

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

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Shelly Horton

INVOCATION: By Alderman Gates

PLEDGE: By Alderman Jones

PRESENT: Alderman Linda Gates, Alderman Ron Jones, and Alderman Donna Wyatt, and Alderman Wayne Cathcart

ABSENT: Alderman Carr

AGENDA: A motion Alderman Wyatt seconded by Alderman Cathcart to approve the agenda

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None

IN FAVOR 4

OPPOSED 0

PUBLIC HEARING ITEMS:

1. ORDINANCE 559 OF 2019: Setting the salary of the Chief of Police

**AN ORDINANCE TO ESTABLISH COMPENSATION OF THE
CHIEF OF POLICE FOR THE TOWN OF BENTON EFFECTIVE
FEBRUARY 11, 2019.**

BE IT ORDAINED by the Board of Aldermen of the Town of Benton, in legal session convened, has reviewed the budgets for 2019, and the funds allocated for compensation of services of the Chief of Police, and;

WHEREAS Unless otherwise specified, all wages shall be paid from the General Fund, \$50,690.00 per annum, payable weekly, shall include all benefits.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED that all ordinances or part of ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby repealed. This ordinance shall take effect upon final adoption February 11, 2019

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None

2. ORDINANCE 560 OF 2019: Setting the salary of the Town Clerk

AN ORDINANCE TO ESTABLISH COMPENSATION OF THE TOWN CLERK OF THE TOWN OF BENTON EFFECTIVE FEBRUARY 11, 2019.

BE IT ORDAINED by the Board of Aldermen of the Town of Benton, in legal session convened, has reviewed the budgets for 2019, and the funds allocated for compensation of services of the Town Clerk, and;

WHEREAS Unless otherwise specified, all wages shall be paid from the General Fund, \$47,500.00 per annum, payable weekly, and shall include all benefits.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED that all ordinances or part of ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby repealed. This ordinance shall take effect upon final adoption February 11, 2019

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None

ADJOURN PUBLIC HEARING:

A motion Alderman Wyatt seconded by Alderman Gates to adjourn the Public Hearing

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None
IN FAVOR 4
OPPOSED 0

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The Town of Benton is an equal opportunity employer.

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

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Shelly Horton

AGENDA: A motion Alderman Cathcart seconded by Alderman Wyatt to approve the agenda

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None
IN FAVOR 4
OPPOSED 0

MINUTES: A motion Alderman Jones seconded by Alderman Cathcart to approve the minutes

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None
IN FAVOR 4
OPPOSED 0

OLD BUSINESS

1. ORDINANCE 559 OF 2019: Setting the salary of the Chief of Police

**AN ORDINANCE TO ESTABLISH COMPENSATION OF THE
CHIEF OF POLICE FOR THE TOWN OF BENTON EFFECTIVE
FEBRUARY 11, 2019.**

A motion Alderman Wyatt seconded by Alderman Gates to adopt Ordinance 559

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None

AYES: Alderman Linda Gates, Alderman Ron Jones, and
Alderman Donna Wyatt, and Alderman Wayne Cathcart
NEYS: None
ABSTAIN: None
ABSENT: Alderman Jackie Carr

2. ORDINANCE 560 OF 2019: Setting the salary of the Town Clerk

AN ORDINANCE TO ESTABLISH COMPENSATION OF THE TOWN CLERK OF THE TOWN OF BENTON EFFECTIVE FEBRUARY 11, 2019.

A motion Alderman Jones seconded by Alderman Wyatt to adopt Ordinance 560

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None

AYES: Alderman Linda Gates, Alderman Ron Jones, and
Alderman Donna Wyatt, and Alderman Wayne Cathcart

NEYS: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Alderman Jackie Carr

NEW BUSINESS

1. South Wastewater Treatment Plant sale

Mayor Horton explained that Mr. Ford was unable to make it tonight so this topic will be discussed later. A brief summary of what is to be discussed is the possible sale of the south treatment plant on palmetto. Mayor Horton stated that we will need to have the entire southern system evaluated for the value of all the assets connected to the system before we can move forward. He has contacted Balar Engineers to conduct the study and to help with cost analysis. Mayor Horton requested authorization to obtain a proposal from Balar for their services.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None

2. Benton Parish MPC Town Appointee to fill a vacancy

A motion by Alderman Wyatt seconded by Alderman Gates to appoint Mr. Ray Delia to the fill the vacancy on the Board of Commissioners of the Benton Parish Metropolitan Planning Commission

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None

AYES: Alderman Linda Gates, Alderman Ron Jones, and
Alderman Donna Wyatt, and Alderman Wayne Cathcart

NEYS: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Alderman Jackie Carr

3. Ben Rauchenbaugh with Manchac Engineering Firm. Water System Study

Mr. Rauchenbaugh introduced himself and gave a brief background of his experience. He began by explaining the topics and areas of the water system that his study will cover, ending with his recommendations. His services included assisting the town with establishing a cross-connection/ backflow prevention program, water distribution system disinfection profile, and a current nitrification control plan. He also covered regulations, for public water systems, concerning disinfection residual levels and water sampling. Mr. Rauchenbaugh informed council members that Benton's issue is maintaining constant levels of disinfection residuals throughout the system and the elevated water tower being the main contributor. He further discussed scenarios such as removing the elevated tower from the system but concluded that all conditions were favorable except for fire flows. He explained that if the elevated tower was removed the system pressure could not accommodate water flows needed for adequate fire protection. Mr. Rauchenbaugh recommended making improvements to the ground storage tank (GST) level indicator and replace the injector system with equipment to improve accuracy. A total estimated cost of the ground storage tank improvements and rehabilitating the elevated tower is \$200,000.00.

Mayor Horton called for a motion to amend the line item of the agenda to call for a vote. Alderman Cathcart moved to amend to call for a vote Alderman Wyatt seconded.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None

AYES: Alderman Linda Gates, Alderman Ron Jones, and
Alderman Donna Wyatt, and Alderman Wayne Cathcart

NEYS: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Alderman Jackie Carr

Alderman Cathcart moved to authorize the Mayor to execute all documents pertaining to project for making the improvements to the water system upon the recommendation of Mr. Rauchenbaugh for a max of \$200,000.00 to be spent for the project, Alderman Wyatt seconded his motion.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None

AYES: Alderman Linda Gates, Alderman Ron Jones, and
Alderman Donna Wyatt, and Alderman Wayne Cathcart

NEYS: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Alderman Jackie Carr

4. Acceptance of Lost River Estates North Unit 3 Streets and Drainage.

A motion by Alderman Cathcart seconded by Alderman Wyatt to accept the Streets and drainage into the towns system

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None

AYES: Alderman Linda Gates, Alderman Ron Jones, and
Alderman Donna Wyatt, and Alderman Wayne Cathcart

NEYS: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Alderman Jackie Carr

5. Year to date budgets and monthly financials

A motion by Alderman Jones seconded by Alderman Gates to approve the financials

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None

IN FAVOR 4

OPPOSED 0

ADJOURN:

A motion Alderman Wyatt seconded by Alderman Jones to adjourn the Regular Session

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None

IN FAVOR 4

OPPOSED 0