

**City of Benton
City Council Meeting**

September 20, 2021

The governing body of the City of Benton, Kansas met in regular session at the Community Building at 150 S. Main St. in the city at 7:00 p.m. Mayor Tyler Gottschalk presided. Members of the council were present as follows: Ross Schoneboom, Curt Ghormley, Travis Swift, Dan Claycamp and Cody Smith.

Pledge of Allegiance

Approve Minutes

Councilman Ghormley moved to approve the minutes from the August 16, 2021, regular meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilman Swift. Motion carried 5-0.

Public Comment

Old Business

Budget Reporting, Matt Engels updated the council on the 5-year Comprehensive Plan. Presented a handout on ideas and requested a workshop to discuss options to be included in the plan.

City Administrator, Councilman Claycamp updated the council on the progress for City Administrator position. Presented a draft of a contract. City attorney Rob Lane will read the draft and provide comments.

Law Enforcement Medical Responsibility, City Attorney provided information on the medical responsibility of the city when law enforcement takes someone into custody who requires medical attention. Most common practice is for the hospital to bill the city at the Medicaid rate.

New Business

Home Rule Proclamation, Mayor Gottschalk will sign the Proclamation proclaiming October 11, 2021, "Home Rule Day" in our city.

ORDINANCE 2021-08, AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING FEES FOR BUILDING/ZONING PERMITS AND APPLICATION TO THE PLANNING COMMISSION FOR CONDITIONAL USE, VARIANCES AND SPECIAL USE OF THE ZONING REGULATIONS.

Councilman Ghormley moved to adopt the updated Schedule for Zoning Fees. The motion was seconded by Councilman Claycamp. Discussion of the fee schedule. Motion passed 5-0.

K254 CDA, Mayor Gottschalk requests a motion to approve a financial match for the K254 KDOT study.

Councilman Schoneboom moved for the Benton City Council to approve \$3700.00 of financial match and authorize the mayor's signature the letter to KDOT in support of the K254 study. The motion was seconded by Councilman Smith. Motion passed 5-0.

Telemetry, Maintenance Supervisor Mark Perry presented four estimates for the replacement of the current telemetry for the lift stations and the water tower. The current Com-Tronix system is outdated and cannot be repaired. His recommendation is Fluid Equipment for \$38,921.00 and would be available for installation in approximately four weeks.

After discussion Councilman Claycamp moved to approve the telemetry purchase from Fluid Equipment for the amount of \$38,921.00. The motion was seconded by Councilman Ghormley. Motion passed 5-0.

Department Reports

City Clerk/City Treasurer – financial report

Maintenance – Mark presented new bids by Kansas Excavating and States Dirtwork for the excavation of a drainage retention pond in Prairie Village. Council originally approved a contract with Smith Brothers for the work, but they have not responded to phone calls or emails from the city.

Councilman Ghormley moved to accept the bid from Kansas Excavating in the amount of \$25,040.00. The motion was seconded by Councilman Swift. After discussion the motion was amended to rescind the original contract with Smith Brothers and accept the bid from Kansas Excavating in the amount of \$25,040.00. Motion passed 5-0.

Stearman Bar & Grill does not have a grease trap as per KDHE requirements. The grease from the restaurant is possibly causing a problem with grease buildup in the lift station.

Mayor Gottschalk will meet with the owner/manager of the restaurant to discuss the matter.

Police – Lt. Haines reported the signs for the school zone are in place and we have had very positive feedback from the public.

Quotes for radar signs will be available for the October council meeting.

Discussion on accidents and K254 and Main Street.

Calls to Service

Administrative Report - Councilman Schoneboom reported the paperwork for the Playground Grant and been submitted to KDHE and accepted.

Discussion with the Benton Township for an agreement concerning the gravel roads abutting city limit boundary

Discussion of city website

Mayor's Report – Mayor Gottschalk reported on the city expenses for Benton Day

BSAC Board of Directors could not meet due to COVID. They will meet before the October council meeting and be present at that meeting.

Discussion on the MKC property. A letter was sent to MKC which included the costs incurred by the city for the cleanup and damage caused by the demolition on their property and an estimate for the removal and replacement of the damaged culvert. MKC was given contact information for Mr. Rome, 116 S. Main St. to discuss the concerns about mold that Mr. Rome has.

Discussion on changing the signage at Poling Pond to allow non-motorized watercraft and update regulations.

Councilman Schoneboom will research ownership of the sewer line to Stearman.

Executive Session

Councilman Schoneboom moved that the governing body recess into executive session IAW K.S.A. 75-4319(b) to discuss non-elected personnel matters/Attorney Client Privilege information. Further, required to attend this session is the Mayor and City Council. Further, that the governing body return to open session at 9:05 p.m. The motion was seconded by Councilman Smith. Motion passed 5-0.

Reconvene

Councilman Ghormley moved to reconvene at 9:05 p.m. The motion was seconded by Councilman Smith. Motion passed 5-0.

Councilman Swift moved to increase Lt Haines wages \$1.00 per hour retroactive to August 1, 2021. The motion was seconded by Councilman Smith. Motion passed 5-0.

Councilman Swift moved to increase Chief Moore's salary \$5000 per year, effective immediately. The motion was seconded by Councilman Ghormley. Motion passed 5-0.

Approve Expenses

Councilman Schoneboom moved to approve the expenses as presented. The motion was seconded by Councilman Claycamp. Motion passed 5-0.

Adjourn

Councilman Swift moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:08 p.m. The motion was seconded by Councilman Schoneboom. Motion passed 5-0.