

VILLAGE OF BOLIVAR

COUNCIL MEETING

April 3, 2025

The Bolivar Village Council met in regular session at 121 Canal Street SE on Thursday April 3, 2025. The meeting opened with the pledge of allegiance and was called to order by Mayor Lloyd at 7:01 pm. White opened with prayer.

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

A motion to approve March 6, 2025, regular meeting minutes as written was made by White and seconded by Pancoe. Roll Call: Bellinger yes, Conley yes, Diveley yes, Oberlin yes, Pancoe yes, and White yes.

A motion to approve March 20, 2025, special meeting minutes as written was made by Pancoe and seconded by Diveley. Roll Call: Bellinger yes, Conley yes, Diveley yes, Oberlin yes, Pancoe yes, and White yes.

A motion to approve the March 2025 bills totaling \$55,764.35 was made by Bellinger and seconded by Conley. Roll Call: Bellinger yes, Conley yes, Diveley yes, Oberlin yes, Pancoe yes, and White yes.

Receipts for the month of March totaled \$142,572.35 which includes \$1,648.91 of interest from Star Ohio and \$277.69 interest from Huntington. Also included is the first half tax settlement of approximately \$77,000.00.

Additions/Correction to the Agenda. None.

Public Speaks – Chris Berens stated it was nice to hear the sirens go off as they have not been working for some time. Patty said the 911 call center and Staley's were alerted that the sirens were not working. Staleys indicated they had several out in the area and would repair it as quickly as possible. They responded within 4 days and found the contacts at the breaker corroded. The sirens are now repaired and working correctly.

Chris expressed her disagreement with the appointment of a new employee at the last meeting without advertising the position. She said she could not attend last month but was told this happened. She applauded Dan Oberlin for his no vote. Bellinger and Mayor Lloyd stated they hired from within and did not need to advertise.

Chris thanked Rod and Nate for hanging the Bicentennial banners saying they look very nice.

Old Business – None.

MAYOR –

Mayor Lloyd requested a motion to move the June council meeting to Thursday May 29, 2025, due to the Strawberry Festival. Bellinger made the motion and Pancoe seconded. Roll Call: Bellinger yes, Conley yes, Diveley yes, Oberlin yes, Pancoe yes, and White yes.

Mayor Lloyd stated the Police levy will be on the May ballot. He will compile information to announce on the next water bill to make residents aware of the election.

Arbor Day Proclamation. April 25, 2025. Mayor Lloyd has been talking with Hennis about a place for planting a tree.

Chris requested the council's approval of \$685.00, a bid she received, to repair/rebuild the deteriorated sign at the 3-way stop. She said the sign after repair will last a good 20-25 years. After repair, the kids can then get the sign painted and all three signs will be complete and look like new. Chris would like action on this as soon as possible so the sign can be in place for the Strawberry Festival. Mayor Lloyd will speak with Maria concerning the budget and let Chris know as soon as possible.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

FINANCE –

Bellinger announced the Police Levy renewal will be on the May ballot.

Bellinger stated that there are on-going discussions with the library concerning the renewal of the contract and the cost to of utilities. Bellinger stated the Village is absorbing ½ the cost of utilities as well as all maintenance costs currently. He said the library representatives indicated their concerns over the state reducing funding for local libraries. They indicated a reduction possibly as high as 100 million which could result in some branches having to close. Bellinger encouraged residents to contact their state representative and voice their concerns over the reduction in funding for local libraries, saying no one wants to see any libraries closed.

Bellinger stated that the UAN quarterly fees have increased for the first time in many years. Maria App fiscal officer stated the amount went from \$762 per quarter to \$876, a \$114 increase. She stated these fees also provide the fiscal office with a new computer and printer every 2+ years, software, and unlimited technical support.

Planning and Zoning – Bellinger said the next meeting will be Monday, April 7, 2025, at 5:30PM in council chambers at Village Hall. Matt Bailey will be reporting the progress to date on revisions to the zoning regulations.

