



JAMES FRIDAY
MAYOR

TOWN OF BENTON LOUISIANA

P O Box 1390 Benton, Louisiana 71006
910 665 0701

STEPHANIE SULLIVANT-COLLIER
CAO/ TOWN CLERK

TOWN OF BENTON COUNCIL WORK SESSION MINUTES MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 2025, 6:30 PM

The Town of Benton Council met in a Work Session on the 15th day of September 2025, at 6:30 PM in the Benton Council Chambers, Benton Town Hall, 105 Sibley Street, Benton, Louisiana. Mayor James Friday called the special session to order with all members as follows:

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

A motion was made by Alderman Manning, seconded by Alderman Carr to approve the Work Session agenda. Mayor Friday called for public comments; there being none, the following votes were recorded:

YEAS: Alderman Carr, Alderman Manning, Alderman Brunson, Alderman Perry

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Alderman Lawrence

Mayor Friday stated, "We have three items on the list, as we go down each one of them we'll have public discussion after we've made our discussion in case they have question or something about it from out there".

WATER SYSTEM IMPROVEMENT PROJECT: Core & Main Proposal

Mayor: "Ya'll had asked me about other people to make bids on it. According to the Bid Law, unless it's over \$250K it's not required. And this is from Balar.

'All contracts for public works exceeding the current contract threshold of \$250K must be advertised for bid and let for contract to the lowest responsible and responsive bidder. The Legislative Auditor recommends that contracts for public works valued at \$250K or less be administered through a Request for Proposal (RFP) process and/or solicitation of at least three (3) bids, even though state statute does not require those contracts to be bid. ***Revised Statute 38:2212(A).***

This is for Core & Main. Y'all had already approved the tower situation for the communication and now the equipment coming up for the communication with Core & Main y'all asked about

other bids and stuff so I called them, the engineering group, and this is strictly an upgrade on the infra-structure as I tried to explain that one night or last time we were there. If you've got any questions or any concerns about this, y'all have already had this sent to you in your packets. This is strictly for the upgrade and you've already authorized use of the three towers and this is to put the equipment on there to improve the water system. Any comments on that council?" **Ms. Manning:** "Mayor, you said that Balar gave you that?" **Mayor:** "Yes, it's coming out of the Open Bid Law". **Manning:** "OK we can look it up since you didn't provide it for us. That's what I wanted to make clear". **Mayor:** "It's in the Bid Law book". **Manning:** "OK. I'll have to look it up. Is that based on the Town or is that based on...". **Mayor:** "It's under Public Bid Law revised 08/2025, page 11 of 65 in the Bid Law Book. The process of us trying to get our water system improved, y'all keep putting this off for some reason or another and it's not helping the town at all. Because it's for the infra-structure for the communication of the water system that's already in the ground". **Ms. Carr:** "Mr. Friday" **Mayor:** "Yes ma'am". **Carr:** "For lack of a better words or phrases, what do you mean, 'we keep putting it off'. I mean, when we asked you a question during the meetings you don't even half answer us. If we had everything that we needed...". **Mayor:** "Well, I did. I told you it was for infra-structure last time". **Carr:** "And I asked you about a bid and you didn't even know. So, we're not just 'putting it off' to be holding up the town. As Alderman we do our due diligence too". **Mayor:** "Yes ma'am I understand what you're saying but there again...". **Carr:** "So don't come here acting like it's us. You the mayor". **Mayor:** "Alright but you're a council person". **Carr:** "Exactly. That's why I asked you to hush this". **Mayor:** "Alright, now, any public comments from outside? There are none. One other thing, out of the course of the weeks that all this has been going on, I don't have any phone calls or anyone coming to the office to discuss this or any of these matters. Alright, moving along to item number two".

WATER RATE INCREASE:

Mayor: "Alright, this is for open discussion for all of us tonight. Lets see what y'all want to do and I sent y'all in a group text what y'all might want to do, if you guys want to or you ladies would like to. I also have on my water bill, as far as current rates and what my water bill was. On the current rates, now this is my current water bill, I used 4,936 gallons of water. At \$6.89 current rate per 1000 it equals \$34.01. With the \$34.01 plus the \$8.75 current flat fee my price was \$42.76 for my water bill. Now with the new rates, y'all might want to write this down, with the 4,936 gallons of water the new rate would be \$7.89 per 1000 gallons which would have been \$38.95, which is a difference if \$4.94. Now, at \$38.95 plus the new flat rate, my bill would have been \$51.08. Now, we've been doing studies on this so now if we leave the flat rate as is currently at \$8.75, at \$7.98 with the new water rate per 1000 gallons it would be \$38.95. Cause at \$38.95 plus the \$8.75 flat fee, which is already current, my bill would have been \$47.70 an increase of \$3.38 for that month using almost 5000gallons of water".

Manning: "The question I have is why are we revisiting this when we've already had a workshop and we was ready to vote? So, is there any changes?" **Mayor:** "We haven't voted on it. There's no changes. We keep working on it because when y'all ask something or another we try to come up with some ideas. We're coming up with the ideas. I haven't heard any of y'all coming up with any new ideas on what to do about the increase from Bossier to us at all. So, we're trying to figure out what we need to do. We're paying for the water which is \$0.97 , I believe it is, per 1000 gallons and so with that we were going to leave the flat rate like it was

