

VILLAGE OF BOLIVAR

COUNCIL MEETING

September 4, 2025

The Bolivar Village Council met in a regular session at 121 Canal Street SE on Thursday September 4, 2025. The meeting opened with the pledge of allegiance and was called to order by Mayor Robert Lloyd at 7:00 pm. White opened with prayer.

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

A motion to accept and approve August 7, 2025, regular meeting minutes as written was made by Pancoe and seconded by White. Roll Call: Conley yes, Diveley yes, Oberlin yes, Pancoe yes, Strauss yes, and White yes.

A motion to approve the bills for the month of August totaling \$65,825.81 was made by White and seconded by Diveley. Roll Call: Conley yes, Diveley yes, Oberlin yes, Pancoe yes, Strauss yes, and White yes.

Receipts for the month of August totaled \$117,727.62 which includes interest of \$1,989.04 from Huntington (312.02) and Star Ohio (1677.02). The amount also includes the 2nd half tax settlement of \$58,636.46.

Additions/Correction to the Agenda. None

Public Speaks –

Chris Berens expressed concern about the negotiations with the library, asking council to keep in mind that the schools do not offer a library any longer.

Chris said the plaque at the park/monument had been corrected.

Chris stated she would like to see the 3 cutouts for awareness that were placed at the park in a more visible area, suggesting the 3-way stop. She said the message the cutouts promote is critical for all to see and she did not feel the park had enough exposure.

Chris stated trucks are speeding on East Street and she would like to see signs saying the street has a “no trucks” street designation.

Mr. Swank questioned the installation of black landscaping material on the fence line of his neighbor’s property. He said the fence was first installed at 6’ and later reduced to 2’.

Old Business – None.

MAYOR – None

COMMITTEE REPORTS

FINANCE –

Conley made a motion, and it was seconded by White to approve \$203.00 for the purchase of new desk phones through Verizon. Roll Call: Conley yes, Diveley yes, Oberlin yes, Pancoe yes, Strauss yes, and White yes.

Diveley made a motion to approve up to \$50 per month with Spectrum for a new phone line to the pumphouse. Fiscal Officer Maria App is currently negotiating with Spectrum for this line. The motion was seconded by Conley. Roll Call: Conley yes, Diveley yes, Oberlin yes, Pancoe yes, Strauss yes, and White yes.

Pancoe made a motion to approve training costs for Lodging, per diem, and travel for Chief Hilty. Training registration is \$265, lodging at \$150 per night with parking, mileage at the .70 per mile IRS rate, and per diem of \$30 per day per VOB policy. The motion was seconded by White. Roll Call: Conley yes, Diveley yes, Oberlin yes, Pancoe yes, Strauss yes, and White yes.

Strauss made a motion to allow \$100 for CPIM annual fees for the Fiscal Officer. The motion was seconded by White. Roll Call: Conley yes, Diveley yes, Oberlin yes, Pancoe yes, Strauss yes, and White yes.

Motion to increase Village Administrator by \$1 per hour as probation period ends September 7, 2025, was made by Diveley and seconded by Conley. Roll Call: Conley yes, Diveley yes, Oberlin yes, Pancoe yes, Strauss yes, and White yes.

Mayor Lloyd recommended Council enter into a contractual agreement with Michela Huth as Village Zoning Inspector through December 31, 2025, at a rate of \$45 per hour and not to exceed 10 to 15 hours per month. Agreement is structured to allow termination at any time. Council moved this to legislative section.

Maria stated she had received an invoice from GPD, just prior to this meeting, and called to see what the invoice was billing for. GPD stated they will be billing for the hours invested in the verbal request from Will Bellinger and Mayor Lloyd concerning a feasibility study for the land where the school was torn down. Maria will be discussing with GPD and bringing information to the October meeting. Mayor Lloyd stated he was not aware that GPD was going to present a bill for the time; he thought they were to obtain a grant to support the cost. Councilman Pancoe said he will need to see the report we are paying for before authorizing payment. Invoices in question were in the amounts of \$85.00 and \$805.00.

Planning and Zoning –

Next meeting is Monday September 8, 2025. Mayor Lloyd stated that 2 pending permits, one for an addition to a home and another for a barn, will be reviewed. The zoning board will also continue discussions on the proposed revision of the zoning code.