Safety- Pancoe reported a total of 34 calls this past month. He also reported that the Tahoe is back in the shop getting the brakes fixed again. Mayor Lloyd stated the Tahoe also needed a new battery and key fob. Mayor Lloyd said that GM introduced a new brake that the mechanic feel might be the fix for the cruiser. Maria said this should be a warranty item as this is the 3rd set of brakes that have been installed on the Tahoe.

Pancoe reported that auxiliary officer Don Worthy will stay on as an auxiliary officer and begin fulfilling the requirement of working 2 shifts per month.

Chief- Nothing additional to report.

Street & Alley-

White requested a motion to move the next Street and Alley meeting from July 17th to July 10th, 2025, as he will not be able to attend on the 17th. Oberlin made the motion to move the meeting to July 10th and it was seconded by Diveley. Roll Call: Bellinger yes, Conley yes, Diveley yes, Oberlin yes, Pancoe yes, and White yes.

Tim White reported the meeting was held on March 20, 2025, with Mayor Lloyd, Diveley, Tusing, Smith, Bellinger, and Carl Beatty attending.

White stated he and Patty completed an assessment of the sidewalks in the village. Patty developed a spreadsheet and Rod and Mayor Lloyd are adding items as they complete their assessments of the sidewalks.

White reported yard waste pickup will begin April 7, 2025.

Rod and Nate hot and cold patched a lot of the potholes and added gravel on Lover's alley SW.

White said quotes are being obtained for village tree trimming and removal.

Pay in forward day will be April 25, 2025. A total of 10 students will be working at the library: raking, mulching, and cleaning up. Patty stated an additional 8 students will be mulching the bump outs on Canal Street.

White reported the flashing stop signs are mounted and ready to install.

Shade Tree-

Oberlin said he talked with Rod about planting trees for the 2025 season. Rod obtained some costs from one vendor and is working on a second. Oberlin said the quotes he has are less costly but also are for smaller trees. He will continue working with Rod to get the best costs and bring them to the council for approval.

Parks and Recreation – Oberlin stated the village has the necessary insurance documents from the Baseball Association. Patty confirmed she has received the up-to-date insurance documents from the baseball association. Oberlin will continue working on the Football insurance documents, but said they are not using the fields currently.

Street Superintendent – Tusing absent.

Village Administrator –

Patty stated she indirectly received information from a resident concerning the delivery of the door hanger water shutoff notices in the retired police cruiser. Patty said the resident was concerned that it was the police at her door and was upset when she learned it was the street department. Patty agreed the use of what still looks like a police cruiser could cause anxiety and requested council approve the addition of magnetic signage stating “Street Department” on the retired police cruiser. Mayor Lloyd also requested the village add an amber light to the vehicle so it could be used for traffic control when needed. Mayor Lloyd approved of these expenses.

Oberlin requested clarification on the process of water shutoffs. Fiscal Officer, Maria App gave a detailed explanation as to the timing of water shutoffs.

Patty stated the last few weeks have been busy. Mayor Lloyd, Rod, and her have been working to obtain tree bids for pruning and removal. She stated a total of 5 contractors have submitted bids which are being reviewed and will be brought before the council at the May meeting. The tree budget for this year is \$9,700 with part being set aside for planting.

Patty met with Chuck at the pumphouse to familiarize her with the layout of stock, testing requirements, and the siren utility box. Patty said Chuck will be cutting back to 3 days per week for Chlorine testing and the Village will have to develop a schedule for the other 4 days per week as this testing is required daily.

Patty contacted the Ohio Department of Natural Resources and requested a site visit from the local forester/arborist to assist the village in a canopy assessment. The site visit is scheduled for May 16th. ODNR will also schedule to come back and do a site plan for the Village which will identify future tree planting. Patty said the site plan is designed to minimize tree lose if a blight were to come through.

