector, Ms. Kema Kelso, will complete her 11 month contract on 7/31/17. She has done an excellent job and has been training one of the BUD employees, Jared White, to take this job over August 1st. Mr. White has been to several classes and received certification for this position. He will be working with the Street/Sanitation Depts., Recreation and all utility workers to make sure we are in compliance with FEMA and TEMA safety regulations.
- Mr. John Grubbs with GPM Equipment Sales called regarding the gas department's odorant equipment. We have two odorizers that are due for up-grade. Each cost approximately \$4,290. The Utility Board agreed to upgrade one of them this year and the other next year. This is a very important piece of equipment. This upgrade is contingent on council approval. A motion was made by Councilman McKinnie and seconded by Councilman Walley for the upgrade of this equipment. All voted "Aye".
- The new trucks that were approved on State Contract have been picked up and the department appreciates these purchases.
- The Bolivar Utility Department is hosting the 811 Pipeline annual meeting tonight in the community room and we are cooking fish for everyone. Mr. Henson invited all council members to attend after the council meeting is adjourned.

Fire Department – Chief Lynn Price

Assistant Chief Ronnie Faulk retired from the Bolivar Fire Department on June 2, 2017. Asst. Chief Faulk joined the Fire Department on May 17, 1977. He served 40 years with the department. We wish to publicly acknowledge him for his years of service to the citizens of Bolivar and Hardeman County but mostly for his dedication and selfless service to the Bolivar Fire Department. Also, on June 2, 2017, Training Officer Tommy Breeden was placed on full-time national guard status with an impending overseas deployment later this year. He is not expected to return to the Fire Dept. until the end of 2018. These positions are currently in the process of being filled.

The mid-year Fire Wise program was held on June 15-16, 2017. With assistance from Mr. David Fiorella, our Fire Wise Hazmat Specialist, we conducted door-to-door home assessments and handed out Fire Wise information to residents of our six high-priority neighborhoods.

The required annual pump tests on all five of the department's apparatus were conducted on June 30th with no deficiencies noted.

The department participated in 250 hrs. of training, installed 15 smoke alarms, and conducted 7 preplanning courtesy inspections. Fire Drills at the local schools will resume when the new school year begins.

Calls for the month were (9) false alarms, (1) mutual aid, (6) other, (1) MVA, (1) vehicle fire. These calls consisted of (10) in the county and (8) in the city.

Police Department – Chief Pat Baker

Service Report for the month of June includes 946 calls for service, 294 citations, 25 accidents (2 injuries and 23 property damage), 47 arrests (3 juveniles and 44 adults)

Chief Baker welcomed the new members to the council. He then stated the police department has 6 new cars on order, at no expense to the City. Also, our crime solving rate is at 60% increase annually with a national average rate of 33%.

Councilman Larry McKinnie commented that it was always good when Department heads can purchase items without additional expense to the tax payers.

Parks and Recreation – Curtis Stack, Director

Mr. Stack welcomed the newly elected officials and thanked them for the job that they do.

Recreation activities for the month include:

- Summer Youth Camp continues through August 3rd. The camp is for ages 9 – 17 years of age from 5 to 9 PM
- The pool continues to be open Tuesday – Saturday from 11 AM to 5 PM.
- The gym is open weekdays from 7 AM – 3 PM for walkers, averaging about 25 per day. Senior pickle ball is played Mondays and Fridays from 9 – 11 AM. Free play in the gym is open on weekdays from 3 – 5 PM with an average of 30 participants daily.

Park Activities:

- 12 Pavilion reservations for July
- We worked with the Lions Club to host the Dizzy Dean State Tournament for 9 – 10 year olds
- Work continues at Pleasant Creek Park restrooms and disc golf course

Councilmembers stated they have noticed lots of people at the new park and commended the Recreation Dept. for the good job they have done. Also, Councilman Walley inquired about the long range plan for park expansion. This was discussed during budget planning sessions. It is hoped that in the future, we will be able to install park areas through the City that would be utilized for our citizens.

