

**Special Called Meeting  
Budget Workshop  
Benton City Council  
May 28, 2020**

A special called meeting of the Benton City Council was called to order on Thursday, May 28, 2020 at 1:00 P.M. by Mayor Rita Dotson with pledge and prayer by Kevin Farley.

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

Other Staff Present: Bethany Cooper, City Clerk/Treasurer; Todd Riley, Gas Manager; and Jessica Scillian, Gas Office Manager

Mayor Dotson asked for approval for the Resolution regarding City Roads Systems that was discussed at the previous meeting. A motion was made by Farley, seconded by A. Riley to approve the resolution after removing Chase Loop and correcting the footage on Riverside Drive. All agreed. Motion carried.

Mayor Dotson explained that the Main Street Waterline Project from 5<sup>th</sup> Street to 8<sup>th</sup> Street has been bid and it included an 8" waterline. A 10" waterline was installed from 9<sup>th</sup> Street to 15<sup>th</sup> Street when Youngblood Excavating did the installation. The difference to upgrade the line from 8" to 10" is \$52,645 and the City would be responsible for covering that expense. City Clerk Cooper explained that there was still money available in Benton Gas System's budget from the \$500,000 that was budgeted for 2019-2020. This amount will be rolled over to 2020-2021 budget. Benton Water & Sewer System will continue to make monthly payments to reimburse both General Fund and Benton Gas System for use of their funds on this project. A motion was made by Edmonds, seconded by Holland to approve the upgrade. All agreed. Motion carried.

Jessica Scillian asked for the following amendments to the Benton Gas System's 2019-2020 budget:

Travel & Training – decrease from \$19,000 to \$10,000  
Dues/Memberships - increase from \$5,000 to \$7,000  
Repair/Upkeep Vehicles – increase from \$10,000 to \$13,000  
Meters – increase from \$20,000 to \$24,000

A motion was made by Murray, seconded by Holland to approve the 2019-2020 budget amendments. All agreed. Motion carried.

Scillian and T. Riley reviewed the proposed 2020-2021 Benton Gas budget. Riley also reviewed the historical gas usage from 2012-2020.

City Clerk Cooper reviewed the proposed 2020-2021 General Fund budget.

City Clerk Cooper reviewed the proposed 2020-2021 Benton Water & Sewer budget.

There being no further discussion, meeting adjourned at 2:58 P.M.

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Rita Dotson, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Bethany Cooper, City Clerk/Treasurer