

Bolivar City Council Meeting
February 13, 2023
6:00 P.M.

The Bolivar City Council met in regular session, Monday, February 13, 2023, at the Bolivar Municipal Building with the following attendance:

Present:

Mayor Julian McTizic
Councilman Melvin Golden
Councilman Michael Brown
Councilman Todd Lowe
Councilman Larry McKinnie
Councilman Suzanne Rhea
Councilman Carolyn Spinks
Councilman Tommie Woods

Absent:

Councilman Larry Crawford

Others present: Carri Beth Rhea, Sarah Rice, Mick Vinson, Cliff Henson, Chief Lynn Price, Chief Mike Jones, Anthony Ford, Ricky Watkins, Bobby Thompson with West TN Healthcare, Cordovez Family, Caroline Miller, Johnny Nelson, Chris Williams, and Brenda Woods.

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

Approval of Minutes:

Mayor McTizic asked if there were any corrections to the minutes from January 9, 2023 regular scheduled Council meeting. There being no corrections, Councilman Woods made a motion, seconded by Councilman Spinks to approve the minutes as written. All present voted "Aye."

Mayor's Report:

- a. The mayor announced that city offices will be closed February 20, 2023 in observance of President's Day.
- b. Mayor McTizic announced his annual Mayor's Ball will be held March 11, 2023 at City Hall.
- c. The mayor asked to reschedule the regular scheduled March 13th Council meeting due to the Tennessee Municipal League (TML) conference that he and some of the council will be attending in Nashville on the 13th and 14th. It was decided to move the Council meeting to Tuesday March 7th.
- d. Mayor McTizic asked all in attendance to keep Eddie Vandiver's family in your thoughts and prayers over the unexpected loss of his wife, Mrs. Lori Vandiver.
- e. The mayor welcomed Ms. Chloe Cordovez to the front to introduce herself. He then congratulated her and presented her a certificate of achievement for winning the Hardeman County Spelling Bee. Chloe is a student at Bolivar Middle School.
- f. Mayor McTizic also recognized Choate Engineering for their recent national award. Cass Choate came to the front and told the story of Choate Engineering and all the exciting projects they have in the works.

Presentation of the 2021-2022 Fiscal Year Audit: Joey Geter with Cowart Reese & Sargent

Mayor McTizic welcomed Mr. Joey Geter to the front to present the 2021-2022 fiscal year audit. Mr. Geter went over the highlights and reported that the auditors had an unqualified opinion which is the best audit to have. Mayor McTizic then asked the Council to approve the audit to send to the Comptroller's office. Councilman Golden made a motion, seconded by Councilman Brown to approve the 2021-2022 fiscal year audit as presented. All present voted "Aye".

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Electric – Mayor McTizic

The Bolivar Energy Board met on January 30, 2023 for their regular monthly meeting. There were no actions taken by the board.

- BEA will be closed February 20, 2023 or President's Day.
- Approved line of credit for \$1.5 million with the Bank of Fayette County with an interest rate of 7.25% with a possible additional \$5 million to help with fiber construction until state funds are distributed.
- Fiber Update:
 - 402 active residential customers
 - 80 business customers
 - 227 waiting for connection
 - 4 cabinets left to complete in Whiteville and 3 left to complete in Hornsby/Powell Chapel. Will move to Toone/Silerton/Cloverport area next to connect customers.
 - Still waiting on State to sign grant contract.
- Mayor McTizic welcomed Attorney Boyette Denton to the floor. Mr. Denton greeted the council and let them know he was a representative on behalf of BEA and their Board. He is requesting that the Council approve an increase for the purchasing policy for BEA CEO. Mr. Denton told the Council that their Board had already approved to increase it from \$50,000.00 to \$100,000.00. This increase will have to be approved by state legislators as well since it will be a change in the city charter. Once the state legislators approve the change BEA will notify the City Council and Mayor. Councilman Golden made a motion, seconded by Councilman Rhea to approve the increase for the purchasing policy for the CEO from \$50,000.00 to \$100,000.00. All present voted "Aye".

