

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, August 21, 2019, with the following members present: Gary McCrea, Cal Robbins, Katey Neis, Jill Knight, Chuck Wartner, Kenneth Farrey and Terry Sheffer. Village employees present: Beverly Hitz, Eric Mowry and Brad Schumacher. Also attending were Kim Bellmann (FEH), William Folz, Sandra Voight, Michelle Savatski, and Sherri Timmerman. 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, Knight) to approve minutes from the regular village board meeting held on July 17, 2019. Voice-all ayes. Carried***

FEH representative Kim Bellmann gave an overview of the process that has taken place to set the goals for the proposed building that could house the Library, Community Room, Village Hall, Police and History Center. There were 5 public meetings to explore and vote on the possible locations and building design (approximately 10,000 square feet). They have narrowed it to 3 options and have a budget figure for each option. The top site is currently owned by the Beginning Point Church. Members of the committee have met with the church twice so far. The next steps in the process will take place after the site is confirmed. Financing to include grant, fund raising and borrowing.

Eric reported that they have the curbs painted and will be doing crosswalks tomorrow and lines at the incubator building on Monday. They have the dirt behind the curbs and the seed in at the subdivision and it is coming up nicely. The park is back together after the storm. He is still trying to get the fence fixed at the tennis court (about 100 feet of chain link fence) before Labor Day. Joe is making great progress on the playground equipment.

Gary explained that the current compost site on Bean Street is not working out. He has contacted Kevin Bennett and work is in progress to move the site back to Dump Road. The property is owned by Kevin Bennett and is just below the old one. Our summer help is leaving and we will ask Jim Monahan to water the flowers for the rest of the season. The Fire Department will be putting in an HVAC system in 2020 and the cost for the Village will be about \$5,000. They will be purchasing a new tanker truck in 2021 and the cost to the Village will be 50,000. He would like to see the Village apply for one time road funds that will be available with a 10% match and use them to redo Galena Street. He also said that a representative from the US Department of Agriculture said there will be money available to expand the incubator building.

Brad Schumacher answered questions about the radar signs that we have received estimates on. He will be contacting the DOT to confirm what type is allowed on the State Highway. He will also look into converting our current sign to solar. This will be moved to the next agenda and will become a budget item for 2020.

Jill Knight said the shelter house at Swift Park looks great since it has been power washed, The Pickle Ball Courts are done at Swift Park and the metal roof has been painted on the shelter and looks great.

***Motion (Sheffer, Robbins) to approve Replacement Class B Retail licenses for Bend in the River, McCarthy's Bar, Joseph McCrea Post 7896, and Lawrence's Pub and Eatery for 6:00 p.m. September 1, 2019 thru 12:00 a.m. September 2, 2019. Roll-all ayes. Carried.***

***Motion (Farrey, Wartner) to approve Application for Temporary Class “B”/”Class B” Retailer’s License from St. Augustine Church for August 25<sup>th</sup> at St. Patrick’s Parish Hall.***

**Roll-all ayes. Carried**

***Motion (Knight, Wartner) to approve that Beverly Hitz explore and implement community texting for the Village if possible. Roll-all ayes. Carried***

***Pursuant with Chapter 19.85 Sub (1) par (e) of WIS. STATS, motion (Robbins, Sheffer) to adjourn to closed session to deliberate or negotiate the purchase of public properties, the investing of public funds, or conducting other specified public business. Roll-all ayes. Carried.***

***Adjourned to closed session at 7:19 p.m.***

***Motion (Wartner, Neis) to reconvene to open session. Roll-all ayes. Carried.***

***Reconvened to open session at 7:31 p.m.***

***Motion (Neis, Robbins) to authorize making an offer to purchase the property at the Beginning Point Church contingent on the Abatement threshold set by the project architect. Roll-all ayes. Carried***

**Jill Knight will be contacting the church to set up a meeting.**

***Motion (Wartner, Robbins) to pay the claims against the Village. Roll-all ayes. Carried.***

***Motion (Knight, Sheffer) to adjourn. Voice-all ayes. Carried. The meeting adjourned at 7:35p.m.***