

**BOLIVAR  
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING  
MINUTES  
Tuesday, November 7, 2017 @ 7:30p.m.**

**Helen Dettmer, Mayor  
Sarah Gordon  
John Paul Heafer-Mayor Pro Tem  
Stephen J. Paradis  
Jerry Powell  
Scott Whetsell  
P. Jean Reed, Recorder**

Mayor Dettmer asked everyone to stand for a moment of silence and the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Call to Order**

The regular meeting of the Bolivar Town Council was called to order by Mayor Helen Dettmer on Tuesday, November 7, 2017 @7:31p.m.

**Treasurers Report**

The Treasurers Report for July 1, 2017-October 31, 2017 was given by Mayor Dettmer in the absence of Accountant Eric Lewis. Mayor Dettmer reported to date our total income is \$153,584 and our total expenses are \$132,351 leaving a net income of \$21,233. Our target % is 33% and we are at 35%.

**Councilperson John Paul Heafer moved to approve the Treasurers report as presented.  
Councilperson Scott Whetsell seconded the motion. Motion passed.**

**Minutes**

**Approval of Minutes for October 3, 2017 Regular Meeting**

With no corrections noted, **Councilperson Scott Whetsell moved to approve the minutes of October 3, 2017 Regular Meeting as presented. Councilperson Jerry Powell seconded the motion. Motion passed.**

**Attendee Concerns:**

- Matt Lacey spoke about an ongoing drug problem on Elm Street in Bolivar. He said he had once been a care taker of the property which is in a trust. The owner lives out of state and the owners' daughter had been living there. The daughter had a drug overdose on the 29<sup>th</sup> of September. Police and ambulances were called to the scene and she recovered and then went to jail. Mr. Lacy said he tried to help the young lady but with no avail. He said the owner of the property and mother of the victim wanted her to remain in jail and possibly get help. The Police are aware of the man that has been visiting this young lady and selling drugs. Mr. Lacy questioned the close proximity to Harpers Ferry Middle School and whether there were any signs indicating school property and a drug free zone. Mr. Lacy said he just wanted people to be aware of drug activity and to please call and report it to Police. Councilperson Jerry Powell said there are Drug Free Zone signs on Harpers Ferry Middle School Property. Councilperson Sarah Gordon said she was glad the drug activity on Taylor Street was cleaned up.

**Town Attorney, Dave Hammer**

No report from Mr. Hammer who was absent from this meeting.

**Mayor's Report**

- Mayor Dettmer praised and thanked Laura for all the help with a successful Farmers Market. She spent a lot of her own time working on this project. We had a great summer and are looking forward to next year.
- Homeland Security Meeting/Luncheon was held on October 12. The program was about recruiting Volunteer Fire Fighters. They had a nice program and presented a retired Fairfax County Fire Fighter to train new fire fighters.
- Attended the Region 9 Regional Meeting and worked on our three year development plan.
- Meeting at the Clarion with the Ranson Jefferson Day Report. They had a guest speaker on addiction from American University and she gave a wonderful report. The speaker is a recovering alcoholic. Those with addictions painted rocks with their addictions painted on them and buried them outside. We have been asked to host the next Jefferson Day Report.
- A White Tail Deer report has over 900 pictures at Mayor's House alone. Forms are coming in and data is being collected now. Data will be presented to the public probably in January or February and we will proceed then.
- This coming Saturday (11/11/17) at 10:00a.m we will honor our Veterans with a parade starting at the Fire Co. and ending at Harpers Ferry Middle School with a ceremony. Come out and support your Veterans.
- Steve Paradis handed out an "Over the Mountain Studio Tour" brochure for Nov. 11-12, 2017 advertising a free, self-guided tour of artist studios through Jefferson Co., WV.

**Sheriff's Department Report and Public Comment (Corp. Forman)**

There were a total of 88 recorded calls of service from October 1-October 31, 2017. The breakdown included: 46 direct patrols, 3 animal complaints, 1 Breaking and Entering, 1 custody dispute, 4 follow up investigations, 1 missing child, 1 EMS assist, 2 Thefts not in progress, 2 suspicious persons, 1 drug activity, 2 traffic stops, 1 K-9 assist, 1 noise complaint, 2 special events-Halloween & 5K, 1 alarm call, 1 assault not in progress, 1 citizen assist, 1 harassment, 2 verbal domestics, 1 threat, 3 public service, 2 suspicious vehicles, 1 911 hang up, 1 trespassing, 4 welfare checks, and 1 psychiatric emergency.

The Jefferson County Sheriff's Office continues to provide the high quality service to Bolivar. If members of the Council and Citizens have a general concern about law enforcement to call the Sheriff's Office during business hours Monday-Friday 8 AM to 5:30PM and anytime there is an emergency to call 911.

Councilperson Scottie Whetsell thanked the Sheriff's Department for being in Bolivar on Halloween Night.

**Street Committee (John Paul Heafer)**

Councilperson Heafer did not have anything to report. We are still working on the price for the Guard Rail on Jefferson Street.

**Bolivar Planning Commission (Steve Paradis)**

- Request for a deck at Ashland Village, but, they did not meet the setbacks. Board of Zoning Appeals will meet next week
- Jessie Richardson, WV Law Clinic is still holding firm to the position that administration should give permits and not the Planning Commission. Really want to hear Attorney Hammer's opinion on this.
- This could open for a legal opinion.
- We will look at the sub division ordinances next.

