

VILLAGE OF BOLIVAR

COUNCIL MEETING

January 3, 2022

Solicitor Tara Wright Timberlake administered the Oath of Office to Mayor Tim Lang. Mayor Tim Lang administered the Oath of Office to Council Members Loretta Diveley, Tim White, and Will Bellinger. Tedd Finlayson was absent and will take the Oath of Office at the February meeting.

The Bolivar Village Council met in regular session at Village Hall on Monday, January 3, 2022. The meeting was called to order by the mayor at 7:05 pm. The Pledge of Allegiance was said. Lawver opened the meeting with a prayer. Bellinger, Lawver, White, Oberlin, and Diveley all answered to roll call. Finlayson was absent.

Mayor Lang asked for a nomination for President Pro Temp for 2022. Oberlin made the nomination/motion to name Will Bellinger President Pro Temp. The nomination/motion was seconded by Lawver. Nominations were closed. Roll Call on motion for Will Bellinger to fill seat as President Pro Temp 2022: Lawver, White, Oberlin, Bellinger, and Diveley all voted yes.

The Mayor asked for a motion to accept the minutes of December 8, 2021. Bellinger moved, seconded by White. In a roll call vote, Lawver, White, Oberlin, Diveley, and Bellinger all voted yes.

The Mayor ask for a motion to approve the bills for December 2021 which totaled \$52,866.22. Oberlin moved, seconded by Bellinger, to approve the bills. In a roll call vote, Lawver, White, Oberlin, Bellinger, and Diveley all voted yes.

Mayor Lang ask if there were any corrections to the agenda. There were no corrections.

PUBLIC SPEAKS –

Courtney Wallace introduced herself as the Bolivar Branch Library Supervisor. She thanked Kyle and Zach for an awesome job cleaning up the leaves around the library. Courtney reported that the library offered 28 programs over the past few months for adults and children with a total of 277 in attendance.

Anne Straus expressed concern over the new water billing, saying she does not want the amount lowered as discussed and then raised in 2023. Rather, she would like to see the Village keep the base rate at the current cost of \$43 per month and invest the money for future repairs which are certain to come. Scott Baker also agreed stating keeping the rate at \$43 per month would allow the Village to set aside money to fix and water lines needing repaired. Mayor Lang said there has been discussion to lower the rate to \$35 in 2022 and raise to \$43 in 2023 as proposed by Nathan Davis of RCAP. Lang stated that he spoke with Nathan Davis about resident input of keeping the rate at \$43 and Nathan agreed that it would be wise to do this and set the money aside for any necessary repairs.

Lang ask council for their thoughts on the setting of metered rates (when ordinance was in 2nd reading). Oberlin stated he would like to see the rates go down and bill water by gallons of use. He sited how other municipalities are using metered rates. Oberlin said his sewer bill has gone down and the water bill should too. He reported he understands that the Village must make enough money to support operations and improve water lines, but for a single person who does not use a lot of water, the rate should not be set so high.

Bellinger said he would like to leave the current rate of \$43.00 stay in place as the base when the Village begins metered rates. He expressed that the Village has a lot of very old water lines that will need to be upgraded soon and that this could be supported if the rate remains the same. Bellinger said the Village is billing at break-even cost currently and thought it would not be wise to reduce the base rate.

Lang said money may become available through the federal infrastructure bill, however the Village will have to provide some match.

Lang said discussion will continue with no action tonight, a decision will be made at the February meeting.

Anne Straus requested the ODOT feasibility request resolution so she could get the request in the mail.

OLD BUSINESS – None

MAYOR –

Mayor Lang made the following appointments for Committees 2022:

Finance: Bellinger (Chair), Lawver, Diveley (meets at 6:00 prior to regular council meeting 1st Monday of Month)

Safety: Lawver (Chair), Diveley, Bellinger (meets at 5:30pm prior to regular council meeting 1st Monday of Month)

Street & Alley: Finlayson (Chair), Oberlin, White (meets 3rd Monday of Month at 5:30pm)

Parks & Recreation: Oberlin (Chair), White, Finlayson (meets 3rd Monday of Month following Street and Alley)

Zoning: Bellinger (President), Oberlin (Member)

Mayor Lang assigned a temporary Committee to review the Policies and Procedures and make recommendation for revision to Council:

Mary Vincent, Tedd Finlayson, Matt Judy

Regular Council meetings will be held the first Monday of each month at 7pm in council chambers at Village Hall.

