

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 Tuesday, August 17, 2010, with the following members present: Gary McCrea, Rose Walton, Katey Neis, Ron Fladseth, Terry Sheffer and Chuck Wartner. Absent: Lisa Lawrence. Citizens: none. Consultants: none. Village employees present: Darnell Hendricks and Jim Goffinet. Others present: Eric Seiler. 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.

The minutes from the regular meeting held July 21, 2010 were approved as amended by general consent.

Goffinet updated the board on the 2010 Arbor Street project. He indicated the village would be done installing black dirt behind the curb and then completing the leveling and seeding as early as August 19th.

The status of the drainage issue near the elderly housing units on Whaley Court was discussed. Goffinet indicated this should not be an issue when the street was completed. The street is expected to be blacktopped the week of August 23rd.

A request to remove and replace sidewalk in the village park was discussed. *Motion (Walton, Neis) to approve the reconstruction of sidewalk in the village park for a total cost of \$909.96 not including labor.* Roll-all ayes. Carried.

Jim Goffinet was presented with a Certificate of Completion for his electric apprenticeship training. The board congratulated Goffinet on this accomplishment.

Motion (Sheffer, Wartner) to approve attendance by Perkins and Goffinet at an upcoming Wisconsin Rural Water Association training, September 8, 2010, in Dodgeville, WI. Voice-all ayes.

Motion (Walton, Fladseth) to approve seal coating the parking lot in front of the village garage, the pumphouse driveway, and the driveway at Swift Park for a total not to exceed \$2500.00. Roll-all ayes. Carried.

Motion (Sheffer, Wartner) to approve expenditures related to painting the village quansit hut, well house, salt shed, and storage shed. Roll-all ayes. Carried.

A request from an adjacent property owner to purchase property next to block 3, lot 3 in the School Subdivision was discussed. Hendricks provided the board with a copy of an e-mail response from Brian Hood, Alliant Energy Wholesale Account Manager, regarding this matter. It was Mr. Hood's recommendation that the village not approve the sale of this property. With reasons cited as: existing and future easements, future expansions, clearances needed for switch gear and metering equipment, and emergency repair requirements. In consideration of this recommendation, *motion (Sheffer, Walton) to deny the request to sell this property.* Roll-all ayes. Carried.

Goffinet left the meeting at 7:00 p.m.

Alliant Energy recently announced its award of \$500.00 to the Benton Public Library for the purchase of a circulation desk. A thank you needs to be extended to Sherri Timmerman for her diligent efforts in pursuing this grant on behalf of the library board.

A discussion was held regarding hanging Main Street event banners. It was questioned whether we currently have suitable structures (poles/buildings) to secure these banners. This project will need to be taken into consideration if we install new street lights along Main Street. Perkins will need to determine the feasibility once the Benton Community Development Corporation (BCDC) finds out what the load requirements are for the banners in question.

A vacation request from Ryan Carver for December 24, 2010 through January 2, 2011 was approved by general consent.

Approved as of August 18, 2010

The Wisconsin Department of Administration's population estimate of 1005 was discussed.

Motion (Sheffer, Wartner) to approve an application for payment #1 in the amount of \$29,577.11, from Boscobel Excavating Inc, for the curb and gutter installation on Arbor Street. Roll-all ayes. Carried.

Motion (Walton, Fladseth) to approve an operator's license for Connie Schueller contingent on her completion of the beverage server training class. Roll-all ayes. Carried.

Motion (Walton, Wartner) to approve a picnic license for St. Augustine Chapel. Roll-all ayes. Carried.

The July police report was approved by general consent.

Officer Eric Seiler updated the board on the status of the outstanding public nuisance violations.

The property owners at 177 Third Avenue were given an extension until August 30th to clean up their property.

The property owners at 63 Temple Avenue indicated they would have theirs completed by August 29, 2010.

The property owners at 32 East Main Street have not responded. Seiler will speak with them regarding the status.

The new property owner of 127 West Main was working on tearing off the back porch area. This should be completed soon.

The weeds at the new post office building located at 33 S. Bean Street were discussed. McCrea indicated he would like to send a letter to the post office and property owner personally.

The board asked officer Seiler to speak with the tenant at 188 East Main Street again about parking issues.

The board advised officer Seiler to pursue the public nuisance violation at 404 Railroad Avenue if no progress is being made regarding purchasing property or obtaining a zoning variance.

The board advised Seiler to watch the parking issues at 188 East Main Street and issue tickets if any violations.

The board advised Seiler to speak with property owner at 171 West Main Street about getting the siding, etc. done at this location.

The property owner at 181 Temple Avenue was given until August 30th for completion.

Officer Seiler advised the board of a National Pharmaceutical Take Back Event, September 25th. By general consent the board approved authorization for this event once McCrea gets more details and approves it.

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

Motion (Walton, Fladseth) to adjourn. All ayes. Carried. The meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.