

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, April 19, 2017, with the following members present: Gary McCrea, Kenneth Farrey, Jessica Polfer, Jill Knight, Terry Sheffer, Chuck Wartner and Cal Robbins. Village employees present: Beverly Hitz and Ryan Carver. 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, Sheffer) to approve minutes from the regular village board meeting held on March 15, 2017 as presented. Voice-all ayes. Carried.*

Ryan Carver presented the plan for replacement of Village street signs from Eric Mowry. The plan would start immediately and continue annually until completed. None of the signs in the Village meet the reflective requirement from the state. We will have to replace poles and parts as needed. Eric is asking for \$3,000 in 2017 to replace signs on the streets that are used frequently by visitors. *Motion (Robbins, Wartner) to approve spending \$3,000 to replace street signs and poles in 2017. Roll-all ayes. Carried.*

Ryan gave a brief explanation of the pilot test he is conducting to reduce phosphorus using Sorbex. He explained that we would have to spend another 3,500 dollars to buy another tote to continue the test. The price has doubled since 2016. We may also try other chemicals that are available. The target is .075.

Ryan also presented the ten year plan for water tower maintenance thru Suez. He compared actual costs in other communities with the Suez plan that would have an annual cost spread over the ten years. He explained that we are due for maintenance and that it could potentially cost us \$200,000 in one year. *Motion (Robbins, Sheffer) to approve the purchase of the ten year maintenance plan with Suez, with the stipulation, that we will review the 2 references not received yet and Ryan will confirm we will get our money back if Suez goes out of business for any reason. Roll-all ayes. Carried.*

A discussion took place regarding Weber's request for sewer service from the Village to his property located on Van Buren Street. This is in the Town of Benton and not the Village.

*Motion (Polfer, Farrey) to deny sewer service to Weber. Roll-all ayes. Carried.*

Terry Sheffer gave an update from the last meeting of the Lafayette County Economic Development Corporation. Gary McCrea reminded the Village Board that there are funds available for loans from the Lafayette County Economic Development Corporation. He recently shared this information with a new business owner in Benton. Gary advised that Bob Jones would be here next week to get information for an article on the Benton Business Incubator.

Ryan reported that he will be doing work on the tennis courts in the next couple of weeks. He is waiting for warmer weather so the paint will adhere. Ryan left at 7:30 pm.

Gary McCrea suggested that we deed parcel #107.0335.2010 .05 acres in the Village of Benton to Joseph A Slater the owner of the adjacent parcel and improve the lot. Bev Hitz will get the needed paperwork filed. *Motion (Robbins, Wartner) to approve the transfer of parcel #107.0335.2010 .05 acres in the Village to Joseph A Slater to improve the lot. Roll-all ayes. Carried.*

*Motion (Sheffer, Farrey) to approve the request from Beverly Hitz to attend the WMCA District IV Meeting & Board of Review Training on Tuesday, May 9<sup>th</sup> in North Freedom. Roll-all ayes. Carried.*

The claims against the Village were presented for payment. *Motion (Polfer, Sheffer) to pay the claims against the Village. Roll-all ayes. Carried.*  
*Motion (Polfer, Knight) to adjourn. Voice-all ayes. Carried. The meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.*