Mayor Lang stated all meetings for 2022 will be held in council chambers at Village Hall unless otherwise advertised.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

FINANCE – Bellinger stated that the Finance committee held a work session just prior to this regular council meeting this evening.

Bellinger reported total bills for the month of December was \$52,866.22. StarOhio interest was \$28.01 and Huntington interest was \$7.32.

Bellinger reported the amount charged for trash service will not be sufficient to cover costs when Kimble raised their rates based on projected CPI. Village Administrator Matt Judy stated the rate will have to be raised to \$14 per month to cover the projected cost. See Ordinances for 1st reading.

Matt Judy and Patty Smith explained the renewal process they are pursuing to get the Village complaint with SAM.gov, a requirement if the Village receives federal funding. A annual renewal amount of \$500 was paid and the Village should be in compliance soon.

Bellinger reported there are concern with the use of ITsecure for the Village network IT needs. He said discussion will continue and a recommendation will be presented to council. Matt Judy said there was a meeting with Pioneer360 to investigate costs and services.

Bellinger briefed council on the increased annual renewal rate for PEP, the village insurance policy. The rate increase was approximately 5% stated by Patty Smith.

Bellinger made a motion to update Huntington Bank signatures to Mayor Lang, Village Administrator Matt Judy, and Fiscal Officer, Patty Smith. Oberlin seconded the motion and in a roll call vote, all present voted yes.

Bellinger made a motion to allow for the purchase of a set of forks for the village bobcat with a not to exceed amount of \$1200, based on a recommendation presented from the Street & Alley committee. The motion was seconded by White. In a roll call vote, all members present voted yes.

A discussion of the GIS contract renewal (Great Lakes Communications) for water line GIS services lead to item being tabled awaiting further information.

Bellinger said the Credit Card Policy will need to be updated to include Auditor of State recommendations. See Ordinances for 1st reading.

Finance Committee discussed allowing employees to donate sick leave time to employees in need. See Ordinances for 1st reading.

Finance Committee discussed allowing for the purchase of a refrigerator, microwave, and coffee pot for Village Hall. See Ordinances for 1st reading.

Patty requested council allow for the purchase of "Leapfile", a program to allow the Village Tax Administrator to securely receive tax files from filers. Total cost is \$220 per year. Mayor Lang said amount is below \$500 so it could be ordered without council approval.

Lang said we will need a first reading on an Ordinance for 2022 Permanent Appropriations. See Ordinances for 1st reading.

Planning Commission- Bellinger stated that the Zoning Committee intends to hold a hearing on January 6, 2022, at 5:30pm for a request for a variance at 409 Canal Street NE.

Safety- Lawver stated there were 33 calls for service in the previous month. He reported a total of 694 calls in 2021 which is up from 614 in 2020. This results in a average calls per month of 58. Lawver said the patrol rifle is still waiting on the scope to arrive before delivery. Safety committee continues to review equipment needs for the police department.

Jeff Stearns stated he is grateful to work for such a good organization as the Village of Bolivar.

Chief- Jeff Stearns present for Chief Haugh. Nothing to report.

Street & Alley-

See Ordinances for 2nd reading on Parking ordinance.

Oberin said Kyle is in the process of assessing the needs for sidewalk replacement/repair and trees throughout the Village. This will result in a 3 year plan based on funding to complete the necessary repairs. Oberlin said the sidewalks have been overlooked for years and there is a lot to get done.

Street Superintendent-

Kyle reported he and all equipment are ready for winter weather. He has received a pallet of calcium chloride bags and will deliver to businesses in need. Kyle said this will save our sidewalks from pitting and deterioration that results from using salt.

Dana Emerick stated, in the past, snow is pushed up to the fire hydrant on Parkview Drive. Kyle said he will ensure this will not happen to ensure access to the fire hydrant.

