

The public hearing of the Benton Village Board was called to order by Village President, Gary McCrea, at 6:15 p.m. at 244 Ridge Avenue in the conference room of the Benton Business Incubator building on Wednesday, December 7, 2016, with the following members present: Gary McCrea, Cal Robbins, Jessica Polfer, Terry Sheffer, Chuck Wartner, Rose Walton and Kenneth Farrey. Village employees present: Beverly Hitz. In compliance with the open meeting law, proper notice of the meeting had been posted in four public places; Benton State Bank, Benton Post Office, Benton Business Incubator Building and the Zephyr Depot.

A discussion was held regarding the 2017 General Fund Budget. *Motion (Walton, Polfer) to adjourn.* Roll-all ayes. Carried. The hearing adjourned at 6:30 p.m.

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, December 7, 2016, with the following members present: Gary McCrea, Kenneth Farrey, Terry Sheffer, Rose Walton, Jessica Polfer, Chuck Wartner and Cal Robbins. Village employees present: Beverly Hitz and Ryan Carver. 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 (Sheffer, Wartner) to approve minutes from the regular village board meeting held on November 16th, 2016, as presented. Roll-all ayes. Carried

Ryan Carver explained the need to replace the existing pump controller at the lift station. He also reported that the thermostat at the water tower needs to be replaced.

Motion (Farrey, Sheffer) to approve the replacement of the pump controller at the lift station when LW Allen is fixing the thermostat at the water tower to avoid another mileage charge. The cost is estimated to be \$2,366 and will be done as soon as possible. Roll-all ayes. Carried

Ryan left the meeting at 7:00 p.m.

Gary McCrea has been in contact with the EPA the DNR and Johnson's office regarding our options to resolve the phosphorous issue. Hopefully they will be changing the degree of compliance or we will be able to get a variance. Minks from the DNR was out of office and will contact Gary next week.

Motion (Walton, Wartner) to leave the contract with Redfearn for crop land rent at \$275 per acre for 2017. Roll-all ayes. Carried.

Motion (Polfer, Robbins) to adopt the 2017 General Fund Budget with a local tax levy of \$145,263.00. Roll-all ayes. Carried

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

Motion (Polfer, Farrey) to adjourn. Voice-all ayes. Carried. The meeting adjourned at 7:10 p.m.