

Village of Benton

August 18, 2021

Board Meeting Minutes

Members present: Gary McCrea, Jill Knight, Chuck Wartner, Terry Sheffer, Katey Neis, and Kenneth Farrey

Absent members: Cal Robbins

Village employees present: Sonya Silvers

Others Present: Michelle Savatski, Ben and Jessica Cernek

The regular board 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 18, 2021.

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, Wartner) to approve the minutes from the regular village board meeting held on July 21, 2021 and minutes from Special Board meetings held June 23 and July 27, 2021 as presented. Voice-all ayes.

Carried

Michelle Savatski provided an update from the CORE Committee regarding the Community Building. A brief summary of the initial intent of the Community Building was given when the idea was proposed in July of 2019. It was to house a new library, museum, village office, police department, community room, and a kitchen. Due to the size and cost of the project, it was decided that the police department would be taken out since it now has a main street location and the village office would remain in the incubator building. The Community Center Building would also be pushed up closer to the road allowing for future expansion in the back if needed.

Ben and Jessica Cernek addressed the board regarding a solution to an ordinance issue with goats residing in the village. They will be pursue annexing into the Town of Benton.

Gary McCrea reported updates for Ryan Carver. Water and sewer from Park Avenue to White Street were complete, tested, and put in service. Water still needs to be installed from Park Avenue to Zephyr Street to complete the loop, this is planned for after Labor Day. Village Park had new park benches installed, new decking on the stage completed, and the welcome sign was repaired, repainted, and reinstalled with new lighting. The pavilion in the BCDC Park was completed and water service has been installed. The bottle filler/bubbler will be installed when time allows. The pickle ball courts were leveled out, lined, and resurfaced. The hydrant painting project was also completed. Curbs and crosswalks will be painted before Labor Day.

Sonya reported that Ryan's training dates on the agenda should be September instead of August. There was a billing error in July with the PCAC rate. Customers were charged an overage. The Public Service of Wisconsin was contacted and their recommendations were followed. A letter was drafted explaining the error to residents that will go out with the August billing. The bills were corrected and any credits will be reflected on August billings.

Gary will be attending a Lafayette County Development Corp meeting next week and will reach out to Abby regarding Comelec. Keith Dalsing has been contacted and will also reach out Comelec to see what can be done to move along with getting their internet service in Benton.

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Issuance of Replacement Class B Retail license for Hoppy's Bar and Grill, McCarthy's Bar, Joseph McCrea Post 7896, and Lawrence's Pub and Eatery were presented for Labor day.

Motion (Knight, Wartner) to approve Replacement Class B Retail licenses for Hoppy's Bar and Grill, McCarthy's Bar, Joseph McCrea Post 7896, and Lawrence's Pub and Eatery for 6:00 p.m. September 5, 2021 thru 1:00 a.m. September 6, 2021.

*Roll- Farrey-YES Neis-ABSTAINED Knight-YES Wartner-YES
Sheffer-YES McCrea-YES Motion Carried.*

Operator license requests were presented for Nathan Welborn and Aaron DeMuth.

Motion (Knight, Sheffer) to approve an Operator's License for Nathan Welborn and Aaron DeMuth.

*Roll- Farrey-YES Neis-ABSTAINED Knight-YES Wartner-YES
Sheffer-YES McCrea-YES Motion Carried.*

Ryan Carver will be off starting October 15th for shoulder surgery.

Ryan Carver will attend WRWA September. 1, 2, & 3. Sonya Silvers & Tasha Blindert will attend the Civic Symposium Sept. 16 & 17th, 2021.

Motion (Sheffer, Neis) to approve the training for Ryan Carver at WRWA Sept. 1,2, and 3, 2021 and Sonya Silvers and Tasha Blinder for the Civic Symposium training Sept. 16 & 17, 2021. Roll-all ayes. Carried

The 2022 budget timeline was reviewed and approved by general consent.

Recommendations from the Planning and Zoning Committee for rezoning village owned property for the future site of the Community Building and the vacating of Treganza Street were presented to the board to accept the resolutions.

Motion (Farrey, Wartner) to accept the recommendation to approve Petition #2021-002 to rezone 25, 29, and 33 Main Street in the Village of Benton to Public Grounds for the future site of the Community Building.

Roll-all ayes. Carried

Motion (Sheffer, Farrey) to accept the recommendation to approve Resolution #2021-001 to vacate and discontinue Treganza Street in the Village of Benton. Roll-all ayes. Carried

Adjourned to closed session at 7:35 p.m.

Pursuant with Chapter 19.85 Sub (1) par (e) of WIS. STATS, motion (Wartner, Knight) 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, including discussion of a loan to the Benton Business Incubator. Roll-all ayes. Carried.

Reconvened to open session at 7:48 p.m.

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

Motion (Wartner, Neis) to approve purchase of land at \$10,000 an acre for the future site of the trail. Roll-all ayes. Carried

The claims against the Village were presented for payment.

Motion (Knight, Neis) to pay the claims against the Village. Roll-all ayes. Carried

Meeting adjourned at 7:52 p.m.

Motion (Neis, Wartner) to adjourn. Voice-all ayes. Carried