

Bolivar City Council Meeting

January 8, 2024

6:00 P.M.

The Bolivar City Council met in regular session, Monday, January 8, 2024, at the Bolivar Municipal Building with the following attendance:

Present:

Mayor Julian McTizic
Councilmember Michael Brown
Councilmember Melvin Golden
Councilmember Todd Lowe
Councilmember Larry McKinnie
Councilmember Caroline Miller
Councilmember Suzanne Rhea
Councilmember Chris Williams
Councilmember Tommie Woods

Others present: Carri Beth Rhea, Sarah Rice, Mick Vinson, Jim Nuckolls, Asst. Chief Michion Gatlin, Chief Mike Jones, Anthony Ford, Eddie Vandiver, Jessica Phillips, Ricky Watkins, Dylan Hill, Wanda Robison, Mammie Polk, and Lisa Raines and family.

Mayor McTizic called the meeting to order, welcomed the guests in attendance and those who were watching on social media. Mayor McTizic asked Councilmember Woods to lead the group in prayer and followed with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of Minutes:

Mayor McTizic asked if there were any corrections to the minutes from the December 11, 2023 council meeting. There being no corrections, Councilmember Lowe made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Woods to approve the minutes as written. All voted "Aye."

Mayor's Report:

- a. City offices will be closed January 15th in observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day.
- b. Mayor McTizic announced that the MLK Day Parade will be held January 13th at 2:00 pm. He then invited Ms. Wanda Robinson to the front to tell everyone the parade details. She invited the council and everyone in attendance to attend the 32nd MLK Day Parade. The line up will be at Bolivar Elementary School. Ms. Robinson stated she hoped to see everyone there to honor Dr. MLK Jr.
- c. Mayor McTizic also announced there will be an open house kickoff hosted by Tennessee Minority Business Development Agency on January 26th at 1:00 pm here at City Hall. He invited all small business owners or those looking to open a business to attend. This event is open to citizens of Hardeman, Haywood, Fayette, and Tipton counties.
- d. The mayor invited Mrs. Lisa Raines to the front for recognition on her recent award. Mrs. Raines was recently awarded the Tennessee School Nurse Administrator of the Year. Mayor McTizic presented her with a gift to thank her for the dedication to our school system and community.
- e. Mayor McTizic asked that Mrs. Mammie Polk come to the front for a presentation honoring her late husband Mr. Thomas Polk. Mr. Polk passed away late November 2023 after a long battle with cancer. Mayor McTizic highlighted some of Mr. Polk's achievements during his earthly life and contributions to the community. Mr. Polk was pillar in the Hardeman County School system for many years, and loved all of the students that he met along the way. He was loved by all of the community.

Public Comments: None

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Electric – Mayor McTizic

The Bolivar Energy Board met on December 20, 2023 for their regular monthly meeting. The following actions were taken by the Board:

- Changed the Lineman standby time from 9 to 12 hours on weeks they are on duty for trouble calls.
- The board approved Tanatulus as the new automated meter system vendor. BEA will be updating the meters and system in the next few months.
- President/CEO's contract was renewed for a new three year term.
- BEA will be closed January 15th for Martin Luther King Jr. Day.
- Fiber update:
 - Project is 100% complete! Connecting customers in all areas of Hardeman County.
 - 3,143 active customers- 2,945 residential customers and 198 commercial customers.
 - 189 waiting for service.

Utilities – Jim Nuckolls, Director

The Bolivar Utility Board met on January 3, 2024 in regular meeting to discuss the following:

- The lift stations on Ruby Lane and Martindale are installed and completed. This will close out the 2021 CDBG Grant.
- Water inspection was completed and scored a 98, which is a great score.
- The board voted to use city attorney, Kevin Snider, as the Utility Board Attorney.
- Gas prices for January are \$0.65.

Fire – Assistant Chief Michion Gatlin

- Total fire calls – 32 (25 city, 7 county), Civilian Fire Injury-0, Fire Service Injury- 0
- Training hours – 204
- Smoke alarms installed – 6
- Fire Code Inspections – 11
- Public Relations Events-3

Police – Chief Mike Jones

- Calls for service – 504
- Citations – 127
- Accidents – 28 (0 fatal, 9 injuries, 19 property damage)
- Arrests – 14 (1 juvenile, 13 adult)
- Special events- THSO, Small Town Big Christmas, Shop with a Cop
- Training Hours- 328

Parks and Recreation Department – Anthony Ford, Director

- We have been begun to take down the Christmas lights at Sand Beach Lake.
- Adult exercise (line dance) class continues on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 5 pm.
- Youth basketball league (6-10 year olds) will start on Saturday, January 13th. The 11-14 age group registration will begin next month.
- The adult volleyball league went well and ended on last Thursday.

Street/Sanitation – Eddie Vandiver, Superintendent

- Taking down decorations from Small Town Big Christmas.
- Picked up leaves and branches. The leaf truck is currently broken down and we are waiting on the parts to come in to get it working again.
- Tons taken to landfill: 283.23 commercial, and 117.90 residential for a total of 401.13 tons.
- January is bulky item pick up.
- Everything else routine.

