

**Special Called Meeting
Benton City Council
March 4, 2020**

A special called meeting of the Benton City Council was called to order on Wednesday, March 4, 2020 at 9:00 A.M. by Mayor Rita Dotson.

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

Absent was Kevin Farley

Other Staff Present: Bethany Cooper, City Clerk/Treas.; Rob Mattingly, City Attorney

Mayor Dotson explained that she had received a call from Dennis Smith who is part owner of the old Marshall County Hospital located on George McClain Drive. This property has become hazardous and has police calls on it frequently. Smith has offered to donate this property to the City of Benton. However, the City would have to have the building tore down. Smith had a bid a few years ago of between \$100,000 to \$150,000 if the building could be buried on site. There is a 1200 square foot garage on the property that is still in good shape. Holland is concerned of asbestos and the cost to properly dispose of that. It wasn't known if the cost included asbestos removal.

Mayor Dotson explained that the only reason the City might be interested would be to install a sewer pond in the future.

It was decided that Mayor Dotson will talk to surrounding property owners of the current lagoon and see the possibility of purchasing some acreage from them to expand the lagoon system. She will also try and get updated bids on tearing down and disposing of the old building. Mayor Dotson will bring this information back to the Council once received.

There being no further discussion, meeting adjourned at 9:17 A.M.

Rita Dotson, Mayor

ATTEST:

Bethany Cooper, City Clerk/Treasurer