

VILLAGE OF BOLIVAR

Regular Council Meeting Minutes

July 2, 2026

I. Call to Order and Roll Call

The Bolivar Village Council met in a regular session at it's new location of 256 Poplar Street SW on Thursday, July 2, 2026. The meeting opened with the pledge of allegiance and was called to order by Mayor Curtis Strauss at 7:00 pm. White opened with prayer. Conley, Lawver, Oberlin, Strauss, Yonally and White all answered yes to roll call

II. Approval of Minutes

- **Minutes Acceptance:** A motion was made by Conley and seconded by White to accept the meeting minutes from the April 2nd and May 7th regular council meetings.
Roll Call: Conley yes, Lawver yes, Oberlin yes, Strauss yes, Yonally yes and White yes

III. Acceptance of Bill Payments

- **June Bills:** Council discussed the payment of bills for the month of June totaling \$97,181.30, which included a semi-annual OWDA loan payment of \$25,262.87. Yonally moved, seconded by Lawver to approve the payment. **Roll Call:** Conley yes, Lawver yes, Oberlin yes, Strauss yes, Yonally yes and White yes
- **May Bills:** Council discussed the payment of bills for May, through the 31st, totaling \$65,262.78. The prior meeting was on May 28, therefore a partial month was previously reported. White moved, seconded by Conley to approve the bills for May. **Roll Call:** Conley yes, Lawver yes, Oberlin yes, Strauss yes, Yonally yes and White yes
- **June Receipts:** Receipts for June 2026 totaled \$86,573.02 (including interest of \$1,718.97, with \$278.58 from Huntington and \$1,440.39 from Star Ohio). Lawver moved, seconded by Yonally to approve the receipts for the month of June. **Roll Call:** Conley yes, Lawver yes, Oberlin yes, Strauss yes, Yonally yes and White yes
- **May Receipts:** Receipts for the month of May 2026 (through the 31st) totaled \$87,802.61 (including interest of \$1,755.00, with \$284.29 from Huntington and \$1,471.28 from Star Ohio). Lawver moved, seconded by Yonally to approve the receipts for the month of June. **Roll Call:** Conley yes, Lawver yes, Oberlin yes, Strauss yes, Yonally yes and White yes

IV. Corrections/Additions to the Agenda None.

V. Public Speaks (limited to 3 mins per guest unless otherwise approved in advance)

- **Park report updates:** Chris Berens was in attendance and noted that the park flowers and decorations are set up in red, white, and blue with flags. She went on to state the picnic tables and fence are in need of updates. A proposal was discussed to potentially coordinate with local high school students needing community service hours to assist under supervision.
- **Safety concerns:** Chris Berens also brought up ongoing issues regarding speeding trucks on East Street. She also raised concerns over what sounded like six cannons going off prior to the fourth of July causing local noise disruptions.

VI. Old Business - None.

VII. Mayor's Report

- **Relocation Announcement:** The Mayor announced all safety, finance and regular Council meetings will now be held at the Bolivar United Methodist Church, located at 256 Poplar Street, Bolivar, Ohio 44612.
- **Committee Locations:** All Street, Alley, Shade Tree, Recreation, and Zoning meetings will remain at the Town Hall location (117 Canal Street).
- **Ohio Erie Coalition Request:** The coalition requested approval to place directional signage for the 2026 Huntington Towpath Central Ride. Signs will go up on Friday, September 18th and be removed by Sunday, September 20th. Conley moved, seconded by White to approve the directional signs. **Roll Call:** Conley yes, Lawver yes, Oberlin yes, Strauss yes, Yonally yes and White yes
- **Zoning Board Appeals Hearing Announcement:** A Board of Zoning Appeals hearing is scheduled for August 3, 2026, at 5:30 PM at the Village Hall, located at 117 Canal Street NE, Bolivar. The regular zoning meeting will immediately follow.

VIII. Committee reports:

Finance Committee Report (Conley, Chair)

- **Colonial Life Insurance Policy:** Council debated a recommendation for a \$10,000 life insurance option costing the Village \$2.00 per month per employee. Ann Strauss moved, seconded by White to authorize the expense. **Roll Call:** Conley yes, Lawver No, Oberlin yes, Strauss yes, Yonally No and White yes; The motion passed; 4 yes; 2 no.
- Conley moved, seconded by Strauss to authorize the Village Administrator to certify a delinquent water and trash account in the amount of \$239.00 to the County Auditor. **Roll Call:** Conley yes, Lawver yes, Oberlin yes, Strauss yes, Yonally yes and White yes

- **Uniform policy discussion:** Council extensively debated the uniform allowance policy. It was noted that safety equipment (eye/ear protection, coats, gloves, high-visibility shirts for the summer and winter) hard hats and safety vests are already fully provided to the Street Department by the village. Council debated whether to pay an additional clothing expense allowance on top of safety gear. Lawver moved, seconded by Yonally to continue supplying only mandatory safety items/equipment without additional monetary clothing allowances. **Roll Call:** Conley yes, Lawver yes, Oberlin yes, Strauss yes, Yonally yes and White yes

Planning & Zoning

- **Upcoming Meeting:** The next regular Zoning meeting is scheduled for Monday, July 6th at 5:30 PM at the Town Hall.
- **Ordinance Discussion:** Oberlin brought to Council an ongoing review of the old municipal ordinances versus adopting a generic code update. Concerns were raised regarding retaining specific laws for parking, noise, and signage rather than over-generalizing municipal rules. He prefers keeping the old ordinance versus adopting the over complicated proposed new zoning code that is still under review.
- It was also discussed there would be a Zoning Appeals Hearing on August 3rd; which is a special session of Council. Council is the Board of Zoning Appeals.

