

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, January 21, 2015 with the following members present: Gary McCrea, Cal Robbins, Jim Sysko, Jessica Polfer and Terry Sheffer. Absent: Rose Walton and Chuck Wartner. Citizens present: None. Others present: Sheriff Reggie Gill, Officer Steve Schultz and Engineer Ben Heidmann. Employees: Beverly Hitz and Ryan Carver. 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.

Motion (Sheffer, Sysko) to accept the meeting minutes of the regular village board meeting held December 3rd, 2014.

Ben Heidemann with Town and Country Engineering presented a proposal for Phosphorus Permit Compliance through the year 2017. He explained the steps to qualify for an economic or statewide phosphorus variance. Ben also explained that the new WWTP permit requires a Compliance Alternatives Plan to be submitted to the DNR outlining the steps that will be taken by the Village to meet the new phosphorus limits. *Motion (Sysko, Polfer) to accept the proposal from Town and Country Engineering at cost of \$15,500-\$22,000 over the next 2 years.* Roll-all ayes. Carried.

Lafayette County Sheriff Reggie Gill introduced the new Police Officer Steve Schultz. He has been assigned to the Village of Benton. He explained that we should not hesitate to contact him with our questions or concerns.

Jim Sysko advised that we will make changes to the hanging flower pots on Main Street this year and will add 3 new hangars and 6 new baskets; he has made the arrangements with Cushman's Greenhouse for 2015. Jim also contacted Jeff Droessler with Benton Booster Club and Kyle Ludtke with Benton Schools about the brush on the bank across from Swift Park. The Booster Club will be helping to trim the brush. Jim will contact the homeowners with land adjoining this property to inform them of the project and see if there is any opposition. The Booster Club, Benton Schools and the Village of Benton will share the cost of this project. Jim is looking at a ground cover that will be basically maintenance free.

Terry Sheffer requested that the Street Committee look into parking along the north side of Main Street from the United Methodist Church to Quality Motors. The street narrows in that area, and this creates a dangerous situation if there are vehicles parked along the curb.

Beverly Hitz received a request from Swindler's Ridge Museum Secretary/Treasurer Sandra Scanlan requesting a donation of \$300 for utilities and payment of their 2015 liability insurance premium of approximately \$385. *Motion (Robbins, Sheffer) to approve donation of \$300 for utilities and payment of 2015 liability insurance premium for Swindler's Ridge Museum.* Roll-all ayes. Carried.

Beverly Hitz distributed a copy of the 2015 Street Reconstruction Schedule (March 9 through April 15, 2015) for Jenkynsville Road from Temple Street to North Frontier Street and North Galena Street from Calvert Street to Galena Street, which has been sent to KD Engineering. The schedule was approved by general consent. Beverly also informed the board that she received a final decision from the PSC to approve the 3% increase in water rates beginning February 13th, 2015. The billing sent on March 31st will reflect the rate increase for service from February 13th thru March 12th, 2015.

Pursuant with Chapter 19.85 Sub (1) par (e) of WIS. STATS., *motion (Polfer, Sheffer) to adjourn to closed session to deliberate or negotiate the purchase of public properties, the investing of public funds, or conducting other specified public business.* Roll-all ayes. Carried. Adjourned to closed session at 7:30 p.m.

Motion (Polfer, Sysko) to reconvene to open session. Roll-all ayes. Carried. Reconvened to opens session at 7:40 p.m.

The December 2014 police report was reviewed and approved by general consent.

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

Motion (Polfer, Sysko) to adjourn. Voice-all ayes. Carried. The meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m.