

**REGULAR SESSION
MINUTES
MAYOR AND BOARD OF ALDERMAN
TOWN OF BENTON
105 SIBLEY STREET, BENTON, BOSSIER PARISH, LOUISIANA
MONDAY, MARCH 11, 2019 AT 7:00 PM**

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Shelly Horton

INVOCATION: By Alderman Gates

PLEDGE: By Alderman Cathcart

PRESENT: Alderman Jackie Carr, Alderman Linda Gates, Alderman Ron Jones, Alderman Donna Wyatt, and Alderman Wayne Cathcart
Also present: Attorney Southerland, Stephanie Collier, and Mayor Horton.

ABSENT: None

AGENDA: A motion by Alderman seconded by Alderman to approve the Regular Session Agenda

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None
IN FAVOR 5 Ayes
OPPOSED 0 Nays

MINUTES: A motion by Alderman seconded by Alderman to approve the minutes of the February meeting

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None
IN FAVOR 5 Ayes
OPPOSED 0 Nays

OLD BUSINESS:

1. None

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Mark A. Waniewski, Chief Executive Officer of PMI Resource spoke to council members about his services and the proposal to develop a new personnel ordinance and personnel policies for both the town employees and police personnel. The proposal included bringing all current policies and the personnel ordinance into compliance with both State and Federal laws. Also, Mr. Waniewski offered his services beyond the development of as an ongoing service beyond development of policies. Services include, training, record keeping guidance, and conduct a salary survey and compensation data. Council members asked various questions one of which was the fact that services were

Alderman Cathcart asked about the various required training for employees and if he offers those services. Mr. Waniewski stated that they do offer employee and supervisor training that are required by law.

Mayor Horton stated that we currently have no policy on new hires or termination of employees. Alderman Jones suggested to review the contract to know what all is included in the \$28000.00 proposal.

A motion by Alderman Wyatt seconded by Alderman Jones to table this item until the April meeting

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None

IN FAVOR 5 Ayes

OPPOSED 0 Nays

2. Mr. Steven Maxwell with the Maxwell Insurance Group spoke to council members about assisting the town with providing insurance with better coverage at a better rate. Mr. Maxwell explained in detail about the various insurance plans the town currently has and how much is paid annually. He also discussed the ways to save money by lowering the premiums. One of the ways was using the NCCI Experience Modification which will provide discounts on workers comp insurance. Mr. Maxwell requested to present his final proposal and the next council meeting.
After some discussion, council members agreed to Mr. Maxwell to be on the April agenda.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None

3. Discussion of LPR Cameras: Mayor Horton spoke about the benefits of the LPR Camera system offered by the Sheriff Department. The Town will purchase the cameras, but it would be linked through the Sheriff Department. Officer Hamm also spoke about the benefits and the town can utilize the system in the case of accidents and speeders. It will also benefit that if a suspect were to flee the scene, they would enable the police to view what direction the suspect is heading. The Mayor suggested that if the council would like more information concerning this Officer Brandon Masters can answer any questions they may have.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None

4. Tower Lease proposal: Mayor Horton informed council members that the town has been presented another offer on the Cellphone Tower lease. This offer was for a share in profits after a specified amount of time has passed in addition to double the current lease amount. The Mayor stated that a representative is willing to come and speak to council about their offer.

A motion by Alderman Cathcart seconded by Alderman Wyatt to table this until next month.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None

IN FAVOR 5 Ayes

OPPOSED 0 Nays

5. Approval of the month-to-date budgets and monthly financials.

A motion by Alderman Wyatt seconded by Alderman Cathcart to approve the month-to-date budgets and monthly financials.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None

IN FAVOR 5 Ayes

OPPOSED 0 Nays

Public Notice:

Notice is hereby given pursuant to Article 7, Section 23(C) of the Louisiana Constitution and R.S. 47:1705(B) that a public hearing of the Town of Benton in Bossier Parish will be held at its regular meeting place Benton Town Hall, located at 105 Sibley Street, Benton, LA on Monday, May 13 at 7:00 p.m. to consider adopting the millage rates not to exceed the prior year's maximum of 12.38 mills (7.42 mills General Alimony, and 4.96 mills Streets)

ADJOURN:

A motion by Alderman Cathcart seconded by Alderman Wyatt to adjourn

IN FAVOR 5 ayes

OPPOSED 0 Nays

**POSTED FOR PUBLIC VIEWING AT BENTON TOWN HALL, 105 SIBLEY
STREET, ON THE _____ DAY OF _____ 2019.**

**BY: _____
STEPHANIE COLLIER, TOWN CLERK
TOWN OF BENTON
105 SIBLEY STREET
BENTON, LOUISIANA 71006**

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