

**Special Called Meeting
Benton City Council
January 23, 2024**

A special called meeting of the Benton City Council was held on Tuesday, January 23, 2024 at 5:00 pm at Benton City Hall. Mayor Rita Dotson called the meeting to order.

Council members present were Butch Holland, Guy Henton, Rita Murray, Ann Riley, Laura Craynon and Kevin Farley.

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

Mayor Dotson read a resolution approving the Purchase ADD Regional Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan. A motion was made by Farley, seconded by Henton to approve. All agreed. Motion carried.

Mayor Dotson announced that Benton Lions Club would like to donate \$10,000 towards building a small pavilion near the pickle ball courts and have the naming rights to that pavilion. To complete the project, it will take an additional \$3,500. A motion was made by Holland, seconded by Murray to approve the building and cover the additional funds needed. All agreed. Motion carried.

Mayor Dotson discussed the Symsonia Highway Waterline Replacement project and the needed customer charge to cover the loan. Adding \$4.00 per month to every water customer's bill was decided that would be sufficient to cover the debt. City Attorney Mattingly will prepare an ordinance.

Mayor Dotson reviewed the following bids for the mechanical bids for the Lift Station Rehab Phase I project:

Youngblood Excavating	\$ 651,500.00
B.A.M. 2, Inc.	\$1,077,054.02

These bids had an error in the bidding package for generators that will not be needed so a change order will be made upon approval. Both companies have been made aware of this change that will deduct \$210,000.00 of these bids. A motion was made by Riley, seconded by Murray to approve the bid from Youngblood Excavating. All agreed. Motion carried.

The following bids were also received for the electrical portion of the project:

Youngblood Excavating	\$ 795,600.00
B.A.M. 2, Inc.	\$1,046,527.38

RiverCrest Engineering suggested in a letter that the Council reject both of these bids as they were concerned with some of the pricing. They would like to get more information and re-bid. A motion was made by Riley, seconded by Henton to reject both bids for the electrical portion. All agreed. Motion carried.

Chief Sanderson presented the police report for December. There were 9 cases, 8 collisions, 54 citation violations and 528 calls for service.

A motion was made by Farley, seconded by Henton to approve the regular minutes of December 19, 2023. All agreed. Motion carried.

There being no further business to discuss, meeting adjourned at 5:20 pm.

Rita Dotson, Mayor

ATTEST:

Bethany Cooper, City Clerk/Treas.