**Regular Month Meeting**

**Benton City Council**

**February 15, 2021**

The regular meeting of the Benton City Council was called to order on Monday, February 15, 2021 at 5:00 P.M. by Mayor Rita Dotson with the Pledge of Allegiance and opening prayer by Rob Mattingly. This meeting was held via Zoom video conference.

Council Members Present: Butch Holland, Charles Edmonds, Ann Riley, Sherra Riley, Kevin Farley and Rita Murray

Other Staff Present: Bethany Cooper, City Clerk/Treasurer; Rob Mattingly, City Attorney; Todd Riley, Gas Manager and Stephen Sanderson, Police Chief.

Guests were Areia Hathcock, Marshall County Tribune Courier; Lloyd Ford, Lake News; Tad Long, KLC; Bobbie Bryant, KLC and Ben Warren, Supreme Enterprises

Tad Long presented a Power Point presentation of the Strategic Plan outline. The following items were discussed: core values, community input, strengths/weaknesses, opportunities/threats, student input, focus on the economy, housing, recreation/tourism and transportation. There will be a public hearing on April 12 to review the Comprehensive Land Use Plan.

Todd discussed the Hedging Agreement with Utility Gas Management that was on the agenda for approval tonight. However, with all of the bad weather that has hit throughout the United States, this isn’t the best time to purchase more gas. Natural gas prices have skyrocketed. Todd hopes to be able to purchase some more gas and not have to pass the cost on to the customers.

City Attorney Mattingly read the first reading of an ordinance amending the zoning map for the City of Benton to provide for a change in the zoning classification for properties located on Main Street between East 4th Street and East 5th Street from I-1 to C-2.

City Attorney Mattingly read the first reading of an ordinance amending the zoning map for the City of Benton to provide for a change in the zoning classification for properties located at 815 Birch Street from C-2 to R-3.

City Attorney Mattingly read the first reading of an ordinance amending Section 52.35€ and (G) of the City of Benton’s Code of Ordinances to provide for a new section for charges and fees and for service provided by the City of Benton to its water and sewer customers.

Mayor Dotson read a resolution strongly encouraging the Kentucky General Assembly to pass legislation in the 2021 regular session of the General Assembly that addresses Kentucky’s growing infrastructure needs by increasing transportation funding. A motion was made by A. Riley, seconded by S. Riley to approve. All agreed. Motion carried.

City Clerk/Treasurer Cooper reviewed the bids received for sludge removal at Benton’s WWTP cell #2.

Murtco:

* Standard Track Hoe w/Operator $140.00/Hour
* Long Reach Track Hoe w/Operator $276.00/Hour
* Tri-Axle Dump Truck w/Driver $105.00/Hour
* 6-8 weeks completion time
* Rip rap $38.00/Ton
* Estimated 950 tons of rip rap

Supreme Enterprises:

* Equipment Mobilization $385.00/Mobilization
* Long Reach Track Hoe w/Operator $230.00/Hour
* Standard Track Hoe w/Operator $156.00/Hour
* Off Road Dump Truck w/Driver $230.00/Hour
* Dozer w/Operator $174.00/Hour
* Tri-Axle Dump Truck w/Driver $115.00/Hour
* Rip rap $21.00/Ton
* Estimated 850 tons of rip rap
* #57 rock $20.00/Ton

Charlie Nelson Trucking & Excavating:

* Standard Track Hoe w/Operator $225.00/Hour
* Long Reach Track Hoe w/Operator $250.00/Hour
* Tri-Axle Dump Truck w/Driver $100.00/Hour
* 9-10 weeks completion time
* Rip rap $25.00/Ton
* Estimated 1000 tons of rip rap

Greer Excavating Service:

* Standard Track Hoe w/Operator $175.00/Hour
* Long Reach Track Hoe w/Operator $195.00/Hour
* Tri-Axle Dump Truck w/Driver $85.00/Hour
* Rip rap $21.00/Ton

A motion was made by Farley, seconded by Edmonds to accept the bid from Greer Excavating

Services. All agreed. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Farley, seconded by S. Riley to approve $75,000.00 from CARES funding

to use towards Small Business Relief Grants. All agreed. Motion carried.

Mayor Dotson mentioned that she had talked with the Cruise-In Coordinator about his offensive Facebook posts. He apologized and said he will no longer post things like he has been. She agreed to give him another change at organizing the Cruise-Ins this year. All Council agreed to give another chance.

Police Chief Sanderson presented the police report for January. There were 764 calls, 9 collisions, 66 citations and 21 cases.

A motion was made by Edmonds, seconded by Holland to approve the City/County/IDA workshop minutes of January 11, 2021; special called minutes of January 19, 2021 and the small business grant workshop of January 26, 2021. All agreed. Motion carried.

In Mayor/Council items, A. Riley gave an update from the Water and Sewer Committee meeting from February 2, 2021.

There being no further business to come before the Council, meeting adjourned at 6:45 P.M.

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Rita Dotson, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Bethany Cooper, City Clerk/Treas.