

Bolivar City Council Meeting
December 11, 2023
6:00 P.M.

The Bolivar City Council met in regular session, Monday, December 11, 2023, 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 Lynn Price, Asst. Chief Eddie Henson, Anthony Ford, Eddie Vandiver, Ricky Watkins, Dylan Hill, Darrell Teubner

Mayor McTizic called the meeting to order, welcomed the guest in attendance and those who were watching on social media. Mayor McTizic asked Ricky Watkins 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 November 13, 2023 council meeting. There being no corrections, Councilmember Rhea made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Woods to approve the minutes as written. All voted "Aye."

Mayor's Report:

- a. City offices will be closed December 22nd- 26th in observance of Christmas and January 1st 2024 for New Year's Day.
- b. Mayor McTizic thanked the community for coming out to support the Christmas parade and Small Town Big Christmas Festival.
- c. The mayor invited everyone in attendance and listening on social media to his birthday toy drive celebrations. It will be held on December 16th at Brick's Café at 6:00 pm.

Public Comments: None

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Electric – Mayor McTizic

The Bolivar Energy Board met on November 27, 2023 for their regular monthly meeting. The following actions were taken by the Board:

- The board approved the Blue Cross Blue Shield of Tennessee insurance renewal with a 9% decrease.
- The December board meeting was moved to December 21st at 11:30 am.
- Holiday closures: December 22nd, 25th, & 26th for Christmas & December 29th and January 1st for New Year's.

- Fiber update:
 - Project is complete.
 - 2,828 residential customers and 187 commercial customers.
 - 177 waiting for service and 36% take rate.

Utilities – Jim Nuckolls, Director

The Bolivar Utility Board met on December 6, 2023 in regular meeting to discuss the following:

- Quinn Company has installed the lift station on Ruby Lane and has started work installing the lift station on Martindale. These lift stations will close out the 2021 CDBG Grant.
- The utility department has cleared around 80% of the ride aways. The work should be finished within the next few weeks with weather permitting.
- The board discussed hiring a new Utility Board attorney upon the retirement of Wes Clayton at the end of this year.
- TN Public Utility Commission (TPUC) finished our annual pipeline inspection and found no violations.
- Gas prices for December are \$0.65.
- Jim thanked the mayor and council for a wonderful Christmas party on behalf of the Utility dept.

Fire – Chief Lynn Price

- Total fire calls – 29 (18 city, 11 county), Civilian Fire Injury-0, Fire Service Injury- 0
- Training hours – 256
- Smoke alarms installed – 6
- Fire Code Inspections – 11
- Public Relations Events-3
- Chief Price thanked the mayor and council for the Christmas party on behalf of the Fire Dept.

Police – Asst. Chief Eddie Henson

- Calls for service – 548
- Citations – 176
- Accidents – 21 (0 fatal, 14 injuries, 7 property damage)
- Arrests – 33 (2 juvenile, 31 adult)
- Special events- None
- Training Hours- 132
- Asst. Chief Henson thanked the mayor and council for the Christmas party.

Parks and Recreation Department – Anthony Ford, Director

- We have been primarily maintaining the Christmas lights at Sand Beach Lake and repairing scenes (props) as problems arise.
- Adult exercise (line dance) class continues on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 5 pm.
- Youth basketball league (6-10 year olds) will start at the beginning of next month. The 11-14 age group registration will begin next month as well.
- The adult volleyball league is going well and will end next month.
- Anthony thanked the mayor and council for the Christmas party and noted that all of Parks and Recreation enjoyed the food, music, and fellowship.
- Councilmember McKinnie thanked the Parks and Recreation team for a superb job on the light show and for all of their hard work.

Street/Sanitation – Eddie Vandiver, Superintendent

- Decorating downtown for Christmas, assembling the tree and other downtown attractions.
- Picked up trash and cleaned up around downtown area.
- Starting to assemble Christmas decorations and checking lights.

- Tons taken to landfill: 303.72 commercial, and 131.16 residential for a total of 434.88 tons.
- Everything else routine.
- The Streets and Sanitation department was thanked for all of their hard work getting downtown ready for the Christmas festival.

Library, Jessica Phillips, Director (absent)

- Financials: Donations, Copies, Fines, and Faxes- \$837.20
- Total Programs: 19, Total Participates:206, Estimated August Patronage:725
- Circulations Report: Material Circulation- 1,728, Computer Users- 241, Wi Fi Users- 3,229, READS (Regional E-book and Audio Book Download System)- 624

Compliance/Zoning – Ricky Watkins

- Building Consultations – 5
- Building permits written– 1
- Building Inspections – 3
- Plumbing Inspections – 1
- Mechanical Inspections – 1
- Courtesy Notice Issued – 20
- Mr. Ricky thanked the mayor and council for the Christmas dinner.

Community Development and Tourism- Dylan Hill, Director

- Met with representatives from Tennessee Tech to continue discussion on branding for city and county.
- Attended the Hatchie River conservation and tourism meeting held at City Hall with state and local partners.
- Completed the fifth course for Certified Economic Developer training in Knoxville through UT.
- Completed the first audit of the CDBG grant funding the future co-working space at The Timbers.
- Completed preparations for Small Town. Big Christmas.
- Dylan thanked all of the city employees for their hard work on the Christmas festival.

Old Business: None

New Business:

- Resolution 2023-017: Authorization to Submit an Application to Tennessee Department of Economic and Community Development Broadband Connected Communities Facilities Grant Program**
This Resolution will authorize the city to submit an application to TDEC for their Connected Communities Facilities Grant. If awarded this grant, it will be used to help complete the NeighborHub, which is a facility the city has been renovating for non-profits and other organizations to use when needed. This is a matching funds grant and could be up to 20% of the total awarded funds. Councilmember Williams made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Miller to approve Resolution 2023-017. All voted “Aye”.
- First Reading of Ordinance 2023-007: Amend Official Zoning Map for Property Located at 312 Market St.**
This Ordinance will amend the official zoning map by rezoning the property located at 312 East Market Street from R-2(Medium Density Residential) to B-1 (Neighborhood Business). The Bolivar Regional Planning Commission approved this rezoning request in November 2023 and forwards a favorable recommendation. Councilmember McKinnie made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Rhea to approve the first reading of Ordinance 2023-007. Councilmember Miller voted “Nay” and all others voted “Aye”. Motion passed.

Before adjourning the meeting, Mayor McTizic invited the council members and others in attendance to a small appreciation Christmas reception in the community room. Mayor McTizic thanked all of the Council Members for their support throughout the year.

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

Attest:

Mayor

City Clerk & Recorder