

SHELLY HORTON JR
MAYOR



STEPHANIE SULLIVANT-COLLIER
CAO/TOWN CLERK

TOWN OF BENTON
LOUISIANA

REGULAR SESSION
MINUTES

MAYOR AND BOARD OF ALDERMAN
TOWN OF BENTON

105 SIBLEY STREET, BENTON, BOSSIER PARISH, LOUISIANA
MONDAY, JULY 11, 2022 6:00pm

A moment of silence was observed for the passing of Mr. James Mitchell.

The Town of Benton Council met in regular and legal session on the 11th day of July 2022, at 6:00 p.m., in the Benton Council Chambers, Benton Town Hall, Benton, Louisiana. The Mayor, Shelly Horton, called the Regular Session meeting to order. The invocation was given by Alderman Manning, and the pledge of allegiance was led by Alderman Jones. Mrs. Stephanie Collier, Town Clerk, called the roll, with all members present as follows:

Alderman Jackie Carr
Alderman Tiffany Manning
Alderman Ron Jones
Alderman James Friday - Absent
Alderman Wayne Cathcart - Absent

Others present were Shonta Neal, Attorney Neil Erwin, and Chief Collier and members of the public.

Motion was made by Alderman Manning, seconded by Alderman Carr to approve the agenda. The mayor called for public comments. There being none, motion carried with the following votes recorded:

YEAS: Alderman Jackie Carr, Alderman Tiffany Manning, and Alderman Ron Jones

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Alderman Friday and Alderman Cathcart

105 Sibley Street / P O Box 1390
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www.townofbentonlouisiana.webs.com website

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Motion was made by Alderman Jones seconded by Alderman Manning to approve the Minutes of the June 9th meeting. The mayor called for public comments. There being none, motion carried with the following votes recorded:

YEAS: Alderman Jackie Carr, Alderman Tiffany Manning, and Alderman Ron Jones

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Alderman Friday and Alderman Cathcart

Motion was made by Alderman Jones seconded by Alderman Manning to approve the Minutes of the June 13th meeting. The mayor called for public comments. There being none, motion carried with the following votes recorded:

YEAS: Alderman Jackie Carr, Alderman Tiffany Manning, and Alderman Ron Jones

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Alderman Friday and Alderman Cathcart

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

Mayor Horton read the Proclamation presented to the Town on behalf of the American Legion designating the Town as a Purple Heart Community.

Mayor Horton explained the following resolution. This to compensate the families who were affected by the sewer back up in Palmetto Park. This will allow us to pay the depreciation that the insurance company will not pay.

RESOLUTION NO. 12 OF 2022

RESOLUTION APPROPRIATING FUNDS FOR SATISFACTION OF THE DEPRECIATED PORTION OF CLAIMS PAID BY THE INSURANCE COMPANY FOR THE TOWN OF BENTON TO HOMEOWNERS IN PALMETTO PARK FOR REQUIRED REPAIRS RELATED TO A MARCH 22, 2022 SEWAGE BACKUP INCIDENT

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WHEREAS, the insurance company, The Travelers Indemnity Company (“Travelers”), which provides commercial general liability on behalf of the Town of Benton, has processed and paid several insurance claims submitted to Travelers by homeowners in Palmetto Park Subdivision for required repairs related to a sewer backup incident that occurred March 22, 2022; and

WHEREAS, the claim payments by Travelers have included an amount of depreciation applied to the insurer’s estimates of repair and replacement costs under the insurer’s standard adjustment procedures during processing of the claims; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Benton, in order to fully satisfy the insurance claims submitted by Palmetto Park homeowners as processed, adjusted, and paid by Travelers, wishes under a finding of public necessity to fund for the benefit of the homeowners who have received payments from the insurer for their claims related to a March 22, 2022, sewage backup incident the amount of the depreciation applied in the insurer’s estimates of repair and replacement costs as reflected in payments made to homeowners following processing of their claims; and

WHEREAS, the municipal funds for this purpose shall be appropriated from the enterprise fund maintained by the Town for sewer system operations.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN OF THE TOWN OF BENTON, LOUISIANA:

Sec. 1. A sum not exceeding \$ 40,000.00 hereby is appropriated from the sewer system enterprise fund of the Town of Benton for the purpose of satisfaction of the depreciated portion of claims paid by Travelers to homeowners in Palmetto Park related to a March 22, 2022, sewage backup incident, with this appropriation being based upon a finding of public necessity.

Sec. 2. The amount of payment by the Town to each covered homeowner will be the amount of depreciation applied by Travelers to the insurer’s estimate of repair and replacement costs under its standard adjustment procedures as reflected in the payment to the homeowner following processing of the homeowner’s claim.

Sec. 3. Travelers will provide to the Town the amount of depreciation applied to each claim as reflected in its payment of the claim, which depreciation amount shall be the full sum that shall be paid by the Town to the homeowner who submitted the claim as shown by Traveler’s records.

Sec. 4. This Resolution shall become effective upon final adoption and signature of the Mayor, and shall be implemented following receipt by the Town from Travelers of the required information in Sec. 3 of this Resolution

Said Resolution having been read and considered by a quorum of the Board of Aldermen, on motion to adopt by Alderman Jones, seconded by Alderman Carr, a record vote was taken and the following result was had:

YEAS: Alderman Jackie Carr, Alderman Tiffany Manning, and Alderman Ron Jones

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Alderman Friday and Alderman Cathcart

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Chief Collier requested to hire Jesse Crow to replace the vacancy left by Officer Benfield resignation. Officer Crow is post certified with 3 to 4 years' experience, and highly recommended by the Homer PD. Motion was made by Alderman Carr seconded by Alderman Manning to approve the new high of Jesse Crow. The mayor called for public comments. There being none, motion carried with the following votes recorded:

YEAS: Alderman Jackie Carr, Alderman Tiffany Manning, and Alderman Ron Jones

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Alderman Friday and Alderman Cathcart

Chief Collier requested approval of promotion of Officer Sunderland to Sergeant. He stated that he has 7 years with the Benton PD and 17 years overall experience. Motion was made by Alderman Manning seconded by Alderman Carr to approve the promotion. The mayor called for public comments. There being none, motion carried with the following votes recorded:

YEAS: Alderman Jackie Carr, Alderman Tiffany Manning, and Alderman Ron Jones

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Alderman Friday and Alderman Cathcart

Consider approval of the monthly financials for June and the year-to-date budget reports. Motion was made by Alderman Carr, seconded by Alderman Manning to approve the monthly financials. The mayor called for public comments. There being none, motion carried with the following votes recorded:

YEAS: Alderman Jackie Carr, Alderman Tiffany Manning, and Alderman Ron Jones

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Alderman Friday and Alderman Cathcart

Mayor Horton explained that he would like there to be a workshop on the reapportionment of the five council districts, and Mr. Gary Joiner will be at that meeting. Mayor Horton requested to schedule the meeting for the 13th of August at 6pm. Motion was made by Alderman Manning, seconded by Alderman Jones to approve the workshop for August 13th at 6pm. The mayor called for public comments. There being none, motion carried with the following votes recorded:

YEAS: Alderman Jackie Carr, Alderman Tiffany Manning, and Alderman Ron Jones

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Alderman Friday and Alderman Cathcart

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Motion was made by Alderman Carr seconded by Alderman Manning to adjourn the Regular Session. The motion carried with the following votes recorded:

YEAS: Alderman Jackie Carr, Alderman Tiffany Manning, and Alderman Ron Jones

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Alderman Friday and Alderman Cathcart

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