and next time we have a meeting we'll vote on what we need to do either increase the water or just let it go and then right now currently we're losing, if we was to multiply this out it's about...". **Manning:** "Mayor, let me ask you this question because we don't have anything to look at". **Mayor:** "You didn't bring your packets". **Manning:** "You're reading off of that...". **Mayor:** "I'm reading off my water bill". **Manning:** "Yeah, you're water bill. You're giving us projections based off you're water bill. My question is we already discussed this and you guys have provided us with the numbers so what are we discussing it for tonight? I'm confused". **Mayor:** "You have not made a decision". **Carr:** "And we can't make one tonight either". **Mayor:** "That's correct. It's just a workshop. It's for us to discuss it". **Manning:** "We had the opportunity to have it on this month's agenda but we didn't. That's why we didn't vote on it. Let me make that clear. Cause this could have been on September the 8ths agenda but it wasn't and we're having another workshop on it based on what merit? What are you telling us different? [laugh] **Mayor:** "OK, there's a lack of understanding the way I see it right now. So, I mean we provide the numbers for you we ask y'all to help us figure this out, you keep throwing innuendos at us as far as, 'Well, what are we doing this for'? We're trying to explain to you why it needs to be done because the town operates on its water bills". **Manning:** "Well we know that. The question is, the question is-so we don't get sideways from what we're focus on tonight is-is there anything different that you want to present to this board from what we were given in August? Yes or no". **Mayor:** "Yes there is". **Manning:** "OK, where is it because we don't have it". **Mayor:** "You tell me". **Manning:** "We don't have it mayor". **Mayor:** "What do you mean you don't have it? You've got the numbers. We gave you the numbers and you don't get no response back to us about what we need to do. Y'all say, 'Well we need to discuss this, or we need to talk about it, we need to table it". So, we did and here we are again. What I'm trying to find out is what the council wants to do". **Carr:** "I think what she's trying to say is we already had a workshop". **Mayor:** "I agree with that. You've already said that. So, now what's your idea?" **Carr:** "To be honest with you, I don't think we need a water increase". **Mayor:** "OK then that's your opportunity when we have the council meeting. So now any public discussion about this?" **Mark Crouch:** "Mayor, in last months meeting you stated that there was 1250-1255 water meters that y'all are estimating the bill every month. And you stated that there was about 25-26 hundred meters in the city limits of Benton". **Mayor:** "There's something like that". **Crouch:** "OK. This deal that y'all wanting to pass with this company from what I was..." **Mayor:** "Wait a minute. You're on something different now". **Crouch:** "I'm talking about Balar". **Mayor:** "They're the engineering group but they have nothing to due with water rates. We're talking about water rates right now. You're on something different. You're going to have to stay on what we're on now. We're on item number two which is water rates. So, what's your comment on water rates?" **Crouch:** "I'm going to go ahead and put it on record that we do not need a water rate increase eat this time due to the economy and everybody's struggling, y'all and me and everybody in the audience, to pay their bills. And these tariffs that President Trump has created, they're going to cause everything else to go up and that's the reason I want to put it on record that I'm stating that I do not think that at this time we need a water rate increase". **Mayor:** "OK, thank you. Any other comments?" **Ms. Perry:** "My comment is with the \$7.89 per 1000 gallons, is that what you are presenting as an option for us?" **Mayor:** "With no flat rates. No increase in the flat rate. What they're charging us for the water is what we're paying for". **Perry:** "Was it \$7.50? \$7.75?" **Manning:** "That's what I'm trying to ask too cause we don't have..." **Perry:** "I didn't bring it with me but I'm trying to recall that per gallon amount. Or was it \$0.60?" And Stephanie, do

you recall?” **Stephanie:** “It’s \$6.89 per 1000 gallons”. **Manning:** “I mean it would just be, if we bringing it back to the board it would just be nice if we had the numbers to look at. Cause, well, she didn’t bring hers. I didn’t bring mine”. **Mayor:** “I can’t produce numbers other than what the town of Bossier sent to us and we did that”. **Manning:** “I’m saying a sheet. I’m not asking you to make up numbers. I’m asking you for a sheet for us to look at, like if we got this, if we had a copy to review tonight since we’re in a workshop mayor then it would be better”. **Mayor:** “Where is your sheet from the last time? **Manning:** “So, my question is, now what I hear you saying, the new proposal is you’re not going to charge a flat rate. Is that what you’re saying?” **Mayor:** “That’s not what I said. We’re not going to increase the flat rate.” **Manning:** “We’re not going to increase the flat rate”. **Perry:** “The \$8.75”. **Manning:** “OK. Alright”. **Mayor:** “We’re just paying for the water that we get”. **Manning:** “And how much is that going to be increased to?” **Mayor:** \$0.97 so we rounded it off to a dollar (\$1.00).” **Manning:** “OK”. **Mayor:** “Why is this young lady here getting it?” **Manning:** “Cause she wrote it down. OK I’m trying! I’m trying.” **Perry:** “So, let’s just kill the hostility. Let’s just kill it. We’ve got to be professional. We’ve got to be adults. So, we are asking for understanding. Just like Ms. Stephanie has presented the numbers from the last time, that’s what we’re looking for this time. It was great. It was a great presentation. So, we could have it in front of us. Not only for us to see but the constituents to be able to see what you’re saying. So, everybody has different learning styles. Everybody’s understanding is different. I’m writing it down because I’m trying to make sure, I understand it. So, in any, when you’re wanting somebody to understand something, do what you can to make them understand it. And the presentation would be fine. Or whatever you have. You’re basing it off of what your water bill would be. Yes, yes, that’s great. But just to have some numbers in front of us. I think that’s the bottom line. That’s the point everybody’s trying to make”. **Mayor:** “OK, this was put on the website. I don’t recall hearing a phone ring at all about somebody saying they wanted this information in front of them because we would have provided it for them. We would have provided anything that you ask for. We have been doing that and we’ll continue to do that. But you already had this in your previous packets so...” **Perry:** “Not what you presented today. Not what you presented. And that’s what we’re on tonight; what your option was for us to increase the ...” **Mayor:** “Well, my option was not to do the flat rate. It was all there. Last time we were talking about the water increase and the flat rate increase coming from Bossier City and we didn’t discuss an option of trying to do something different. Nobody entertained the idea of trying to do something different and so I’m trying to bring this up again so that the idea is we leave the flat rate alone, we don’t touch it. All we do is charge the dollar or \$0.97 for the town of Bossier for the 1000 gallons of water- what they charge us, cause we got to pay for that water. That was the only thing I wanted to do tonight was put that option out there so y’all would have time to think about it between now and the next time and then y’all could call and ask us about it when you have time”. **Manning:** “So, from my understanding, thank you Ms. Perry, from my understanding we were going to charge the public. I don’t have that tonight because I thought we was going to get some more information and I’m up here looking for it in my packet so from our last minute...” **Mayor:** “OK, well, we’ll send it to you”. **Manning:** “Please...please...please...let me finish. **Mayor:** “Well y’all cut me off, I’ll cut you off” All I’m saying is you will get your paperwork”. **Manning:** “Never mind. That’s OK. I’m, I’m done”. **Perry:** “We have got to do better. We have got to do better y’all. This is ridiculous. We have got to do better. We are not going to do tit for tat. We are too grown and too mature for that”. **Manning:** “Exactly”. **Perry:** “Let’s just listen and hear each other out. Listen, let ‘me’

