

The regular meeting of the Benton Village Board was called to order by Village President, Gary McCrea, at 6:30 p.m. in the conference room of the Benton Business Incubator Building at 244 Ridge Avenue on Wednesday, May 18, 2011, with the following members present: Gary McCrea, Lisa Lawrence, Chuck Wartner, Ron Fladseth and Terry Sheffer, and Cal Robbins. Absent: Rose Walton. Citizens: none. Consultants: none. Village employees present: Darnell Hendricks and Ryan Carver. Others present: none. 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 (Wartner, Lawrence) to approve the minutes as distributed from the last regular meeting held April 20, 2011. Voice -all ayes.

By general consent the board approved putting the old dump truck up for sale.

The board discussed purchase of new cement flower pots for Main Street. It was agreed that this should be considered for budgetary purposes next year, however, fund raising might be an option for a couple of the flower pots. Hendricks had done some research and the cement flower pots 36" in diameter that would match the benches and garbage cans currently on Main Street would be \$435.55 each including shipping. It is hoped that money could be raised to purchase five pots to replace the five whiskey barrels that currently have flowers in them.

A letter from Allied Waste Services was read which indicated the village's solid waste handling contract for 2011-2012 would be increasing by 2.7%, the consumer price index increase. This rate will be effective July 15th.

Chuck Wartner indicated there is a public nuisance committee meeting scheduled for Thursday, May 19, 2011.

Lisa Lawrence indicated the new summer work-study employee would be starting Wednesday, May 25th. Lawrence requested that the old ball park should be readied as soon as possible.

The new flag pole and light in the village park have been completed and are ready for the American and WI Flags to be flown on it. Hendricks will contact the VFW regarding the flags.

The bleacher project at Swift Park was discussed, and it was agreed that this item should be placed on the June regular board meeting agenda. The Benton Booster Club has set its goal as raising money to purchase a total of three new sets of bleachers. Each set costs approximately \$12,000. Scales Mound School District has pledged to donate \$6000. The Benton School District would like to donate at least this much. The Booster Club would like to see a donation from the Village of Benton as well. This item will be placed on the next agenda for discussion.

Sheffer announced that the old visitor's center in Belmont has been turned in to the Lafayette County General Store and will be selling items that are made in the county. The Lafayette County General Store held its ribbon cutting ceremony on May 9th.

Carver reviewed a few options with the board related to correcting the storm water drainage issues near 141 North Van Buren Street. An open channel as well as a buried storm sewer were discussed. Carver will do some more thorough research related to these options and provide this information to the board at its next regular meeting in June.

Hendricks reminded the board of the upcoming BCDC Chicken and Rib BBQ and the Benton Business Incubator Open House.

Motion (Sheffer, Wartner) to approve Carver vacation from June 23rd to July 5th. Voice vote -all ayes. Carried.

Motion (Robbins, Sheffer) to approve the purchase of an 18' trailer from Custom Transit Service for \$3850.00. Roll-all ayes. Carried.

Motion (Lawrence, Sheffer) to approve making a recommendation to the Town of Benton Board to keep the work local by hiring BP Roofing to tear off and reshingle the salt shed roof. Roll-all ayes. Carried.

Motion (Wartner, Sheffer) to approve charging interest on the TID #1 Advance back to its inception date in the amount of 4.5% interest. Roll-all ayes. Carried.

Information was provided from Alliant Energy related to Annual Demand and Energy Charge Changes.

A bid from Iverson Construction for black top patching various locations in the village was discussed. The street committee will meeting Saturday, May 21st, at 9:00 a.m. to discuss and make a recommendation at the next regular meeting.

Ryan Carver left at 7:16 p.m.

The 2011-2012 property and liability insurance renewals were approved by general consent.

The April 2011 Police Report was approved by general consent.

Motion (Robbins, Lawrence) to approve the request from Darnell Hendricks to carry over 40 hours of vacation for up to four months. Voice vote-all ayes. Carried.

The request from a citizen to have village personnel do crack sealing in his driveway was denied.

Motion (Lawrence, Robbins) to approve hiring Kane Hoffmann for the summer under the UW Platteville workstudy program. Voice vote-all ayes. Carried.

Motion (Lawrence, Fladseth) to approve signing a contract with General Code to redo the current Benton Municipal Code. Roll-all ayes. Carried.

The request for vacation from Darnell Hendricks was approved by general consent.

The illegal parking that is still taking place on White Street even since signs have been posted was discussed. Gary McCrea will speak with officer Seiler and Sheriff Scott Pedley about making sure this no parking area is enforced with ticket writing if necessary.

Motion (Robbins, Fladseth) to approve renewal of the compost site lease agreement with Phoebe McCrea in the amount of \$1000.00/year. Roll-Wartner, McCrea: abstain; Fladseth, Lawrence, Robbins, Sheffer, Walton: yes. Motion carried with five yes, and two abstentions.

Motion (Wartner, Lawrence) to approve Hendricks attendance at the annual Municipal Clerk's Conference in August, 2011. Roll-all ayes. Carried.

A thank you note was read from Ron, Marion and Lexi Fladseth.

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

Motion (Wartner, Sheffer) to adjourn. Voice-all ayes. Carried. The meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.