

# **VILLAGE OF BOLIVAR COUNCIL MEETING August 28, 2017 (September meeting)**

The Bolivar Village Council met in regular session on **Monday, August 28, 2017**. Mayor Hubble called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was said. Lloyd opened the meeting with a moment of prayer. Gettan, Lang, Lapp, Lebold, Lloyd & Vincent answered roll call.

Gettan moved, seconded by Lapp to accept the previous meeting minutes, bills paid and financials. In a roll call vote, all members present voted yes.

The Fiscal Officer read the bills for the month of August (through 8/28/17) totaling \$36,929.40. Lapp moved, seconded by Vincent to approve the bills. In a roll call vote, all members present voted yes.

The Fiscal officer had one correction from the previous month regarding the payment of the bills. The actual payment of the bills through July 31, 2017 was \$57,839.68. App reported the previous amount reported was slightly lower since the August meeting was prior to the month close in July.

**PUBLIC SPEAKS:** - none

**MAYOR HUBBLE** – Announced the Bolivar Lion's Club is having a race; it's called the Longest Dam 5k. It's a race and fun run walk on October 21, 2017 located at the Bolivar Dam. What makes this special is this is the first time they have done anything like this. The Army Corp of Engineers and the Muskingum Watershed is allowing this to happen. It's going to be a big thing. The Mayor invited people to participate; come out and walk and receive a t-shirt. The race starts at 9 A.M.; ending around noon. People can go to the Village of Bolivar website to access the registration form. As an option people can go directly to eventbrite.com to pay by credit card.

The ribbon cutting ceremony for the dam will be on Friday, October 20; time to be determined. The race is October 21st. The cost of the race if you want a medal is \$25.00; pre-registration is \$20.00. All those pre-registered will automatically receive a t-shirt. Medals will be given in the different age categories. It's \$12.00 for those that want to just walk for fun.

The terrain of the race makes it unique. It will be asphalt, gravel, grass and two flights of stairs. There will also be different gradual inclines.

**FINANCE:** - Lapp made a motion, seconded by Gettan **to amend appropriations as a RESOLUTION, R-13-2017**. In a roll call vote all members present voted yes.

Lapp reported, through the efforts with Michelle Ramsell at the Library, the Village has received three (3) grants to fund the furnace project at the library.

Lapp also reported the Village received an invoice from Quicksall totaling \$12,700.00 to apply for ODOT funding and other grant applications. Lapp deferred to the solicitor.

Armstrong stated the Village had an agreement with Quicksall to pay \$7,500.00; the Village has not signed anything additional with them. In her opinion, they can receive the contracted amount of \$7,500.00. Armstrong went on to state she will coordinate with the fiscal officer to draft a letter stating the Village will pay for the contracted amount; anything above and beyond that was not approved. Lebold interjected he was in agreement. He acknowledged the contractual fee for the ODOT application but also agreed nothing else was presented to the village for additional fees.

Lebold asked the status of the other two grants; "are they completed and secured?" Armstrong stated the Village has already signed the agreement to secure those; the Mayor is the interim manager until GPD designates their project manager.

Lebold asked about the contract with GPD and the amount of funding we are approved to receive. The Fiscal Officer clarified by stating the Village has been approved for \$539,600.00 with ODOT, \$360,400.00 with OPWC (grant/loan) and \$150,000.00 with ARC. If you add those amounts together it totals \$1,050,000.00. The Key is we are using the \$150,000.00 from ARC to offset the loan portion of the OPWC funding. App went on to state the Villages out-of-pocket are approximately \$30,000.00; absent any unforeseen circumstances.

Lapp deferred the proposed GPD contract to the solicitor. Armstrong stated upon her review, she did not have a problem with the general terms of the contract. Their terms were pretty simple and clean. She said if Council is good with the scope of services, she didn't have any problem with the agreement as it stands. Armstrong re-iterated if Council is alright with the scope of services, they could go ahead and approve the contract as an Ordinance. She stated she had an opportunity to talk to GPD; they said they understand things are a little rushed. They went on to state if the Village needed to work out any verbiage and needed to wait until the next meeting to approve that's ok.