Library, Jessica Phillips, Director

- Financials: Donations, Copies, Fines, and Faxes- \$607.65
- Total Programs: 9, Total Participates: 105, Estimated August Patronage:710
- Circulations Report: Material Circulation- 1,579, Computer Users- 253, Wi Fi Users- 1,948, READS (Regional E-book and Audio Book Download System)- 641

Compliance/Zoning – Ricky Watkins

- Building Consultations – 5
- Building permits written– 3
- Building Inspections – 3
- Plumbing Inspections – 1
- Mechanical Inspections – 0
- Courtesy Notice Issued – 20
- There will be a Slum Hearing on February 12th following the council meeting.

Community Development and Tourism- Dylan Hill, Director

- Completed the Small Town. Big Christmas Festival throughout downtown Bolivar.
- Hosted “Retro-Christmas Spectacular” at the Luez Theater.

Old Business:

a. Second Reading of Ordinance 2023-007: Amend Official Zoning Map for the Property located at 312 East Market Street

This Ordinance will amend the official zoning map by rezoning the property located at 312 East Market Street from R-2(Medium Density Residential) to B-1 (Neighborhood Business). The Bolivar Regional Planning Commission approved this rezoning request in November 2023 and forwards a favorable recommendation. Mayor McTizic asked for a motion to adjourn from Executive Session to Public Hearing. Councilmember McKinnie made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Williams to adjourn to go to Public Hearing. All present voted “Aye”. There being no public questions nor comments concerning Ordinance 2023-007, Councilmember McKinnie made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Golden to reconvene to Executive Session. All present voted “Aye”. Mayor McTizic asked the council members if there were any questions concerning Ordinance 2023-007. Councilmember Miller spoke of her concerns on the traffic and safety of the location to be a commercial zone. She also mentioned that she is working on getting the area where the property is located in the historic district on the state and national levels. Councilmember Woods asked Councilmember Miller if she had any conversations with the residents in the area of the property. Councilmember Miller state that she had and the most frequent comment was the concern on safety and wrecks. Councilmember Woods stated that he feels a retail store would be good for the area and its residents. Councilmember Williams spoke up about the economic impact he believes a retail store in East Bolivar would bring and the residents would benefit. Mayor McTizic brought up during the conversation that this Ordinance is to vote to rezone the property and not decide what the property’s end use would be. After much discussion, Councilmember McKinnie made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Golden to approve the second reading of Ordinance 2023-007. Councilmember Miller voted “Nay”. All others present voted “Aye”. Motion passed.

b. Approval for a 6 month extension on the 2022 Mack Side-Arm Automated Refuse Collection Truck Loan and the 2022 Mack 40 Yard Front-Loader Automated Refuse Collection Truck

Mayor McTizic brought before the councilmembers an approval for a 6 month extension for the 2022 Mack Side-Arm Collection Truck, Loan # 6002036, and for the 2022 Mack 40 Yard Front-Loader Collection truck, Loan # 6002127. He noted that loan # 6002036 comes to maturity on February 4th and loan #6002127 comes to maturity on March 4th. The city does plan to replace these two trucks with newer models and sell the 2022 models however the new trucks are not ready yet. Councilmember Golden made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Williams to approve the 6 month extension on loan # 6002036 and loan # 6002127 that is for the residential and commercial collection trucks. All voted "Aye".

New Business:

a. Resolution 2024-001: Calling for a Public Hearing on the Proposed Annexation of Territory into the City of Bolivar by Referendum and a Plan of Services

This Resolution calls for a Public Hearing on the proposed annexation of territory and a Plan of Services for this territory. Mayor McTizic explained that this Resolution is another beginning step in the annexation process. The mayor handed out maps of the proposed territory to remind the councilmembers of the area under consideration of annexation. A list of the Plan of Services was also given to all of the councilmembers. After a review of the Plan of Services, a discussion was held on proposed dates for the Public Hearing. Councilmember McKinnie made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Williams to approve Resolution 2024-001. All voted "Aye".

b. Approval for Annexation by Referendum Public Hearing Date

After some discussion, it was decided to hold the Public Hearing on the proposed annexation territory and Plan of Services on February 12th at 6:00 pm during the regular scheduled City Council meeting. Councilmember McKinnie made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Williams to approve February 12th for the Public Hearing for annexation by referendum. All voted "Aye".

c. Approval for Public Hearing for the City's intent to apply for the FY2024 CDBG Grant

Mayor McTizic brought before the council the city's intent to apply for the fiscal year 2024 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG). He went on to explain that a Public Hearing was needed to in order to apply for the grant. If awarded the grant, the funds will be used to purchase a new fire truck. The Public Hearing will be held on January 29th at 5:30 pm at City Hall. Councilmember McKinnie made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Williams to approve January 29th as the Public Hearing for the city's intent to apply for the FY2024 CDBG grant. All voted "Aye".

There being no further business, Councilmember McKinnie made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Williams to adjourn the meeting. All voted "Aye."

Attest:

Mayor

City Clerk & Recorder

