

VILLAGE OF BOLIVAR
COUNCIL MEETING

April 4, 2024

The Bolivar Village Council met in a regular session at Village Hall on Thursday, April 4, 2024. The meeting was called to order by the mayor at 7:04 pm.

The Pledge of Allegiance was said. White opened the meeting with a prayer. Roll Call: Bellinger yes, Diveley yes, Nussbaumer yes, Oberlin yes, Pancoe yes, White yes.

A motion to approve the March 7, 2024, regular meeting minutes was made by White and seconded by Pancoe. Roll Call: Bellinger yes, Diveley yes, Nussbaumer yes, Oberlin yes, Pancoe yes, White yes.

A motion to approve the March bills totaling \$53,867.32 was made by Bellinger and seconded by Diveley. Roll Call: Bellinger yes, Diveley yes, Nussbaumer yes, Oberlin yes, Pancoe yes, White yes.

Receipts for the month of February totaled \$148,608.20.

Additions/Correction to the Agenda – None.

Public Speaks –

Scott Simmons thanked everyone for what they do for our Village. Scott voiced concern about the volume of the recent tornado siren system. He stated the volume is very low and if he had not received the text message he would have not known it had been activated. Levi stated that the text alert, the public alert system is primarily used to notify residents about water leaks, boil alerts, etc., but it could also be used for any bad weather alerts. Maria stated that wind direction can affect one's ability to hear the siren, and added that if power is out the text/call alert may not work. She said a notice can go out in the next water bill asking those residents who have not provided contact information to do so. Levi will research the volume issue and bring his findings to the council meeting in May.

Chris Berens recommended Levi use the call/alert system to notify residents of Hydrant flushing schedules.

Chris wanted to know if there were established office hours for village hall. Maria said that Monday through Thursday the office is staffed part-time and she feels we are doing a good job at meeting the people's needs. Maria said anyone can call and leave a message and they will be contacted within a short time.

Chris said the Ministerial Association will be conducting a World Day of Prayer on May 2nd at 11 am, at the Bolivar Community Church. There will be a speaker and the high school choir will be singing. There will be a luncheon after.

Old Business – None.

MAYOR – Mayor Lloyd said he received a permit form from Bolivar Main Street granting permission to conduct the Strawberry Festival 2024. He asked the council to approve his signature on the permit. All agreed.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

FINANCE – Maria reminded committee chairs to limit the discussion of committee items in the council meeting to items requiring a vote of the council or items that serve a public purpose. Doing this streamlines the regular council meeting and allows for discussion in the committee meetings.

Will Bellinger reported a total of \$2,237.53 in interest received from StarOhio (1916.61) and Huntington (320.92) for March.

Will said the purchase of a police cruiser using APRA funds of \$50,000 will be presented in the legislation section of this meeting.

Will made a motion for a voice vote to authorize paying \$2,000 to Lawrence Township for the use of the 2024 compost program. The motion was seconded by Tim White. Roll Call: Bellinger yes, Diveley yes, Nussbaumer yes, Oberlin yes, Pancoe yes, White yes.

Three solar-powered stop signs will be ordered using ARPA funds in the amount of \$2,300. A PEP grant if awarded will provide for \$1,000. Will made a motion to allow for the \$2,300 and Tim White seconded. Roll Call: Bellinger yes, Diveley yes, Nussbaumer yes, Oberlin yes, Pancoe yes, White yes.

Levi has received a quote of \$1075 from X-Leveling (Patrick Seward) for sidewalk leveling. Will made a motion to approve up to \$2,000 in APRA funds for the sidewalk leveling, the motion was seconded by Diveley. Roll Call: Bellinger yes, Diveley yes, Nussbaumer yes, Oberlin yes, Pancoe yes, White yes.

Maria asked the council to authorize Holly to post Bicentennial events on the website. Bellinger made the motion to permit Holly to post Bicentennial events on the website. It was seconded by Tim White. Roll Call: Bellinger yes, Diveley yes, Nussbaumer yes, Oberlin yes, Pancoe yes, White yes.

