**Regular Month Meeting**

**Benton City Council**

**March 21, 2022**

The regular meeting of the Benton City Council was called to order on Monday, March 21, 2022 at 5:00 P.M. by Mayor Rita Dotson at Benton City Hall.

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

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

Office Keegan Cole was awarded the Governor’s Award for Highway Safety recently. Chief

Sanderson presented him with his plaque.

 Franklin Jones of 1000 Slaughter Road was present to ask for an adjustment on his water bill from a leak in January. They all agreed to give him the normal adjustment per the water adjustment ordinance.

 Drew Williams was present to give an update on Tater Day events. He has now established a non-profit in the name of Tater Day Committee LLC. He was able to coordinate a different location to hold a beer garden with Dam Brewhaus to operate it. A motion was made by Holland, seconded by Murray to allow the beer garden upon following all regulations. Motion was opposed by S. Riley. All others agreed. Motion carried.

 Drew also discussed the Tater Day Vendor Market that Tater Day Committee LLC will be overseeing. This market location is behind the old Marshall County Library, Woodmen of the World building and USBank parking lots. There are currently 80 vendors signed up. He will provide trash pick-up in this area and portable toilets. He also has purchased a liability insurance policy to cover all events this non-profit is hosting. This non-profit is collecting $20.00 per day per vendor. All of these funds will go into this non-profit account to help with Tater Day expenses. Council has agreed to allow this and collect 10% of all fees to be paid to City of Benton at the end of the event in lieu of their normal special permits. An Executive Order will be drafted and signed to approve this.

 Spring clean-up is set for April 25, 2022.

 Mayor Dotson suggested Sandra Wright Phillips to the open position on the City of Benton Ethic’s Committee. A motion was made by Murray, seconded by S. Riley to approve. All agreed. Motion carried.

 City Attorney Mattingly discussed a joint resolution opposing passage of House Bill 214 which would eliminate the 58th district judgeship and leave only one district judge to cover both Marshall and Calloway Counties. A motion was made by A. Riley, seconded by Farley to approve. Motion carried.

 City Attorney Mattingly read the summary of a second reading an ordinance amending Chapter 96: Parks and Recreation of the City of Benton’s Code of Ordinances. A motion was made by Farley, seconded by A. Riley to approve. All agreed. Motion carried.

 City Attorney Mattingly read the first reading of an ordinance amending temporary permits.

 Mayor Dotson discussed the update with USDA loan for Symsonia Highway Waterline Project. This loan is still in the works. They have requested that a water surcharge be added to the entire water system and not just the affected area. City Clerk/Treasurer Cooper presented some figures. It was discussed to propose a $5.00 surcharge on each water customer if allowed.

 Chief Sanderson presented the police report for February. There were 16 cases, 14 collisions, 75 citations and 704 calls to service.

 A motion was made by Holland, seconded by A. Riley to approve the regular minutes of February 21, 2022. All agreed. Motion carried.

 A motion was made by Edmonds, seconded by Farley to adjourn to Executive Session to discuss property acquisition.

 A motion was made by A. Riley, seconded by S. Riley to adjourn Executive Session.

There being no further business to come before the Council, meeting adjourned at 6:30 pm.

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 Rita Dotson, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Bethany Cooper, City Clerk/Treas.