

**Regular Month Meeting
Benton City Council
February 18, 2019**

The regular meeting of the Benton City Council was called to order on Monday, February 18, 2019 at 5:00 P.M. by Mayor Rita Dotson with the Pledge of Allegiance and opening prayer by Charles Edmonds.

Council Members Present:

Ann Riley	Charles Edmonds
Sherra Riley	Kevin Farley
Rita Murray	Butch Holland

Other Staff Present:

Zach Brien, City Atty	Bethany Cooper, City Clerk/Treas
Todd Riley, Gas Mgr.	William Treadway, Police Sgt.
Jeremy Hicks, Police Chief	

Ed Kubilis of 176 Emerald Drive was present concerning drainage issues around his property. Mayor Dotson explained that herself and Mike Oliver, Maintenance Supervisor, went and observed the drainage during the last heavy rain. The drain drop box and the curbs are working properly but his house sits at the lowest point and, therefore, receives a lot of overflow. Mayor Dotson also said that she will add it to her list to see about getting an additional drainage box set and piped to the creek in the future.

Mayor Dotson asked the Council to decide on a Mayor Pro-tem. In the past it has traditionally been the member with the highest votes from election. Rita Murray made a motion to stick with tradition and nominated Ann Riley as Mayor Pro-tem. Motion was seconded by Edmonds. All agreed. Motion carried.

City Attorney Brien read the second reading of an ordinance prohibiting the unlawful use of engine and/or compression brakes in certain areas. A motion was made by Murray, seconded by Holland to approve. All agreed. Motion carried.

City Attorney Brien read the second reading of an ordinance annexing Southwest One Industrial Park into the City limits. A motion was made by Edmonds, seconded by Farley to approve. All agreed. Motion carried.

Police Chief Hicks read the police report for January. There were 15 cases, 12 collisions, 27 citation violations and 338 calls to service.

A motion was made by S. Riley, seconded by Edmonds to approve payroll and invoices. All agreed. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Holland, seconded by Murray to approve the regular minutes of January 28, 2019 and the special called minutes of February 8, 2019. All agreed. Motion carried.

In Mayor/Council items,

Edmonds mentioned that water stands between the two culverts from 2005 Pepper Lane and the house next to it. Edmonds says that it appears the lower culvert is too high and water doesn't properly drain. Mayor Dotson will have it checked out.

Farley mentioned that County Commissioner Monti Collins reached out to him regarding animal control. There has been a committee put together to look into a plan for animal control throughout the county. He will get back with Farley with figures once something has been decided. Mayor Dotson also mentioned that she emailed Judge Neal to ask him for a meeting to discuss animal control options. He agreed to set a meeting after February.

Farley also mentioned how well he likes the moveable speed limit radar signs and he feels they are working to help control speeds in the areas they are placed. He would like to see more. Chief Hicks said he will call and check prices on solar powered signs. The current one is battery operated and the

battery only lasts about 1 week. Ordering more like that style would be a burden to move and change batteries frequently.

Mayor asked the Council if they are interested in offering the park as an area for cars to come to have their own cruise in during the off months of April, May, July and August since Benton Partnership are only hosting April and June on the Court Square. No decision was made.

Mayor Dotson and City Clerk/Bethany Cooper met with the Transportation Cabinet earlier. The Committee all agreed to add Hwy 641 and Hwy 58 to the project list to add drop lanes and turn lanes to help with the increased traffic in that area. Hopefully this project will obtain a high score and be corrected in the future.

Mayor Dotson announced that spring clean-up days are set for April 15 through April 18.

Edmonds asked if parking around Court Square can be angled more once the paving on Main and Poplar Streets are complete to keep the vehicles from sticking out in the road so much. This will have to be checked into further.

There being no further business to come before the Council, meeting adjourned at 5:45 P.M.

Rita Dotson, Mayor

ATTEST:

Bethany Cooper, City Clerk/Treas.