

VILLAGE OF BOLIVAR
COUNCIL MEETING

January 2, 2025

The Bolivar Village Council met in regular session at 121 Canal Street SE on Thursday January 2, 2025. The meeting was called to order by Mayor Robert Lloyd at 7:01 pm.

Bellinger, Conley, Diveley, Oberlin, Pancoe, and White all answered yes to roll call.

Mayor Lloyd opened the floor for nominations for President Pro Tempore.

A motion was made by Oberlin and seconded by Pancoe to nominate Will Bellinger as President Pro Tempore. Roll Call: Bellinger yes, Conley yes, Diveley yes, Oberlin yes, Pancoe yes, and White yes.

A motion to approve the December 5, 2024 regular meeting minutes as written was made by White and seconded by Conley. Roll Call: Bellinger yes, Conley yes, Diveley yes, Oberlin yes, Pancoe yes, and White yes.

A motion to approve the December 2024 bills totaling \$107,079.24 was made by Diveley and seconded by Bellinger. Roll Call: Bellinger yes, Conley yes, Diveley yes, Oberlin yes, Pancoe yes, and White yes.

Receipts for the month of December totaled \$69,500.08 which includes \$2,006.17 of interest from Star Ohio and Huntington.

Additions/Correction to the Agenda

Public Speaks –

Chris Berens noted that she did not see a reason to delay getting tires for the Police cruiser. She stated if it needs tires get them.

She suggested Mayor Lloyd sign all timecards as she does not believe this is happening. Mayor Lloyd assured her that he and the fiscal officer sign all timecards.

Chris stated the survey takers for the water lines coming into resident homes did not knock on the doors as she was told they would. No one knocked offering assistance in identifying the type of line.

Chris expressed concern over the general tattered appearance of the entire Village. She did not like that only 5 angels were displayed for the holiday season stating 27 were purchased years' ago. Rod Tusing stated he displayed the angels that were in good shape. Chris said the Village needs to buy new decorations if that is all that are in good shape.

Chris mentioned the Santa display at the 3 way stop continues to blow over. The neighbors have been setting the display back up, but Chris said it is not their job to do this. She also said the Christmas lights at the 3 way stop are not working.

Chris was disappointed that nothing was cleaned up after the latest wind storm. She said branches are down everywhere including in the streets.

Chris believes there is too much flexibility in hours worked for Village employees. She said there should be a defined time and that the employees should stick to it. Mayor Lloyd said he feels the Village is blessed with the crew they have and the job they are doing. He maintained the flexibility is necessary.

Chris would like the Mayor to send out a letter to residents concerning the upcoming Bicentennial 200 year anniversary of the Village. The letter should contain office hours, phone numbers, etc.

Mayor Lloyd explained that the village is running on a skeleton crew this year in an attempt to recover the budgets.

Rod Tusing stated he will be glad to clean up any debris from the windstorm that he might have missed, and to please call if he overlooked any debris.

Ms Swigert talked about the tree at her property at 320 Canal Street. She said the tree is owned by the Village and that when they moved in many years ago, the tree was only 8' tall and they were able to clean up after the tree. Now it is 28' tall and overwhelming for them to attend to. Mayor Lloyd said Rod did do some trimming on the tree. Rod said he will be out to pick up the debris from the tree and access. Rod said the tree has reached its max height so it will not get any taller. Rod is working on a comprehensive tree plan for the Village, identifying the needs of all trees in the Village. Loretta Diveley requested Ms. Swigert contact Rod if she needs the tree cleaned up and not to overextend herself trying to do it. Rod said he is happy to come clean up any debris from this tree.

Old Business – None.

MAYOR –

Annual Financial status will be presented next month.

Mayor Lloyd announced the appointment of the following positions:

Street Superintendent – Rod Tusing

Village Administrator – Chuck Williams

Water Operator – Chuck Williams

Tax Administrator – Heather Lecce

Mayor Lloyd announced appointments to the following committees:

Finance Committee: Bellinger (Chair), Pancoe, Conley

Safety Committee: Pancoe (Chair), Bellinger, Conley

Street & Alley Committee: White (Chair), Diveley, Oberlin

Parks and Rec Committee: Oberlin (Chair), Diveley, White

COMMITTEE REPORTS

FINANCE – Bellinger stated the PEP insurance renewal cost for 2025 is \$20,648. A \$2,284.84 increase over last year. Motion to accept and renew made by Bellinger and seconded by Pancoe. Roll Call: Bellinger yes, Conley yes, Diveley yes, Oberlin yes, Pancoe yes, and White yes.