Utilities – Cliff Henson, Director

The Utility Board met on February 8, 2023 in regular meeting and discussed the following:

- Utility Board forwards a favorable recommendation for approval for Resolution 23-001.
- Utility department sold an older surplus truck on GovDeals for \$3,493.75.
- Gas prices for February are \$0.66/ccf

Fire – Chief Lynn Price

- Total fire calls – 21 (13 city, 8 county), Civilian Fire Injury-1, Fire Service Injury- 0
- Training hours – 186
- Smoke alarms installed – 4
- Fire Code Inspections – 7
- Public Relations Events- 1
- Chief Price asked the council for approval to purchase a used fire truck to replace the wrecked one as well as updated power tools. He let the council know that they received \$187,900.00 from the insurance claim on the wrecked fire truck. He has found a used fire truck from another municipality for \$58,000.00 and will cost \$1,825.00 to tow it. He would also like to upgrade the power tools and the cost will be \$31,000.00. He would like to use the insurance money received to purchase these items. Councilman

McKinnie made a motion, seconded by Councilman Spinks to approve the purchase of these 2 items with the insurance money received from the wrecked fire truck. All present voted "Aye".

- Chief Price also asked the Council for approval to look for a brush truck as well as purchase one. He would like to use the funds left from the insurance check to purchase a brush truck. Chief Price asked for approval to purchase a brush truck as long as the Mayor approves the price and it is within the funds left from the insurance check. Currently the city does not own a brush truck. Councilman McKinnie made a motion, seconded by Councilman Golden to approve to purchase a brush truck as long as the Mayor approves purchase price and it is within the remaining funds left from the insurance check. All present voted "Aye".

Police – Chief Mike Jones

- Calls for service – 541
- Citations – 84
- Accidents – 22 (0 fatal, 2 injuries, 20 property damage)
- Arrests – 22 (1 juvenile, 21 adult)
- Special events- 1 THSO DUI Saturations, Martin Luther King Parade
- Training Hours- 34 HRS

Parks and Recreation Department – Anthony Ford, Director

- New stationary adult exercise equipment installation is complete at Sand Beach Lake Park.
- The line dance exercise class for adults continues and additional class has been added on Tuesdays.
- The pavilion at the city park has been temporarily shut down due to several large trees falling from the ice storm. The trees also took down a power line.
- The 6-10 year old youth basketball league is at the halfway point of the season and going well.
- Registration for the 11-14 year old youth basketball league will begin March 1.

Street/Sanitation – Eddie Vandiver, Superintendent (absent)

- Finished taking down Christmas decorations around town
- Put up banners for MLK Parade
- Picking a lot of brush and cutting limbs from the recent ice storm
- Picking up litter on streets
- Still hauling trash to Walnut, MS

Library, Jessica Phillips, Director(absent)

- Financials: Donations, Copies, Fines, and Faxes- \$640.45
- Total Programs: 5, Total Participates: 90
- Circulations Report: Material Circulation- 2,338, Computer Users- 263, Wi Fi Users- 1,640 READS (Regional E-book and Audio Book Download System)- 830

Compliance/Zoning – Ricky Watkins

- Building Consultations – 12
- Building permits written– 0
- Building Inspections – 6
- Plumbing Inspections – 3
- Mechanical Inspections – 3
- Courtesy Notice Issued – 20

EMS- Kevin Deaton

- Total Responses for January- 266, 119 emergency and 147 non-emergencies. 212 transports. Scenes- 223 in city and 6 in county. 9 other MCEMS unit calls (mutual aid).

Community Development and Tourism- Dylan Hill, Director

- Met with representatives from TN Dept of Economic and Community Development, as well as TVA, to discuss industrial recruitment and future planning.
- Met with the Hardeman County Music Commission to discuss plans for 2023.
- Hosted "Tied Up in Knotts" at the Luez Theater in conjunction with Faith and Family Events.
- Continued working on the new Timbers building.

