

**Special Called Meeting  
Benton City Council  
August 25, 2025**

A special meeting of the Benton City Council was held on Monday, August 25, 2025, at 11:00 a.m. at Benton City Hall. Mayor Rita Dotson called the meeting to order followed by Pledge of Allegiance and opening prayer by Rob Mattingly.

Council members present were Darryl Carr, Guy Henton, Kevin Farley, Sylvia Jestes, Ann Riley and Butch Holland.

The other staff present were Bethany Cooper, City Clerk/Treasurer, and Rob Mattingly, City Attorney.

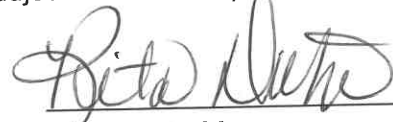
A motion was made by Farley, seconded by Henton to adjourn to executive session per KRS 61.810(1)(g) for discussion between a public agency and a representative of a business entity and discussions concerning a specific proposal. All agreed. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Henton, seconded by Riley to adjourn from Executive Session. All agreed. Motion carried.

There was a second reading of the revenue and taxation ordinance setting real property rates at 22 cents per \$100 assessment, personal property rates at 35.03 cents per \$100 assessment, and vehicle rates at 24 cents per \$100 assessment. A motion was made by Farley, seconded by Henton to approve. All agreed. Motion carried.

Mayor Dotson asked Police Chief Sanderson to explain why he feels the police department needs an additional salary increase on top of their July 1 increase. He mentioned officer shortages across the state, Benton Police Department has always paid more than other departments and the gap is closing in, vacation change for new employees and sign on bonuses. Mayor Dotson noted that the last two officers that left from Benton Police Department was not because of pay. Carr was in favor of a pay increase but felt it needed to wait until budget time again. A motion was made by Holland, seconded by Henton to approve a 5% pay increase for Police Department only effective August 25, 2025. All agreed. Motion carried.

There being no further business to discuss, meeting adjourned at 12:20 p.m.

  
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Rita Dotson, Mayor

ATTEST:

  
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Bethany Cooper, City Clerk/Treas.