

**Special Called Meeting
Benton City Council
January 5, 2026**

A special meeting of the Benton City Council was scheduled on Monday, January 5, 2026, at 3:00 p.m. at Benton City Hall. Mayor Dotson called the meeting to order. Pledge of Allegiance was said and prayer was offered by Kevin Farley.

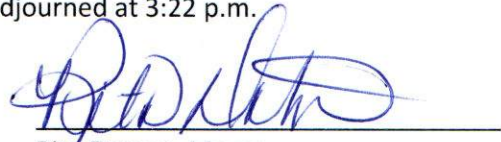
Council members present were Guy Henton, Kevin Farley, Butch Holland, Sylvia Jestes, and Ann Riley.

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

Mayor Dotson recommended appointing Troy Conner to the open Planning and Zoning seat vacated by James Parker. Because Troy is also on the Code Enforcement Board, this appointment will vacate his Code Enforcement Board position. A motion was made by Henton, seconded by Holland to appoint Troy Conner to Planning and Zoning Board. All agreed. Motion carried.

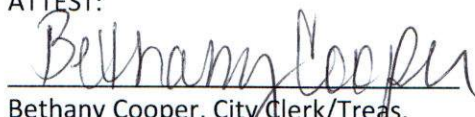
Mayor Dotson read Darryl Carr's official resignation letter from Council, which was effective December 15, 2025. She opened the floor for recommendations on Carr's vacant Council seat. Riley recommended Laura Craynon. Jestes recommended Chris Kerrick. Farley recommended Drew Williams or Chris Kerrick. After much discussion, a motion was made by Riley to appoint Laura Craynon to the vacant council seat for the remainder of this term. Motion seconded by Henton. Riley, Henton and Holland voted aye. Jestes and Farley voted nay. Motion carried to appoint Laura Craynon.

There being no further business to discuss, meeting adjourned at 3:22 p.m.



Rita Dotson, Mayor

ATTEST:



Bethany Cooper, City Clerk/Treas.