Safety – (Yonally, Chair)

-Yonally reported a total of 51 calls for service during the month of June.

Police Chief (Chad Hilty)

Intersection Visibility: The Chief noted he is working with the Street Department to address blind spots caused by tall grass and overgrowth at intersections, explicitly noting an 8-foot tall grass hazard at East Street and Water Street. Private property owners are also being contacted to trim growth obstructing views near Cherry Street and East Street.

Street & Alley – (White, Chair) Maintenance:

The Street and Alley Committee met on June 18, 2026. Reported the Car Show was a success; the turn out wasn't quite as good as previous years due to the weather; but went well otherwise. The fence at the reservoir has been completed. The department is purchasing 1 to 1.5 tons of asphalt to patch potholes.

Ohio Erie Trail Clearing: Overhanging trees on the sidewalk at the corner of Canal Street and Yant, as well as near Bolivar Pizza on the towpath trail, need trimming. App suggested getting quotes for the trees that need trimmed up.

Shade Tree - none

Parks & Rec (Strauss, Chair) - none

Street Superintendent – Baker (absent) – Mayor Strauss reported on behalf of Baker; noting they performed mowing at the water reservoir; cleaned a catch basin on Bolivar Street. He also reported 1-1.5 tons of asphalt was purchased to patch holes this week.

IX. Village Administrator's Report (Miranda Senty)

New Point Community Church Event: The church reached out to organize a "Community Day" on July 26th, offering free labor for landscaping, painting, or minor electrical work for residents in need. The village will use its call-out alert system to notify residents, setting a sign-up deadline around July 5th for the 8 to 10 available slots.

X. Fiscal Officer's Report (Maria App)

- **ACH Billing Update:** The new ACH debit rollout for water billing went live successfully with 54 residents enrolled.
- **Special Council Session Scheduled:** A special session must be called in July to approve two tax levy renewal resolutions for the general fund and street construction fund and to certify them with the Board of Elections. There will also be a 3rd reading of the policies and procedures manual and meeting minutes to be approved. Yonally moved, seconded by Lawver to advertise for a special session of Council on Monday, July 20, 2026 at 5:30pm at the Town Hall. **Roll Call:** Conley yes, Lawver yes, Oberlin yes, Strauss yes, Yonally yes and White yes

XI. Legal & Final Legislation

- **Ordinance O-18-2026:** Strauss moved, seconded by White to approve AN ORDINANCE TO AUTHORIZE THE ADVERTISEMENT AND SALE OF PERSONAL PROPERTY BELONGING TO THE VILLAGE OF BOLIVAR THAT IS NOT NEEDED FOR MUNICIPAL PURPOSES; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. **Roll Call:** Conley yes, Lawver yes, Oberlin yes, Strauss yes, Yonally yes and White yes
- **Resolution R-8-2026:** Lawver moved, seconded by Yonally to approve a RESOLUTION TO APPROVE A CROSS CONNECTION CONTROL PROGRAM CONTRACT WITH AQUA BACKFLOW, INC.; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. **Roll Call:** Conley yes, Lawver yes, Oberlin yes, Strauss yes, Yonally yes and White yes
- **Resolution R-9-2026:** Lawver moved, seconded by Yonally to approve A RESOLUTION OF NECESSITY REQUESTING THE TUSCARAWAS COUNTY AUDITOR TO CERTIFY THE TOTAL CURRENT TAX VALUATION AND THE DOLLAR AMOUNT OF REVENUE TO BE GENERATED BY A TAX OF 1.8 MILLS. (Renewal levy) **Roll Call:** Conley yes, Lawver yes, Oberlin yes, Strauss yes, Yonally yes and White yes
- **Resolution R10:** White moved, seconded by Lawver to approve A RESOLUTION OF NECESSITY REQUESTING THE TUSCARAWAS COUNTY AUDITOR TO CERTIFY THE TOTAL CURRENT TAX VALUATION AND THE DOLLAR AMOUNT OF REVENUE TO BE GENERATED BY A TAX OF 2.9 MILLS. (Renewal Levy) **Roll Call:** Conley yes, Lawver yes, Oberlin yes, Strauss yes, Yonally yes and White yes

XII. Adjournment

White moved, seconded by Conley to adjourn until the **scheduled Special session of Council** for the purpose of approving two resolutions relating to the renewal of the general fund and

street construction levies that need certified with the Board of Elections; to approve meeting minutes and to have a 3rd reading of the policy and procedures ordinance . The special session will be held on Monday, July 20, 2026 at 5:30 pm located at the Village Town Hall at 117 Canal Street NE; Bolivar 44612. **Roll Call:** Conley yes, Lawver yes, Oberlin yes, Strauss yes, Yonally yes and White yes

Reminder: The next regularly scheduled council meeting will be held on **Thursday, August 6, 2026**, at 7:00pm. **All safety, finance and regular Council meetings will be held at the Bolivar United Methodist Church at 256 Poplar Street SW; Bolivar 44612.**

Adjourned at: 7:47 PM

Mayor, Curtis Strauss

Fiscal Officer, Maria App