Street and Sanitation – Eddie Vandiver, Superintendent

The Street/Sanitation Department reports the following:

- Bush hog right of ways, cut grass around lagoons for Utility Department, cleaned out culvert and cut bushes at Joe's Circle, Performed shoulder work on Railroad Street and Nuckolls Rd., Painted parking lines and stop bars around town, Picked up litter, Dug out and graveled driveway on Neely St., Ditch work on Rogers Ave., Cut and weed eated grass inside impound lot, Picked up utility poles for Police Dept. in Jackson, Worked on restrooms at Pleasant Creek Park.
- Clifft Street dumping – Councilman Rhea stated this area gets cleaned up then items such as mattresses, etc. get thrown into the ditch. Mayor McTizic stated a fence and camera system are being considered for this in order to catch people dumping so they can be prosecuted. Councilman McKinnie suggested that we revisit the number of times we pick up bulky items. At the present time it is twice a year and he suggests maybe doing so quarterly would help alleviate some of this problem.

Planning Commission - Councilman Melvin Golden

(No Meeting for June)

Library – Bailee Hutchinson – Director

For the month of June, the library reports the following:

- There was a total of 35 programs with 1,126 participants
- Monthly highlights include Movie on the Square – Second Thursday of every month at 8 PM and Summer Reading Program
- Year-end report from July to June revealed 26,350 books were checked out and there was 4,956 participants
- Summer Food Program continuing Mon-Fri, 11am – 12 pm. Free lunches from ages birth – 18.
- The library will be hosting a 5K Color Run/Walk at 9am, Saturday, August 5th.

Senior Citizens – Peggy Adelman (read by Mayor McTizic)

Report for the month of June is as follows:

- Average daily attendance Mon- Wed-Fri (18), Tues – Thurs (14)
- Monthly meal (breakfast) at Rockabilly's Café in Selmer with 13 attending
- Monthly birthday celebration was June 29th
- Ice Cream Sundae party on June 14th.
- Trip to Shiloh Military Park for sightseeing and picnic on June 19th (13 attended)
- Movie Day/Popcorn was June 23rd with 7 attending

Historic Zoning Commission – No meeting

Compliance/Zoning – Ricky Watkins, Code Enforcement Officer/Building Inspector

For June, the following was reported:

- Building consultations – 6
- Building permits written – 0
- Building inspections – 3
- Plumbing inspections – 1
- Courtesy notices issued – 40 (20 verbal, 20 written)

Mr. Watkins attended two classes. One by the Tenn. Fire and Codes Academy and the other from the National Fire Protection Association. Councilman McKinnie asked of the requirements of these classes and Mr. Watkins stated they were required by the ICC (International Code Council).

Councilman Rhea asked what courtesy notices included or pertained to. Mr. Watkins stated they were mostly for debris at the street, tall grass, and automobiles. She also stated having a status report on these would be helpful in resolving some of these matters. Mr. Watkins also went over the abandoned automobile process and hopefully these can be cleared up as well through more towing.

DevCo – No meeting

OLD BUSINESS – None

NEW BUSINESS

A. Proclamation presented to Youth Evangelists Program (YEP)

Mayor McTizic stated he was always glad to recognize those who had done good deeds for the betterment of our community and this proclamation was to honor several church youth groups who have come together and worked for this purpose. After reading the proclamation declaring the last week in June in the City of Bolivar, Hardeman County as YEP week, he presented it the group and thanked them for their program and support of their community.

B. Discussion on Fireworks

Mayor McTizic stated that every year, we have complaints against the misuse of fireworks. Instead of having Community Development Session to hear these complaints, he asked that a motion be made to open the meeting for a public hearing. A motion was made by Councilwoman Rhea and seconded by Councilman Golden to leave Executive Session and move to public hearing. All voted "Aye".