apologize if you ever felt offended for being cut off mayor. We respect your position and who you are. Please, let's just do it as adults would do it, professional". **Mayor:** "Yes ma'am. Alright, any public comment about this? About the water rate? **Dawn Bushnell:** "About the water rate. Just a kind of a comment, a question. As I was here months ago, and you went over the '24 numbers, because the water department in '23 they went in the hole, in '24 they went in the hole. So, is any of this amount going to keep or prevent the water department from going in the hole this year possibly? This increase, will it help that any at all?" **Mayor:** "As many blow outs as we have, I mean I don't know if anybody's been by the courthouse, there's a whole new line put in down yonder. I think I have a \$30K bill from Pulley from working on four different water sections in town here in the last month". **Bushnell:** "Cause I know that the CPA that was here, that went over the audit, suggested a 5% increase to the water bill every year for the next five years. And she said that that wouldn't even catch up to us not being in the hole annually. So, I'm just trying to figure out, I know everyone up here should be, but is everyone else aware because for me, I'm a numbers person and just wondering instead of somebody blatantly saying we should increase the water rate 5% every year for the next five years. I understand that things are going up but also there's always a way to look at how we can cut some expenses. That we don't have to do this every year for the next five years because, you know, I don't get a pay raise every year and I certainly don't get a 5%. At the City of Bossier, municipal employees, we don't get a raise every year. **Mayor:** "I understand. With the aging of the pipe sand stuff, we never know when there's going to be a blowout. We still have some old clay pipes in the ground". **Bushnell:** "But I didn't know if you had money set aside in emergency funds set aside to help cover some of that when it happens? Each year did you plan? I mean I don't know your budget". **Mayor:** "We budget money back for all this stuff. Yes". **Bushnell:** "OK. I didn't know. That was just my question". **Mayor:** "We budget money back for the water sectors, we budget money back for the roads because we have potholes and stuff that needs to be fixed. We're an asphalt town. We don't have concrete roads like everybody else". **Bushnell:** "Within the town limits? Us individuals, we make the least amount of money probably than 71006 zip code So it's a concern of trying to make sure of where we're headed you know? That sort of thing". **Mayor:** "You're correct". **Bushnell:** "It bothered me that she made the comment about the 5%. It came across a little flippant. And I know you explained the issues at the end, the water lines and such, and I know you have other things that weren't discussed that night that you know about". **Mayor:** "And we're running the town, as you know-you work in the Town Hall and know it gets complicated running big numbers so we're trying to operate and run this town and we've already had an Alderman come up here twice to go through the books and stuff and has not found anything or anything. And now she's wanting to do a third time so we're just opening the books, so there, to look at. We will provide them to look at". **Bushnell:** "I was just concerned about that comment in the June meeting when she came in to talk about the audit for 2024 and those numbers". **Mayor:** "And we're in 2025 now. OK thank you". **Perry:** "She brought up a question for me. In that discovery of the water issue, did she give us any suggestions? Help me remember. In what area to pull from? Is there someone that comes in and does that?" **Mayor:** "Yes, the Louisiana..." **Stephanie:** "The Louisiana Rural Water Association". **Mayor:** "Yes, that's it. They come in every five years and do a water analysis and a report. And then I think we got another one coming up here before the end of the year is out". **Stephanie:** "Well, they're performing one right now for the sewer because of the funds that we're getting". **Mayor:** "OK yes. Because we're trying to build this new lift station to increase our sewer situation to remove the water and send it out to

the river, we are being audited again on the sewer situation”. **Perry:** “OK, so, Ms. Stephanie if we said what are some other areas that we could decrease and make sure we don’t go in the hole in the water area would you be able to answer that or would that be from a different firm?” **Stephanie:** “No, that would be me. We need to schedule a budget meeting”. **Carr:** And we did get finding. Another audit finding was the budget. So, we did get a finding on the budget as well”. **Manning:** “And I just want to make it clear that I don’t think ‘we’re going in the hole’ is the right terminology because we’re not...we have revenue coming in. So, I don’t think that, Ms. Perry, I don’t think we would ever be without revenue coming into the water department funds so...” **Bushnell:** “No, it has money coming in, there’s no doubt there’s money in the town but you’re over your budget numbers-’23 was \$40,000 and ’24 was \$80 something thousand dollars so from just someone sitting here, I don’t know what all the expenditure numbers are. I just brought it up. Asking the questions”. **Manning:** “Oh yeah, I was just letting her know that we’re not going to go in a deficit”. **Bushnell:** “No, but that’s an extreme amount building”. **Mayor:** “Well one large catastrophe could put you out of business completely”. **Bushnell:** “Yes. And it can, an individual in a home, I mean that’s why we’re all talking about this”. **Mayor:** “Absolutely, you only get a certain amount of money to come home and everything keeps going up and when you can’t repair your home you just have to leave it like it is. Alright anybody else have anymore comments on the water rates? Alright, not being any, we’ll move along to item number three:

ALDERMAN MANNING’S PROPOSED ORDINANCE TO ESTABLISH A POLICY FOR THE DELIVERY OF COUNCIL PACKETS

Before I open the floor for council discussions. I’d like to point out that five business days out from the meeting is going to push a few things back about a month according to our books. Mrs. Collier, our Town Clerk, will come up here and explain and after she speaks then we will talk to the council about a discussion”. **Stephanie:** “OK. First, I want to clear up the assumption that there were water rate documents to go in this packet which there were not because I remember the ordinance that was presented with the rate increase was rejected. And then we had a workshop on it and after doing the minutes I didn’t hear any input from the council as far as other ways of doing it. Everybody knows it was \$0.86 on the per 1000 gallons and they were increasing us by \$3.00. You had the information from Bossier City”. **Manning:** “Mayor, are we on number three?” **Stephanie:** “Yes, we’re on number three but you questioned something that was missing from the packet. And you stated publicly in a premature assumption that there were documents missing from the packets and there *was not* is what I’m trying to explain. [to Ms. Manning continuing to call on the mayor] Please don’t interrupt me. You talk about being interrupted”. **Manning:** “Are we on number three?” **Mayor:** “Yes, but she is an exception to the rule. She is the Town Clerk. Now the reason why...” **Manning:** “Now we know. Thank you”. **Mayor:** “No, you don’t know”. **Manning:** “Exactly. Now we know”. **Mayor:** “No you don’t”. **Manning:** “You just told us”. **Mayor:** “She’s trying to explain some things that y’all asked questions about. She’s up there...” **Carr:** “Why didn’t she explain them when we were talking about that?” We’re somewhere else now”. **Stephanie:** “No, it had to do with council packets the fact that it was stated publicly that I did not put something in the council packet for this meeting and I was clarifying that there was no documents to put in the council packets for this meeting. Now addressing the ordinance, you’re stating that you want it five days out from the date of the meeting correct? Five calendar days from the meeting. That would put it on Wednesday before the meeting. Am

