

The regular meeting of the Benton Village Board was called to order by Village President, Gary McCrea, at 7:00 p.m. at 244 Ridge Avenue in the conference room of the Benton Business Incubator building on Wednesday, June 20, 2007, with the following members present: Gary McCrea, Terry Sheffer, Katey McCarthy, Lisa Lawrence and Lori Droessler (7:02 p.m.). Absent: Ann Neis. Village employees present: Darnell Hendricks and Jim Goffinet. Visitors/Citizens present: Charlotte and Nelson Reynolds, Pat McCarthy, and Carl Langkamp. Consultants present: none. In compliance with the open meeting law, proper notice of the meeting had been posted in four public places; Benton State Bank, Benton Post Office, Benton Business Incubator Building, and the Zephyr Depot.

Motion (Sheffer, McCarthy) to accept the minutes of the previous regular meeting held May 2, 2007, and the special meeting held May 30, 2007, as distributed. Voice vote-all ayes. Carried.

Property owners, Charlotte and Nelson Reynolds, were present to request permission to remove the existing single wide trailer located at 140 North Bean Street and replace it with a new single wide trailer or a new double wide trailer. Approval was granted by general consent.

Lori Droessler arrived at 7:02 p.m.

Pat McCarthy was present to request permission to have a 75' x 75' beer garden at the rear of his property and 39 East Main Street on June 30, 2007. The area would be fenced in and access would be allowed only through the "A Bit O' Irish" bar. Live music will be held outside from 4:00 p.m. until midnight. *Motion (Sheffer, Walton) to approve a temporary beer garden for "A Bit O Irish" on June 30, 2007.* Roll-McCarthy-abstain, Walton-yes, Droessler-yes, Lawrence-yes, Sheffer-yes, McCrea-yes. Motion carried with five yes votes and one abstention.

Motion (Sheffer, Walton) to grant permission to "A Bit O' Irish" to use village owned vacant land located at 39 East Main Street for a beer garden on June 30, 2007. Roll-McCarthy-abstain, Walton-yes, Droessler-yes, Lawrence-yes, Sheffer-yes, McCrea-yes. Motion carried with five yes votes and one abstention.

Carl Langkamp was present to discuss the need for an air refill station by the Benton Fire Department. Currently the department travels to Hazel Green and Cuba City every time it needs its air stations refilled. The cost for a new refill station is \$30,000.00. A used air refill station is available from Rice Lake for a cost of \$11,500.00, with additional installation costs of \$2000.00. Each community in the fire district would need to commit \$3,500. This item was postponed for any action until the next regular meeting to allow it to be placed on the agenda.

Motion (Sheffer, Lawrence) to accept the low bid from Runde Chevrolet for a new 1 ton pick up and a new 1/2 ton pick up for a total of \$60,755.00. Roll-all ayes. Carried.

Goffinet provided an update on the new village park restrooms. The plumbing in the floor is done, the concrete floor has been poured, and utilities have been run to the building. *Motion (Droessler, Walton) to accept the low bid for the plumbing installation from Top Notch Plumbing and Heating for \$4000.00.* Roll-McCarthy-abstain, Walton-yes, Droessler-yes, Lawrence-yes, Sheffer-yes, McCrea-yes. Motion carried with five yes votes and one abstention.

Motion (Lawrence, Droessler) to authorize expenditures up to \$2000.00 to take down two cottonwood trees in Swift Park. Voice vote-all ayes. Carried.

A discussion was held regarding a proposal from Southwest CAP to purchase two lots in the Roling Oaks subdivision. The federally funded program allows Southwest CAP to purchase lots to build residential homes for lower income clients. Southwest CAP contracts with local builders to construct ranch style homes with a predetermined floor plan of approximately 1400 square feet. The construction cost of the homes is at least \$140,000. The clients for purchasing these homes from Southwest CAP need to meet certain income requirements and also must be attending an institution for higher education which will allow them to earn higher wages upon

Final approved minutes, 7/18/2007.

graduation. The clients lease for the period of time they are attending school and then purchase the home once they have graduated and have obtained a higher income level. The previous lease payments are used for the down payment on the home. *Motion (Lawrence, McCarthy) to authorize the sale of lot 17 and 6 in the Roling Oaks Subdivision to Southwest CAP.* Roll-all ayes. Carried.

Motion (McCarthy, Sheffer) to purchase a Graco airless paint sprayer for a price of no more than \$3775.00. Voice vote-all ayes. Carried.

A discussion was held regarding the recent vandalism at Swift Park and the possibility of installing a security system. This item will be placed on the next agenda for action.

A discussion was held regarding permitting a retaining wall at 586 County Road J. The street committee indicated it would meet and look at it and make a recommendation at the next meeting.

A discussion was held regarding the 2006 sidewalk repairs not yet completed. These include 289 Railroad Avenue and 320 Arbor Street. By general consent it was agreed that the owners should be contacted one more time and given a week to complete the repairs. If not completed within that period of time the village will complete or contract for the completion of these sidewalks.

