

A regular meeting of the Benton Village Board was called to order by Village President, Gary McCrea, at 7:00 p.m. in the conference room in the Benton Business Incubator Building at 244 Ridge Avenue on Wednesday, January 25, 2006, with the following members present: Gary McCrea, Terry Sheffer, Cal Robbins, Rose Walton. Ron Fladseth arrived at 7:10 p.m., Ann Neis and Lori Droessler arrived at 7:45 p.m. Village employee present: Darnell Hendricks and John Perkins. Visitors/Citizens present: Robert Hoyer, Jr., Don Simons, Mary Frank, Viola Roling, Wayne and Nancy Aurit. Consultants: none. 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, Robbins) approved the minutes of the regular meeting held December 7, 2005, and the special meeting held January 19, 2006. All ayes. Carried.

Viola Roling was present and questioned whether she would be responsible for any costs associated with putting in a cul-de-sac at the end of Creek Drive. By general consent the board indicated there would not be any costs to Viola Roling for this cul-de-sac.

Wayne and Nancy Aurit were present with questions related to the change in zoning classification as requested in petition #2005-002 from Viola Roling. *Motion (Robbins, Walton) to approve petition #2005-002, a zoning amendment to the village of Benton's zoning ordinance to change the zoning classification for a 6.98 parcel of land owned by Viola Roling in the Village of Benton from Agricultural use to Single Family Low Density, the parcel of land is located in the SE ¼ of Section 8, Township 1 North, Range 1 East, and the SW ¼ of Section 9, Township 1 North, Range 1 East of the Village of Benton. Roll-all ayes. Carried.*

Ron Fladseth arrived at 7:10 p.m.

A discussion was held regarding the costs to develop the above rezoned parcel into residential lots. Aurit's indicated they do not plan to pay any of the costs for the development into more than one lot. It was concluded that the village would not be in a position to develop this privately owned land either. Aurit's then questioned how long a temporary turn around would be located at the end of Creek Drive. When would the cul-de-sac be completed? The end of the discussion resulted in a consensus to have the street committee meet and look over the options, stake out a proposed cul-de-sac and have K.D. Engineering survey and design the cul-de-sac and address the storm sewer and water run off issues. K.D. Engineering will also provide cost estimates for the project.

Street lighting was discussed. Mary Frank indicated she would prefer not to have a street light installed. Since Aurit's would be building some distance from the cul-de-sac it was concluded a street light would not benefit their property, therefore it was proposed that the street light not be installed.

Lori Droessler and Ann Neis arrived at 7:45 p.m.

A discussion was held regarding the cost for Aurit's to hook up to the village sewer system. It was explained to Aurit's that the village's sewer use ordinance requires property owners to hook up to the village's sewer system if it is available. It was agreed that additional information is needed, including the cost to Aurit's to hook up to the village's sewer system to make a final determination on whether a private septic system will be allowed. Aurit's will obtain cost estimates and forward this information to the village office prior to the next meeting. This item will be placed on the next agenda for discussion.

A street committee meeting was set up for January 26, 2006 at 10:30 a.m. at the end of Creek Drive to stake out where the proposed cul-de-sac will be located.

Viola Roling, Wayne and Nancy Aurit left at 8:14 p.m.

Don Simons, representing the Town of Benton, was present to request a credit for the sewer portion of its utility bill. The Township garage had had a toilet leaking which resulted in a large water/sewer bill. Approximately 6300 additional cubic feet of water had been used due to this leak. The board advised Simons of the policy regarding credits for sewer only when it could be confirmed that the

water did not go into the sewer system. By general consent the board denied the request for this sewer credit on the grounds that the water did go into the sewer system.

Robert Hoyer, Jr., village of Benton domestic animal officer, was present and submitted his verbal resignation to be effective February 1, 2007. The board accepted this resignation.

Perkins reported his plans to meet with someone regarding the lights on Main Street.

Perkins requested permission to allow the fire department to use the house located at 87 Alma Street for a training class and then demolition of the house through burning. Perkins will verify the Fire Department has appropriate liability insurance in place first, and if so, by general consent the board approved the burning of the house.

Terry Sheffer advised that Steve Calvert had requested the school flashing sign on Main Street near the fire house be removed. No action was taken.

Robbins inquired as to the plans for the empty lot the village now owns at 39 E. Main Street. By general consent the board indicated it did not plan to put a parking lot at this location presently.

Sheffer advised that some businesses in Benton would like help doing things. When asked what specifically, Sheffer advised, for example, some businesses would like to use the village's hi-arm to change light bulbs. The board reminded Sheffer that the hi-arm can be rented to village of Benton tax payers for \$50.00/hour.

Robbins advised that the new building at Swift Park would have an electric heating system instead of gas heat pump. The gas heat pump would not work in this type building due to the fact that it would turn on at a temperature of thirty degrees. Since the building is not used in the winter the heat pump would be quite expensive to run. By general consent the board agreed to this change.

The board was advised that Margaret Langkamp would be starting work as the assistant clerk on February 7th.

Walton indicated the public nuisance committee needs to have a meeting.

McCrea advised the board of an upcoming conference in Wisconsin Dells.

McCrea indicated Velma Dixon had volunteered to assist in taking care of flowers around the village. A suggestion was made to have Ms. Dixon assist with a few planters around the village, in the park, and at the business incubator sign.

A discussion was held regarding the possibility of listing the remaining lots in the Roling Oaks subdivision with a realtor. This item will be placed on the next agenda for further discussion.

Motion (Robbins, Sheffer) to approve hiring Josh Nethery, under the school to work program, a couple of hours each day to work with the village. Roll-all ayes. Carried. There will be no cost to the village, as the wages are paid by CESA.

Motion (Walton, Droessler) to approve the bid from Reggie Droessler to install the block and brick on the Swift Park building for a total price of \$5,500.00 (includes labor and heat, no materials). Roll-all ayes. Carried.

By general consent the board indicated it would entertain a change to the burning ordinance which allows for permits to "bona fide organizations". Hendricks will draft an ordinance change for the next meeting.

By general consent the board approved the 2004 audit report.

Hendricks informed the board the village was signed up for the 2006 Lafayette County Land Conservation cost sharing.

Motion (Droessler, Sheffer) to approve a sewer credit for Shirley Harris for a water leak in which the water did not go into the sewer. Roll-all ayes. Carried.

By general consent the board denied the request for a sewer credit to Jeanette Schleifer at 65 West Main Street since the water did go into the sewer system.

The board reviewed the 2005 Lafayette Development Corporation annual report and information regarding State Highway 11 bridges between Shullsburg and South Wayne closing during summer of

2006 for reconstruction.

Motion (Neis, Fladseth) to approve Resolution 01-18-2006, Supporting Agreements Between the village of Benton and the Wisconsin State Elections Board Regarding Use of the Statewide Voter Registration System. Voice-all ayes. Carried.

Motion (Droessler, Walton) to approve a contract renewal with WI Municipal Building Inspections, LLC. for 2006. Roll-all ayes. Carried.

Information was provided to the board regarding an upcoming cable television rate increase by Mediacom.

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

Motion (Neis, Robbins) to adjourn. All ayes. Carried. The meeting adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

Approved 2/20/2006

Posted 2/21/2006