

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, September 19, 2012, with the following members present: Gary McCrea, Chuck Wartner, Rose Walton, Ron Fladseth, Terry Sheffer, Cal Robbins, and Lisa Lawrence. Absent: none. Citizens present: Dave Halloran. Employees: Darnell Hendricks. Others present: Officer Chris Donar. Proper notice of the meeting had been posted in four public places; the Village of Benton Business Incubator Building, Benton State Bank, Benton Post Office, and the Zephyr Depot, in compliance with the Open Meeting Law.

*Motion (Sheffer, Lawrence) to approve minutes from the following meetings: August 15<sup>th</sup> and September 10<sup>th</sup> Ordinance Committee meeting, September 14<sup>th</sup> Public Nuisance meeting. Roll – all ayes. Carried.*

Dave Halloran, Lafayette County Board representative, was present to give an update as to the state of affairs at the county government level. Halloran updated the board on the county budget, the proposal to cut the land conservation department by \$100,000 by consolidating it with the planning and zoning department, the status of the administration of the Lafayette Manor, and the status of the 2013 funding for the Lafayette Development Corporation.

The Ordinance committee updated the board on its August 15<sup>th</sup> and September 10<sup>th</sup> meetings where the vicious dog ordinance was discussed. It was agreed that since the proposed ordinance was not distributed until the meeting a comment period from the entire board would be open until September 21<sup>st</sup>. Hendricks will then incorporate the proposed comments/suggestions and bring a draft to the board for a possible first reading at the October 17<sup>th</sup> meeting.

*Motion (Lawrence, Robbins) to approve moving \$3500 from the 2012 storm sewer budget to the Christmas decorations budget. Roll-all ayes. Carried.*

By general consent it was agreed that the trees located at 59 and 74 West Main Street would be left until the new street light poles are up and it is determined for certain that they will need to be removed for visibility purposes.

Nicole Schueller, representing Allied Waste, was present to provide a proposal for the village to go to carts for recycling purposes. The proposal presented involves extending our current contract an additional three years, for a total of five years. Recycling would be picked up every two weeks from carts. There would be no changes to the refuse pick up. The board indicated it would look at the proposal, however, did not plan on making any changes tonight.

Cecile McMannis, executive director, Seniors United for Nutrition servicing Iowa and Lafayette County was present with an update on the SUN program. She indicated there are 13 sites in Lafayette County with Benton's site providing an average of 15 meals per day. *Motion (Robbins, Walton) to approve a donation of \$2000.00 in 2012 and \$2500 in 2013 for the SUN program. Roll-all ayes. Carried.*

Lisa Lawrence left at 7:30 p.m.

By general consent it was agreed not to provide the Lafayette County Historical Society with a donation.

The board reviewed the information provided in the MEUW's Under The Dome publication.

*Motion (Walton, Fladseth) to approve the fall leaf and brush pick up dates. Roll: Wartner-yes, Walton-yes, Sheffer-yes, Robbins-no, Fladseth-yes, McCrea-yes. Motion carried (5 yes, 1 no).*

*Motion (Sheffer, Robbins) to turn down an offer to purchase the village's lot located at 63 Catherine Street. Roll-all ayes. Carried.*

*Motion (Sheffer, Wartner) to approve the purchase of License Manager Software for the one time fee of \$995.00 and an annual fee after 13 months of \$149.00. Roll-all ayes. Carried.*

*Motion (Sheffer, Wartner) to approve the increase in user fees as presented effective January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2013. Roll-all ayes. Carried.*

*Motion (Robbins, Walton) to approve an expenditure of up to \$500.00 for the transfer of the keyless access system for the Business Incubator building from Circuits to the Village of Benton's computer. Roll-all ayes. Carried.*

The board was updated on the status of Kruser Septic dumping waste into our wastewater treatment plant. Currently total revenues are at \$1155.00 with no issues for the wastewater treatment plant at this time.

A discussion was held regarding the purchase of a used Sub Foot XH or Sub Meter XT GPS system for the mapping project previously approved by the board at its February 15<sup>th</sup>, 2012 meeting. At this meeting up to \$15,000 was allocated for the project. The board indicated it would like Ryan Carver to get additional prices for used equipment and bring it to the next meeting.

*Motion (Fladseth, Walton) to approve Ryan Carver's attendance at the Wisconsin Wastewater Operators Association Conference in Wisconsin Dells on Wednesday, October 10<sup>th</sup> thru Thursday, October 11<sup>th</sup>. Voice-all ayes. Carried.*

The board was reminded of the upcoming post office public hearing on October 15<sup>th</sup> at noon in the conference room of the Benton Business Incubator building. By general consent the board approved Hendricks to look into the possibility of the village office acting as a Business Post Office to supplement services to community members. It was explained that a Business Post Office primarily sells stamps and flat rate boxes/envelopes.

*Motion (Sheffer, Wartner) to approve the extension of electric service to property owned by Dave Sysko on the east side of County J South. It was explained that the village will be providing the first 150 feet of service and then it will be the new property owner's responsibility to pay for any additional footage. It was also explained that a surcharge of 25% is added to the monthly billing rates for any customers that are not located within the village. Roll-all ayes. Carried.*

The board did not make a decision related to extending water and sewer to this property primarily due to the cost. This matter will be discussed by the water and sewer committee and then a recommendation presented at a later time to the full board.

*Motion (Sheffer, Robbins) to not donate to the Darlington Opera House at this time. Roll-all ayes. Carried.*

A discussion was held related to portable tarp tents that residents are using as carports/garages. Some board members would like to have to ordinance committee look into providing an ordinance disallowing these as permanent structures. The ordinance took the information under advisement.

Additionally Robbins asked the ordinance committee to look at our zoning ordinance related to allowing someone to rebuild a garage at its same location.

By general consent the board approved purchasing a larger mirror for mounting on the old water tower and using the smaller one that was located there to be mounted on the street light pole on the corner of Main Street and South Bean Street.

A letter received from a concerned citizen related to 374 E. Main Street was discussed. Board member, Cal Robbins, is the owner of the property and indicated the trees will be taken care of soon. Robbins also indicated he would be fixing the window yet this fall and all other issues would be taken care of by next year. Public nuisance committee chairperson, Chuck Wartner, indicated a plan is being discussed by the public nuisance committee to address these type of issues in the village.

The Business Park committee meeting was discussed. No action was taken as Felderman's had quite a few details to work out before any recommendations could be made.

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

*Motion (Sheffer, Walton) to adjourn. Voice-all ayes. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 8:35 p.m.*