

The regular meeting of the Benton Village Board was called to order by Village President, Gary McCrea, at 6:30 p.m. on October 20, 2010, with the following members present: Gary McCrea, Rose Walton, Katey Neis, Ron Fladseth, Terry Sheffer, Chuck Wartner, and Lisa Lawrence. Citizens: Leo Scanlan and Eldon Kruser (7:00 p.m.). Consultants: none. Village employees present: Darnell Hendricks, John Perkins, Janet Johnson. 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.

Motion (Sheffer, Walton) to accept the minutes from the regular meeting held September 15, 2010 as presented. Voice-all ayes. Carried.

Motion (Sheffer, Lawrence) to approve a \$300.00 donation to Swindler's Ridge to assist with its sewer utility expenses. Roll –all ayes. Carried.

Perkins reported that the outside employees had been busy getting equipment ready for the winter and the upcoming leaf and brush pick-ups.

The board reviewed the available bids for a new dump truck that is tentatively being planned for purchase in 2011. It was agreed to budget \$115,000 for this purchase.

A discussion was held regarding installation of a flag pole at the village park. The park committee (Lawrence, Walton, and McCrea) will meet Friday, October 29, 2010 at noon to discuss exact location, type, and costs associated with installation of a flag pole by the veteran's memorial monument. The park committee will also discuss funding and cost issues with concerned citizens as well. The Veterans of Foreign Wars has indicated it would donate the flags for the memorial.

The personnel committee advised it would have a meeting Friday, October 29th. The time for this meeting will be established later.

Eldon Kruser was present to discuss the purchase of an easement into the rear of his lot. McCrea indicated he would like to discuss the matter with Water Superintendent, Ryan Carver before a final decision is made on this matter. The item will be put back on the November agenda for further discussion.

The public nuisance violations were discussed. It was agreed that 32 East Main Street could be closed, 171 West Main Street was progressing satisfactorily, 181 Temple Avenue was completed, 33 Bean Street was completed, 171 Third Avenue was not abated and should be issued another ticket, and the owner of 398 Railroad Avenue should be again advised to continue with pursuing the purchase of land from the third party involved, Benton Booster Club.

The board reviewed the September police report and approved it by general consent.

Lawrence asked officer Seiler about the notification system in place for when a known sexual predator moves into a neighborhood.

Librarian, Janet Johnson, was present with the library's 2011 budget. The library's budget request was \$949.68 less than had been requested in 2010. This decreased request amount was due primarily to the increase in the Act 150 funds and Gates Foundation funds that are to be received in 2011. The board took the library's budget request under advisement and will incorporate it into the general fund's 2011 budget.

The 2011 and 2012 audit proposal from Johnson Block was discussed. The proposed increase for each year was 2%. Motion (Lawrence, Neis) to approve a two year contract with Johnson Block for audit of the village's general fund, electric and water utility, and sewer utility. Roll-all ayes. Carried.

The board reviewed the proposed changes to Wisconsin's state recycling law and municipal recycling programs.

Motion (Walton, Fladseth) to approve an operator's license for Cody Brandt and Dennis Stillmunkes contingent on completion of the beverage server training class by both. Voice-all ayes. Carried.

The proposed 2011 General Fund Budget timeline was discussed and approved by general consent.

Motion (Walton, Lawrence) to approve the final pay request from Mowry Brothers for the 2010 Arbor Street reconstruction project in the amount of \$2,383.93. Roll-all ayes. Carried.

Motion (Neis, Fladseth) to approve the final pay request from Boscobel Excavating for the 2010 Arbor Street reconstruction project in the amount of \$1,556.69. Roll-all ayes. Carried.

Motion (Sheffer, Walton) to approve the final pay request from Iverson Construction for the 2010 Arbor Street reconstruction project in the amount of \$2,318.19. Roll-all ayes. Carried.

Motion (Lawrence, Sheffer) to approve funds of up to \$400.00 be allocated for the village's 2010 Christmas Party. Roll-all ayes. Carried.

Motion (Walton, Neis) to approve awarding a prize of two reusable grocery bags and \$10.00 Benton Bucks to the winner of the drawing held each month related to the direct payment option of utility bills. This will be the approved prize for the next six months. In addition, starting with the October 31, 2010 utility bills, everyone that signs up for direct payment will receive a free bag. Roll –all ayes. Carried.

It was mentioned that the weeping willow tree located at 120 Arbor Street is not in compliance with the tree trimming ordinance. A letter will be sent to the property owner.

The board was made aware of an incident in which the overspray from village employees painting the well house ended up painting a citizens truck. This will be turned in to the village's insurance company.

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

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