

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, July 18, 2007, with the following members present: Gary McCrea, Katey McCarthy, Lisa Lawrence, Ann Neis, Lori Droessler, and Rose Walton. Absent: Terry Sheffer. Village employees present: Darnell Hendricks and Ryan Carver. Consultants present: none. Citizens: Sherri Timmerman, Carl Langkamp and Nancy Aurit. 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 (McCarthy, Droessler) to accept the minutes of the previous regular meeting held June 20, 2007, as amended. Voice vote-all ayes. Carried.

Motion (Walton, Lawrence) to consider and adopt modifications to the Village of Benton's Comprehensive Plan including: 1) revision of the vision statement on pages 9 of 115, and 106 of 115, 2) modifications to the implementation timeline for Chapter 9, 3) correction of a few grammatical errors in Chapter 9, and 4) insertion of maps 8.1, 8.2 and 8.3 in Chapter 8. Voice vote-all ayes. Carried.

Motion (Neis, McCarthy) to adopt the Village of Benton's Comprehensive Plan. Voice vote-all ayes. Carried.

The board was updated on the removal of the two trees in Swift Park. Due to vacations and summer recreation games and practices these trees will be removed after August 6, 2007.

Lawrence requested that a police committee meeting be scheduled as soon as convenient for all members. McCrea will set up a meeting.

No update was available from the United States Postal Service (USPS) regarding locations for a new USPS building in the Village of Benton.

McCrea updated the board on the status of the Benton School Crossing Guard position. This position has been posted in the local newspaper.

The street committee made the recommendation that the property owner at the corner of Galena Street and County J be allowed to install a retaining wall within certain guidelines. The board reviewed the ordinance related to the installation of retaining walls. McCrea will discuss the requirements and reasons for wanting this retaining wall with the property owner and determine if one is still desired.

Carl Langkamp was present with additional information regarding the Benton Fire Department purchasing an air refill station. *Motion (Walton, Lawrence) to authorize up to \$3500.00 from the Village of Benton to the Benton Fire Department for the purchase of an air refill station in 2007 or 2008, whichever year works best for the Benton Fire Department budget. Voice vote-all ayes. Carried.*

Nancy Aurit was present with concern related to the street committee's recommended location of a new street light at the south end of Creek Drive. A lengthy discussion was held regarding the necessity of a street light, the pros and cons of locating it on the east side or the southwest side of the street, the cost differences with each location, etc. *Motion (Neis, McCarthy) to locate the new street light on the south side of Creek Drive as recommended by the Street Committee. Voice vote-all ayes. Carried.*

A discussion was held regarding the vandalism at Swift Park. Recent additional security measures have been taken and no vandalism has occurred since.

The board was advised that sod had been ordered and would be put down around the new bathroom facility in the Village Park next Wednesday.

By general consent the board agreed to postpone sending any letters to property owners regarding the need for repair of sidewalks until spring 2008. However the board agreed that the

village should repair any of its own sidewalks this year, including sidewalk located on First Street.

A question was raised as to why the Main Street lights do not come on at dusk. Some nights it is close to 9:00 p.m. when they come on. Hendricks will talk to Perkins about this matter.

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

Motion (Droessler, Neis) to adjourn. Voice vote-all ayes. Carried. The meeting adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

Approved 8/15/2007

Posted 8/16/2007