I right?" **Manning:** "It just said five days". **Stephanie:** "You had five calendar days from the meeting. That would put it on Wednesday. Correct?" **Manning:** "So five business days, it would be Monday or Friday". **Stephanie:** "No, you didn't say work days you said calendar days". **Manning:** "Oh OK, we can change that cause this is not [inaudible] so we can't say work days". **Stephanie:** "Well I don't know if y'all realize the MPC has their meeting on Monday before ours. They have their meeting Monday night. That gives her Tuesday and to the end of the day Wednesday to get me the documents from the MPC meeting and then I have Thursday to write ordinances and resolutions because every action that comes before y'all from the MPC has an ordinance or a resolution attached to it. So, that is why Thursday evening, at the latest, is the best we can do for council packets. If not, those peoples items would be pushed back a whole other month and I don't think any of us want to go there because it's very controversial with their board to begin with. And knowing that they were going to be pushed back another month would be awful". **Carr:** "OK. I understand what you're saying Stephanie. But let me ask you this if you don't mind. You have an assistant. So, if we get the packets just five business days, normally we don't get them until Friday, but last time we got them Thursday-we did-we got them Thursday. Basically, that's just three days of you know, what we were asking what we used to do. I'm not sure what Ms. Debbie do but she is your assistant so surely with your assistant you know, she can assist you and getting us the packets". **Stephanie:** "How is she going to assist the MPC when they have their meeting on Monday, but y'all want packets on Monday. How is she going to assist them on getting their stuff to us?" **Carr:** "To be honest with you Stephanie, we understand. I wouldn't want your job and I've told you that". **Stephanie:** "No, I don't think anybody in this room would want my job". **Carr:** "But what I'm saying is, as this council, when we get our packages on Friday, y'all don't even work on the weekend so what make y'all think that on the weekend we want to sit down and go over a bunch of stuff". **Stephanie:** "I usually have it to y'all by noon on Friday. That's thirty hours prior to the meeting not counting the weekend". **Carr:** "The weekend!" **Stephanie:** "And then y'all have all day Monday to look at it; on Saturday or Sunday. I mean it's...I don't know how to explain it to y'all". **Carr:** "I don't work. But I know that Ms. Manning work. I don't even know about Ms. Arshundae but I think that she work. So, I just think it's just that if even if it's five days surely we can get it on a Wednesday or something but getting on Friday it's just..." **Stephanie:** "OK well then I'll talk to Carlotta and ask her to get it to me on Tuesday. And then Wednesday by the end of the day I'll compromise, and we can have council packets by then". **Manning:** "So how often do you do MPC ordinance and resolutions? How often?" **Stephanie:** "Well if you haven't noticed we've already had six ordinances this year from MPC so it's always a toss of the coin as to whether or not they're going to have a lot of stuff or a few things. It's just whatever they have on their agenda. But I have to have time to write the ordinances and resolutions accordingly for their items to present to the council". **Manning:** "To submit to the MPC council?". **Stephanie:** "No. The MPC-when they make a decision, they're a recommending body. And if someone is changing the zoning on a piece of land or wanting to construct something-a business or whatever the situation-they have to amend the zoning. Once they decide on that, that there's no issues with it they make a recommendation to us, it gets written into an ordinance format because it's all amending the zoning ordinance-the zoning code-by changing that swatch of land from one zoning category to another and it has to come to y'all for consideration to be introduced one month and then it takes another month before it's set for public hearing and adopted-or not adopted, either way it goes. But those people sometimes have a process, a timeline, of when they've got contractors planned or this or

that and so the order of it is the MPC does that, they have to do the zoning, then they have to come back and get approval for the building. So, it's just constant". **Manning:** "So it's not every month. It's not every month". **Stephanie:** "It's not every month, but..." **Manning:** "Alright". **Stephanie:** "That is our timeline that we've had with MPC for them to have their things to us in a timely manner to get it to y'all". **Manning:** "Right, but it's not every month". **Stephanie:** "And if you hold my feet to the fire for Wednesday, that could be done, Wednesday evening, that could be done. That will just shorten their timespan". **Carr:** "We appreciate it". **Perry:** "So they usually get it to you on Tuesday?" **Stephanie:** "No, she usually gets it to me by Wednesday because their meetings at night. She has Tuesday to prepare her side of the documents and then gets it to me by Wednesday; I write the ordinance or resolution and put it on the agenda". **Manning:** "But that's only when we have that. It's not, that's not a common thing OK". **Stephanie:** "It is a common thing it's just not every single month". **Perry:** "OK, and so Wednesday would be your day to get it written up and everything [inaudible]". **Stephanie:** "I could get that done on Wednesday and get it to y'all Wednesday evening". **Perry:** "What's your usual day?" **Stephanie:** "The usual day is Thursday or Friday because I usually spend Thursday writing ordinances and resolutions if there are some. Like, I think it was the February meeting we had four ordinances for zoning changes because one of them was denied for that office building over there they wanted to turn into apartments". **Perry:** "And then my other question would be minus let's say MPC meeting there is no changes that need to take place is your schedule remaining the same or..." **Stephanie:** "Wednesday's fine. If for some reason they overload me with ordinances or something, then I will notify the council and let y'all know that it might be late according to Thursday probably". **Manning:** "That's fair". **Carr:** "That sounds fair". **Mayor:** "We pay the MPC half of their salary and Bossier Parish pays the other half". **Manning:** "We pay them?" **Stephanie:** "We pay for half of their stuff, yes". **Mayor:** "And then so, they just went through a budget stuff and we'll have to put that into our budget between now and November so we can present it to the state". **Perry:** [inaudible] **Mayor:** "MPC. Their wages and stuff that we pay them. We have to pay them. And we pay half of their wages after their business utilities and stuff and Bossier Parish Police Jury pays the other half". **Perry:** "OK but that doesn't affect what we are discussing for a schedule". **Mayor:** "Well, no it doesn't affect the schedule. The only reason why I'm saying that is because they do work for us and they've hired some more people to do more because there's an explosion going on around here as far as Bossier Parish growth and we're trying to be part of it and we need to be part of it cause they're going to be coming this way as far as we're going to have 500 new homes put in here. We're going to have maybe 35 up here on 162. We've got to run water lines that way and sewer lines down 162 and we've got to cross over from Palmetto back over to Lost River and coming over here to get over here by Brookshires. And then building a new lift station. And from the new lift station to the old lift station there at the Courthouse and from there over to the Rock Reed. So theres a lot going on and things that she has to do and I have to do all during the day that no one else can do cause they're not authorized to do so. You know where other people and other community and municipalities has, like Bossier City, they have a lot of clerks to do the same thing in the same area like they have a purchasing agent, they have somebody to work over the maintenance department, they have, I mean, I forget what Ms. Dawn does. I think you're some kind of bookkeeper or something". **Bushnell:** "I do the payroll". **Mayor:** "How many people you got in you payroll department?" **Bushnell:** "Today 709". **Mayor:** "How many people you got working for you?" **Bushnell:** "No, I have 709 employees that I issue payroll for". **Mayor:**