**Parks and Recreation Committee (Laura)**

No report tonight

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## **Old Business**

Nothing

## **New Business**

### **1. Discussion of Town Office Door**

Councilperson John Paul Heafer said the door is not satisfactory to him. He feels there needs to be another door before entering the office door. At the present time, anyone can reach around, open the door, and enter the office which does not protect our employees if someone is extremely upset. We also need to look at another exit from the office for safety reasons. Mayor Dettmer thought we could extend the ledge that is on the present office door so someone could not reach around, open the door, to get into the office. Mayor Dettmer also suggested we cut a hole in the top portion of the door similar to what they have at the banks. Councilperson Heafer would still like to see us put another door mid way in the hallway. We will do some checking with Cubic Construction once we decide what we are going to do. Mr. Garza might be able to do this work.

### **2. Approve Bid for Snow Removal**

Laura reported we only received one bid for snow removal. This was advertised for three weeks. The bid was from George Courtney for Snow Plowing and Treating (37) Town Streets. For Plow Trucks = \$70.00 per hour, Bob Cat, Loader, and/or Large Dump Truck each = \$85.00 per hour. Mr. Courtney's prices only increased \$5.00 per hour over last years bid. Councilperson Steve Paradis asked how this works, when Mr. Courtney starts or stops plowing snow or treating the streets. Mayor Dettmer said this is worked out between Laura and Mr. Courtney, they are on the phone from the time it starts to snow and it stops snowing. Mayor Dettmer said not many people want this job of taking care of 37 streets. Laura coordinates this project by keeping Mr. Courtney's hours and he in turn is always in touch with Laura. Mr. Courtney plows all the parts of Bolivar that the State is responsible for but can't get to right away such as H.F. Fire Department and the Sewer Plant. **Councilperson Jerry Powell moved to approve the Bid for Snow Removal from George Courtney as provided on Bid #026636. Councilperson Scott Whetsell seconded the motion. Motion passed.**

### **3. Discussion of USDA removal of Turkey Vultures**

Laura explained we have had a couple of complaints about Turkey Vultures. Mayor Dettmer contacted the United States Department of Agriculture for a Cooperative Service Agreement between the City of Bolivar and the United States Department of Agriculture Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) Wildlife Services (WS). (See attached agreement for complete details) The cost to try to eliminate the Turkey Vultures would be \$4000 to Bolivar. There is no guarantee this would work. In Harpers Ferry, the Vultures left for six months and then returned. In the past, Bolivar has tried the dead carcasses hanging in a tree. The Vultures left for a short period of time and also returned to Bolivar. Some felt the Vultures will not leave as long as residents continue to feed them. They are just looking for something to eat usually dead carcasses. Councilperson Steve Paradis felt we should not pay to have them removed if people are going to feed them. Councilperson Steve Paradis would like for us to contact Potomac Valley Audubon Society for assistance and advice. He also suggested we check to see if PBAS has any programs at the school that we may use. No action was taken as all felt it cost too much. It was also suggested we send a letter to everyone in town asking them not to feed the Vultures and not to throw trash out in the open (without trash containers) or in the town creek. We will ask John Garza to check out the town creek for trash.

### **4. Proclamation of Christian Heritage Week in West Virginia**

Mayor Dettmer said she received this Proclamation by Governor Jim Justice proclaiming November 19-25, 2017 as Christian Heritage Week in West Virginia. Councilperson Steve Paradis says he finds this Exclusive not Inclusive of all West Virginians. Councilperson Steve Paradis said this was started in 1992 by Bruce Barilla who has several web-sites and he feels this is discriminatory, and felt some people would not be welcome in Bolivar. We depend a lot on Tourism. He said he would not vote in favor of this

Proclamation. Councilperson John Heafer said we would not be showing people they are not welcome here. Councilperson Sarah Gordon said she agrees with John Paul. Mayor Dettmer said this Proclamation came from Governor Jim Justice. Mayor Dettmer does not see anything wrong with this. We can have prayer, we welcome everyone, we, do not exclude anyone. Councilperson John Heafer said next we will do away with the Fireman's Parade at Christmas. Mayor Dettmer read the Proclamation from Governor Jim Justice. **Councilperson Scott Whetsell moved to approve the Proclamation of Christian Heritage Week in West Virginia. Councilperson John Paul Heafer seconded the motion. Roll call as follows**

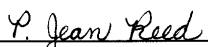
<b>John Paul Heafer</b>	<b>Yes</b>	
<b>Steve Paradis</b>	<b>No</b>	
<b>Sarah Gordon</b>	<b>Yes</b>	
<b>P. Jean Reed</b>	<b>Yes</b>	
<b>Jerry Powell</b>	<b>Yes</b>	
<b>Scott Whetsell</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>Motion Passed</b>

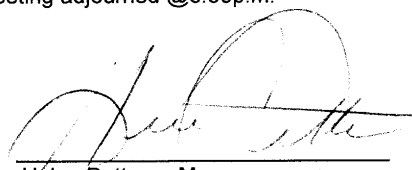
- Councilperson Sarah Gordon reminded everyone the ground breaking of CVB last month was well attended.
- Notice: Friendship Fire Company Christmas Parade will be held on Saturday, December 9, 2017. Line-up at 1:30p.m. and the Parade starts at 2:30p.m.

#### **Adjournment**

**Councilperson Scott Whetsell moved to adjourn the meeting. Councilperson Sarah Gordon seconded the motion. Motion passed. Meeting adjourned @8:50p.m.**

Respectfully submitted,

  
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P. Jean Reed, Recorder

  
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Helen Dettmer, Mayor