Safety-

Pancoe discussed the need to allow Chief Hilty to attend OPATA training. Funding will be addressed in Finance. Pancoe stated the Attorney General funds received for officer training needs will more than cover this expense.

Pancoe reported that the flashing pedestrian signs are now working properly. Chief Hilty repaired the signs.

Pancoe reported a total of 75 calls, 20 traffic stops, and 2 accidents for the month of August. Chief Hilty stated he will continue the traffic stops to assure drivers that the police are actively watching traffic. He said it is officer discretion as to whether a ticket is issued.

Pancoe stated the Ford Explorer will need a tire rotation and oil change. Chief Hilty said he will get the maintenance scheduled.

Chief Hilty – See Finance and Safety.

Street & Alley-

White reported Street and Alley met on August 21, 2025, with himself, Scott Baker, Mayor Lloyd, Dan Oberlin, and Patty Smith attending.

Trees along Bolivar Street between Strawberry Alley and Park Avenue were identified as needing trimmed. Scott will continue working, getting the trimmed complete.

Scott Baker reported that the library bathroom door project is complete.

Scott continues to work raising catch basins throughout the village.

Dan Oberlin introduced a discussion concerning property near the corner of Bolivar and Canal Street.

The committee learned the grass ordinance needed revision. Discussed ODOT regulations/cost for use of equipment. Patty will propose to begin legislation for a revision of this ordinance for the October meeting.

Loretta Dively commented that she loves the trimming of the ivy off the tree on water street. Patty said there are on-going discussions on the ivy tree with the owners as to who is responsible for the tree. The homeowners would like the tree removed.

Shade Tree

Dan said tree planting remains scheduled for the spring. Mayor Lloyd said he had information and pricing that he will forward to Dan on small flowering trees and pricing.

Parks and Recreation –

Dan Oberlin said he is working on getting the necessary insurance documents from the football association.

Street Superintendent – Defer to VA

Village Administrator –

Patty applauded Fiscal Officer Maria App for the significant savings she secured with the MIDCO diving team by adding the task of cleaning the tanks to the contract. MIDCO stated the tanks are in good shape and no leaks were found; both tanks were cleaned. Fiscal Officer App saved a minimum of \$5,000.00 scheduling the cleaning at the same time as the leak testing.

Patty stated County Water and Sewer Engineer Mike Jones reviewed the water tank plans with her, Scott Baker, and Mayor Lloyd. They visited the site, and Mike offered their services to bring equipment to search for the leak. 5 coupling locations from the plans were determined to be probable for leaking.

Patty is working with Superior Paving on the invoice. She stated that the invoice is running a 14% overrun. Patty stated a section was added during paving, but she was expecting a 6% overrun so she is negotiating this with the company. She will bring a solution to council at October meeting.

Patty reported the leaf vac repair parts cost the village \$3,112.00 with shipping; a significant saving over the anticipated \$3,500 to \$4,000. The leaf vac has been repaired and running good. Mike Hauter assisted with use of his plasma cutting torch for the repair.

Patty discussed the cemetery tree needs and reported that she had talked with the Street and Ally committee about beginning a program of paving every other year, with tree, sidewalk, and crack sealing in the off years. She stated she feels this is the only way to get ahead of the significant tree and sidewalk needs in the village.

Patty reported she will begin work to revise the grass weed nuisance ordinance from 1986, 86-393. She said the ordinance currently states a reasonable cost will be assessed to the homeowner if the village is required to mow the property due to homeowner negligence. Patty said current determination of a “reasonable cost” is the concern suggesting this be replaced with an established minimum charge. She will send ideas for revision to Solicitor Babik for the October meeting to present to council.

Fiscal Officer –

Maria stated she has been working with Chief Hilty concerning the current configuration of the firewall system for the village. She said Chief Hilty, through conversations with the IT team, have determined that the village requires only one firewall. This saves the village over \$1600.00. Additionally, Chief Hilty will install the wiring, saving the village even more money for the installation of the firewall.

New phones for the office are being installed and should be completed soon.

Maria referenced Chris Berens' comment on the placement of the awareness cutout signs. She said the current sign ordinance is in need a revision for better clarity. She said the village cannot allow some signs and disallow others. The ordinance needs cleaned up with clear concise wording and the ordinance will need to be enforced.

Zoning Inspector – None.

Legislation:

Steve reported that he sent the letter council requested concerning the property at 540 Park Avenue where encumbrance/encroachment on an unimproved alley on village property is occurring. He said he does not feel that a favorable agreement can be reached with the tenant as neither the owner nor tenant has confirmed receipt of the letter or offered a resolution. Maria stated she has reached out to the owner of the property and has been told that he will not be talking this over with the tenant. Steve requested council give guidance as to what they wish him to do at this point stating the village could remove the trespass property that is on village property and bill them for the removal or proceed in filing a civil suit with the property owner and tenant. Strauss made a motion to have Solicitor Babik proceed with the filing of a civil suit. The motion was seconded by Oberlin. Roll Call: Conley yes, Diveley yes, Oberlin yes, Strauss yes, and White yes.

2nd reading on a Resolution supplementing and amending the 2025 annual permanent appropriations.

2nd Reading on an Ordinance Repealing Ordinance O-14-2025 and establishing salaries, hourly rates of pay, and benefits for certain positions in the service of the Village of Bolivar, Ohio. Recommendation to pass as an emergency discussed. Motion to suspend rules and regulations made by White and seconded by Pancoe. Roll Call: Conley yes, Diveley yes, Oberlin yes, Pancoe yes, Strauss yes, and White yes. Motion to pass as an emergency was made by Pancoe and seconded by Diveley. Roll Call: Conley yes, Diveley yes, Oberlin yes, Pancoe yes, Strauss yes, and White yes. **O-22-2025.**

An Ordinance repealing Ordinance O-2001-733 and establishing hourly requirements for paid part-time police officers and auxiliary officers in the service of the Village of Bolivar, Ohio; and declaring the same to be an emergency. Motion to pass made by White and seconded by Oberlin. Roll Call: Conley yes, Diveley yes, Oberlin yes, Pancoe yes, Strauss yes, and White yes. **O-23-2025.**

An Ordinance to establish and adopt the Village of Bolivar's Cybersecurity Governance & Incident response policy; and declaring the same to be an emergency. Motion made by White and seconded by Conely. Roll Call: Conley yes, Diveley yes, Oberlin yes, Pancoe yes, Strauss yes, and White yes. **O-24-2025.**

An Ordinance to authorize a contract with and appoint Michela Huth as Zoning Inspector for the Village of Bolivar; and declaring the same to be an emergency. Rate of pay \$45 per hour, not to exceed 10-15 hours per month. Motion made by Pancoe and seconded by Diveley. Roll Call: Conley yes, Diveley yes, Oberlin no, Pancoe yes, Strauss yes, and White yes. **O-25-2025.**

A Resolution accepting the Amounts and Rates as determined by the Budget Commission and authorizing the necessary tax levies and certifying them to the County Auditor; and declaring the same to be an emergency. Motion made by White and seconded by Pancoe. Roll Call: Conley yes, Diveley yes, Oberlin yes, Pancoe yes, Strauss yes, and White yes. **R-15-2025.**

A Resolution authorizing the Fiscal Officer to Amend the Certificate of Estimated Resources for the Year 2025; and declaring the same to be an emergency. Motion made by Diveley and seconded by White. Roll Call: Conley yes, Diveley yes, Oberlin yes, Pancoe yes, Strauss yes, and White yes. **R-16-2025.**

A Resolution supplementing and amending the 2025 Annual Permanent Appropriations; and declaring the same to be an emergency. Motion made by Pancoe and seconded by Conley. Roll Call: Conley yes, Diveley yes, Oberlin yes, Pancoe yes, Strauss yes, and White yes. **R-17-2025.**

Loretta Diveley stated the annual Century bicycle ride will pass through the village at the end of September. She requested council's approval of the directional event signs in the curb strip. Pancoe made a motion to approve, and it was seconded by White. Roll Call: Conley yes, Diveley yes, Oberlin yes, Strauss yes, and White yes.

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting until the next regular meeting scheduled for October 2, 2025, at 7:00 PM at 121 Canal Street SE, by White and seconded by Conley. Roll Call: Conley yes, Diveley yes, Oberlin yes, Strauss yes, and White yes.

Meeting adjourned at 8:07 pm.

Mayor, Robert Lloyd

Fiscal Officer, Maria App