“Yes. How many people you got in your payroll department?” **Bushnell:** “One”. **Mayor:** “Just you?” **Bushnell:** “Each individual department has what’s called a timekeeper but that’s part of one of their many tasks that they do. An administrative person, building maintenance will do many things, but she’ll also submit time to me but then from there I’ll process payroll for the City of Bossier”. **Mayor:** “We don’t have that luxury of having that kind of employees. Cause we’re not that big of a town. We don’t have that kind of income coming in to do that kind of operation so Stephanie does, I would say, at least 85% of everything and now that with everything that goes on and people being trained to do this type of work and stuff. It’s not easy working in that. I wish I was back in the construction world where it was a lot easier than it is in this government. It’s slow. You got to run back and forth all the time and stuff”. **Manning:** “Under Section 2 definitions, if you have any questions Ms Tammy (Brunson) or anyone, on the last bullet point we can take out ‘outline’ cause we’re-the council members to do their duties we need a detail of the financial expenditures”. **Mayor:** “Are you on the front of the page?” **Manning:** “Section two under definitions bullet point four. Instead of an outline on the expenditures we need a detail of the financial expenditures from the last regular meeting. Because when I was looking at the, I don’t know if anybody else have this problem but I know when I’m looking at the expenditure report, all of the monthly reports under each category it’s not identified on the expenditure report. And so, just like for example with the miscellaneous, just like with the water bill or whatever, if you got the month of August and then you paid the month of September it literally shows August September. Well under the miscellaneous its just a fee I mean a charge so say if it’s \$2.00 well that \$2 just encompass miscellaneous. It doesn’t say that the water was wrote out of this and the pen was purchased. So, the detailed financial expenditure we need so we can it can allow us to just track what the expenditures are coming from. So instead of having ‘outline’ there it’s just a detail of a financial expenditures. And we can take ‘outline’ out. Anybody else have anything?” **Stephanie:** “So previous meeting expenditures, those were not detailed enough because I don’t think we had any miscellaneous stuff”. **Manning:** “Yes, it wasn’t identified”. **Stephanie:** “OK, well I’ll be sure to identify that one but everything else was pretty detailed wasn’t it?” **Manning:** “No”. **Stephanie:** “What was not detailed?” **Manning:** “We haven’t gone over the...we didn’t approve the financials because we didn’t have it”. **Stephanie:** “But even still you’ve had the chance to look at them since then. So, what other detail would you like on the expenditures so I can have that available at the next meeting? Let me know what detail is missing”. **Carr:** “Stephanie, I’m asking only for me. This was like under August one and we didn’t approve that one either so I got a chance to like go back over it, I saw a charge, it was for over \$145K. And so that wasn’t on the expenditure. And I just want to think that a large amount like that and it didn’t really look like to me it was even budgeted. So, what was that charge for?” **Stephanie:** “That was, that one particular thing was the police truck from Gerry Lane. Steve had brought me an invoice for the truck and the delivery fee which was \$72 thousand six hundred and something dollars. The delivery fee was \$500. So, I cut the check for the full amount”. **Carr:** “That was \$145K. That was for two vehicles?” **Stephanie:** “No. It’s one vehicle. I’m explaining it. He came and got the check and proceeds to tell me, ‘No, the delivery fee has to be separate’.” So, I voided that check and issued a second one with the delivery fee separate, even though it was going to the same people it had to be separate. So that is one of the journal entries. That has to be because I voided that first check. It doesn’t take it out of that balance sheet. I don’t know why because this whole side of the finances is new to me. I’ve not always been involved with that part of it. So, I don’t understand why it doesn’t deduct it out of that but that’s something that has to be

journalized out. But it really is supposed to be \$72K". **Carr:** "So, not \$145K?" **Manning:** "And that wasn't on the expenditure report?" **Stephanie:** "Because it was the month before last is why". **Manning:** "That's what she was talking about". **Stephanie:** "Yeah. It was on there the month before last for Gerry Lane was the company, starting with a G, Gerry Lane. That was the police truck". **Carr:** "I guess what I'm saying, on the expenditure report, I'm talking about all this stuff, where that amount was not on that expenditure report that's what I'm saying". **Stephanie:** "OK, well then it must have been on the month before that". **Manning:** "When was the truck purchased?" **Stephanie:** "I can't remember". **Debbie Rios:** "It was on July's expenditures". **Stephanie:** "It was on July's expenditures". **Carr:** "OK, if it was in the July expenditures why was it on the August balance sheet back there?" **Stephanie:** "Because it's going to show up. Everything that's done throughout the year is going to add up in that year-to-date column. What you're seeing is the year-to-date column. When it's in the month-to-date, when it's in the first column, the expenditures were made at the time that you're getting the expenditure report. Anything in the first column, in the month-to-date, that's what we spent in the previous month that you're getting the reports for". **Carr:** "I know that the stuff that we did in August I know that it's for July". **Stephanie:** "I just was letting you know. But that one, that particular one, that was-it's in the year-to-date column". **Manning:** "But it's not on the expenditure report". **Stephanie:** "Because it was purchased in July and it was in the July expenditures". **Manning:** "I'm looking at the July expenditures". **Stephanie:** "That is not July. It's August". **Manning:** "Oh, OK. That was August. Let me pull the July one. OK and then also, for example cause you want one, the month-to-date for the building maintenance, which the mayor stated that we would not be using anymore funds out of that, you still have \$1,666.44 and that is not on this expenditure report. It's not on the expenditure report cause I don't see that code matching this number that's coming out of here. That's why we're asking, the board is asking, for a detail-whatever month-to-date is done should be on the expenditure report so we can refer back to it". **Stephanie:** "Can you show me after the meeting what you're talking about because I can't...". **Manning:** "Here it is right here". **Stephanie:** "I know. Just show me after the meeting and I'll look it up. I can't remember every single thing". **Manning:** "But the point is it needs to be on the expenditure report for [inaudible]". **Stephanie:** "This is July and you're looking at August". **Manning:** "OK. That's what we're talking about though". **Stephanie:** "That's August and that's the July report". **Manning:** "Either way". **Stephanie:** "It's not going to be on there". **Manning:** "I know that but, cause I got all this mixed up". **Stephanie:** "Well highlight it and we'll look it up after the meeting". **Manning:** "So, the point is, the point is for us to have it on the expenditure report. Everything". **Stephanie:** "And every check that's cut, everything is on there. There's nothing that is left off. But when you're looking at July balance sheet and the August expenditures they're not going to match". **Manning:** "Yeah, I know that. I don't have it all together cause I was looking at something else. But I don't have it all together. However, again, we just want the expenditure report to match the month-to-date". **Stephanie:** "It doesn't match. Just get the August balance sheet and go back and look at it". **Manning:** "OK. Cause I have it here. So, that's on the ordinance and if we can have that we can work". **Stephanie:** "Before I can rewrite the ordinance I need to get a few things clarified". **Manning:** "So this says July". **Stephanie:** "I need clarification from you, Ms. Manning. On your proposed ordinance you state on section four 'the content requirements' you say 'each council packet shall include a minimum, a complete agenda for the upcoming meeting', got that, 'detailed draft minutes from the immediately proceeding council meetings-regular or special', got that, and then 'the reports of financial expenditures incurred since the

