

**Regular Month Meeting
Benton City Council
November 20, 2017**

The regular monthly meeting of the Benton City Council was called to order on Monday, November 20, 2017 at 5:00 P.M. by Mayor Rita Dotson.

Council Members Present:

Sherra Riley	Charles Edmonds
Rita Murray	Justin Lamb
	Butch Holland

Absent was Chris Smithmier.

Other Staff Present:

Zach Brien, City Atty	Bethany Cooper, City Clerk/Treas
Mike Oliver, Maint Supervisor	Jeromy Hicks, Police Chief

Mayor Dotson recognized Girl Scout Troop 357 as being in attendance to earn their Local Government Legacy badge.

City Attorney Brien read the first reading of an ordinance amending and modernizing the City of Benton's investment policy to state that all cash and investments maintained in any financial institution shall be insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation or collateralized to the extent uninsured.

City Attorney Brien read the first reading of an ordinance amending the City of Benton's updated subdivision regulations to reflect that the Planning & Zoning Administrator shall require profiles and elevations of streets in order to determine the advisability of permitting the proposed subdivision activity.

City Attorney Brien read the second reading of an ordinance amending the property maintenance code for the City of Benton to reduce the diameter of logs to be picked up by the City to 6 inches. A motion was made by Riley, seconded by Murray to approve. All agreed. Motion carried.

Mayor Dotson read a resolution authorizing the Mayor to make application for and to enter into an agreement with the Kentucky Office of Homeland Security. Officer William Treadway is applying for an LEPP grant through KOHS in hopes to purchase additional body cameras, replace shotgun and purchase ammunition. A motion was made by Holland, seconded by Murray to approve. All agreed. Motion carried.

Mayor Dotson asked the Council to approve moving funds from the General Fund's reserve contingency account to the beautification/landscaping account in the amount of \$2650.00. These funds are being used to update the landscaping at City Hall. A motion was made by Edmonds, seconded by Riley to approve. All agreed. Motion carried.

Police Chief Jeromy Hicks presented the police report for October 2017. There were 20 cases, 22 collisions, 42 citations, 0 written warnings and 478 calls to service.

Jim Dema, resident at the corner of 18th and Park Avenue, mentioned that there is a speeding problem in this area. He asked if stop signs could be put up at the intersections of 18th Street, 19th Street and 20th Street. Hicks commented that it would be a good idea and he would have his officers watch that area for a couple of weeks.

Charles Edmonds also mentioned that he would like a stop sign on Ash Street up from Marshall County Exceptional Center. Mayor Dotson asked Chief Hicks to check this area out and report back.

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

A motion was made by Holland, seconded by Murray to approve the regular minutes of October 16, 2017. All agreed. Motion carried.

In mayor items, Mayor Dotson introduced Mike Oliver as the new maintenance department supervisor. She announced that the City finalized the purchase of 1303 Hickory Street that is located near Benton Fire Department. Mayor Dotson also noted that the disc golf course is now fully complete with concrete pads and signs installed. She gave an ABC update on revenues and expenses. Mayor Dotson informed Council that she is starting a comprehensive plan committee and the first meeting will be on December 4 at 9 A.M. Dickens Christmas will be held on December 9. She updated everyone on the mural status. The Mural Committee met a couple of weeks ago and the approximate cost will be \$7,000 - \$10,000 per mural and the murals need to be approximately 200 square foot. Mayor Dotson has Wendy Baxter looking into grants for the mural project and her fee will be 1.5%-2%.

In Council items, Butch Holland updated the Council on Benton Electric System's annual audit and financial statements.

Rita Murray wants the Council to think about getting involved with a local charity/club to represent City of Benton. She also asked that if there is a fee that the City pay the annual membership fee. City Attorney Brien commented that the City itself would have to join the organization in order to pay the fee but he will do further research.

The regular meeting was adjourned to executive session to discuss litigation. A motion was made by Edmonds, seconded by Lamb to adjourn from executive session. Motion carried.

There being no further business to come before the Council, meeting adjourned at 6:03 P.M.

Rita Dotson, Mayor

ATTEST:

Bethany Cooper, City Clerk/Treas.