A discussion was held regarding the list of 2007 sidewalk repairs. By general consent it was agreed to have the Street Committee look at the sidewalks again before any letters are mailed.

Motion (Walton, Lawrence) to approve the standard specifications for public works-sidewalks as amended. Roll-all ayes. Carried.

Goffinet left at 9:00 p.m.

A discussion was held regarding the locations being proposed by the United States Postal Service (USPS) for building a new post office. The 30 day public review period for the proposed locations has commenced. *Motion (Lawrence, Walton) to submit the following as its preferred order of locations: 1) Corner of East Main Street and North Bean Street, 2) 33 South Bean Street, 3) Corner of Bean Street and Alma Street, 4) 242 West Main Street.* Roll: McCarthy-abstain, Droessler-abstain, Walton-yes, Lawrence-yes, Sheffer-yes, McCrea-yes. Motion carried with four yes votes and two abstentions.

A discussion related to the school crossing guard concerns was held. *Motion (McCarthy, Sheffer) to direct Gary McCrea to advise school administration that the village board would like the opportunity to review and approve the job description and job requirements for the crossing guard position prior to it making any further financial commitments toward the compensation of the crossing guard.* All ayes. Carried.

Motion (Droessler, Walton) to approve the 2007-005 Compliance Maintenance Resolution. All ayes. Carried.

The 2006 Quality Water Report was distributed. This report will be included in the next utility bill mailing and will also be added to the web site.

Motion (Lawrence, Droessler) to approve a Temporary Class "B" Retailer's License for the Sale of Fermented Malt Beverages at a Gathering or Picnic to the Benton Alumni Association on July 1, 2007 at Swift Park. All ayes. Motion carried.

Motion (McCarthy, Walton) to approve a Temporary Class "B" Retailer's License for the Sale of Fermented Malt Beverages at a Gathering or Picnic to the Benton Alumni Association on July 1, 2007 at the Benton Business Incubator Building (rain location only). All ayes. Motion carried.

Motion (Sheffer, McCarthy) to approve the donation of picnic license fees and shelter house rental fees back to the Alumni Association for the July 1, 2007 benefit. All ayes. Motion carried.

Motion (Lawrence, Walton) to approve hiring Maggie Langkamp to work on an hourly basis as the Business Incubator Manager. Approval for expenditures of up to \$3,500.00 per year for incubator management were approved. Roll all ayes. Carried.

Motion (Droessler, Sheffer) to approve a Temporary Class "B" Retailer's License for the Sale of Fermented Malt Beverages at a Gathering or Picnic by the Benton First Responders on July 21, 2007, in unit 113, and other areas as specifically described on the temporary license, at 244 Ridge Avenue in the Village of Benton. All ayes. Motion carried.

Motion (McCarthy, Sheffer) to approve the vacation request from Ryan Carver. All ayes. Motion carried.

Information related to Alliant Energy's wholesale rate increase was distributed for the board's information.

Motion (Sheffer, Walton) to authorize a Class "B" Fermented Malt Beverage and Intoxicating Liquor License-Joseph F. McCrea Post 7896 located at 82 East Main Street, a Class "A" Fermented Malt Beverage and Intoxicating Liquor License-Dougherty Depots LLC located at 119 E. Main Street, a Class "B" Fermented Malt Beverage and Intoxicating Liquor License-A Bit O' the Irish, LLC, located at 51 East Main Street, a Class "B" Fermented Malt Beverage and Intoxicating Liquor License-G G's Tap located at 62 E. Main Street, and a Class "B" Fermented Malt Beverage and Intoxicating Liquor License-The Hideout located at 46 East Main Street with the contingency that verification is received from the Department of Revenue that "The Hideout" holds a current sellers permit. Roll-all ayes. Carried.

Motion (Sheffer, Lawrence) that the following operator's licenses be renewed for 2007-2008: Joyce Koeller, Cindy Guentherman, Patty Walton, Sarah Grindey, Brandy Grindey, Jim Goffinet, David Watson, Tony Dougherty, Nicole White, James Rupp, Keri Kluck, Rebecca Bruzek, Crystal Erdenberger, Mary Blahnick, Robert Herbst, Tana Mootz, Carolyn McCarthy, Katey McCarthy, Chris Hoppman, Steven Symons, John Scanlan, Bill Sides, Eldon Kruser, David Kane, Carl Langkamp and Connie Heim. Roll-McCarthy-abstain, Walton-yes, Droessler-yes, Lawrence-yes, Sheffer-yes, McCrea-yes. Motion carried with five yes votes and one abstention.

Motion (McCarthy, Sheffer) to approve a cigarette license for Dougherty Depots LLC dba Zephyr Depot, Koeller Holdings, LLC, and Ronald J. Spillman, with the contingency that verification is received from the Department of Revenue that "The Hideout" holds a current sellers permit. Roll-all ayes. Carried.

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

Motion (Walton, McCarthy) to adjourn. Voice vote-all ayes. Carried. The meeting adjourned at 9:51 p.m.