Planning and Zoning – None.

Safety- Loretta stated it is so good to have Chief Randy Haugh back.

There were 31 calls for service for March 2024. Loretta said the cruiser will be authorized for purchase in the legislation section of this meeting.

Eric Minor is expected to return for duty on May 1st, 2024.

Safety discussed the tornado siren.

Chief- Chief Haugh thanked all for the prayers to help him through the recent difficult times. He said he knows the prayers from everyone is what got him through.

Street & Alley- Tim stated the last meeting was held on March 21st, 2024. Tim, Zac, Dan, Mayor Lloyd, Loretta, and Will were in attendance.

Items discussed were sidewalk leveling and areas where ruts will need to be filled with stone.

Tim said he passed out an email he received from Russell Standard concerning future paving. He has additional copies if needed.

Tim reported the gas line repairs at the intersection of Cherry and Sassafras are complete.

Tim reported the stop sign bracket has been replaced at Cherry and Sassafras.

Shade Tree- Dan briefed the council on the Tuscarawas County Health Department's annual meeting he attended. He said it was well-attended and very informative. They stressed that Covid is not over but is under control.

Dan will meet with Levi to come up with a plan for replacing some of the removed trees on Park Avenue. He said April/May is the best time for planting.

Robert stated he is picking up 20 Red Oak seedlings tomorrow and he and Levi will decide where they will be planted.

Parks and Recreation – Zac had nothing new to report. He did state the baseball association has not renewed the liability policy but will provide a certificate when they renew. Maria said they cannot use the fields until the Village has the Certificate of Insurance. Dan asked if the football and soccer teams would be using village fields. Zac said the soccer association is using Lawrence Township fields, but the football league will be using the village fields.

Street Superintendent – Levi said the tornado siren last month was for National Tornado Month.

Levi stated delivery trucks behind El Albatross are coming very close to the power lines. He suggested possibly passing an ordinance to install "No Through Trucks" signs from Water to Cherry. He said the council could also decide to install height restriction signs which may not require an ordinance.

Catch basin cleaning is underway. Levi is starting at Ladyne and going toward the end of the village south. He is also obtaining quotes for jetting some of the catch basins. He has identified some French drains on Bolivar Avenue that have collapsed.

Multiple potholes have been patched. Levi may purchase a load of asphalt for the larger patching needs.

Fire Hydrant Flushing: coming middle of this month. Levi will send out an alert to residents, and post signs at key intersections, and the April 15th water bill will contain information.

The streetside compost pickup will begin April 15th and continue through December 15th, every Monday, weather permitting. Residents are required to put the debris in containers/garbage cans, using no bags, and no limbs/debris can be over 4 feet long.

Village Administrator – On April 19th students will arrive to help with cleaning up and mulching. Levi is expecting 10 high school students. He hopes to get all of Canal and the Library completed. Chris Berens asked if the students would need lunch. Levi said they bring drinks and are usually done and back to the school by lunch.

Levi is working on details to install a window in the Street Superintendent's office and the installation of a wall in the village hall bathroom.

Completed application for a \$1,000 PEP grant to support solar-powered stop signs. Waiting for a reply.

Sidewalk leveling will begin soon.

Fiscal Officer – Maria asked Levi if the hydrant flushing signs were available. Levi said he does have them in the garage and will post them at key intersections to notify residents when hydrant flushing begins.

Maria wanted to thank Patty publicly for getting all Ordinance/Resolution/Minutes books and the website up to date. She has done an amazing job.

Maria said an IT contract selection committee will need to be identified. Discussion resulted in the selection of Robert, Will, Maria, Tim, and Levi for the committee.