Old Business:

- a. **Bid opening:** The Fire Department advertised and requested sealed bids for new nozzles. They received 6 sealed bids that were presented to Mayor McTizic to open. The bids were as follows:
1. Tennessee Fire Equipment & Safety Supplies- \$7,536.00
 2. Emergency Vehicle Specialists- \$10,521.18
 3. Municipal Emergency Services- \$7,804.00
 4. Dana Safety Supply- \$5,340.00
 5. Technology International- \$7,800.00
 6. NAFECO- \$9,501.96

The council reviewed the bids then it was recommended to let Chief Price look over the bids to ensure bids were compliant with specifications. Councilman McKinnie made a motion, seconded by Councilman Spinks to allow Chief Price to review bids and go with the lowest bidder that was compliant with the specifications. All presented voted "Aye"

b. **Discussion on County Federal ARP Matching Funds**

Mayor McTizic informed the Council that the County Mayor and Commissioners have withdrawn the Federal ARP money amount they had committed to providing to the city for help in matching the TDEC ARP Water/Sewer Grant. The mayor went on to say that the County withdrew the amounts they had committed to all municipalities in the county and not just Bolivar. The amount the County had committed to the City of Bolivar Utility Department was \$255,036.46. Mayor McTizic explained to the Council that the TDEC portion of money cannot be withdrawn since a Resolution was passed for this. The mayor let the Council know that the Utility Board had approved to take this amount from the fund balance. He then asked the Council for approval to take the \$255,036.46 out of the Utility Fund Balance. Councilman Lowe made a motion, seconded by Councilman Rhea to approve taking the \$255,036.46 from the Utility Fund Balance. All present voted "Aye".

New Business:

a. **First Reading of Ordinance 23-001: Adopting of 2021 Building Codes**

This Ordinance will bring the city up to date on International Building Codes. Mayor McTizic explained by state law the city has to be within 7 years of the International Building Codes. Councilman McKinnie made a motion, seconded by Councilman Woods to adopt the 2021 International Building Codes. All present voted "Aye".

b. **Resolution 23-001: Appointing Jim Nuckolls to the TEAC Board**

This Resolution will appoint Jim Nuckolls to the TEAC Board to replace Cliff Henson upon his retirement in April 2023. The Bolivar Utility has had a place on the board since Clyde Dellinger was BUD Director. The Mayor let the Council know that the Bolivar Utility Board sends a favorable recommendation for the approval of this Resolution. Councilman Rhea made a motion, seconded by Councilman Golden to approve Resolution 23-001 that will put Jim Nuckolls on the TEAC Board. All present voted "Aye".

c. Resolution 23-002: Authorization to enter Automatic Aid Agreement

This Resolution will allow the Bolivar Fire Department to enter into Automatic Aid Agreement with other fire departments in the county. The Fire Department is currently in this agreement and this Resolution will update the current agreement to 2023. Councilman McKinnie made a motion, seconded by Councilman Spinks to approve Resolution 23-002 authorizing the Fire Department to enter Automatic Aid Agreement. All present voted "Aye".

d. Resolution 23-003: Authorization to enter Mutual Aid Agreement

This Resolution will allow the Bolivar Fire Department to enter into Mutual Aid Agreement with other fire departments in the county. The Fire Department is currently in this agreement and this Resolution will update the current agreement to 2023. Councilman McKinnie made a motion, seconded by Councilman Spinks to approve Resolution 23-003 authorizing the Fire Department to enter Mutual Aid Agreement. All present voted "Aye".

Community Development: NONE

There being no further business, Councilman McKinnie made a motion, seconded by Councilman Woods to adjourn the meeting. All voted "Aye."

Attest:

Mayor

City Clerk & Recorder