

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

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

Council Members Present:

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

Other Staff Present:

Zach Brien, City Atty	Bethany Cooper, City Clerk/Treas
Jeromy Hicks, Police Chief	Caleb Curtner, Police Officer
Harry Green, Fire Chief	

Al Cunningham was present to introduce himself as running for State Representative.

City Attorney Brien read a resolution recognizing the bravery and selfless acts of heroism of all the first responders to the school shooting on January 23, 2018, recognizing the dedication of the hospital staff, recognizing the bravery of the staff and students at MCHS, recognizing the members of our community that came together and offering sympathy to the families of Bailey Holt, Preston Cope and all injured students. A motion was made by Murray, seconded by Lamb to approve. All agreed. Motion carried.

City Attorney Brien read a proclamation recognizing April 2018 as Confederate History and Heritage Month in Benton. A motion was made by Edmonds, seconded by Lamb to approve. All agreed. Motion carried.

City Attorney Brien read a first reading of an ordinance amending industrial use. This ordinance will be presented to Planning and Zoning Commission for further discussion and approval before a final reading from City Council.

City Attorney Brien read the second reading of an ordinance on the Mayor's Powers and Duties. A motion was made by Holland, seconded by Murray to approve. All agreed. Motion carried.

City Attorney Brien read the second reading of an ordinance amending the sewer service charge ordinance to allow the City to go through a customer's service line through a clean-out. A motion was made by Riley, seconded by Smithmier to approve. All agreed. Motion carried.

George Milam previously approached Mayor Dotson and asked if the City would donate \$500.00 to Marshall County Art Center for their Terry Mike Jeffrey concert. Ann Riley was present and stated this is one of MCAC's biggest fundraisers. Riley also mentioned the Derby party this year will be changed a little. It will still take place at KY Dam Village but will be held outside in the Lakeside Pavilion. The attire will be casual this year and heavy hors d'oeuvres will be served. Smithmier asked that in the future, if organizations are going to ask for donations that it needs to be done prior to budget approval. A motion was made by Lamb, seconded by Holland to donate \$500.00 to MCAC. All agreed. Motion carried.

Elena Blevins was present to discuss the 2018 Benton Cruise-Ins. Elena asked the Marshall County Fair Board for their assistance this year but was told they wanted \$7,000.00 to help assist. She informed the Council that if the City decided to pay the Fair Board then Benton Partnership will back out. There will be 6 cruise-ins again this year held the last Saturday of the month from April to September. There is a great need for volunteer help to make these happen. Elena would also like to collect door prizes to be able to draw for 10 door prizes at each event. The Council agreed to continue letting Benton Partnership host the cruise-in events.

The following mowing bids were received:

Luke Cone - \$585.00 per mowing session  
Michael Atkins - \$735.00 per mowing session

Brad Anderson - \$800.00 per mowing session  
Bryan Smother - \$995.00 per mowing session  
Ruble Powell - \$1220.00 per mowing session

A motion was made by Murray, seconded by Holland to accept Luke Cone's bid contingent upon him meeting all the bid spec requirements. All agreed. Motion carried.

Chief Jeromy Hicks presented the police report for February. There were 21 cases, 18 collisions, 30 citations, 0 written warnings and 708 calls to service. Hicks also mentioned that the Police Department gave one of their out of service Dodge Chargers to the Fire Department.

A motion was made by Edmonds, 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 February 19, 2018. All agreed. Motion carried.

The following Mayor items were mentioned:

- Mayor Dotson read a letter from Little General complimenting the City of Benton employees.
- Benton Woodworking donated a 6-person see-saw to Benton Park that was valued at approximately \$1200.00.
- 3A Composites donated 100 sheets of 4'x8' aluminum composite to be used on the history murals.
- Industrial Board has committed \$100,000 to the Southwest One project for invest prep. \$87,000 has already been paid to Bacon, Farmer, Workman Engineers for site studies.
- Symsonia Highway has continuous water leaks. Mayor Dotson would like to start planning to replace 7 miles of water line from entrance at Marshall County Hospital road until the County line on Symsonia Highway. An 8" water line would run from Old Symsonia Road entrance to Jackson School Road then a 6" water line will run the remainder until the County line. Fire hydrants will be placed every 2000 feet except on farming areas. Tony Seavers was present and estimates this project to cost approximately \$1,000,000. Only 5 miles of this new line will be required to be engineered and there will be adequate pressure and flow.
- Mayor had previously met with Judge Neal and Chad McCann with Rivercrest Engineering to discuss the Oak Level Water Tower. This tank was put in with Water Vision 20/20 funds and is a 125,000 tank. This tank is not feasible to put on the system at this time because of the cost of water plant upgrades and there are currently no lines to hook onto this tank. Tony thinks there are about 50 customers that could possibly hook to it. City Attorney Brien asked the Council to keep in mind that in the Southwest One contract, the City will be responsible for running utilities. The Council all agreed that hooking onto Oak Level tower is not feasible at this time.
- Tater Day parade will begin at 11:00 A.M. and start at 5<sup>th</sup> & Main, go to 14<sup>th</sup> Street, down Poplar Street back to 5<sup>th</sup> & Main Streets.

The following Council items were mentioned:

- Edmonds asked if there is a spring clean-up date set. A date was set during the meeting for May 14-18. Bethany Cooper mentioned that City of Princeton makes the property owners put their trash out by Monday at 7AM. If it is not out by that time, the City will not go back to the location. The Council all agreed to abide by this as well in order to keep it from being such a hardship on the Maintenance Department.
- Lamb mentioned that Harvest Time contacted him about opening soon and asked if the Police could monitor speeding through that area. Chief Hicks agreed.

There being no further business to come before the Council, meeting adjourned at 6:08 P.M.

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Rita Dotson, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Bethany Cooper, City Clerk/Treas.