

**Regular Month Meeting
Benton City Council
November 19, 2018**

The regular monthly meeting of the Benton City Council was called to order on Monday, November 19, 2018 at 5:00 P.M. by Mayor Rita Dotson with the Pledge of Allegiance and opening prayer by Justin Lamb.

Council Members Present:

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|-----------------|-----------------|
| Chris Smithmier | Charles Edmonds |
| Sherra Riley | Justin Lamb |
| Rita Murray | Butch Holland |

Other Staff Present:

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|----------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Zach Brien, City Atty | Bethany Cooper, City Clerk/Treas |
| Todd Riley, Gas Mgr | Harry Green, Fire Chief |
| Jeremy Hicks, Police Chief | |

Mayor Dotson read a resolution adopting the Jackson Purchase Region Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan. A motion was made by Edmonds, seconded by Lamb to approve. All agreed. Motion carried.

Todd Riley was present to address the need for increases in the gas main extension charges and the service line charges. He explained that the pipe and wire cost for gas main extensions has increased. The current charge is \$3.00/foot and their actual cost is \$3.35/foot if they hire the work out. Riley proposes increasing this rate to \$4.00/foot. Riley proposed increasing the service line charge from \$2.00/foot to \$3.00/foot and keep the \$250.00 tap fee the same. Their current rate doesn't fully cover the labor costs. A motion was made by Murray, seconded by Edmonds to increase both fees as proposed. All agreed. Motion carried. City Attorney Brien will put this in ordinance form for next meeting.

Chief Hicks presented the police report for October. There were 22 cases, 13 collisions, 37 citation violations and 480 calls to service.

A motion was made by Smithmier, seconded by Lamb to approve payroll and invoices. All agreed. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Holland, seconded by Riley to approve the regular minutes of October 15, 2018 and the special called minutes of October 24, 2018. All agreed. Motion carried.

In Mayor and Council items, Holland has had a complaint from his neighbor that says his water is too acidic. We will follow up with the water department. Holland also gave an update from Benton Electric System.

Edmonds asked the status of the car cruise since Benton Partnership doesn't want to host for the upcoming year. At this time, it is not known if Benton Partnership wants to help at all or if there will be a car cruise held at Kenlake this year. The Kenlake car cruise coincided with some of Benton's and hurt the attendance. Mayor Dotson said she will talk with Keith Murt for suggestions and wants the Council to be thinking of what they would like to do for 2019.

Edmonds also asked the status on Tater Day. City Clerk Cooper explained that Benton Partnership and Benton Kiwanis Club would like to see Tater Day vendors moved closer to court square again and suggest that all business owners not allow vendors to set up so early. The idea of meeting will all business owners was briefly discussed but no decision made.

There being no further business to come before the Council, meeting adjourned at 5:35 P.M.

Rita Dotson, Mayor

ATTEST:

Bethany Cooper, City Clerk/Treas.