last council meeting included'. OK that's not a problem but you list out 'general funds disbursements, departmental expenditures', and I'm assuming that's from the general fund, and 'outstanding obligations and encumbrances'. Do we not want to include the water/sewer and the 1978 fund balance sheets in that also?" **Manning:** "So, we can put the general funds-like the ones you already give-the general fund, the water/sewage fund, the tax, and what else you already give?" **Stephanie:** "I always give the expenditure list the general fund, the water/sewer, the 1978 sales tax fund, the encumbrances are on the balance sheet, but the outstanding balances-can you please clarify what outstanding obligations that you are wanting listed? Is that what you're talking about? You want them listed?" **Manning:** "So, it seem like this would be a duplication to section two?" **Stephanie:** "I don't know. I didn't write this". **Manning:** "I'm saying what my request are. Cause it says general fund disbursements, departmental expenditures, and that's the same thing as the financial expenditures". **Stephanie:** "I was just clarifying because you list the general fund and you didn't the others so I was just making sure you still want those included". **Manning:** "Yes ma'am". **Stephanie:** "OK". **Perry:** "I think all that you usually include needs to be included". **Stephanie:** "Ok, just clarifying it. And then outstanding obligations, not really sure what you're asking for me there. Because you don't understand there's a long projection of outstanding obligations or are you talking about the month that we're referring to at the time?" **Manning:** "The month that we're referring to at the time. I know, just like you just said with the, and it was another thing to, just like you just said with the refund-not the refund-that you cut a check and then you had to..." **Perry:** "Journal". **Stephanie:** "They need the journal entries, or what are you...?" **Manning:** "OK, so what did you say about the vehicles? Cause you said it wasn't \$165." **Carr:** "\$45". **Manning:** "You said it wasn't \$145." **Stephanie:** "I had to void a check and issue a second-well two actually". **Manning:** "OK, yes, that's what I'm saying. Like, usually that would be on, I know, let me just say this, like in the past that would be on the expenditure report and I think you asked...cause it has been on this. And then it was another, I can't remember what it was but... Oh, the insurance with Precision Collision and you stated, 'Well, it was insurance'. But it wasn't on the expenditure". **Stephanie:** "It's on there that it was insurance". **Manning:** "It wasn't on your expenditure". **Stephanie:** "Yes, next to it it said 'insurance'." **Mayor:** "It was on there and on the side of it said 'insurance'." **Manning:** "Alright, so, let me ask you this, this 7/31, this is for July right?" **Stephanie:** "Look at the very last page because the date that it's printed is not necessarily the date. The ending date down there on the back page is the criteria for the report". **Manning:** "Could you come and see? So, is that July?" **Stephanie:** "Yep, 7/31". **Manning:** "Yep, OK. And this is July, this right here?" **Stephanie:** "Expenditure? No, this is August". **Manning:** "This not for the prior month? So, this right here?" **Stephanie:** "No, that's for August". **Manning:** "OK. Because I know when we were getting it, these expenditure reports they were from the prior month. They're not no more?" **Stephanie:** "That expenditure was given to y'all at the last meeting. Which y'all have still got to approve. They're for August". **Manning:** "Cause we're in September. I'm sorry. We're in September. Yes, yes, yes, yes, yes, we're in September. I thought we were in August. My bad. Thank you Ms. Stephanie". **Mayor:** "Can I ask a question while we are all still together? Would it be feasible or appropriate for you guys to have a work shop that goes over this where you sit down at a round table out there and y'all can point out...cause all workshops, usually whenever I was in here we just all sat around out there, the council and everybody, we just sat around out there and just had us a pow-wow doing-so we could mark and show what we were doing and looking instead of running back and forth". **Manning:** "I

think that's a great idea. I think we should. That would help us to not have so many questions".

Mayor: "I mean we've had it before when Shonta used to work for us she would come up here and give you all the codes to everything that you needed and stuff. So, cause like tonight you come and you got some of your stuff mixed up together".

Manning: " Yeah, I just got all my stuff together".

Mayor: "What do you think Ms. Perry? Would you be willing to do something like that?"

Perry: "I would".

Mayor: "Ms. Carr?"

Carr: "Yeah".

Manning: "That's a great idea".

Mayor: To Stephanie: "And you would be the teacher".

Stephanie: I think we should not just do that but we should go over the Public Bid Law, the Local Government Act, the Lawrason Act, and go back through all that for everybody".

Mayor: "Should we do this at a nighttime session or...?"

Manning: "I'm not going to be available during the day unfortunately. If you're interested enough in doing this we could probably do it on a Saturday morning around 2pm or something like that if you're so inclined to."

Manning: "I'll be available".

Mayor: "I mean this is just a suggestion. I'm just throwing it out there. In order for all us to understand how to get where we need to be we need to sit down at a table where we can have coffee and talk about it".

