

The 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 Thursday, March 13, 2008, with the following members present: Gary McCrea, Rose Walton, Lori Droessler, Lisa Lawrence and Katey McCarthy. Absent: Terry Sheffer, Ann Neis. Village employees present: Darnell Hendricks, Jim Goffinet, and Paul Klang. Consultants present: Keith Dalsing - K.D. Engineering, Leland and Patti Felderman - Felderman Lawn and Garden, and Curt Timlin – Southwest Landscaping. 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.

The minutes from the regular meeting held February 20, 2008 were approved as amended.

Motion (Lawrence, McCarthy) to approve the purchase of three fire alarms from the City of Platteville Fire Department, with the understanding that the new alarms will be used in the following approximate locations: well house #2, Benton Bible Church, and the Benton Business Incubator Building. Roll-all ayes. Carried. It was agreed by general consent that the board would plan to budget in 2009 for one new fire alarm that would have a battery backup and would be installed on the fire house.

Keith Dalsing was present with information related to the 2008 street reconstruction projects. After reviewing the plans and discussing the alternatives, *motion (Droessler, Walton) to approve the final plans for the reconstruction of Temple Avenue, Wilson Avenue and Arbor Street as recommended including: reconstruction of Temple Avenue and Wilson Avenue with a 30 foot wide street, curb and gutter on both sides, at a budgeted amount of \$119,000.00; construction of a storm sewer for Arbor Street from Bean Street to Catherine Street at a budgeted amount of \$4,500.00 not including labor. Roll-all ayes. Carried.*

Motion (Walton, Droessler) to authorize K.D. Engineering to accept bids related to the 2008 Street Projects. Roll-all ayes. Carried.

Motion (McCarthy, Walton) to adopt the Preliminary Resolution to Exercise Special Assessment Powers Under Sec. 66.0701, WI. Stats. - regarding Temple Avenue, Wilson Avenue, and Arbor Street. Roll-all ayes. Carried.

Motion (Droessler, Lawrence) to approve the 2008 spring leaf and brush and burn weekend dates. Voice vote—all ayes. Carried.

Motion (Droessler, Lawrence) to approve a vacation request from Darnell Hendricks. Voice vote-all ayes. Carried.

A discussion was held regarding the UW-Platteville Work Study and CESA #3 Workforce Investment Act (WIA) employee status. It appears the village will not have any work study or WIA students this year due to cuts in these programs.

Motion (McCarthy, Droessler) to authorize the trade of the village's current X720 John Deere lawn tractor for a new Select C720 John Deere Tractor with Sloan Implement for \$2,000.00. Roll-all ayes. Carried. This trade provides the village with a four year or 700 hour warranty on the new tractor.

Bids for contracting out the village's grass cutting this summer were opened. Bids were received from Four Seasons Landscaping (\$27,000), Felderman Lawn and Garden (\$11,800), Southwest Landscaping (\$19,008), and Rodney Johnson (\$18,320.00). A discussion was held regarding the pros and cons of contracting this service out as well as the cost for the village to hire a person and cut the grass ourselves. Southwest Landscape offered to cut all of the grass one time at no cost and then submit a proposal based on a per cut fee. Felderman Lawn and Garden also made this offer. This matter was tabled at this time.

Motion (Lawrence, McCarthy) to approve the public nuisance procedure as amended. Roll-all ayes. Carried. An additional amendment will be added that imposes all building inspector fees onto the tax roll of the parcel in violation. This amendment will be addressed through an ordinance change to the public nuisance ordinance.

Jim Goffinet left at 8:30 p.m.

Hendricks requested permission to allow both Jim Goffinet and Ryan Carver to attend the upcoming J & R Supply Open House, April 3rd. Permission granted by general consent.

The board received a thank you from the Lafayette County Housing Authority for its recent decision to grant a \$1,047.39 credit on its sewer back bill.

Lisa Lawrence reported that the Dubuque Racing Association grant application had been submitted.

Officer Paul Klang advised he would like to meet with the ordinance committee regarding the proposed changes to the alternate side parking, public nuisance, and abandoned building ordinance. Walton will set up an ordinance committee meeting to go over these ordinances.

The board reviewed the February police report.

After its third reading, *motion (Lawrence, Walton) to adopt Ordinance 08-01, amending section 10-2-1 through 10-2-90 of the Municipal Code of the Village of Benton related to Floodplain Zoning.* Roll-all ayes. Carried.

Motion (Walton, Droessler) to adopt Resolution 2008-001, Village of Benton's Intent to Join the National Flood Insurance Program. Roll-all ayes. Carried.

Motion (Walton, Lawrence) to deny Carver's request to attend the 20th Annual Rural Water Technical Conference, April 9th-11th, due to lack of staffing during this time period. Roll-all ayes. Carried.

Motion (Lawrence, McCarthy) to approve an operator's license for Alexandria Graf, contingent on her background check. 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 hire an additional employee to cut grass this summer. In addition, it was agreed to give Felderman's Lawn and Garden and Southwest Landscaping the opportunity to cut the village's grass in May (at no cost) and then submit a bid for a price per cut. Roll-all ayes. Carried.

Motion (Walton, McCarthy) to adjourn. Roll-all ayes. Carried. The meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

I, Darnell Hendricks, Village Clerk-Treasurer of the Village of Benton, do hereby certify that the above is a true copy of the original minutes of the regular meeting of the Benton Village Board held at 7:00 p.m. on the 13th day of March, 2008.

Darnell Hendricks
Village Clerk/Treasurer

Subscribed and sworn to before this ____ day of ____, 2008.

_____, Notary Public, Lafayette County, WI

My commission expires_____.