REGULAR SESSION MEETING MINUTES TOWN OF BENTON MONDAY, JULY 14, 2025, 6:30 PM

The Town of Benton Council met in a regular session on the 14th day of July, 2025, at 6:30 p.m. on the Benton Council Chambers, Benton Town Hall, 105 Sibley Street, Benton, Louisiana. Mayor James Friday called the Regular Session to order, with all members as follows:

Alderman Jackie Carr PRESENT
Alderman Tiffany Manning ABSENT
Alderman Tammy Brunson PRESENT
Alderman Arshundae Perry PRESENT
Alderman Terry Lawrence ABSENT

Motion by Alderman Carr, seconded by Alderman Perry, to approve the Regular Session agenda. Mayor Friday called for public comments; there being none, the following vote was recorded:

AYES: Alderman Carr, Alderman Brunson, Alderman Perry

NAYS: None ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Alderman Manning, Alderman Lawrence

Motion by Alderman Carr, seconded by Alderman Perry to approve the June 9th minutes. Mayor Friday called for public comments; there being none the following votes were recorded:

AYES: Alderman Carr, Alderman Brunson, Alderman Perry

NAYS: None ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Alderman Manning, Alderman Lawrence

OLD BUSINESS:

Final Vote: Ordinance 604 of 2025:

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 20, SOLID WASTE, BY ADDING SECTION 2 ESTABLISHING REGULATIONS FOR BULK ITEMS AND RELATED SERVICES

Stephanie Collier asked Attorney Erwin, "In order to amend that particular item off the penalty area did we need to resubmit the ordanance amended or do we amend it now."

Mr. Erwin: "You could amend it tonight." (Removing the words "bagged yard waste, limbs" from Section 4: Penalties (b).) Per Neil it will be amended in the Agenda tonight.

Motion by Alderman Perry. seconded by Alderman Carr to amend Ordinance 604. Section 4(b) by removing "bagged yard waste". Mayor Friday called for comments. None were made. The

A person with a disability who requires assistance with accommodations or an auxiliary aid or service such as an assistive listening device or a sign language interpreter, to participate in a public meeting should contact the Stephanie Collier at (318) 965-2781 as far in advance as possible, but no later than forty-eight (48) hours prior to the scheduled time of the meeting.

The Town of Benton is an equal opportunity employer.

following votes were recorded:

AYES: Alderman Carr, Alderman Brunson. Alderman Perry

NAYS: None ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Alderman Manning, Alderman Lawrence

Motion by Alderman Perry. seconded by Alderman Brunson to adopt Ordinance 604. As amended Mayor Friday called for comments. None were made. The following votes were recorded:

AYES: Alderman Brunson. Alderman Perry

NAYS: Alderman Carr

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Alderman Manning, Alderman Lawrence

Final Vote: Ordinance 605 OF 2025: T-5-25 -0. GATES

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 130, ARTICLE 7, SECTION 130-182 OF THE TOWN OF BENTON CODE OF ORDINANCES

Motion by Alderman Carr, seconded by Alderman Brunson, to adopt Ordinance 605. Mayor Friday called for comments; there being none, the following votes were recorded:

AYES: Alderman Carr, Alderman Brunson. Alderman Perry

NAYS: None ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Alderman Manning, Alderman Lawrence

Final Vote: Ordinance 606 OF 2025: T-6-25 P. MASSEY

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 130, ARTICLE 7, SECTION 130-182 OF THE

TOWN OF BENTON CODE OF ORDINANCES

Mayor Friday called for a motion. No motion was made. Therefore, this ordinance died for lack of motion.

Final Vote: Ordinance 607 OF 2025: T-9-25 -T. FOSHEE (GREENTREE VENTURES 2

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 130, ARTICLE 7, SECTION 130-182 OF THE TOWN OF BENTON CODE OF ORDINANCES

Motion by Alderman Perry, seconded by Alderman Carr. Mayor Friday called for comments; there being none, the following votes were recorded:

AYES: Alderman Carr, Alderman Brunson, Alderman Perry

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Alderman Manning, Alderman Lawrence

Final Vote: Ordinance 608 of 2025: AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 14, NUISANCES, ARTICLE 3, WEEDS AND YARD VEGITATION, SECTION 14-50

Mayor Friday called for a motion. No motion was made. Therefore, this ordinance died for lack of motion.