Lang moved, seconded by Lapp to suspend the rules to approve **AN ORDINANCE CONTRACTING WITH GPD GROUP FOR THE CANAL STREET IMPROVEMENT PROJECT AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY**. In a roll call vote, all members present voted yes to suspend the rules.

Lapp moved, seconded by Vincent to approve the **ORDINANCE, O-32-2017, AS AN EMERGENCY**. In a roll call vote, all members present voted yes.

The last item reviewed by the finance committee was ID badges for employees and public officials; to have proper identification within the village or for attending conferences. There is a company called "Full Identity" where we can purchase ID badges at a cost of \$10.50 for 20 people; total cost would be

approximately \$210.00. Lapp moved, seconded by Lang to approve the ID badges. In a roll call vote, all members present voted yes.

**PLANNING** – Lebold reported they did not have a zoning meeting in August. They will have a meeting in September as a couple of issues have come up recently in regards to campers and trailers being parked at homes in the residential district. Lebold stated some of them are not legal and will need addressed in zoning. Hubble reported she and Charlie will not be available on September 7. After some discussion amongst the Mayor, Franks and Lebold, they concluded they can do September 5, 2017 at 5:30 P.M.

Franks asked the reporter to put something in the paper encouraging people to call the Village before adding a storage shed or fence, etc. to see if they need a permit first. Franks said he just spoke with someone today who didn't think they needed a permit. Lebold stated they recently had an issue where a fence needed moved as well as a shed.

**SAFETY** - Lebold reported the police had 78 calls in the month of August. He went on to report there was additional discussion in safety regarding the solicitors permit fee. Unfortunately the ordinance pertains to all commercial activity, whether a resident or not. Non-profits and church groups do not need a permit.

Safety has provided a copy of the police policies and procedures to the solicitor to review and digitize. The policies are also in need of being updated.

The committee also discussed the topic of body cams; looking to implement a policy.

**CHIEF** – The Chief stated they keep hiring people but it's been a revolving door. He noted at some point between now and the next Safety meeting a few things will need to be addressed. There are some shifts that aren't being covered. The department has had some "no shows". The Chief went on to review some recent incidents without coverage. Haugh suggested instead of having four part time guys to cover three (3) shifts; perhaps have one person cover the shifts. Part of the problem is many people want to start in Bolivar; gain experience and move on to other departments that can offer full time. Haugh went on to review several officers we lost in the past year to other departments with better opportunity.

**STREET & ALLEY** - Lloyd reported the street committee met on August 14 at 7:30. He reported the dump truck is being prepped for its new dump bed.

Lloyd also noted they have received some positive feedback regarding the situation on Parkview.

Lloyd stated Franks attended the RCAP meeting; they went over hydrant valve expressing. He also learned a lot about water meter and how to charge water.

**STREET SUPERINTENDANT / ADMINISTRATOR** - Reported Noah Carpenter left for college. He said Noah started painting hydrants before

leaving. In the RCAP meeting they went over the color codes for how many GPM's each hydrant has. There are now reflective collars on our hydrants that will let the fire department know how many GPM's (gallons per minute) that hydrant can put out. RCAP recommended we do that. If there is a structure fire, they will be able to identify the output based on the color.

Mayor Hubble asked if the hydrants that haven't been painted yet if they will be painted. He said yes. The Mayor asked if he only did Poplar. Franks reported there are 61 hydrants and Noah has painted ten (10) of them. He said it will take a little bit of time but they will get to them.

Franks said he went to ODOT today about State Route 212; learned their tentative date to begin prepping Route 212 is on September 5; grinding to begin on September 11. There will be a lot of machinery and it will be noisy. Their hope is to be complete by the end of October. The project will start at the 1st river bridge; coming through town down Poplar and Park Avenue; through the 3-way stop and out of town towards Wilkshire.

**SHADE TREE** – Dave Cipar got trees done at the school making it safe for the kids. Franks said he still has some clean up to do. They are still working on the ash trees; more and more each day. They are time consuming things.

**RECREATION** - Vincent reported they met on Monday, August 14 at 7:45 following the special council meeting where council met with three engineering firms regarding the downtown project.

Reported that Lang met with TC United Soccer Association regarding the youth soccer field. In Mid August they expressed an interest to use the area along the tree line to create multiple soccer fields; whether temporary or long term. Lang advised they could use that area for this year only and revisit the topic next year. He went on to state, if everyone is alright with it, the Village would need to provide proof of insurance and if they are to do any work on the land they will need to fill out waivers first.