Patty said sidewalk assessments have also begun with one bid pending. She said the sidewalk budget may be used this year to remove three trees that have roots lifting the sidewalk and creating a trip hazard. The sidewalks slabs in these three areas can be reset after the tree and stump are removed as they are all in very good condition.

Patty briefed that 2 bids have been received for crack sealing; I am still waiting for one more contractor to submit. Crack sealing budget is contingent on where the paving bids come in at.

Patty stated we can expect the paving bids in the first week of May.

Patty will meet with Mayor Lloyd, Rod, and Maria to go over all the bids and select, based on budget, the projects for the 2025 season. The recommendations will be brought to the council at the May meeting for approval. She said the plan is to develop a 3-year plan for trees, sidewalks, paving, and crack sealing.

Fiscal Officer –

Maria thanked Buckeye Career Center Graphic Arts Department on a great job on the Village letterhead.

Zoning Inspector – Bellinger reported Matt Bailey will report on his progress on the proposed revisions for the zoning rules and regulations at the April 7, 2025, zoning meeting.

Legislation:

Steve cautioned all concerning ORC 9.03 which prohibits the use of public funds to publish anything that supports or opposes the passage of a levy or bond issue. He said with the upcoming renewal of the 1.5, 5-year, Police Levy renewal be aware it is good to provide general information but do not advocate for the levy.

A Resolution supplementing and amending the 2025 Annual Permanent Appropriations; and declaring the same to be an emergency. Motion to pass was made by Bellinger and seconded by Pancoe. Roll Call: Bellinger yes, Conley yes, Diveley yes, Oberlin yes, Pancoe yes, and White yes. **R-8-2025.**

A Resolution to authorize the Mayor and Village Administrator to hire up to two (2) temporary, seasonal workers on an as needed and continuing basis for the remainder of the calendar year 2025; and declaring an emergency. Motion to pass made by Bellinger and seconded by White. Roll Call: Bellinger yes, Conley yes, Diveley yes, Oberlin yes, Pancoe yes, and White yes. **R-9-2025.**

Steve briefed council members on his conversation with the council from Kimble concerning the proposed contract for trash removal. He said it was a very good discussion and resulted in Kimble agreeing to submit for consideration a one-year, beginning June 1, 2025, contract proposal for village refuse removal.

An Ordinance to authorize the Mayor of the Village of Bolivar to enter a contract for waste removal services and declaring the same to be an emergency. Motion to allow made by Bellinger and seconded by Pancoe. Roll Call: Bellinger yes, Conley yes, Diveley yes, Oberlin yes, Pancoe yes, and White yes. **O-12-2025.**

Bellinger noted that the proposed one-year contract offers residents to request an additional garbage or re-cycle tote. The residents will pay Kimble directly for the additional totes.

Chris Berens asked when the totes could be put out to the curb. Bellinger stated the contract indicates 6AM.

A motion to enter executive session to consider the appointment, employment, dismissal, discipline, promotion, demotion, or compensation of a public employee or official. Action may be taken. Motion made by Pancoe and seconded by Bellinger. Roll Call: Bellinger yes, Conley yes, Diveley yes, Oberlin yes, Pancoe yes, and White yes.

Pancoe and Bellinger announced who was in attendance would remain for the executive session.

The council entered the executive session at 7:44pm.

The council came out of executive session at 8:27 by motion from Bellinger and seconded by Diveley.

A motion was made by Bellinger to terminate Rod Tusing as Street Superintendent effective immediately. The motion was seconded by Diveley. Roll Call: Bellinger yes, Conley yes, Diveley yes, Oberlin no, Pancoe yes, and White yes.

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting until the next regular meeting on Thursday May 1, 2025, at 7:00PM, at 121 Canal Street SE, by Pancoe and seconded by White. Roll Call: Bellinger yes, Conley yes, Diveley yes, Oberlin (tape indicated a no/yes, Pancoe yes, and White yes.

Meeting adjourned at 8:29 pm.

Mayor, Robert Lloyd

Fiscal Officer, Maria App