

The regular 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 at 244 Ridge Avenue on Wednesday, November 12, 2008, with the following members present: Gary McCrea, Rose Walton, Katey McCarthy, Terry Sheffer, Lisa Lawrence, Lori Droessler (7:03), Ron Fladseth. Absent: none. Citizens: Mary Belle Whaley. Village employees present: Darnell Hendricks and John Perkins. Consultants and others present: Officer Brandon Gudgeon. 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, Walton) to approve the minutes from the regular meeting held October 15, 2008 and the special meeting held November 5, 2008 as distributed.* Voice -all ayes. Carried.

Mary Belle Whaley was present to request the board continue with its past practice of providing the Seniors United For Nutrition (SUN) program a donation of \$2,000.00. *Motion (Sheffer, Walton) to approve a \$2,000.00 donation to the Seniors United For Nutrition (SUN) program for 2009.* Roll-all ayes. Carried.

John Perkins made a request that the board consider an alternate plan for the two spring and two fall burn weekends. Perkins expressed a concern that the weekends seem to land on days of poor weather. It was suggested that two consecutive weeks allowing burning the entire week be designated both in the spring and fall to accommodate for possible poor weather. *Motion (Walton, McCarthy) to authorize changing the spring and fall "burn weekends" to two weeks of consecutive burn weeks.* Voice-all ayes. Carried.

Due to the inclement weather this past weekend, an alternate burn weekend was set for November 21<sup>st</sup> through November 23<sup>rd</sup> by general consent.

Perkins provided a status report on the refurbishing of the Swift Park shelter house.

Hendricks provided an invitation to the board for the dedication ceremony at the Habitat for Humanity house at 165 White Street, Sunday, November 23<sup>rd</sup> at 2:00 p.m.

*Motion (Walton, Droessler) to approve an operator's license for Susan K. Bottoms.* Roll-all ayes. Carried.

The board reviewed the budget numbers provided by K.D. Engineering for the reconstruction of Cross Street in 2009.

*Motion (Lawrence, Walton) to approve the final pay request of \$327.38 from Iverson Construction for the 2008 Temple Street Reconstruction (miscellaneous patching and driveway) project.* Roll-all ayes. Carried.

*Motion (Fladseth, McCarthy) to approve the final pay request of \$1,997.21 from Iverson Construction for the 2008 Temple Street Reconstruction project.* Roll-all ayes. Carried.

*Motion (Droessler, Sheffer) to approve the final pay request of \$1,683.28 from Mowry Brothers Construction for the 2008 Temple Street Reconstruction project.* Roll-all ayes. Carried.

The street committee made a recommendation to the full board that it approve a handicap parking spot in the area near the Benton State Bank, Sysko's Sports Books, Ameriprise Financial, and the new restaurant at 30 W. Main Street. *Motion (Droessler, Walton) to approve a handicap parking spot in the area discussed.* Roll-all ayes. Carried.

The street committee also recommended having the village engineer, K.D. Engineering, review the area on north Bean Street that has deep ditches along it for a solution to the drainage problem. Perkins recommended extending the storm sewer along this area to accommodate the street run-off as well as the spring water that runs along the west side of the road. *Motion (Walton, Lawrence) to have K.D. Engineering review with Perkins the issues and make recommendations for solutions to the problem.* Voice-all ayes. Carried.

Approved 12/03/2008

Posted 12/05/2008

The status of the ongoing public nuisance violations in the village were discussed. The board inquired about the status of the building permit for 171 West Main Street, a trailer parked in a front yard on 125 Temple Avenue, and an abandoned vehicle on First Avenue. Hendricks will follow up with the property owner regarding renewing the building permit and Officer Gudgeon will follow up on the trailer and abandoned vehicle.

The discussion regarding the Payment in Lieu of taxes from the Lafayette County Housing Authority was deferred until the next regular meeting, December 3, 2008.

The October 2008 Monthly Police report was reviewed.

*Motion (Droessler, Walton) to approve the 2009 Audit Contract with Johnson Block and Company, Inc. in the amount of \$10,850.00. Roll-all ayes. Carried.*

Perkins left the meeting at 6:50 p.m.

*Motion (McCarthy, Walton) to approve the 2009 General Fund Budget with a local levy of \$123,866.00 for posting with a public hearing date set for December 3, 2008 at 6:45 p.m. Roll-all ayes. Motion carried.*

Lawrence reported that she will be attending a meeting December 2, 2008, with UW Platteville regarding the park committee's grant request for new playground equipment at Swift Park.

Lawrence also inquired as to when the village was made aware of the officer change under the Lafayette County contract. McCrea and Hendricks will look into this and let Lawrence know.

Sheffer requested an Ordinance meeting be set up to allow review of the revised abandoned vehicle ordinance he is proposing. Walton will advise when a meeting has been scheduled.

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

*Motion (Fladseth, McCarthy) to adjourn. Voice-all ayes. Carried. The meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.*