

A regular meeting of the Benton Village Board was called to order by Village President, Gary McCrea, at 7:00 p.m. in the conference room in the Benton Business Incubator Building at 244 Ridge Avenue on Wednesday, February 20, 2006, with the following members present: Gary McCrea, Terry Sheffer, Rose Walton, Ron Fladseth, and Lori Droessler. Absent: Cal Robbins, Ann Neis. Village employee present: Darnell Hendricks. Visitors/Citizens present: Mary Frank, John Perkins, Carl Langkamp. Consultants: none. 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, Walton) to approve the minutes of the regular meeting held January 25, 2006. All ayes. Carried.

A discussion was held regarding the need for snow removal on Main Street. McCrea indicated he would speak with Perkins about getting this done.

A discussion was held regarding the need to have the trash cans on Main Street emptied for garbage pick up on Tuesdays. McCrea indicated he would speak with Perkins about making sure this gets done every week.

By general consent the board agreed that the engineer's estimated cost of \$32,000 to complete the cul-de-sac at the end of Creek Drive made the project cost prohibitive at this time. Since it is not planned to be a permanently dead ended street, a cul-de-sac does not need to be constructed at this time to comply with the local village ordinance. An option for the school bus may be to have the children meet at the corner of Creek Drive and Oak Avenue for pick up and drop off. This option will be looked into further if it becomes an issue for the school bus to turn around.

The discussion regarding the Sanitary Survey of Benton's Water System was postponed until the next regular meeting at which time a response to the survey will be available.

Motion (Droessler, Walton) to authorize Clerk Hendricks and President McCrea to complete a response to the Lafayette County Comprehensive Planning Survey regarding the Smart Growth grant Lafayette County has been awarded by the Wisconsin Department of Commerce and is contemplating sending back to the state. Roll-all ayes. Carried.

By general consent the board authorized the library board to purchase and install a sign in front of the library limiting parking to 10 minutes during library hours.

Motion (Droessler, Walton) to amend the Benton Sewer Utility Sewer Credit Policy contingent on water chairperson, Ann Neis' approval. All ayes. Carried.

Ordinance amendment 5-2-9, amending the open burning ordinance to allow for burning permits for "bona fide organizations" was read for the first time.

Motion (Sheffer, Fladseth) to approve appointment of two new election workers, Margaret Langkamp and Ruth Goffinet. All ayes. Carried.

A review of the animal control policies of other communities was discussed. By general consent it was agreed to continue with our current procedure until we are no longer allowed to take stray dogs to Green County Humane Society.

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

John Perkins and Carl Langkamp, representing the Benton Fire Department, were present to discuss the purchase of a new fire truck. They explained that a major price increase is expected in 2007 due to new Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) regulations. The deadline for ordering trucks that will not be subject to these new EPA regulations is middle of April 2006. By general consent the board agreed to support the purchase of this new fire truck but this item will be placed on the next agenda for final approval. The village's share of the truck will be approximately \$50,000.00.

The board discussed Nancy Aurit's question related to allowing a private septic system within village limits. With consideration given to the fact that the current sewer use ordinance has a mandatory hookup allowance for all new homes within village limits where the sewer system is made available, and, the fact that other property owners had incurred additional costs associated to lift pumps for hook up to the village's sewer system, *motion (Sheffer, Fladseth) to extend the sewer main to Aurit's property line at the end of Creek Drive, and since access to the village's sewer system is being made available, Aurit's request to put in a private septic system is denied.* Roll-all ayes. Carried.

Motion (Walton, Fladseth) to adjourn. All ayes. Carried. The meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

Approved 3/15/2006

Posted 3/31/2006