

**Town of Bentonia
Board Meeting
August 8, 2017**

The regular meeting of the Mayor and the Board of the Town of Bentonia was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Mayor Roger Burton. The following members were present Clint Lancaster, Patricia Ferris and Colby Parks also present was Police Chief Jason Bright, Fire Chief Gary Taylor, and Clerk Kim Tyer. Absent was Greg Shaffer and Adam Brooks.

Motion was made by Clint Lancaster to adopt the minutes and bills and was seconded by Patricia Ferris followed by Colby Parks. Motion passed.

Laverne Hampton requested permission to open a Church in the strip mall on Hwy 49 in Bentonia, Mississippi. Motion was made by Clint Lancaster and was seconded by Patricia Ferris followed by Colby Parks. Motion passed.

The Mayor spoke on behalf of Marcie Burton who requested permission to move a new trailer in the town on his property on Hwy 49 in Bentonia, Mississippi. The Mayor stated that no mobile homes would be allowed in the town limits until such time that the ordinances have been updated. Once the ordinances have been revised someone will contact Mr. Burton and provide a copy of such ordinances.

Ardis Russell reviewed the Compilation for fiscal year 2015-2016. He stated that Cannon had the information needed for publication and he would touch base with her to make sure she had all information needed. He thanked the town for allowing him to provide this service through the years and stated that he was retiring.

The Mayor discussed collections on past due fines and water/sewer accounts. Motion was made by Colby Parks to turn all over due accounts over to collections and was seconded by Clint Lancaster followed by Patricia Ferris. Motion passed.

The Mayor inquired about having court quarterly due to the fact that we usually do not have a full docket monthly and it would be more cost effective to hold court quarterly. Motion was made by Patricia Ferris, seconded by Colby Parks followed by Clint Lancaster. Motion passed.

The Mayor discussed the sewer problems experienced by the Burrell's and explained what options might be available to remediate the issue. Options available consist of installing an updated pump station and install a grinder pump that will eliminate backups. The Mayor stated that he would contact the Burrell's and discuss the options available and explain that if the town installs a grinder pump they (Burrell's) will be responsible for the

maintenance, upkeep and electric bill. Scroggins Pump Repair provided the following quotes 20-8246 Grinder Station-\$4500.00 and 20-8263 Station Rehab. \$9460.00. Motion was made to allow the Mayor to discuss options available with the Burrell family by Clint Lancaster, seconded by Patricia Ferris followed by Colby Parks. Motion Passed.

Information was presented to the board about training on the RVS Mosaics Systems (water system) that will be held in Little Rock Arkansas, October 23 and 24, 2017. Motion was made to allow Cannon and Kim to attend the training by Patricia Ferris, seconded by Coly Parks followed by Clint Lancaster. Motion passed.

Mr. Taylor inquired about building codes for shops or other out buildings. The mayor stated at this time we do not have any such codes.

The Mayor was approached by Wyle Bourbor concerning a tanker truck that would help with the Town of Bentonia's fire rating. At this time, we do not have a covered area to house a tanker truck. Discussion were tabled until such time that the town has sufficient cover area to house such equipment.

The Mayor stated that the sign at the pitch in are in need of being replaced. Quotes will be obtained for the September meeting.

The Mayor and board of Alderman stated that the area around the pitch in needs to be cleaned up, mowed and weed eated.

Old Business

The Mayor met with and discussed cleaning out the ditches on East Railroad Ave with the Department of Transportation and they expressed concern of the natural water flow and stated they would not disturb the natural flow of water.

Taylor Power Systems provided a quote for repair and maintenance of the generators located at town hall and the water well. An electrician will need to make repairs to the generator located at the water well prior to a maintenance agreement being issued. The control panel is not up to code. The switch on the generator at town hall is not compatible and will not allow for the automatic on option. Repair and maintenance of the generators will be tabled until next month to allow for repairs to be made by an electrician.

Speed bumps were placed on Mosley street today (August 8, 2017).

The Mayor stated that he would call Hancock about welding the valve at the lagoon.

Tires for the Tahoe will be purchased off of the State Contact for \$568.00.

Man hole on Pritchard Ave, needs to be repaired. It has a hole in the side and Chester Bramlett is unable to make that type of repair. It will need to be patched prior to being repaired.

The Mayor is waiting on a response from the Attorneys to get started on the updating and creating of ordinance's.

Motion was made by Clint Lancaster, seconded by Patricia Ferris followed by Colby Parks to end the regular meeting and go into executive session to discuss personnel. Motion Passed.

Motion was made by Clint Lancaster to open executive session seconded by Colby Parks followed by Patricia Ferris. Motion passed

Motion was made by Colby Parks to end executive session and open regular session seconded by Clint Lancaster followed by Patricia Ferris. Motion passed.

Motion was made by Clint Lancaster to open regular meeting seconded by Patricia Ferris followed by Colby Parks.

Motion to Hire Simmon Stubblefield for Police Officer was made by Colby Parks seconded by Clint Lancaster followed by Patricia Ferris. Motion Passed

Stubblefield will start employment with the Town of Benton August 16, 2017 at a pay rate of \$26,000 per year with \$2500 on call pay per year.

Motion was made by Patricia Ferris, seconded by Colby Parks followed by Clint Lancaster to adjourn. Motion passed and the meeting adjourned.

Kim Tyer, City Clerk

Trey Burton, Mayor