

Bolivar City Council Meeting  
Monday, January 13, 2025  
6:00 P.M.

The Bolivar City Council met in regular session, Monday, January 13, 2025, at the Bolivar Municipal Building with the following attendance:

Present:

Mayor Julian McTizic  
Councilmember Michael Brown  
Councilmember Melvin Golden  
Councilmember Larry McKinnie  
Councilmember Caroline Miller  
Councilmember Suzanne Rhea  
Councilmember Chris Williams  
Councilmember Tommie Woods

Absent:

Councilmember Todd Lowe

Others present: City Attorney Kevin Snider, Carri Beth Rhea, Sarah Rice, Mick Vinson, Jim Nuckolls, Chief Jones, Anthony Ford, Jerry Mayfield, Ricky Watkins, Dylan Hill, Eddie Vandiver, Richard Clark, Chantel Rucker, and Lieutenant Eric Seaton

Mayor McTizic called the meeting to order, welcomed the guests in attendance and those who were watching on social media. Mayor McTizic asked Councilmember Woods to lead the group in prayer and followed with the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Approval of Minutes:**

Mayor McTizic asked if there were any corrections to the minutes from the December 9, 2024 council meeting. There being no corrections, Councilmember Rhea made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Miller to approve the minutes as written. All present voted "Aye."

**Mayor's Report:**

- A. City offices will be closed on January 20<sup>th</sup> in observance of Martin Luther King Day.
- B. Mayor McTizic announced that TML Day on the Hill and Legislative Conference will be held March 3<sup>rd</sup>- 4<sup>th</sup> and if any of the council members would like to attend, please let Carri Beth know.
- C. The mayor introduced Ms. Chantel Rucker with TNECD Rural Fellowship program and asked Chantel to come to the front to tell the council members about the Fellowship program.

**Public Comments: NONE**

**Standing Committee Reports:**

**Electric- Mayor McTizic**

The Bolivar Energy Authority Board met on December 30, 2024, for their regular monthly meeting. The following actions taken by the Board:

- Changed office hours to 7:00 am-4:30 pm Monday-Thursday and 7:00 am-3:30 pm on Friday. These new office hours will start 2/1/2025.
- BEA will be closed January 20<sup>th</sup> for Martin Luther King Day.
- Fiber Update:
  - 4,520 active customers

**Utilities- Jim Nuckolls, Director**

The Bolivar Utility Board met on January 8<sup>th</sup> and discussed the following:

- Approved to replace the computer system at the water plant.
- Jim gave an update on the repair of the altitude valve on the water tank and the wash out repair on HWY 125.
- Gas prices are at \$0.71 for January.

**Fire- Lieutenant Eric Seaton**

- Total Fire Calls-66 (56 city, 10 county), Civilian Fire Injury-0, Fire Service Injury-0
- EMR Assist Calls- 43
- Training Hours- 180
- Smoke Alarms Installed- 29
- Fire Code Inspections- 24
- Public Relations Event- 4

**Police- Chief Mike Jones**

- Calls for service- 619
- Citations- 206
- Accidents- 15 (0 fatal, 4 injuries, 11 property damages)
- Arrest- 44 (6 juvenile, 38 adult)
- Special Events- THSO Safe Streets Task Force -18, Small Town Big Christmas 4
- Training Hours- 67

**Parks and Recreation- Anthony Ford, Director**

- We have taken down the Christmas lights from the drive-thru light show at Sand Beach.
- Our youth basketball (6-10 yr olds) league games are scheduled to end on January 25th.
- Adult volleyball league is going well and is scheduled to end on January 14th.
- Our youth basketball registration for 11-14 year olds is underway and will end February 3<sup>rd</sup>.

**Street and Sanitation- Jerry Mayfield, Superintendent**

- Tons taken to landfill: 317.02 commercial, and 146.43 residential for a total of 463.45 tons.
- Picked up brush and leaves.
- Taking down Christmas decorations.
- January is bulky item pick up.

**Library- Jessica Phillips, Director - Absent**

- Financials: Donations, Copies, Fines, and Faxes- \$900.25
- Total Programs: 9, Total Participates: 40, Estimated December patronage: 667
- Meeting Room: Bookings- 15, Guests- 91
- Circulations Report: Material Circulation- 1,767, Computer Users-254, Wi Fi users- 3,011, READS (Regional E-book and Audio Book download system)-552, History Room-7, Microfilm Reader usage-4, History Room Materials Circulated-34

**Compliance/Zoning- Ricky Watkins**

- Building Consultations-5
- Building Permits Written- 0
- Building Inspections- 1
- Plumbing Inspections- 0
- Mechanical Inspections- 0
- Certificate of Completion- 1
- Courtesy Notices Issues- 15

## Community Development and Tourism- Dylan Hill, Director

- Completed Small Town. Big Christmas festival with great success.
  - Thanks to Ken Griggs and Bolivar Main Street for one of the best parades that I have seen in a long time.
  - Thanks to Mr. Gary Rodgers and Hardeman County 4-H for participating in the Christmas Art Contest. We had 49 entries and 523 votes.
  - Thank you to the Carl Perkins Center for hosting the Festival of Trees and photos with Santa. They raised over \$7,000 to help children in Hardeman County.
  - Thank you to Andrea Young and the Hope House volunteers for their efforts with the Holiday Mart.
  - Thanks to Richard Clark and Clark Engineering and Utility Solutions for bringing the magic of snow to each night of the festival.
  - Thank you to ALL of our city staff and holiday employees who put for endless effort to make Christmas in Bolivar such a success.

