**Special Called Meeting**

**Budget Workshop**

**Benton City Council**

**May 5, 2021**

A special called meeting of the Benton City Council was called to order on Wednesday, May 5, 2021 at 2:00 P.M. by Mayor Rita Dotson.

Council members present were Rita Murray, Sherra Riley, Ann Riley, Charles Edmonds, Kevin Farley and Butch Holland.

Other staff present were Bethany Cooper, City Clerk/Treasurer; Stephen Sanderson, Police Chief and Rob Mattingly, City Attorney.

The proposed 2021-2022 General Fund budget was reviewed. The following items were discussed as changes:

* Possible salary for Planning & Zoning Commission depending on what other cities budget.
* Senior Citizens building will not be re-opening at this time so we will no longer allot $2500 to them.
* Possibly add Marshall County Exceptional Center and Marshall County Needline to budget.
* Add City Attorney salary since City Attorney Mattingly will become a part time employee with no benefits as opposed to Independent Contractor.
* Add $10,000 to help, if needed, on First Responder Park at Plaza.
* Mayor would like to use part of the CARES funds that were received to give each employee an incentive since they worked during the entire pandemic as essential employees. Council agreed upon $1200 each full-time employee.

A name was also chosen for the new dog park – Benton Bark Park.

There being no further discussion, meeting adjourned at 4:15 P.M.

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Rita Dotson, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Bethany Cooper, City Clerk/Treasurer