

**BOLIVAR
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
MINUTES**
Tuesday, January 5, 2016 @ 7:30p.m.

**Helen Dettmer, Mayor
Donna Callar
Tim Collins-Mayor Pro Tem
John Paul Heafer
Chris Higdon-Absent
Paul David Staubs**

Mayor Dettmer asked everyone to join in 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, January 5, 2016 @7:30p.m.

Treasurers Report

Accountant Eric Lewis presented the Treasurers Report for July 1, 2015-December 31, 2015. No Bank Statement as available as of January 5, 2016. Mr. Lewis explained that our target % should be @50% and we are above most of those amounts. Property Taxes are @67%, Video Lottery was @65%, Gaming is @53%. Rents and concessions are @85%, Interest earned on Investments are @60%. Expenses are at 36% of the budgeted 50%. Our total income was \$228,618 and our total expenses were \$185,717 which is \$43,000 less than the income for December. Net income for December was \$42,901. Also the newly enacted 1% Sales Tax for the first quarter netted \$4805. See attached copy for complete details. **Councilperson Paul Staubs moved to approve the December, 2015 Treasurers Report as presented. Councilperson John Paul Heafer seconded the motion. Motion passed.**

Sheriff's Department Report (Sgt. Williams)

Sgt. Williams reported 159 calls since September 1. There were 27 calls for December. He thanked Friendship Fire Company for the fine December 12 Parade. For any questions please call the Sheriff's Department or 911.

Minutes

Approval of Minutes for December 1, 2015 Regular Meeting

Councilperson Donna Callar moved to accept the minutes of the December 1, 2015 Regular Meeting as presented. Councilperson Paul Staubs seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Attendee Concerns

- Vicki Eckert-Remember in October Mr. Hammer said we would have a public meeting on the Police Budget and we are running out of time. Some of us are interested in the budget process. Mayor Dettmer said the budget process has always been open to the public. The budget meeting will take place in March. The public will be notified as a regular meeting. Also, Mrs. Eckert would like to request the Police Department be placed on the agenda as a regular committee agenda item. Mrs. Eckert said she does appreciate everything the Sheriff's Department does.

Town Attorney, Dave Hammer

- Good News on the issue of a public hearing
 1. Hold a public meeting on the most engaging issue
 2. Is the Town interested in a Police Levy?
- This will guide the Council on how to move forward

- Post the meeting on the Web and contact Mr. Lewis for information on different classes of Property
- If people are interested, they should be heard

Councilperson Collins said if we vote on the Police Levy, we need interest from both towns (Harpers Ferry and Bolivar)

- Attorney Hammer said we need a sense of what is wanted (Multi-year, one year, or more than one year)
- Attorney Hammer said we will continue to engage Harpers Ferry but our options are limited.
- Attorney Hammer said we would need 60% of the vote.

Margaret Courtney said not everyone in Bolivar agrees with Mrs. Eckert and what she says about the Police Department.

Mrs. Eckert asked about the Police Line item being removed.

Mayor Dettmer said we have not removed any money from the Police Money line item

Councilperson Heafer asked if there is the possibility of an Independent Police Department.

Mayor Dettmer said there is a large majority of people that are silent. Some have approached her saying they are comfortable with the way things are now.

Councilperson Heafer said we did not kick Harpers Ferry out, we offered Harpers Ferry \$190,000 and they would not accept it. That was all we could afford.

Mrs. Eckert said well, that's what you tell me. That might not have been the best solution.

Mr. Garza said she just called you a liar.

Mrs. Eckert said maybe I did.

Councilperson Heafer said I am not a liar. They would accept \$190,000 but they cut the police protection off in March.

Councilperson Staubs said this is the way this conversation should be going:

- We do not have a police department
- We are not going to get a police department unless
- We try the suggestions from Mr. Hammer
- They were offered a considerable amount of money and they did not accept.
- That decision has already been made
- The most stupidest thing they did was turn Bolivar's \$190,000 down.
- They used to have 3 full time policemen, and a part time Chief. Now what do they have.

Margaret Courtney said she contacted the Police with a concern that she needed to talk with someone about (not an emergency) and they will be coming to talk to her. She feels comfortable with the coverage from the Sheriff's Department.

Attorney Hammer reminded everyone that for years the Sheriff's Department has been available to Bolivar at no cost. If we could afford a contribution to the Department that would be greatly appreciated. There would not be 24 hour service, but reminded everyone we did not have 24 hour service from Harpers Ferry when we were paying them \$253,000 per year. The Sheriff's Department would be happy with \$70,000 from Bolivar and possibly an office here in Town Hall.

Mayor Dettmer reminded everyone that we do have space if that is the decision of the people.

Attorney Hammer also reminded everyone of the County Commission Meeting on January 21 for Bolivar's Urban Growth Boundary.

Mayor's Report

- Thanked Fire Company for a great parade on December 12.
- Remember Mary Rutherford (former Town Council Member) for her many years of service to Bolivar
- Continuing property clean-up around Bolivar

Bolivar Park & Recreation Committee (Donna Callar)

- Bolivar Building Commission has been dissolved as of the October Meeting.

- Members are John Garza, Eric Eastman, and Mark Sager.
- Meetings are held the second Wednesday of each month @7:00p.m. at Town Hall
- Bushes have been trimmed (in front of the park) that were out over the sidewalk.
- Trimmed some of the trees leaning over from the Ash Property and on some of the playground equipment.
- Removed the Water Garden (in front of the picnic pavilion) due to safety hazard. Some of the rocks were very sharp. Planning to bring in equipment to level out this area.
- Trying to get the Ivy off the trees
- Weather Vane on the Spring House has served its purpose. Committee is looking for a new weather vane.
- Anyone have things in the Park they would like to have done, please call one of the members.

Street Committee (John Paul Heafer and Paul Staubs)

- Water Department needs to patch on Jefferson Street and the sidewalk on Washington Street.
- Harpers Ferry Middle School is still working on the stream and cleaning it out possibly in January.

Bolivar Planning Commission (Paul Staubs)

- Danny Chavalos is interested in being a member of the Bolivar Planning Commission. He has lived in Bolivar for about two years.
- Commission is about 1/3 the way through the ordinances.

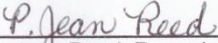
Old Business

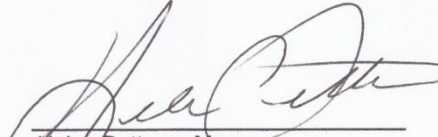
New Business

Adjournment

Councilperson Paul Staubs moved to adjourn the meeting. Councilperson John Paul Heafer seconded the motion. Motion passed. Meeting adjourned @ 8:10p.m.

Respectfully submitted,


P. Jean Reed, Recorder


Helen Dettmer, Mayor