

**September 5, 2007**

**Village of Benton Special Board Meeting**

A special meeting of the Benton Village Board was called to order by Village President, Gary McCrea, at 6:00 p.m. in the conference room of the Benton Business Incubator Building on Wednesday, September 5, 2007, with the following members present: Gary McCrea, Lori Droessler (7:03 p.m.), Terry Sheffer, Lisa Lawrence, Katey McCarthy and Rose Walton. Absent: Ann Neis. Village employees present: Darnell Hendricks. Visitors/Citizens present: none. In compliance with the Open Meeting Law, proper notice of the meeting had been posted in four public places: the Benton State Bank, Benton Post Office, Benton Business Incubator Building and the Zephyr Depot.

John Reichling, Lafayette County Sheriff's Department, and Jack Alexander (Lafayette County Law Enforcement Committee) were present to discuss the village's contract with Lafayette County for police services. Points John Reichling made for consideration were: 1) difficulty in finding quality officers within local budget constraints, 2) types of calls officers take ranging from neighbor disputes to drug busts, 3) rate of pay difference between current employee's and new officer, 4) supervisory responsibilities. Reichling agreed that justifiable concerns exist related to the age and experience of officers, familiarity with local ordinances, inability to fill shifts, lack of continuity, and lack of familiarity with community and citizens.

By general consent the board agreed to continue the contract for services with Lafayette County Sheriff's Department at this time and continue to keep the lines of communication open.

Sample ordinances related to vicious dogs were reviewed by the board. A first reading of a draft ordinance related to vicious dogs will be read at the next regular meeting, September 19, 2007.

*Motion (Droessler, Walton) to adjourn.* Voice-all ayes. Carried. Meeting was adjourned at 10:20 a.m.

Approved 9/19/2007  
Posted 9/20/2007

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