Shade Tree –

Mayor Lang submitted all necessary document ensuring the Village is compliant as a Tree City USA.

Recreation – Oberlin reported the Strawberry Festival will be held June 16,17, and 18th, 2022

The annual Car Show will be held July 23rd, 2022. Oberlin said the village had a large participation in 2021 at the car show.

Christmas on the Canal will be held November 12, 2022.

Fiscal Officer – All reported in Finance Committee.

Village Administrator –

Matt reported he and Kyle contacted the Tuscarawas County Engineer and verbally committed to participate in the county paving contract saving the Village funds. He reported Kyle is working on a list of needs that will be sent to the County Engineer for cost. The deadline to submit is February 22nd. The Village can review the costs and prioritize depending on fund availability.

Matt & Kyle are also contacting the Ohio Department of Natural Resources for guidance in tree management within the Village. Several sidewalks in the Village are heaved up due to tree roots. Lola Lewis will schedule a visit with Matt and Kyle to assist with the village tree management.

Matt contacted OMEGA concerning funding available for the School Sidewalk Program and found that the Village will not qualify for this funding since the school will be vacated in the future. Matt said he will schedule a meeting with OMEGA to discuss other funding options that may be available.

Matt found that the Village was paying property taxes unnecessarily. He prepare and will file an exemption to stop the assessment. He stated they will go back 3 years which could result in a savings of approximately \$1800.00.

Matt stated Tedd Finlayson ask for a GIS map of the Village. Matt contacted the County Auditor's office and they are working on getting this for the Village.

Lang said the focus in 2022 is largely on trees, parking, and sidewalks.

Law Director- Solicitor Timberlake

3rd reading: An Ordinance providing for the contractual services of legal counsel for the Village of Bolivar as Village Solicitor. Tara Wright Timberlake. Motion made by White and seconded by Lawver. In a roll call vote, all members present voted yes. **Ordinance 2022-1 passed.**

3rd reading: An ordinance providing for the prosecutor contractual services for the Village of Bolivar. Fitzpatrick, Zimmerman, & Rose. Motion made by Bellinger and seconded by Diveley. In a roll call vote, all members present voted yes. **Ordinance 2022-2 passed.**

3rd reading: An ordinance by title only to deed the Santa Claus house (structure only), not land to Bolivar Main Street. Motion made by Lawver and seconded by White. In a roll call vote, all members present voted yes. **Ordinance 2022-3 passed.**

2nd reading: An ordinance, by title only, to increase the rate of pay for Kyle Porter, Street Superintendent.

2nd reading: An ordinance, by title only, adopting a parking ordinance that would allow council to fine/tow vehicles that are left on village property.

2nd reading: An ordinance, by title only, to permit the Village of Bolivar implement metered rates for water billing.

1st reading: An ordinance authorizing the President Pro Tem and Fiscal Officer of the Village of Bolivar to execute the attached agreement between the Village of Bolivar, Ohio and the Board of Tuscarawas County Commissioners for Inmate Housing at the Tuscarawas County Jail and declaring an emergency. Motion to suspend rules and regulations made by Lawver and seconded by Diveley. In a roll call vote, all members present voted yes. Motion to pass as an emergency was made by Bellinger and seconded by Lawver. In a roll call vote, all members present voted yes. **Ordinance 2022-4 passed.**

1st reading: An ordinance, by title only, 2022 Permanent Appropriations.

1st reading: An ordinance, by title only, to allow employees to donate accrued sick leave to employees in need.

1st reading: An ordinance, by title only, amend the policies and procedures manual to allow for the purchase of a refrigerator, microwave, and coffee pot for village employees. Use of salary line item in budget for this benefit.

1st reading: An ordinance, by title only, to update the Village credit card policy.

1st reading: An ordinance, by title only, to increase the amount of trash service to \$14.00 per month.

The mayor asked for a motion to adjourn until the next regular council meeting on February 7, 2022, at 7:00 p.m. at Village Hall. Motion to adjourn by Diveley and seconded by White. In a roll call vote, all members present voted yes. The meeting adjourned.

Mayor Tim Lang

ATTEST: Patty Smith, Fiscal Officer

Approved: