

**Special Called Meeting
Benton City Council
May 28, 2026**

A special meeting of the Benton City Council was scheduled on Thursday, May 28, 2026, at 2:00 p.m. CST at Benton City Hall. Mayor Dotson called the meeting to order. Pledge of Allegiance was said, and prayer was offered by Chris Young.

Council members present were Guy Henton, Laura Craynon, Sylvia Jestes and Ann Riley. Absent was Butch Holland.

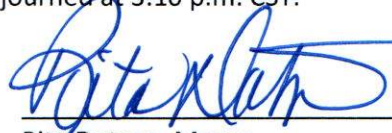
The other staff present were Bethany Cooper, City Clerk/Treasurer; Rob Mattingly, City Attorney; Chris Young, Gas Manager; Tracy Puckett, Gas Office Manager and Lindsey Walker, Benton Gas.

Mayor Dotson opened the floor for Council to discuss filling the empty Council seat of Kevin Farley. Jestes nominated Chris Kerrick. Riley and Craynon both agreed that he would do a good job, but they felt it was unfair to appoint a current candidate to this seat as it gives an unfair advantage. Guy abstained. This will be discussed further at June's regular meeting.

Mayor Dotson, along with Benton Gas System employees, reviewed the proposed 2026-2027 budget for Benton Gas System.

City Clerk/Treasurer Cooper reviewed the proposed 2026-2027 budgets for City of Benton General Fund and Benton Water & Sewer System.

There being no further business to discuss, meeting adjourned at 3:10 p.m. CST.



Rita Dotson, Mayor

ATTEST:



Bethany Cooper, City Clerk/Treas.