

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, February 15, 2017, with the following members present: Gary McCrea, Chuck Wartner, Kenneth Farrey, Jessica Polfer and Cal Robbins. Absent: Rose Walton, Terry Sheffer. Village employees present: Beverly Hitz and Eric Mowry. Others present: Officer Mike Gorham. 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 (Robbins, Farrey) to approve minutes from the regular village board meeting held on January 18, 2017 as presented. Voice-all ayes. Carried

Eric presented 3 bids for mini excavators including the extras available and the trade-in for our current machine.

Motion (Robbins, Polfer) to purchase the Bob Cat mini excavator 45 with the extend-a-hoe and 2 buckets, one 12" and one 24" from K&L BOBCAT, INC. at a Cost of \$35,234.00

Roll-all ayes. Carried

Mike Gorham presented his ideas for a new police report that will now come from the new software system for the Lafayette County Sheriff's Department. He also discussed the request by Hazel Green Rescue Squad for his assistance as needed. They currently have a temporary shortage. Mike is an EMT.

The board agreed by general consent to have Mike take EMT calls as necessary.

Gary presented the ongoing issue at Quality Motors with an obstructed view of traffic coming from Temple Avenue onto Highway 11. Several solutions were discussed and a possible opportunity for parking in the near future.

Motion (Polfer, Robbins) to approve Ryan Carver's vacation request.

Roll-all ayes. Carried.

Jessica Polfer presented the request by the BCDC for project ideas. They have funds available. Possible projects in the parks were discussed. Jessica also explained the upcoming Dementia Friendly training program for the Village of Benton. Information will be placed in the April newsletter.

The claims against the Village were presented for payment. *Motion (Polfer, 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 8:20 p.m.