

Bolivar City Council Meeting
Monday, November 18, 2024
6:00 P.M.

The Bolivar City Council met in regular session, Monday, November 18, 2024, 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: Carri Beth Rhea, Sarah Rice, Mick Vinson, Jim Nuckolls, Chief Price, Chief Jones, Anthony Ford, Jerry Mayfield, Ricky Watkins, Jessica Phillips, Dylan Hill, Leon McNeal

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 October 7, 2024 council meeting. There being no corrections, Councilmember Woods made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Williams to approve the minutes as written. All present voted "Aye."

Mayor's Report:

- a. Mayor McTizic announced the city offices will be closed on November 28th and 29th in observance of Thanksgiving.
- b. Small Town. Big Christmas starts December 1st with the light show and December 7th with the Christmas parade and other festival festivities.
- c. Mayor McTizic invited the council to the employee Christmas party on December 4th.
- d. The mayor brought before the council the possibility of purchasing the National Guard Armory building. He noted that several throughout the State are being sold and Bolivar's is included in the sale. The county has the first option to purchase the building but they have passed on the opportunity so the city is next in line to have the opportunity to purchase it. The mayor noted that he does not know the price the State will want for the building. Mayor McTizic told the council his vision for the building. Instead of starting from ground up rebuilding the ball fields and a new building to house the YMCA, gyms, and Parks and Recreation offices he would like to build around the National Guard Armory building. He noted that he has taken the YMCA representatives out to the building for them to tour and they were pleased with it. Mayor McTizic asked the council for approval to further explore the sale of the building. Councilmember McKinnie brought up several questions, he asked the mayor the price of the building. The mayor noted that as he had mentioned earlier, he does not know the price of the building and he is only asking for approval to continue to exploring the sale of the building. Councilmember Williams asked the mayor if the plans to remodel the older Lions Club Field ball park is still in the plans. Mayor McTizic noted that that was still in the plans. After further

discussion, Councilmember Rhea made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Miller to approve the mayor to continue to explore the sale of the National Guard Armory. All present voted "Aye".

Public Comments: NONE

Standing Committee Reports:

Electric- Mayor McTizic

The Bolivar Energy Authority Board met on October 28, 2024, for their regular monthly meeting. The following actions taken by the Board:

- The Board approved the 2024 fiscal year audit. The audit was clean with no findings.
- Approved the construction of a fiber warehouse to be completed by August 2025. Part of this will be paid for by state grant funds.
- Approved the building project for BEA headquarters to start 2026.
- Upcoming Holidays- BEA will be closed November 28th& 29th for Thanksgiving.
- Fiber Update:
 - 4069 residential customers
 - 264 commercial customers
 - 78 waiting for service
 - 4411 total customers
 - 41% take rate
 - 40 new sign ups last week

Utilities- Jim Nuckolls, Director

The Bolivar Utility Board met on November 6, 2024 and discussed the following:

- Approved contract with Lightwave Energy.
- Approved repair of the altitude valve on the Lauderdale water tank.
- Repairing washout on Hwy 125.
- Bids were received on the water and sewer TDEC ARP projects. Both came in over budget and will be rebid next year.
- Gas prices are at \$0.65 for November.

Fire- Chief Lynn Price

- Total Fire Calls-53 (38 city, 15 county), Civilian Fire Injury-0, Fire Service Injury-0
- Training Hours- 216
- Smoke Alarms Installed- 10
- Fire Code Inspections- 14
- Public Relations Event- 11

Police- Chief Mike Jones

- Calls for service- 622
- Citations- 206
- Accidents- 26 (0 fatal, 7 injuries, 19 property damages)
- Arrest- 41 (4 juvenile, 37 adult)
- Special Events- West TN Inv Meeting- 1, THSO Safe Streets Task Force -19, BBQ Festival- 1
- Training Hours- 45

Parks and Recreation- Anthony Ford, Director

- We completed the installation of 3 new launch pads (tee pads) for the disc golf course at Pleasant Run.
- Our youth basketball (6-10 yr olds) registration ends on Friday November 15th.

- Adult volleyball registration continues through this month.
- We will continue our youth basketball partnership with the Memphis Grizzlies. As a perk for being a part of the Junior Grizzlies program, we were able to take two teams of kids that play in our league to a Grizzlies game and they played a scrimmage game at halftime. It was an experience of a lifetime for the youth involved.

