

The 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 of the Benton Business Incubator Building at 244 Ridge Avenue on Wednesday, October 15, 2008, with the following members present: Gary McCrea, Rose Walton, Katey McCarthy, Terry Sheffer, Lisa Lawrence, Lori Droessler, and Ron Fladseth. Absent: none. Citizens: none. Village employees present: Darnell Hendricks and Ryan Carver. Consultants and others present: 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 from the regular meeting held September 17, 2008. All ayes. Carried.*

Village of Benton librarian, Janet Johnson, presented the 2009 library budget. Johnson indicated the 7% increase was primarily due to an increase in labor rates and additional hours for cleaning services and expansion. *Motion (Sheffer, Droessler) to approve Library 2009 budget amount of \$36,096.00. Roll—all ayes. Carried.*

Ryan Carver's vacation request for December 26, 2008 through January 4, 2009, was approved by general consent.

The village's 2008 Christmas party was discussed. *Motion (Sheffer, Lawrence) to approve an expenditure of \$325.00 from the general fund toward the Christmas party, and in addition, the credit card rebate of approximately \$75.00 is authorized to be used toward the Christmas party as well. Roll-all ayes. Carried.*

Sheffer asked Carver for an update on the water system. Carver provided update.

Hendricks advised an application for part-time employment had been received from Fred Norder. By general consent board approved the application for hiring if necessary.

Sheffer updated the board on the previous meeting he attended with the ordinance committee in which it reviewed the abandoned vehicle ordinance. Sheffer indicated he would be continuing to review other ordinances and would advise when he has a recommended ordinance for the committee to review.

The 2009 street reconstruction project (Cross Street from Highway 11 to Temple Avenue) was discussed. Carver updated the board regarding the water and sewer utilities in the street right of way. Carver indicated ductile iron water main was installed sometime around 1957-1959. It is expected this type of water main should be fine for another 40 years. Carver indicated a couple of valves may need replacement. The sewer mains were televised a couple of years ago at which time several areas of concern were noted. This area will be televised again in November and confirmation regarding the need to replace made. The estimated cost for this sewer main replacement is \$24,000.00.

Carver left the meeting at 7:32 p.m.

The second reading of Ordinance Number 08-02, adding 10-2-91 of the Municipal Code of the Village of Benton related to Floodplain Zoning specifically related to establishing eligibility in the National Flood Insurance Program and meeting the requirements of 44 CFR Part 60.3 (a) was read. *Motion (Lawrence, McCarthy) to approve Ordinance Number 08-02, adding 10-2-91 of the Municipal Code of the Village of Benton. Roll-all ayes. Carried.*

The street committee indicated it would recommend a handicapped parking spot near 30 West Main Street. *Motion (Droessler, Walton) to approve the installing a handicapped parking spot near 30 West Main Street. Roll-all ayes. Carried.*

Hendricks indicated two bids had been obtained for the ARC Flash study that is required to be completed on the electric system by January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2009. Both bids were in the amount of \$4,000.00. One was from Krause Power Engineering and the other was from Forster Electrical Engineering. Hendricks advised that Forster could not guarantee that it would have the study done

by January 1, 2009. *Motion (Droessler, Fladseth) to approve hiring Krause Power Engineering to complete the ARC Flash study for the Benton Electric System for a contract price of \$4,000.00.*

Roll-all ayes. Carried.

Hendricks requested the board consider budgeting in 2009 for a local economic development grant program that would assist local businesses with outside remodeling/refurbishing of their property. Additional program details will need to be developed, however the board agreed the initial idea was worth pursuing.

The September police report was distributed.

*Motion (Walton, McCarthy) to approve an application for a burning permit for the Benton Girl Scouts for Thursday, October 16, 2008, at the Boy Scout Cabin along Park Avenue.* Voice vote-all ayes. Carried.

*Motion (Droessler, Lawrence) to approve the Benton Municipal Utilities Identity Theft Prevention Program policy.* Roll-all ayes. Carried.

All board members were invited to attend the MEUW District Dinner Meeting planned for October 29, 2008 at 6:00 p.m. Currently village employees Perkins and Goffinet are planning to attend.

By general consent the board approved pursuing offering an intern position to a UW Platteville student next summer. The intern would be responsible for grounds maintenance, grant writing, landscape installation, and a tree inventory.

*Motion (Lawrence, Droessler) to use part of the 2008 recycling grant funds to purchase 1000 reusable grocery bags for distribution by the "Go Green" Club at the Benton High School.* Roll-all ayes. Carried.

*Motion (Lawrence, Walton) to approve the 2008 audit report.* Roll-all ayes. Carried.

By general consent the board approved budgeting for a flag pole and lighting for the village park in the 2009 park budget.

*Motion (Walton, Droessler) to approve an operator's license for Jasmine Hawk.* Roll-all ayes. Carried.

A letter of apology from a 14 year old juvenile that had participated in the break-in and burglary at Swift Park was distributed.

Pursuant with Chapter 19.85 Sub (1) par ( c ) of WIS. STATS, *motion (Fladseth, Sheffer)to adjourn to closed session to discuss employment, promotion, compensation or performance evaluation data of any public employee over which the governmental body has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility, including review of performance appraisals and discussion of 2009-2010 wage/contract negotiations.* Roll-all ayes. Carried.

*Motion (Walton, McCarthy) to reconvene to open session.* Roll-all ayes. Carried.

*Motion (Fladseth, Walton) to approve the personnel committee's recommendations related to the 2009-2010 employee wage/benefits package.* Roll-all ayes. Carried.

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

*Motion (Walton, Droessler) to adjourn.* Voice-all ayes. Carried. The meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.