

**City of Benton
Agenda
September 16, 2019**

- 1. Call to Order**
- 2. Pledge of Allegiance**
- 3. Approve Minutes**
August 19, 2019 Council Meeting
- 4. Public Comment**
- 5. New Business**
 - a. Nick Engles – 243 S. Main property
- 6. Other Business**
- 7. Department Reports**
- 8. Approve Bills**
- 9. Adjourn**

**City of Benton
City Council Meeting**

September 16, 2019

The governing body of the City of Benton, Kansas met in regular session at the usual meeting place in the city at 7:00 p.m. Mayor Brennan Dennison presided. Members of the council were present as follows: Ross Schoneboom, , Mike Wyant, Curt Ghormley and Janet Roths. Travis Swift was absent.

Pledge of Allegiance

Approve Minutes

Curt moved to approve the minutes from the August 19, 2019 regular meeting. Janet seconded. Motion carried 4-0.

Executive Session

Ross moved to go into executive session at 7:01 for 15 minutes. Curt seconded. Motion carried 4-0.

Reconvene

Ross moved to reconvene the meeting at 7:18 p.m. Janet seconded. Motion carried 4-0.

Public Comment

No Public Comment

New Business

Nick Engels was present to make an offer of \$18,000 for 6 of the lots at 243 and 243 ½ S. Main St. He is not interested in leasing the property.

Curt moved to accept Nick Engels offer of \$18,000 for the 6 lots. No second.

Other Business

Curt reported he and the City Administrator met with Ty Lasher, City Administrator of Bel Aire to discuss Bel Aire's annexation experiences. Mr. Lasher suggested that an independent consultant be retained by Benton to conduct listening sessions with residents in the proposed annexation neighborhood. In this way, the residents could be informed and asked for feedback, without the influence of City elected officials or City staff. The consultant could assist in conducting the public hearing required under Kansas Statute prior to a decision by City Council on whether to proceed with annexation. Mr. Lasher suggested there are persons associated with Wichita State University who could be part of this consulting effort. There would probably be a cost to the City to retain such a consultant. Curt will reach out to individuals at WSU and, scheduling permitting, will invite one to be present at the next regularly scheduled City Council meeting to discuss the matter.

The mayor asked for the council's opinions on moving forward with the annexation. Ross, Janet and Curt are in favor of moving forward. Mike is not.

Janet asked Police Chief, Braden Moore, for an update on code enforcement progress.

Police department is continuing their efforts to contact residents with violations. He feels progress is being made and when Officer Liggett returns from vacation their efforts will increase.

Ross proposes City Council pay increase be considered in the future to be effective with each new term.

Department Reports

Police - Update on cases

- Preparing a power point presentation addressing fraudulent solicitation. Would like to offer 3 presentations at the community building for citizens.
- Researching Grants for radar light sign.

Maintenance – Tractor needs repair.

- Street work is completed – the mayor will talk to Brian Edson about fixing the high spots on Ohio and Durley.

Approve Bills

Ross moved to approve the bills as presented. Mike seconded. Motion carried 4-0.

Adjourn

Mike moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:51 p.m. Curt seconded. Motion carried 4-0.