

**City of Benton
City Council Meeting**

September 21, 2020

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

Pledge of Allegiance

Approve Minutes

Curt moved to approve the minutes from the August 10 Budget Hearing. Travis seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0.

Executive Session

Ross made a motion to recess into Executive Session to discuss personnel matters of elected officials starting at 7:02 p.m. for 10 minutes.

Reconvene

Curt made a motion to return to regular session at 7:10 p.m. Travis seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0.

The mayor informed the council that council member Janet Roths has resigned her position. His recommendation is to appoint Tyler Gottschalk to serve the remainder of her term which expires January 2022. There were no objections from the council.

Tyler Gottschalk was sworn in by city clerk Joyce Casady.

Executive Session

Mike made a motion to recess into Executive Session to discuss non-elected personnel starting at 7:15 p.m. for 10 minutes. Curt seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

Reconvene

Mike made a motion to return to regular session at 7:25 p.m. Ross seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

Department Reports

Clerk - any questions? Curt asked for clarification on the Water Reserve Fund. Explained it consists of budgeted transfers for water projects such as the tower repairs and or replacement.

Treasurer – nothing to report

Maintenance - submitted proposal from Tank Spec, Inc. for water tower inspections on a 5 year contract. Council chose to table until the October meeting for more information on the term of the contract.

- JCI pump maintenance cost of \$2000 to inspect and service all 3 pump stations (6 pumps). All 3 need work. Future cost with JCI will be \$1000 per year to inspect and service pumps on a rotating basis.

Curt made a motion to accept staff recommendation to have sewer lift stations inspected and serviced by JCI. Travis seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

- Mayer Specialty Service is cleaning sewer lines. They will camera any areas with issues.
- Waiting on quotes for installation of a pond to alleviate storm water drainage in Prairie Village
- Renovations at the Park. Ethan May completed the refurbishing of the bridges in the park for his Eagle Scout project.
- Repairs to concrete on areas of sidewalks and the basketball court.

Amy May, 670 Cedar.

Amy is requesting a change to the City Code 2-109, the keeping of animals, to allow chickens (fowl), with regulations within the Benton city limits. Presented a petition with names in favor of this change. Council will address at the October meeting.

Old Business

Discussion of Sewer Rates and the Comprehensive Development Plan still pending.

Community Vision Team – Curt reported they have 10 residents meeting twice a month and are working on developing a vision statement to be presented after the first of next year.

Other Business

Received \$3955 from Butler County for COVID relief. Blue Cross Blue Shield, city health insurance, refunded dental premiums for the period dental offices were closed.

Ross submitted 53 hours worked through 9/21/20. Curt made the motion to pay Ross for the 53 hours. Travis seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0. Ross abstained.

Public Comment

Chris Boetetcher inquired about progress for annexation of Countryside Estates, Benton. He is concerned with the septic systems in that area and inquired about city sewer services.

Approve Bills

Ross made a motion to approve the bills and expenses as presented. Mike seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

Adjourn

Mike moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:15 p.m. Travis seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.