NEW BUSINESS:

Audit Report: Vicki with Cook and Morehart

Mrs. Case reported on the budgeted financials and the town's financial condition, and believes the city seriously needs to consider raising water and sewer rates accordingly. She stated there were a lot of large payments for repairs in the water sewer fund, more than usual, which left the town in the red. The Board needs to consider raising rates to accommodate.

Ordinance 609 of 2025: Introduce and set for public hearing.

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE 590 OF 2024 TO INCREASE THE RATES FOR WATER SERVICE INSIDE AND OUTSIDE OF THE TOWN OF BENTON

BE IT ORDAINED BY the board of aldermen of the Town of Benton, Bossier Parish, Louisiana, in a regular session convened, that Ordinance 590 of 2024 be hereby amended increasing the rate for water service as follows:

WHEREAS the rate schedule for residential water service inside the corporate limits of Benton shall be seven dollars and eighty-nine cents (\$7.89) per 1000 gallons, and a flat fee of twelve dollars and thirteen cents (\$12.13), and

WHEREAS the rate schedule for compound meters and commercial water service inside the corporate limits of Benton shall be seven dollars and eighty-nine cents (\$7.89) for every 1000 gallons, and a flat fee of twelve dollars and thirty-eight cents (\$12.38), and

WHEREAS the rate schedule for residential water service outside the corporate limits of Benton shall be eight dollars and sixty cents (\$8.60) for every 1000 gallons, and a flat rate of seventeen dollars and eighty-eight cents (\$17.88), and

WHEREAS the rate schedule for compound meters and commercial water service

outside the corporate limits of Benton shall be eight dollars and sixty cents (\$8.60) per 1000 gallons, and a flat rate of eighteen dollars and thirteen cents (\$18.13), and

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED this Ordinance, having been read in full in legal session, and considered section by section, was introduced by Alderman ______, seconded by Alderman ______ on July 14, 2025, and set for public hearing on August 11, 2025. The following votes were recorded:

Motion by Alderman Perry, seconded by Alderman Carr, to introduce Ordinance 609 and set for public hearing. Mayor Friday called for comments; there being none, the following votes were recorded:

AYES: Alderman Carr, Alderman Brunson, Alderman Perry

NAYS: None ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Alderman Manning, Alderman Lawrence

Benton MPC Board of Appeals town appointee:

Mr. Scott Alexander has been recommended for reappointment for a five-year term.

Motion by Alderman Carr, seconded by Alderman Brunson, to appoint Mr. Alexander to the MPC Board of Appeals. Mayor Friday called for any comments; there being none, the following votes were recorded:

AYES: Alderman Carr, Alderman Brunson, Alderman Perry

NAYS: None ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Alderman Manning, Alderman Lawrence

Month-to-date financials for June:

Motion by Alderman Perry, seconded by Alderman Carr to approve the month-to-date financials. Mayor Friday called for any comments; there being none, the following votes were recorded:

AYES: Alderman Carr, Alderman Brunson, Alderman Perry

NAYS: None ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Alderman Manning, Alderman Lawrence

Mayor Friday update on the upc oming Sewer System Consolidation project, and the awarded funds update on the other two projects

SBA Tower: Consider approval of lease agreement:

Motion by Alderman Perry, seconded by Alderman Carr. To approve the SBA lease for the Town water system Mayor Friday called for any comments; there being none, the following votes were recorded:

AYES: Alderman Carr, Alderman Brunson, Alderman Perry

NAYS: None ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Alderman Manning, Alderman Lawrence

ADJOURN THE REGULAR SESSION

Motion by Alderman Perry, seconded by Alderman Brunson. Mayor Friday called for any comments; there being none, the meeting was adjourned.