

The Village of Benton Regular Board Meeting 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, August 20<sup>th</sup>, 2014 with the following members present: Gary McCrea, Jessica Polfer, Jim Sysko, Chuck Wartner, Rose Walton, and Terry Sheffer. Absent: Cal Robbins. Citizens present: none. Employees: Elizabeth Schoenmann and John Perkins. Proper notice of the meeting had been posted in four public places; the Benton Business Incubator Building, Benton State Bank, Benton Post Office, and the Zephyr Depot, in compliance with the Open Meeting Law.

McCrea gave an update on the Benton Business Park and potential sale of 72 Easy St. He will also have the village clerk contact Johnson Block in order to look into closing the TID.

*Motion (Sheffer, Wartner) to accept the meeting minutes of the business park committee meeting held August 18<sup>th</sup>, 2014. Roll-all ayes. Carried.*

*Motion (Sheffer, Wartner) to accept the meeting minutes of the regular village board meeting held July 16<sup>th</sup>, 2014, the special village board meeting held July 21<sup>st</sup>, 2014, and the public nuisance committee meeting held July 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2014. Roll-all ayes. Carried.*

John Perkins informed the board the street patching would be done in September. There was a fire in the plant manufacturing the light for pole in park so it will not be in until after Labor Day.

Terry Sheffer informed the board of resident concerns that had been brought to his attention including the pay rate of election workers, the north/south designation of County Hwy J, and how appliance pick-ups are handled with the new vendor, Dittmer Recycling. The election worker pay rate will be discussed at the following board meeting; County Hwy J currently has designations and also unique house numbers; appliance pick-ups are handled similarly to the way they were previously with a pick-up held once a month at a cost of \$5/appliance. Stickers are purchased at the village office. The next village newsletter will include information on appliance pick-ups to help inform the residents.

McCrea asked about the fall brush/leaf pick-up and if changes should be made. It will be considered when the time is closer. Planning dates is often difficult due to unpredictable weather. McCrea updated the board on the "small town" meeting he recently attended. Information on a loan program presented at the meeting for small businesses starting up will be included in the next newsletter and posted on the website. The program's representative may also be available for a forum for those interested.

Jim Sysko updated the board on the success of a benefit recently held. The location behind Main Street business worked well.

*Motion (Sysko, Sheffer) to approve replacement class B retail licenses for GG's Tap, McCarthy's, Joseph McCrea Post 7896, and Lawrence's Pub & Eatery for 6:00 p.m. August 31, 2014 through 12:00 a.m. September 1, 2014. Roll-all ayes. Carried.*

*Motion (Walton, Polfer) to approve a Temporary Class "B"/"Class B" picnic license for St. Augustine Church for August 24<sup>th</sup>. Roll-all ayes. Carried.*

Perkins left at 7:00 p.m.

Sheffer requested the dog ordinance reviewed and to consider adding a section pertaining to animals being kept at an unoccupied residence. The ordinance committee will schedule a meeting.

McCrea had the first reading of the ordinance amending Chapter 91-8: Salaries of Village President and Trustees.

The July 2014 police report was reviewed. The large number of complaints was related to the recent public nuisance committee meeting. The board discussed needing further follow up on the public nuisance notices that are not in compliance.

No information was available for rebuilding the return activated sludge pump for the WWTP.

The bid for patching was reviewed. *Motion (Sysko, Walton) to approve the bid from Iverson Construction for patching up to \$20,000. Roll-all ayes. Carried.*

*Motion (Walton, Sheffer) to approve Elizabeth Schoenmann's attendance of the MEUW seminar on 9/23/14. Roll-all ayes. Carried.*

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

*Motion (Sysko, Wartner) to adjourn.* Voice-all ayes. Carried. The meeting adjourned at 7:22 p.m.