Bellinger stated the need of \$1,523.01 for the OPWC payment for Canal Street project. Motion to approve after amending temporary appropriations made by Bellinger and seconded by Pancoe. Roll Call: Bellinger yes, Conley yes, Diveley yes, Oberlin yes, Pancoe yes, and White yes.

Bellinger stated the need of \$367.27 penalty amount resulting from June of 2023. Motion to approve after amending temporary appropriations made by Bellinger and seconded by Conley. Roll Call: Bellinger yes, Conley yes, Diveley yes, Oberlin yes, Pancoe yes, and White yes.

Mayor Lloyd will talk with the Ft Laurens museum about their use of water. In the past the Village did not charge, but with the water now being purchased, this needs to be addressed. It was suggested that Lawrence Township may help them with the cost of water.

Paving for 2025. Bellinger stated the Street and Alley Committee will meet in two weeks and develop a list of paving needs. The Street Superintendent will obtain bids for the prioritized list of streets/alleys and submit to the county. County minimum is \$75,000.

Trash contract bidding. Mayor is securing bids for this service.

Library contract will be up for renewal in May. In the past they paid the village a total of \$3,000 per year for use of the building. Mayor to speak with Tuscarawas County Library board to increase this amount to cover all utilities. The Village will continue to take care of all repairs to the building and landscaping.

Request to expend \$950 for Bicentennial banners. Bellinger made a motion seconded by Diveley. Roll Call: Bellinger yes, Conley yes, Diveley yes, Oberlin yes, Pancoe yes, and White yes.

Request to allow \$700 in repairs to Lover's Alley. Motion made by Bellinger and seconded by White. Roll Call: Bellinger yes, Conley yes, Diveley yes, Oberlin yes, Pancoe yes, and White yes.

Planning and Zoning – Bellinger stated the committee will meet next on January 6, 2025 at 5:30pm, town hall, council chambers.

Safety- There were a total of 47 calls. The new cruiser has been fully outfitted. CPT training all officers complete. Eric Minor is doing well. Only police officers drive the police vehicles, legislation to pass at tonight's meeting. Looking into installing flashing crosswalk signs and submitting grant to Reeves Foundation for funding.

Chief- Wished all a Happy New Year.

Street & Alley- Met on December 19, 2024. White, Oberlin, Bellinger, Lloyd attended.

Discussion of trash contract.

Park Ave North of Poplar needs paving.

Lover's Alley near Tuscarawas Street needs repaired.

Damaged lines on International truck. Battery also needs replaced.

Oil change on Scag mower will cost \$49 for parts.

Leaf vac repairs needed. Broken blades need replaced at an approximate cost of \$3,200. Also needs hoses replaced or repaired. The leaf vac does not require replacement currently.

Trees trimmed on Water and Poplar streets. Four trees were removed on December 19, 2024.

Sewer riser project on North Park Avenue is ready. Looking at risers on Bolivar Street.

Discussed wish list of tools needed:

Hot Water Pressure Washer, Generator, Shovels, Rakes, Leaf Blower, Hedge Trimmers, Mower jack, etc.

Shade Tree- None

Parks and Recreation – Oberlin stated he is getting pricing on new trees to be planted in early spring. He will work with Rod on this.

Oberlin will begin the process of securing insurance documents from the teams using Village ballfields.

Street Superintendent – Rod stated he repaired the salt spreader and it is working fine. He also has the trucks ready for the winter snow season. All mowers are also ready for spring season.

Rod stated Lover's alley is a necessary priority repair. He estimates the cost to be around \$700 which has been approved.

Rod stated his hours are generally 7 to 3, but weather can change this significantly.

Village Administrator – Chuck stated we had a smooth transition to the county water supply system. It has been in operation for the past 1½ months.

The water line survey sent to residents has had excellent response. Homeowners with lines made of galvanized steel will be required by the EPA to upgrade to copper. There is no established timeline for this. Chuck and the county are looking to see if there is any assistance available to residents for this upgrade.

Fiscal Officer – Talking with Webmaster for information for the website from homeland security. Maria said it is a survivor checklist to assist residents in how to prepare.

Sam.gov has been renewed and is good for the next year.

Zoning Inspector – None.

Law Director- Solicitor Steve Babik

Steve briefed council on recent legislation at the state house. HB 331 has passed the house and has been sent to the governor's desk. This bill establishes policy for a Village to dissolve if certain criteria are not met. Steve does not feel this will pose a problem for our Village as we supply the necessary services that are required.

