

**City of Benton
City Council Meeting**

May 18, 2020

The governing body of the City of Benton, Kansas met in regular session via zoom video conference due to COVID-19. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Mayor Brennan Dennison. Members of the council were present as follows: Ross Schoneboom, , Mike Wyant, Curt Ghormley, Travis Swift and Janet Roths. City Clerk Joyce Casady, City Attorney Rob Lane, Maintenance Supervisor Mark Perry and Police Chief Braden Moore were in attendance.

Pledge of Allegiance

Approve Minutes

Travis moved to approve the minutes from the April 20, 2020 regular meeting. Mike seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

Department Reports

Maintenance – Discussion of South Central street work proposal, and sewer maintenance contract with Meyer Specialty Services. Council will wait until June to view the cities financial situation at that time.

New Business

City Appointments:

City Appointed Positions – May 2020

| | |
|-------------------|-----------------------------|
| City Clerk | Joyce Casady |
| City Treasurer | Joyce Jones |
| Police Chief | Braden Moore |
| City Attorney | Robert Lane |
| City Judge | Cami Baker |
| Court Clerk | Kristin Beggs |
| Probation Officer | Ed Ketley |
| Zoning Admin. | Scott Seaton |
| Bank | Community National Bank |
| Newspaper | Butler County Times Gazette |

Planning Board

Mary Anna Meshew
Lois Young

BSAC Board

Chris Hoefer
Darci Smith
Brook Wolf
Tyler Gottschalk
James Bode
Kris Hamilton

Travis moved to approve the 2020 appointments as presented. Ross seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

Proposal for council & mayor compensation:

Proposal #1 – Increase remuneration to members of the City Council to \$200 per month and the Mayor to \$500 per month, to take effect January 1, 2021

Proposal #2 – Identify (name) council seating. Reorder seats to coincide with election cycles.

Ross moved to approve Proposal #1 and #2 with Resolution 20-03 to be prepared in accordance with submitted proposals. Curt seconded. Motion carried 4-0. Mike abstained.

- Police**
- Update on cases
 - Increasing presence at night
 - Part Time Officer Mark Werbin has resigned due to moving out of the area.

Other Business

The mayor reported that due COVID-19 the Office, Community Building, Shelter Building and Park Playground will remain closed to the public at this time. All Star Pets was allowed to open last week with precautions in place.

Rob recommended adding language to the rental contract for the Community Building regarding COVID-19 safety recommendations.

The city received a request from Gwen and Scott Hartley to consider a walking path (Nature Trail) around Poling Pond. Council would like to have the Hartley's and Mr. Goodwin, with Trail in a Box, attend the next council meeting to discuss options.

Curt asked if there was any new information on future annexation.

- Nothing to report at this time

Curt asked about the status of stormwater cleanup at Stearman Estates.

- Maintenance will soon begin working on cleaning storm drains and Contractors working in the area have been asked to use barriers to eliminate erosion causing dirt to build up in the storm drains.

The Mayor entertained a motion to pay Ross for 34 hours at \$30 per hour.

Travis moved to pay Ross not more than 40 hours per month without council approval. Curt seconded. Motion carried 3-2. Ross abstained. The mayor was the deciding vote.

Public Comment

- No public comment

Approve Bills

Ross moved to approve the bills as presented. Travis seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

Adjourn

Ross moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:30 p.m. Travis seconded. Motion carried 5-0.