

**Special Called Meeting
Benton City Council
July 31, 2020**

A special called meeting of the Benton City Council was called to order on Friday, July 31, 2020 at 9:30 A.M. by Mayor Rita Dotson. Pledge of Allegiance and prayer was given by Kevin Farley.

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

Other Staff Present: Bethany Cooper, City Clerk/Treas.

Mayor Dotson explained that the Maintenance Department solicited pricing for street paving upon the decline of the bid from Ronny Paving at the July 20, 2020 meeting. Central Paving was the only company to submit a quote. The bid sheet was separated into 3 sections of streets that need to be paved. City Treasurer Cooper stated that with Central's quote, the first 13 areas can be paved with hopes that the entire list can be completed. The quote was as follows as compared to Ronny's Paving bid.

	<u>Central Paving</u>	<u>Ronny's Paving</u>
#1 - #9	\$ 57,500.00	\$ 77,792.50
#10-#13	\$113,700.00	\$187,470.50
#14-#16	\$ 26,900.00	\$ 42,267.50

A motion was made by Edmonds, seconded by Murray to approve the quote from Central Paving. All agreed. Motion carried.

In City Attorney Mattingly's absence, Mayor Dotson presented each Council with a packet of code enforcement documents that City Attorney prepared. Mayor Dotson read the summary of an ordinance establishing a Code Enforcement Board which repeals Ordinance No. 16-12-02. Council was urged to take the packet home and read through the entirety before the next Council meeting.

Mayor Dotson mentioned that the idea was brought to her to make some changes to the Frank Nichols Park located at the entrance of Country Trace. Several years ago, upon Mr. Nichols passing, a donation was made to the City to keep this small area maintained. With those funds, it was suggested to name the paved loop as Frank Nichols Circle. This loop will not be considered an actual city street. It was also suggested to place a headstone in his memory along with a decorative sign. There is currently a headstone for the late Judy Nichols at the park that Mr. Nichols had placed himself in memory of her. Mayor Dotson contacted Mr. Nichols family for approval and all loved the ideas. The Council was in favor of the suggested ideas. Mayor Dotson will proceed with ordering.

Mayor Dotson informed the Council that the two water towers on Sailboat Drive and Highway 641 are in need of maintenance and repainting. Tony Seavers has contacted a company to come do a full inspection and write up a detailed report of repairs needed. Once this report is complete, the project can be bid. A motion was made by Farley, seconded by S. Riley to approve seeking bids once the full report is received. All agreed. Motion carried.

Mayor Dotson received a letter of complaint against Marshall County Fair Board regarding their events held at the grandstands. They complained of the noise late at night and dust being stirred up in the neighborhood. Mayor Dotson explained to the Council that the City is still under contract with Marshall County Fair Board to allow them to hold 6 events each year. Mayor Dotson will recommend to the President of the Fair Board that they spray down the track before each event to help control dust. All Council were in favor of this idea.

Mayor Dotson has had a complaint from a citizen who frequents the pool with his grandson that he should not have to pay admission since he doesn't swim. After much discussion, it was agreed for this pool season only, because of COVID-19 and not being able to sell season passes, that the following will be allowed: 1 adult, that is not wearing any type of swimming attire, may enter with free admission accompanying a paid child that is 10 years old or younger. This adult may not use the pool, lounge chairs or take up an entire picnic table for sitting. All Council agreed.

Ann Riley revisited the water leak issue with Kalib Swift from March. Mr. Swift had a leak of

over 300,000 gallons and received an adjustment according to the City's adjustment ordinance. Council asked City Clerk Cooper to go back and figure this adjustment at the City's cost of production for water. Cooper stated the last cost of production report was around \$3.50/1000 gallons. They would like a credit on his account instead of issuing a refund check. A motion was made by S. Riley, seconded by Murray to approve. All agreed. Motion carried.

Mayor Dotson reminded the Council that Tad Long with KLC will be present Monday, August 3, 2020 at 5:30 P.M. at the Planning and Zoning Board meeting to go over the comprehensive plan process.

There being no further discussion, meeting adjourned at 10:37 A.M.

Rita Dotson, Mayor

ATTEST:

Bethany Cooper, City Clerk/Treasurer