Perry: "OK".

Mayor: "As Ms. Perry said, we've got to figure this out so that all of us can get along and do what we need to because we get mixed questions and answers and it's just not helpful at all."

Manning: "Here go the examples Ms. Stephanie. Stephanie".

Stephanie: "Can you just show me after the meeting so we can get this over?"

Mayor: "Alright, do we have any other questions or concerns? On this ordinance thing here, I don't know, I guess y'all need to put some pencil down to your thoughts about what you think how it would work and then we throw it in a bowl and stir it up and see what we come out with. Hopefully we get some good cake mix and get some icing on it."

Carr: "You talking about the ordinance?"

Mayor: "Yes ma'am, the ordinance that we talked about tonight. Yes ma'am. What you think we should do or how you think you would do it? Now, being that Stephanie has already told you that the MPC meets on a Monday night and then we meet on the following Monday, it's a time situation there between what they do and remember a lot of things go around Bossier and the MPC. I don't know if you know or not Ms. Perry but they work five miles outside of the city limits all the way around Benton. So, anything that goes on in the town and outside they conduct and then work out the permits and they try to make it easier on us so when it comes to us we're able to either say Yea or Nay".

Carr: "Well I think Stephanie already said that she can have it to us Wednesday, on Wednesday, so I'm speaking for me, Wednesday would be fine with me".

Manning: " Wednesday would be fine for me too. And then on Section four Stephanie, did we clarify that outstanding obligations?"

Stephanie: "Not really".

Manning: "So if there is..."

Stephanie: "Any changes? Is that what you're talking about? Like if a check's voided?"

Manning: "Yes, if a check's voided, if it was, well, you guys said it was on there with the insurance, it was on the expenditure report. I could have missed it".

Stephanie: "It was listed on the line item".

Manning: "Ok, just outstanding expenditures, does that make sense? If it don't, let me know, because we can take it out before we do an ordinance".

Bushnell: "Would a balance sheet work for that?"

Stephanie: "Yeah, a balance sheet as far as the things we haven't paid yet?"

Bushnell: "A balance sheet should tell you what the town owes".

Manning: " Yeah we don't have one. Where's the balance sheet cause I don't see one."

Stephanie: "I mean I give y'all one in y'all's packet every month".

Manning: "Which one is it?"

Stephanie: "It's the balance sheet for the General Fund. It shows the liabilities, assets".

Carr: "It's in there. It's in there yeah".

Manning: "Oh. It don't show what the town owes".

Stephanie: " Well that's hard to say what the town owes. The amount of bills that come through in a month is unpredictable".

Bushnell: "Well you would

have long term liabilities and such”. **Mayor:** “That’s like some of our contractors they don’t bill for 60 days, or 90 days out, and then they send us all the bills and invoices at one time”. **Stephanie:** “I could give you a list of every single vendor. I mean I don’t really know what...” **Bushnell:** “Can you pull an open purchase order report or something like that’s unreceived?” **Stephanie:** “We use purchase orders but I don’t know if it’s anything that’s unpaid for that month that we’re providing expenditures for”. **Manning:** “Yes, yes, yes. Absolutely. Thank you Ms. Dawn for clarifying that up”. **Stephanie:** “For just that month”. **Perry:** “So just so I’m clear. Everything that’s not paid for September, that’s what you’re asking for?” **Manning:** “That we will be able to see”. **Perry:** “What’s not paid”. **Stephanie:** “Any outstanding invoices for the month that y’all are getting the reports for that are unpaid, correct?” **Manning:** “Correct”. **Stephanie:** “OK”. **Manning:** “So does everything else look feasible on the ordinance board members? Ms. Tammy? Do you have any input?” **Ms. Brunson:** “I don’t on this”. **Manning:** “OK. So, my last question is, it says that ‘physical mail or courier to the members official address and/or secured electronic transmission’. So, do we need to ask for a packet to be delivered to our home?” **Stephanie:** “They have to be hand delivered by the police officers because that’s what the State of Louisiana Law says. They can’t be mailed through the mail or nobody would ever get their packets”. **Manning:** “So, that’s why I’m saying should we mark that one out and just say courier?” **Stephanie:** “By police officer”. **Manning:** “By police officer”. **Carr:** “So Stephanie, we’re not going to get them through our emails anymore?” **Stephanie:** “I can put that in there as an alternative if y’all choose to do it that way and everybody agrees then we can do that. It doesn’t matter to me. It’s easier to do the electronic but paper is what I’ve been used to for 18 years so it’s not different for me”. **Carr:** “That’s fine. That’s fine. I prefer paper anyway cause I can mark through and highlight”. **Perry:** “I don’t have access to my email. I’m hitting or missing. It’s up here but if I try and access it at home...” **Stephanie:** “I don’t even access mine from home. They set it up through Outlook”. **Carr:** “I can access it on my phone but not at home”. **Manning:** “So, do we need to keep ‘and/or secure electronic transmission? Do we need to keep that in there?” **Stephanie:** “If it’s agreed upon by the council”. **Manning:** “OK. I was just looking over this one last time just to make sure...OK. Thank you. And I don’t have all my packet stuff in order. I really don’t”. **Mayor:** “Do we have any comments from the audience about the packets or anything? Any questions from anyone?” **Crouch:** “Mayor, I’d like to ask a quick question”. **Mayor:** “Alright sir”. **Crouch:** “Stephanie said the police officers deliver the packets to the council members, and I don’t know if they are doing that or not. I think that, just my opinion, for maybe security reasons they need, when the police officer delivers the packet to the council members, I think the officer needs to write the date and the time down that he delivered it to the council person”. **Stephanie:** “They do”. **Mayor:** “They do”. **Crouch:** “I want to make sure. I don’t know if they’re doing that or not. **Mayor:** “They have you sign for it. If you’re not there they write ‘Not at Home’.” **Carr:** “And I’ve asked if I’m not at home they just leave mine and they can just write my name.” **Mayor:** “That’s the way been doing it since I’ve been around town. Alright, anymore comments from the council or the public? If not, I’ll ask for a motion to adjourn”. **Carr:** “Mr. Friday, before we adjourn I want to say something”. **Mayor:** “OK”. **Carr:** “Ms. Perry, you know we’re going to have to find/figure out a better way, you know to talk to one another. In my nine years sitting here on this council I’ve only been under one Mayor and that was Mayor Horton. I never saw him disrespectful. I’ve never saw him get smart, you know, with anybody in the audience. If I had something to ask him I never felt afraid to call him. And in those nine years we always have not agreed but he was, you know,