HB 315, known as the christmas tree bill has also passed to the governors' desk. Steve said this bill has a host of things in it, but one to note is the Public records requests for body cam footage, will now allow for a charge of up to \$75 to satisfy the request. This bill is expected to pass.

Legislation:

A Resolution to proceed with the submission of a question of a renewal of tax levy for the purpose of providing and maintaining equipment and permanent personnel in the operation of the Police Department for the Village of Bolivar, Tuscarawas County, Ohio; and declaring the same to be an emergency. Motion made by Bellinger and seconded by Pancoe. Roll Call: Bellinger yes, Conley yes, Diveley yes, Oberlin yes, Pancoe yes, and White yes. **R-1-2025.**

A Resolution authorizing temporary closure and removal of on-street parking for special events as an emergency. Motion made by Bellinger and seconded by White. Roll Call: Bellinger yes, Conley yes, Diveley yes, Oberlin yes, Pancoe yes, and White yes. **R-2-2025.** Bellinger stated this legislation is passing as an emergency due to its need

to begin the process of obtaining the alcohol permit for the events. He said this process takes some time.

A Resolution to authorize a jail services agreement with the Tuscarawas County Sheriff's Office; and declaring the same to be an emergency. Motion made by Bellinger and seconded by White. Roll Call: Bellinger yes, Conley yes, Diveley yes, Oberlin yes, Pancoe yes, and White yes. **R-3-2025.**

A Resolution supplementing and amending the 2025 Temporary Appropriations Resolution; and declaring an emergency. Motion made by Bellinger and seconded by Diveley. Roll Call: Bellinger yes, Conley yes, Diveley yes, Oberlin yes, Pancoe yes, and White yes. **R-4-2025.**

A second reading of a Resolution to authorize the Mayor of the Village of Bolivar to Execute and agreement with Glaus, Pyle, Schomer, Burns, and DeHaven, Inc. (GPD). Motion to suspend rules and regulation was made by Bellinger and seconded by Diveley. Roll Call: Bellinger yes, Conley yes, Diveley yes, Oberlin yes, Pancoe yes, and White yes. Motion to pass as an emergency made by Bellinger and seconded by White. Roll Call: Bellinger yes, Conley yes, Diveley yes, Oberlin yes, Pancoe yes, and White yes. **R-5-2025.**

A Resolution to authorize the Mayor to execute an agreement for sale of real estate with the Tuscarawas Valley School District. Motion to suspend rules and regulation was made by Bellinger and seconded by Pancoe. Roll Call: Bellinger yes, Conley yes, Diveley yes, Oberlin yes, Pancoe yes, and White yes. Motion to pass as an emergency made by Bellinger and seconded by White. Roll Call: Bellinger yes, Conley yes, Diveley yes, Oberlin yes, Pancoe yes, and White yes. **R-6-2025.** Steve stated the sale of this property to the Village will be for the amount of \$1.00.

An Ordinance to approve a new contract with the Village of Zoar to provide Police Services to the Village of Zoar through the year 2026 at the rate of \$40 per hour; and declaring an emergency. Motion made by Bellinger and seconded by Pancoe. Roll Call: Bellinger yes, Conley yes, Diveley yes, Oberlin yes, Pancoe yes, and White yes. **O-1-2025.**

An Ordinance to restrict usage and operation of law enforcement and emergency vehicles; and declaring and emergency. Motion made by Pancoe and seconded by Conley. Roll Call: Bellinger yes, Conley yes, Diveley yes, Oberlin yes, Pancoe yes, and White yes. **O-2-2025.**

A second reading of an Ordinance to authorize the disposal or salvage of unneeded, obsolete or unfit personal property belonging to the Village of Bolivar having no remaining value.

A second reading of an Ordinance to grant Bolivar Main Street Association consent to place and maintain an electric utility pole at the corner of Cherry Street and Sassafras Alley.

A first reading of an Ordinance authorizing permanent appropriations for current expenses and other expenditures of the Village of Bolivar, State of Ohio, during fiscal year ending December 31, 2025.

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting until the next scheduled meeting on Thursday, February 6, 2025, 7PM, at 121 Canal Street SE, by Pancoe and seconded by White. Roll Call: Bellinger yes, Conley yes, Diveley yes, Oberlin no, Pancoe yes, and White yes.

Meeting adjourned at 7:50 pm.

Mayor, Robert Lloyd

Fiscal Officer, Maria App