

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, February 15, 2012, with the following members present: Gary McCrea, Chuck Wartner, Cal Robbins and Ron Fladseth. Absent: Rose Walton, Lisa Lawrence, and Terry Sheffer. Citizens present: none. Others present: Officer Eric Seiler. Employees present: Darnell Hendricks and Ryan Carver. Proper notice of the meeting had been posted in four public places; the Village of Benton Business Incubator Building, Benton State Bank, Benton Post Office, and the Zephyr Depot, in compliance with the Open Meeting Law.

Motion (Fladseth, Wartner) to approve the minutes of the last regular meeting held January 18, 2012. Voice-all ayes. Motion carried.

Ryan Carver was present and provided an update on the status of the repair of the wastewater treatment plant's micro-strainer. Carver indicated Crane Engineering would need to come back and look at it again as there seems to be another issue, unrelated to the previous repair.

Carver reviewed the bids he had received from Liquivision (\$2550), Midco (\$2499), and Diving Services (\$1895) for inspection of the water reservoir and removal of sediment from the floor of the reservoir. Carver was instructed to check references and make sure the bids are quoting the same services. This item will be placed on the next agenda for action.

A discussion was held regarding a proposal to have KD Engineering complete a base map of the village, which will include streets, property corners, and zoning. In addition, the village and utilities would purchase a handheld GPS to allow village employees to map hydrants, valves, manholes, curbstops, transformers, etc. The total cost of the mapping and system will be approximately \$12,700.00. Hendricks will confirm that the village will have the ownership rights of the maps, and will confirm the cost to input the locations of the items submitted from the GPS into the mapping system. *Motion (Robbins, Wartner) to approve up to \$15,000 for the total project to be split four ways - between the electric, water, sewer and general funds. This will result in approximately \$3,750.00 from each fund being allocated for the project. Roll – all ayes. Carried.*

A discussion was held regarding the purchase of a new computer for the wastewater and water utility. *Motion (Wartner, Fladseth) to approve the purchase a new laptop computer for the water and wastewater utility for an amount not to exceed \$1500.00. Roll-all ayes. Carried.*

A discussion was held regarding the purchase of a new scanner for the village office. *Motion (Wartner, Fladseth) to approve the purchase of a new scanner for the village office for an amount not to exceed \$1,000.00. Roll-all ayes. Carried.*

Motion (Robbins, Fladseth) to approve Carver's attendance at Rural Water's 24th Annual Technical Conference March 27-30th. Roll-all ayes. Carried.

Motion (Robbins, Wartner) to approve the purchase of 16 new water meters at \$115.00 each for a total cost of \$1840.00. Roll-all ayes. Carried.

Motion (Robbins, Fladseth) to approve the purchase of a new 3" water meter for the school and a 2" water meter for the elderly housing unit for a total cost of \$2365.00. Roll-all ayes. Carried.

Motion (Wartner, Fladseth) to approve Carver's request to carry over 33.25 hours of vacation for up to four months. Voice-all ayes. Carried.

Ryan Carver left at 7:05 p.m.

The January 2012 Police Report was approved by general consent.

A discussion was held about the need to let the police car run in some situations while the officer is not in the car. Due to the heavy electrical load on the car it has a tendency to go dead very quickly if not left idling. By general consent the board agreed it made sense to let the car run in some situations and Officer Seiler should use his discretion as to when he needs to do this.

The second reading of the 2012-001 Ordinance of the Village of Benton-An Ordinance to Amend Section 7-2-15 of the Municipal Code of the Village of Benton related to Closing Hours for establishments selling fermented malt beverages and intoxicated liquor was held. *Motion (Robbins,*

Fladseth) to approve the amendment of Section 7-2-15 of the Municipal Code of the Village of Benton related to Closing Hours for establishments selling fermented malt beverages and intoxicated liquor. Roll-all ayes. Carried.

Motion (Wartner, Robbins) to approve an operator's license for Christie Rogers. Roll-all ayes. Carried.

The first reading of Ordinance 2012-002 to Amend Section 10-1-141 of the Municipal Code of the Village of Benton related to the outside storage of firewood in the Village of Benton, WI was read.

A discussion was held regarding the policy/procedure currently being followed related to collection of a utility bill after it has been placed on the tax roll. By general consent the board approved making no changes to the current policy/procedure and noted that it feels it is doing everything possible to assist landlords in collection of these bills.

The board was made aware of the Lafayette County Highway Department's annual Municipality Meeting, Tuesday, March 6th at noon at the Darlington Country Club.

Motion (Robbins, Wartner) to approve the board's endorsement of a grant application submission to the Dubuque Racing Association for the purchase of ten new recycle containers for the village parks. Roll-all ayes. Carried.

By general consent the board approved the Spring 2012 Leaf and Brush pick up dates as presented.

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

Motion (Robbins, Fladseth) to adjourn. Voice-all ayes. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.