Street and Sanitation- Jerry Mayfield, Superintendent

- Weed eating and mowing.
- Tons taken to landfill: 282.04 commercial, and 144.33 residential for a total of 426.37 tons.
- Prepared downtown for the Bolivar BBQ Blowout and Music Festival.
- Starting to hang Christmas lights for Small Town. Big Christmas.
- Bulky item pickup has ended for the year.

Library- Jessica Phillips, Director

- Financials: Donations, Copies, Fines, and Faxes- \$948.85
- Total Programs: 11, Total Participates: 288, Estimated June patronage: 942
- Meeting Room: Bookings- 12, Guests- 56
- Circulations Report: Material Circulation- 1,716, Computer Users-342, Wi Fi users- 3,508, READS (Regional E-book and Audio Book download system)-667, History Room-20, Microfilm Reader usage-1, History Room Materials Circulated-54

Compliance/Zoning- Ricky Watkins

- Building Consultations-5
- Building Permits Written- 2
- Building Inspections- 2
- Plumbing Inspections- 1
- Mechanical Inspections- 1
- Safety Inspections- 1
- Certificate of Occupancy- 1
- Courtesy Notices Issues- 20

Community Development and Tourism- Dylan Hill, Director

- Graduated with certification of Tennessee Economic Development.
- Hosted John Denver tribute at Luez Theater.
- Attended the Alabama-Mississippi-Tennessee Rural Tourism conference.
- Assisted with the Bolivar BBQ Blowout and Music Festival.

Old Business: NONE

New Business:

A. Approval of submitted bid for the purchase of the pavilion at Sand Beach Lake

Mayor McTizic asked for approval for the bid submitted from Carolina Recreation & Design for \$152,311.00 to purchase the pavilion for Sand Beach Lake. He noted that the amphitheater was also purchased from this company and the material being used from Carolina Recreation & Design is a sole source. The purchase will be made through the LPRF grant. The mayor also noted that instead of the contractor purchasing the stage it would save some money for the city to purchase it for the contractor to build. After some discussion, Councilmember Williams made a motion, seconded by Councilmember McKinnie to approve the bid submitted from Carolina Recreation & Design in the amount of \$152,311.00 for the purchase of the pavilion at Sand Beach Lake. All present voted "Aye".

B. Approval of Plans of Services for Annexation by Owner Consent at Watson Farm

Mayor McTizic asked the council for approval for the Plans of Services on a property that has asked to be annexed into the city limits by the owner. As the mayor handed out maps of the property, he explained that the Bolivar Industrial Development Board has a lease option on the property and it will be marketed to industrial prospects. It is one block of land and part of it connects to the back part of the city's industrial park. Mayor McTizic noted that this approval is only for the Plans of Services and that these will be then sent to Bolivar Regional Planning Commission for approval. Councilmember Rhea made a motion, seconded by Councilmember McKinnie to approve the Plans of Services on the Watson Farm for annexation by owner consent. All present voted "Aye".

C. Approval of IT Backup and Services Contract

Mayor McTizic asked the council for approval for an IT backup and service contract. Cyber backup is now required by the state. He let the council know that he had received 3 quotes and after reviewing the quotes and services each company offered with Mick Vinson, the city's IT personnel, they recommend going with VC3. This company was the least expensive and met all requirements needed, they have also agreed to do the service at no charge until July 1, 2025. The mayor also noted that there are grants out there that will help pay for these services and VC3 has offered to help apply for these grants for the 2025 fiscal year. Councilmember McKinnie made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Williams to approve the IT backup and service contract from VC3. All present voted "Aye".

D. Approval of Certificate of Compliance for Bottle Shop on Main located at 569 Main Street

Mayor McTizic presented the council an application for Certificate of Compliance for a new retail package store that will be located at 569 Main Street. He noted that the applicant, Christian Howell, had met all obligations required by the city and paid their application fee. Councilmember Brown made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Golden to approve the Certificate of Compliance for Bottle Shop on Main owned by Christian Howell located at 569 Main Street. Councilmembers Brown, Golden, McKinnie, Miller, Rhea, Williams all voted "Aye". Councilmember Woods abstained. Councilmember Lowe was absent. Motion passed.

E. Bid Opening for Police and Utility Offices Roof Repair

Mayor McTizic was presented with two sealed bids for the roof repairs at the Police Department and Utility offices. The first bid was from EROOF for \$40,795.04 and the second bid was from Coyle & Sons Roofing for \$47,226.67. Mayor McTizic noted that there was an insurance claim on the roof and the insurance check will cover all expenses for the repair. Councilmember McKinnie made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Williams to accept the bid from EROOF for \$40,795.04. All present voted "Aye".

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