

Bolivar City Council Meeting  
Monday, August 12, 2024  
6:00 P.M.

The Bolivar City Council met in regular session, Monday, August 12, 2024, at the Bolivar Municipal Building with the following attendance:

**Present:**

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

Others present: Carri Beth Rhea, Sarah Rice, Mick Vinson, Jim Nuckolls, Chief Price, Chief Jones, Anthony Ford, Jerry Mayfield, Ricky Watkins, Jessica Phillips, Dylan Hill, Mayor Todd Pulse, Leon McNeal, Darrell Teubner, Gary and Faye McTizic, William McCellahan, Lois Hyman, Tyler Rice, and Russ Kelley.

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 July 8, 2024 council meeting. There being no corrections, Councilmember Williams made a motion, seconded by Councilmember McKinnie to approve the minutes as written. All voted "Aye."

**Mayor's Report:**

- a. Mayor McTizic announced city offices will be closed on September 2<sup>nd</sup> in observance of Labor Day.
- b. The mayor invited everyone to attend the Decades Party featuring Party Planet at the Luez on August 15<sup>th</sup>. He noted there will be a costume contest and encouraged everyone to come in their favorite decade outfit.
- c. Mayor McTizic announced that there will be Beer Board meeting immediately following the council meeting.

**Public Comments:**

- a. Mr. William McCellahan came before the council to discuss an ongoing issue with a ditch that runs behind his house at Union and Neely Street. He noted that every time it rains the ditch floods and it comes into his house on Union Street and this has been a conversation for a while. The homeowner noted that Councilmember Woods came out and saw the reoccurring problem. Councilmember Miller asked if there is a grant to help the home owner correct the issue. Mayor McTizic responded that there is not a grant currently open that will help private land owners with issues such as Mr. McCellahan's. Councilmember Golden spoke up and asked if there was anything the city can do to divert the water from all going into the ditch. Mayor McTizic stated that he has asked A2H engineering to do a study to see what will be sufficient to help the issue. The councilmembers all agreed to wait on the study from A2H on the issue and what they find that can be addressed to help.

## **Standing Committee Reports:**

### **Electric- Mayor McTizic**

The Bolivar Energy Authority Board met on July 29, 2024, for their regular monthly meeting. The following actions taken by the Board:

- Mr. Elmer Cobb too Oath of Office for his new 5 year term on BEA board.
- Approved the bad debt write off for \$27,504.05 for the fiscal year ending June 30,2024.
- Increased the daily meal per diem for travel to:
  - \$75.00 in the TVA service area.
  - \$90.00 outside the TVA service area.
- Recommended the addition of a Seasonal Time of Use Rate for certain seasonal customers. Ex. Grain bins, and irrigation systems.
- Fiber Numbers:
  - 4095 Total
  - 3749 Residential
  - 243 Business
  - 103 waiting for service

### **Utilities- Jim Nuckolls, Director**

The Bolivar Utility Board met on August 7th, 2024 and discussed the following:

- The utility department is in the process of getting a new gas meter programmer from Itron.
- A2H has submitted assessment plans for the bleach room at the water plant, and replacing galvanized water lines to TDEC for approval. We are still waiting on the assessment plan for the lagoon. These are part of the TDEC ARP Grant.
- Gas prices are at \$0.65 for August.

### **Fire- Chief Lynn Price**

- Total Fire Calls-27 (20 city, 7 county), Civilian Fire Injury-0, Fire Service Injury-0
- Training Hours- 406
- Smoke Alarms Installed- 15
- Fire Code Inspections- 6
- Public Relations Event- 6
- Chief Price invited all of the councilmembers the 9/11 memorial ceremony, starting with breakfast at Backwoods.

### **Police- Chief Mike Jones**

- Calls for service- 700
- Citations- 181
- Accidents- 25 (0 fatal, 5 injuries, 20 property damages)
- Arrest- 32 (0 juvenile, 32 adult)
- Special Events- THSO Saturation- 6, Fall Football Camp cookout- 1
- Training Hours- 301

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

- We have begun to fill in some of the washouts on the walking trail at Pleasant Run Creek Park.
- Adult exercise (line dance) class continues on Thursdays at 5pm.
- Adult pickle ball is on Monday, Wednesday, and Fridays 9am-11pm.
- Adult men's basketball league registration will begin next month.
- Our youth soccer league registration has begun and will end on August 26th.
- Councilmember Miller congratulated Mr. Ford on winning his election for Hardeman County School Board.