## Old Business:

### A. Public Hearing on the Annexation and Plan of Services of “Watson Farm” at 1090 Vildo Road

Mayor McTizic opened the public meeting for the discussion on the annexation of the Watson Farm, The mayor asked for a motion to adjourn from Executive Session to Public Hearing. Councilmember Rhea made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Golden to adjourn to go to Public Hearing. All present voted “Aye”. There being no public questions nor comments concerning the annexation of the Watson Farm located at 1090 Vildo Road, Councilmember Woods made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Williams to reconvene to Executive Session. All present voted “Aye”.

Mayor McTizic noted that the next step of this annexation will be to pass a final Resolution at the next council meeting.

## New Business:

### A. Approval of City of Bolivar Youth Council Budget

Mayor McTizic brought before the City Council the idea of creating a City of Bolivar Youth Council. He let the council know that he has discussed this with Bolivar High School principal, Ms. Avent, and she thought it was a great idea. Ms. Avent will be suggesting students from each grade to be representatives on the initial Bolivar Youth Council. Mayor McTizic noted he would like to rotate the Youth Council every two years, and replacing senior representatives after they graduate. He asked the City Council members to approve a budget of \$50,000.00 that will be taken from Economic Development. The mayor explained that he would like the Bolivar Youth Council to work on projects and activities to get more kids involved in the community. Councilmember Miller asked if the mayor if he knew of another Youth Council around that the city could model theirs after, and noted that she would like to be involved with the Youth Council. After some discussion from other council members all agreeing this was a good idea, Councilmember Williams made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Golden to approve the creation of the Bolivar Youth Council, and the initial budget of \$50,000.00. All present voted “Aye”.

### B. Resolution 2025-001: A Resolution in Support of a Comprehensive Juvenile Rehabilitation and Detention Center Located in West Tennessee

Mayor McTizic brought before the council a Resolution that is in support of the need of a juvenile rehabilitation and detention center in West Tennessee. He went on to explain that currently there is not really any detention centers for juveniles to be housed. John Wilder is over capacity as well as a couple of others such as in Memphis and Dyersburg. The mayor noted that the last few juveniles that got sentenced to a detention center in Hardeman County had to be taken to East Tennessee due to lack of space. Mayor McTizic told the council that other cities in West Tennessee are passing this Resolution in support of the State of Tennessee repurposing the West TN Federal Detention Center in Mason, TN that houses 600

inmates on 44 acres that is currently sitting empty and not in use. Councilmember Golden made a motion, seconded by Councilmember McKinnie to approve Resolution 2025-01 in support of a juvenile detention center. Councilmember Miller “Abstained” from the vote, All others present voted “Aye”. Motion carried.

**C. First Reading of Ordinance 25-001: An Ordinance Amending the Official Zoning Map to Rezone Property located at 203 Union Street from R-1 (Low Density Residential to B-1 (Neighborhood Business)**

The property owner at 203 Union Street submitted a rezoning application request to Bolivar Regional Planning Commission to have this property rezoned from R-1 to B-1. The Planning Commission forwarded a favorable recommendation to the City Council to approve this rezoning request. Councilmember Williams asked what the plans were for this property if it was to be rezoned as B-1. Mayor McTizic stated that the property owner plans to put a food truck on the lot. Councilmember Williams asked if there was a food truck lot already established right down the road from this property. Mayor McTizic answered that there was a food truck lot down the road and that they do charge for food trucks to use their lot. He also noted that the lot at 203 Union Street was already owned by Mr. Polk who was making the rezoning request. Councilmember McKinnie made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Brown to approve the first reading of Ordinance 25-001 amending the official zoning map by rezoning property at 203 Union Street from R-1 to B-1. Councilmember Rhea voted “Nay”. All others present voted “Aye”. Motion carried.

**D. First Reading of Ordinance 25-002: An Ordinance to Amend Ordinance 23-001, Relative to the City of Bolivar Municipal Code Title 12**

This Ordinance amends section 2 of Ordinance 23-001 that adopted the 2021 International Residential Building Codes. Mayor McTizic explained that the State code for Energy Conservation had reverted back to the 2018 International Energy Conservation Code therefore the city needed to revert back the 2018 International Energy Conservation Code and adopt those. Councilmember McKinnie made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Woods to approve the first reading of Ordinance 25-002 that amends Ordinance 23-001, relative to the City of Bolivar Municipal Code Title 12. All present voted “Aye”.

**E. First Reading of Ordinance 23-003: An Ordinance to Allow for the Partial Payment of Real Property Taxes**

This Ordinance will amend Title 5, Chapter 2 of the City of Bolivar Municipal Code by adding new subsection 5-204. This subsection states that the City of Bolivar shall accept partial property tax payments on real property beginning on October 1, 2025. It also states the schedule in which partial payments can be accepted. Mayor McTizic noted that this is the second year for the county to accept partial payments and it has worked out well for them as well as helping out the citizens. Councilmember McKinnie asked if the mayor could also look into Bolivar Utility Department being able to accept partial payments for monthly bills owed to them. The mayor stated that he would look into that and get back to them if that is doable. Councilmember Golden made a motion, seconded by Councilmember McKinnie to approve the first reading of Ordinance 25-003, allowing the City of Bolivar to accept partial payments on real property taxes. All present voted “Aye”.

There being no further business, Councilmember McKinnie made a motion, Seconded by Councilmember Woods to adjourn the meeting. All voted “Aye.”

Attest:

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Mayor

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City Clerk & Recorder