always accommodating. I mean, so, I'm going to apologize to you. And me and you, we've had this conversation, and I have told you, you know, it's a better way. And I've told you if it was something that I would call you. But Mr. Friday, we are all adults up here. So, if you, forgive me for lack of a better word, if you talk crazy to me, that's the response you're gonna get. So, I would really prefer if we all show respect. Don't just expect that out of the council. It starts with you. You are the leader. You are the mayor. So, if you want us to respond to you in a different way then respond to us in that same way cause I promise you, anybody that know me, I don't get out of character. I mean I just don't. That's not my nature at all. And there's nobody that has ever sat on this council since I've been here that would ever tell you that I was disrespectful. EVER. That is not me. And I'm going to stop letting YOU get me out of character. But I apologize. So, me and YOU stop having this conversation between us several times. And I have told Stephanie when I sit on this board, it's not personal. This is business. So, I think we need to start taking like personal out of it because it's business. When I ask something that's on this agenda I'm not trying to attack Stephanie. Stephanie is just not that important to me. And neither are you. I'm asking something cause I want to know and it's important for me, that's it. Besides sitting here on this council, I only speak for me, I don't have extra conversations with Stephanie, Ms. Manning, Ms. Brunson, Ms. Perry, Mr. Lawrence. My relationship with you all is STRICTLY business, COUNCIL business, the TOWN of BENTON business. So by asking you something and if you don't know, just say it. There's no harm in not knowing everything. I ask because I don't know. That's it. So, I apologize for being rude but that is SO not like me. So, I'm gonna try and change the way I respond to you. But I would suggest that you do the same. Again, council members I apologize". **Manning:** "I [inaudible] with what Ms. Carr has said. My intentions is to serve the town of Benton and our constituents. And I don't want a contentious relationship with the mayor, with you Mr. Mayor either. But like Ms. Carr and Ms. Perry said that we are all adults and we need to respect each other. And so I too will apologise and I too will control MY emotions; cause I can get emotional concerning what's going on. But I just think the disrespect both ways need to [inaudible]. And you as our leader we're gonna follow. You. We're gonna follow your way but when we have questions we are just doing our jobs". **Mayor:** "I appreciate that. And again you know as I've spoken with you on the phone several times. You're the only one that's ever called and spoken to me. Ms. Brunson has come up here and spoke. And we've had some congenial feelings expressed. And you know the innuendos that come at me from different people, from the audience or wherever it come from because I personally apologize for anything that I may say or act or do. But my nature, where I come from a construction world is so much different than, that's what I said earlier, if I could go back to that world that would be great. But dealing with the town and we got so much going on in the town, and it's frustrating, not only to me and to my clerk, to keep everything in order. You know I went into town today and a lady asked me, "We never had a mayor come in and take care of this kind of business. And I said, 'Well, I'm trying to do what I have to do to get things done in town". And so with all that being said I do apologize and I hope that everybody can genuinely understand that I have no intent to harm and my best concern is Benton. It's always been Benton. It's never been about me or anything else. It's always been about Benton, Louisiana". **Carr:** "In the nine years that I've sat here me and you have NEVER had words. When you and Mr. Friday came to my house, unannounced, I invited y'all in. We had a conversation, and it seem like the minute y'all left you just threw that conversation out the door. I TOLD you that it's not personal. It is business. Stephanie we've never had hard words

spoken between us. So, I'm not really sure what type of time you're on with all of this".

Stephanie: "I don't know what you're talking about 'threw it out the window' cause I didn't..." **Carr:** "I didn't say anything about throwing it out the window but you and the mayor came to my home and we had a great conversation but then when we get to these meetings and we ask you something you seem to like get agitated with us". **Stephanie:** "Because it's 'not personal' when it's insinuated that the rate increase is a 'cover-up for a misuse of funds'? When that's stated in such a broad statement in public and on record without any kind of factual documentation and then it gets carried away on Face Book and every other social media platform out there. Thank you, Ms. Manning. You're shaking your head yes as if you KNOW what I'm talking about. And it's so...it is personal. It is personal. Out of the 18 years that I have been here I have put my life into this job. I live this job. It's not just my job that I go to. I live it. Just like my dad lived it when he was here. And I take PRIDE in my work. There's no misuse of funds. But when it's put out there like that and it spreads like a little cancer out in the public that hurts my reputation and yes I DO take that very personal. Because that was uncalled for to be said in a public meeting. If there was some kind of issue that was grounded and you had factual basis I can understand you saying that. But, nobody had any kind of basis to say that off of and that's where it got me". **Carr:** "Stephanie, my basis was what I was looking at". **Stephanie:** "But it was STILL said". **Carr:** "Your brother. I don't care. It was still your brother". **Stephanie:** "I didn't make the call. I didn't have anything to do with that and Steve told you that". **Carr:** "Steve told me because he was the police". And Stephanie if you all would...that's why we're gonna have to have this, you know, this sit down. Because it's a lot of things that I see on there that's RELATIVES. It's not supposed to be that way. It's RELATIVES." **Stephanie:** "I get it. And I agree. And I told him ahead of time not to use him". **Carr:** "So, I mean, I call it out because it's HERE. And it's not supposed to be. We're not supposed to be using FAMILY. The town is not supposed to be paying family members". **Stephanie:** "I agree". **Carr:** "So that's what I called out. I call out what I see. I told the mayor, he done paid his daughter. I called him out on that". **Stephanie:** "So, that means we're misusing public funds?" **Manning:** "Yes". **Carr:** "As far as I'm concerned. It's unethical. At the least it's unethical". **Stephanie:** I told Steve to not use him in the first place. I had nothing to do with that". **Carr:** "See that's what I'm saying". **Stephanie:** "But now everybody in the public thinks I'm a thief". **Carr:** "Stephanie, it don't matter!" **Stephanie:** "It DOES matter when people are calling me a THIEF online". **Carr:** "It's your brother, sweetie!" **Stephanie:** "I'm done with this [expletive]. Call it".

Mayor: "Lets call this meeting to an order here. We're getting out of hand here. We're getting personal. I think we need to go ahead and make an adjournment. Lets hear it and second it and lets go. **Manning:** I move that the meeting be adjourned". **Carr:** "I second". **Mayor:** "So be it. All say aye". All said 'aye'. Meeting dismissed".