There was additional discussion about where they will be storing their goals. The Mayor said they will need to work with Franks. Franks stated the Fiscal Officer has the waivers for TC United to sign.

Lang moved, seconded by Vincent give permission to TC United to use the land behind the (old) Burfield property for soccer fields. All members present voted yes.

**FISCAL OFFICER** – none

**LAW DIRECTOR** –

Armstrong stated it has come to her attention that there is going to be a work session of finance at some point to discuss the shared health insurance percentage. Since that is going to be researched further, the proposed Ordinance would be tabled until the October meeting for a second reading; in November it could come up for a third reading.

Lebold raised a question regarding the health insurance; he asked if the employers were ever asked how they felt about having to pay a percentage. He went on to ask when Haugh or Franks were hired, were they hired under the understanding that their insurance would be 100% paid. The solicitor stated it's not a contract. Lebold recapped, "it's not a contract"; then went on to ask if there was a verbal commitment. Armstrong stated, unless there is some kind of collective bargaining agreement when hired in Ohio the employer has the flexibility /ability to change those terms. She went on to state if the insurance becomes too expensive the employer has the ability to have the employee increase their share; this happens all the time with employers due to the sky rocketing cost of insurance. Armstrong stated there is nothing illegal about changing that.

App interjected the health insurance topic as been a topic since she was on council so this is not a new topic; therefore it should not come as a surprise to any employee. Some of the employees impacted have been in the finance meetings when this topic has come up; there should not be a surprise element. Armstrong said since there will be a work session, opinions of council members can be discussed. Lebold stated, he wasn't trying to bring any problems, he was just bringing up concerns he has heard. Armstrong re-iterated the topic would be tabled for this month so it can be explored further.

The next item for discussion was regarding whether the Village would go to monthly water billing versus quarterly. The fiscal officer stated it was discussed in finance as to moving forward with monthly billing. Pros and cons were discussed as to the cost of fees and supplies; there are some options to consider as to how the Village can utilize its resources to help out with the transition. Lang asked if we need to resolve it now as to waiting until the third reading. Armstrong stated it would need resolved by the third reading.

Lang and Lebold liked the idea of going monthly. Lang went on to express that monthly will certainly increase the work load initially but hopes to be able to get people on board with electronic billing which would help immensely. App stated this would be more like a pilot season to see how monthly would work out. She went on to say we would certainly want to encourage our residents to get on board with electronic billing, however, there are some added challenges as to whether residents choose to go auto withdraw with the village verses doing it on their own. App still sees several challenges with getting electronic billing set up with a fixed withdraw date. Lebold raised an additional challenge for those on Social Security and automatic withdraw dates.

App reported there are currently approximately 10 people who automatically send in a designated amount per month to be applied to their water bill.

Lang asked when the billing cycle would go out next. He would like to perhaps see some type of notice go out in advance notifying the residents of the change once it's approved. App said we would need to order envelopes as the current billing is sent via a postcard. App said that's something else that needs to be considered; sending in an envelope at .49 each; vs .34 each. Lang would like to get the word out as early as possible. Perhaps a notice can be printed on the back of the postcard. App said we could do that but based on the previous water billing, when there was a message on the back, less than 50% responded to the message. It's hard to tell; we could highlight the message and hope it's seen.

Before adjourning, Vincent recapped the following meeting dates: Zoning will be on Tuesday, September 5 at 5:30; Street and Alley; Shade Tree & Recreation will be on Monday, September 18 at 5:30. The next regular council meeting will be on Monday, October 2. The work session of council for October was also discussed. It was determined the work session would be on Monday, October 16 after the regular committee meetings. Lebold asked what was the work session on Oct 16; App said it's the annual finance work session of council. The Mayor stated she would not be in town for the September committee meetings.

There being no further business, Gettan moved, seconded by Lapp to adjourn until the next regularly scheduled meeting on Monday, October 2, 2017. In a roll call vote, all members present voted yes.

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Mayor Rebecca S. Hubble

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ATTEST: Maria A. App, Fiscal Officer

Approved: October 2, 2017