Zoning Inspector- Levi introduced the zoning issue involving Paul's Electric. Maria has received two complaints concerning this building. Neither complainant resides in an adjoining property. One complainant is concerned that there is no spot zoning happening and if a variance was issued because, if so, they were not notified. She deferred the complaints to the Solicitor, Mayor, and Village Administrator. Steve said if the issue relates to the building, the village issued a permit allowing for the construction, so it is not advisable to do anything about the building. If the issue is relative to the use of the building as a storage building or garage, under current zoning both comply with zoning requirements. Steve discussed storage buildings used for remuneration purposes and how this pertains to this building. Steve advised the council that their decision on this issue must be uniform and uniformly applied to any structure for storage. Dan stated that since 95-98% of the work is done off-site and only materials are stored in this building there is not an issue. Dan would like to make a motion to stop any further discussion stating no violation and, the matter is closed. The motion did not receive a second. Robert asked if the zoning committee would like to discuss this issue in committee. Will commented that he has hired Paul's electric, and this would be a conflict of interest for him on the zoning committee. Levi and Maria stated the past

administration issued a permit but did not issue a needed variance. The owner should not be penalized for the past administration's oversight. The matter will be discussed in the zoning committee.

Law Director- Solicitor Steve Babik.

Legislation:

An Ordinance to increase the amount of trash/refuse service billing to \$15 per month. 1st Reading.

An Ordinance to grant an increase of 2% in employee wages. 2nd Reading.

A Resolution to amend 2024 permanent appropriations by emergency. Motion to approve made by Will Bellinger and seconded by Tim White. Roll Call: Bellinger yes, Diveley yes, Nussbaumer yes, Oberlin yes, Pancoe yes, White yes. **Resolution 4-2024.**

An Ordinance to approve a contract to approve a new location for the regular council meeting, finance, and safety committee meetings to 121 Canal Street, formerly the American Legion Building. First Thursday of each month at a rate of \$50.00 per month beginning on May 2, 2024. Passed by emergency for an immediate need for additional space for council members and the public. Motion to approve made by White and seconded by Oberlin. Roll Call: Bellinger yes, Diveley yes, Nussbaumer yes, Oberlin yes, Pancoe yes, White yes. **Ordinance 7-2024.**

An Ordinance to approve the purchase of a Ford Explorer police cruiser through the statewide Ford purchase program in the amount of \$63,992 by emergency. \$50,000 down with ARPA funding and the balance will be gained through grants, if possible, otherwise council will use ARPA or other funds to complete. Motion to approve was made by Oberlin and seconded by Pancoe. Roll Call: Bellinger yes, Diveley yes, Nussbaumer yes, Oberlin yes, Pancoe yes, White yes. **Ordinance 8-2024.**

An Ordinance to approve GDP for the engineering design fees in the amount of \$174,458.00 for the proposed waterline project by emergency. Motion to approve was made by Pancoe and seconded by Oberlin. Roll Call: Bellinger yes, Diveley yes, Nussbaumer yes, Oberlin yes, Pancoe yes, White yes. **Ordinance 9-2024.**

Steve requested a voice vote to amend the agenda to include allowing the Mayor and Village Administrator to hire two seasonal part-time workers through the end of the year as an emergency as there is an immediate need. Bellinger made the motion to amend the agenda and it was seconded by Pancoe. Roll Call: Bellinger yes, Diveley yes, Nussbaumer yes, Oberlin yes, Pancoe yes, White yes.

Resolution to allow the Mayor and Village Administrator to hire two seasonal workers by emergency for immediate need for a term through the end of the year. Workers will work approximately 24 hours per week but not more than 28 hours per week. Motion to allow made by Bellinger and seconded by White. Roll Call: Bellinger yes, Diveley yes, Nussbaumer yes, Oberlin yes, Pancoe yes, White yes. **Resolution 5-2024.**

Robert stated the next meeting on May 2nd will be held at 121 Canal Street, formerly the American Legion building for the Regular Council meeting and safety and finance committee meetings.

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting until the next regularly scheduled meeting on Thursday, May 2, 2024, by Oberlin and seconded by White. Roll Call: Bellinger yes, Diveley yes, Nussbaumer yes, Oberlin yes, Pancoe yes, White yes.

The meeting adjourned at 8:19 pm.

Mayor, Robert Lloyd

Fiscal Officer, Maria App

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