There were several citizens speaking on the issue of fireworks. Each person was given three minutes to voice their opinion. Citizens with questions were Tommy Woods, Amelia Carlson, Edna Ford and Donnell Polk. The fireworks are loud, young people are shooting them at one another, and they are being shot after the designated time in place of 7 AM – 10 PM.

Mr. A. W. Pirtle and Ashley Spence were present on behalf of Boom City Fireworks. They stated they have sold fireworks in the county for 35 years and have no control over the users. They hand out brochures and tell customers how important it is to be safe. They only sell fireworks two weeks out of the year. Fireworks are a national institute and should not be banned.

After further discussion, a motion was made by Councilman Rhea, seconded by Councilman McKinnie to reconvene back into Executive Session. All voted "Aye".

Councilman Walley wished to thank everyone for coming to the meeting to voice their complaints and opinions. Mayor McTizic then read the ordinance in effect now. At the suggestion of Councilman McKinnie, a committee should be appointed to look into the fireworks issue and review the ordinance in place which lacks certain parameters. Mayor McTizic appointed council members Councilman McKinnie, Councilman Walley, Councilwoman Rhea, and Councilman Joy. Councilman McKinnie will serve as Chairman. For approval of this committee, a motion was made by Councilwoman Byrum and seconded by Councilman Walley. All voted "Aye".

C. Discuss Ordinance 00-008, Mandatory Retirement for Public Safety

This ordinance was passed in 2000, requiring all public safety personnel with the exception of the Police Chief and Fire Chief to retire at the age of 62. The City has been notified by TCRS, the State's Retirement Program, that if this ordinance remains in place, we will have to pay retirement on any employee that has retired until they reach the age of 65. That amount just for this year is \$43,396. There were several

questions by the board in regards to age and physical abilities of officers/firemen. There are no employees that this would affect at this time.

Mayor McTizic stated he would check further into this matter with TCRS and report back to the council.

- D. 1st Reading of Ordinance 17-004, "An Ordinance to Amend Title 1 Chapter 1 Section 1-102 of the Bolivar Municipal Code to Change the Meeting Time to 6:00 PM on the Second Monday of Each Month"

Councilman Walley and Councilman McKinnie have asked for an adjustment to the meeting date and time due to the fact that they work out of town and could possibly not be available for meetings. This was briefly discussed and all agreed that if the time was changed, let it be known and hopefully all will be able to attend. This ordinance will be read twice with the second reading being a public hearing. Therefore, a motion was made by Councilman Larry McKinnie and seconded by Councilman Todd Lowe to approve on 1st Reading Ordinance 17-004. All voted "Aye".

- E. Resolution 17-004, "A Resolution to Authorize the City of Bolivar, TN, to Participate in the Pool's "Safety Partners" Loss Control Matching Safety Grant Program"

This grant is utilized by the Fire Department and is applied for every year. It requires the permission of the council for application purposes. Therefore, a motion was made by Councilman Byrum, seconded by Councilman Rhea to approve authorization of participating in the Matching Safety Grant Program. All voted "Aye".

- F. Resolution 17-005, "A Resolution to Support the Adjustment of the Toone Urban Growth Boundary for the Town of Toone, TN"

Mr. Shelton Merrell with the Local Planning Office stated the Town of Toone is requesting their Urban Growth Boundary be expanded due to commercial endeavors. Basically, whenever urban growth areas are changed in the county, it has to come before a Coordinating Committee which is made up of the county's local Mayors. Upon approval of these changes by each town, the new boundaries will be submitted to the state. The Town of Toone will benefit from increasing their growth area as it will now incorporate their new Dollar General.

With no further discussion, a motion was made by Councilman Walley and seconded by Councilman Lowe to support the adjustment of the Toone Urban Growth Boundary for the Town of Toone, TN. All voted "Aye".

With no other business to discuss, a motion for adjournment was made by Councilman Larry McKinnie, seconded by Councilwoman Suzanne Rhea.

Meeting was adjourned.

Attest: Shelia Dellinger

Mayor Julian McTizic