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

- Picked up trash around downtown.
- Weed eating and mowing.
- Painted new speed bumps.
- Tons taken to landfill: 345.25 commercial, and 172.87 residential for a total of 518.12 tons.
- Bulky item pick up has ended, and the next one will be in October.
- We have sold the old commercial front loader sanitation truck and received payment on August 6<sup>th</sup>. We have also sold 2 other older surplus items that have been down at the shop.

### **Library- Jessica Phillips, Director**

- Financials: Donations, Copies, Fines, and Faxes- \$832.70
- Total Programs: 20, Total Participates: 223, Estimated June patronage: 791
- Meeting Room: Bookings- 13, Guests- 23
- Circulations Report: Material Circulation- 2,217, Computer Users-326, Wi Fi users- 3,950, READS (Regional E-book and Audio Book download system)-830, History Room-10, Microfilm Reader usage-2, History Room Materials Circulated-27

### **Compliance/Zoning- Ricky Watkins**

- Building Consultations-10
- Building Permits Written- 1
- Building Inspections- 2
- Plumbing Inspections- 2
- Mechanical Inspections- 2
- Courtesy Notices Issues- 30

### **Community Development and Tourism- Dylan Hill, Director**

- Assisted with Camp Bolivar.
- Attended the Rural Development Summit at Lone Oaks.
- Made final touches in preparation for the grand opening of The Timbers.
- August 15<sup>th</sup> we will be hosting a decade concert, "Party Planet", at the Luez.
- Councilmember Williams encouraged everyone to go visit The Timbers if they had not gone yet, he noted how great everything looks and the remodel went well on the building.

### **Old Business:**

#### **A. Update on Annexation**

Mayor McTizic updated the council members on the proposed annexation of the Three Way area. He stated he was finally able to talk with Spring Creek Utility, who provides water in the area, and the city will not be able to purchase their water system. This is because their water system is part of a loan from USDA, and they will not be able to sell their system until the loan is paid off. Mayor McTizic noted that the annexation is on hold for now due to that reason.

#### **B. Approval for additional 6 month extension on Sanitation residential refusal truck loan**

Mayor McTizic asked the Council for approval on extending a current loan on the residential sanitation truck. He noted the new truck was not ready yet, and as soon as it is ready for delivery the current truck will be sold and the loan paid off. Councilmember McKinnie made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Golden to approve the extension of the residential sanitation refusal truck. All voted "Aye".

### **New Business:**

#### **A. Resolution 2024-008: Authorization to Participate in the PEP Property Conversation Grant**

This Resolution authorizes the city to submit an application for a Property Conversation Marching Grant. The Fire Department will be applying for this and it is in their budget. Chief Price spoke up and noted that

if the Fire Department does receive this It will be for security lights around City Hall, Fire Department, and the Fire and Police Training Center. Councilmember McKinnie made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Williams to approve Resolution 2024-008. All voted "Aye".

**B. First Reading of Ordinance 2024-003 and Ordinance 2024-004: Ordinance to Change the City Election Date to the November General Election Date**

Mayor McTizic brought before the council two Ordinances to discuss. As stated in the public meeting held on July 15<sup>th</sup>, the mayor would present three options to the councilmembers to decide on changing the city's election to the November general election date which will save the city \$15,000.00 or more every two years. The first option the mayor presented was no changes at all and keep the city's election as it is now. The second option was Ordinance 2024-003 which would change the city's election before the scheduled May 2025 election. This would extend the four councilmembers elected in May 2023 from term ending in June 2027 to November 2028. It would also extend the four councilmembers and the mayor that was elected in May 2021 from term ending in June 2025 to November 2026. The third option was Ordinance 2024-004 which would change the city's election after the scheduled May 2025 election. This would extend the four councilmembers elected in May 2023 from term ending in June 2027 to November 2028. It would also extend the mayor's term and four councilmembers elected in May 2025 to term ending in November 2030. Councilmember Miller quickly made a motion for option one which is making no changes at all to the city's election. Councilmember Golden stated he did not agree with this motion and was not for it. He stated that the city should really consider changing the election because this is what the State would like for us to do and the State has been good to the city. Councilmember McKinnie spoke up and stated he was not for the change. He also stated that the Bill requiring municipalities to change their elections to the general election did not pass in Legislature therefore he does not believe the city should change their election. Councilmember McKinnie seconded Councilmember Miller's motion to not change the city's election so a vote was taken, Councilmembers Brown, Golden, and Rhea voted "Nay", Councilmembers Lowe, McKinnie, Miller, Williams, and Woods voted "Aye". Motion carried.

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

Attest:

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Mayor

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City Clerk & Recorder