

The regular meeting of the Benton Village Board was called to order by Village President, Gary McCrea, at 6:30 p.m. in the conference room of the Benton Business Incubator Building at 244 Ridge Avenue on Wednesday, March 16, 2016, with the following members present: Gary McCrea, Chuck Wartner, Rose Walton, Jessica Polfer, Terry Sheffer and Jim Sysko. Absent: Cal Robbins. Village employees present: Beverly Hitz and Ryan Carver. Others present: Jonessa Haas, Ben Heidemann and Sheriff Reg Gill. In compliance with the open meeting law, proper notice of the meeting had been posted in four public places; the Zephyr Depot, Benton State Bank, Benton Post Office, and the Benton Business Incubator Building.

Motion (Walton,Sheffer) to approve minutes from the regular village board meeting held on February 17, 2016, public nuisance meetings held March 3 and March 14 and the zoning board of appeals meeting held on March 9, 2016 as presented. Voice-all ayes. Carried

Ben Heidemann from Town and Country Engineering presented an updated summary of alternatives for Phosphorus Compliance using sewer rates in place as of March 31, 2016. We do not qualify for a variance at the present time. A lengthy discussion of the many options followed. We will draft a letter to the EPA and also draft a resolution to be presented at the April 20th board meeting. *Motion (Polfer, Walton) to have Ben Heidemann submit the required report to the DNR without conclusion.* Roll-all ayes. Carried

Reg Gill informed the board of a change in the software for the Lafayette County Sheriff's Department that will be implemented in January, 2017. He discussed a probable increase in our contract in 2017 and 2018, due mostly to increased health care costs. Gary asked him about the Taser that we currently have since it is being phased out. Reg suggested that we use it as long as possible.

Ryan Carver presented a report showing lead testing results for 6 different years. Benton is required to test 10 separate samples every 3 years. We have always been well below the action level for lead.

The board discussed the options for updating the football field at Swift Park. Ryan Carver will talk with the School Board and report back. No action was taken.

Motion (Polfer, Sysko)) to approve request from Ryan Carver and Bev Hitz to carryover 40 hours of vacation each. Roll-all ayes. Carried

Motion (Sysko, Sheffer)) to approve request from Ryan Carver to attend WRWA conference March 30th through April 1st, 2016. Roll-all ayes. Carried

Motion (Sheffer, Sysko)) to approve request from Bev Hitz to attend LWMMI policy holder conference April 28th-29th, 2016. Roll-all ayes. Carried

Gary had a recommendation for the summer mowing position that is open. We will combine the mowing with the watering of the flowers. Jim Sysko graciously offered the use of his four wheeler to do the watering. He only asks that we do the required maintenance and pay for the gas. The board agreed by general consent that Gary should go ahead and offer the position to the interested party then report back. The board will vote on this matter at the April meeting.

Motion (Sysko, Sheffer)) to issue an order to raze a building in the Village of Benton. Roll-all ayes. Carried

Motion (Sheffer, Walton) to approve spring leaf and brush collection dates April 18th – April 22nd and the supervised burn dates April 4th – 15th, 2016. Roll-all ayes. Carried

The claims against the Village were presented for payment. *Motion (Walton, Polfer) to pay the claims against the Village.* Roll-all ayes. Carried.

Motion (Wartner, Sheffer) to adjourn. Voice-all ayes. Carried. The meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.