



JAMES FRIDAY
MAYOR

STEPHANIE SULLIVANT-COLLIER
CAO/ TOWN CLERK

TOWN OF BENTON LOUISIANA

PUBLIC HEARING MINUTES

MAYOR AND BOARD OF ALDERMAN
TOWN OF BENTON

105 SIBLEY STREET, BENTON, BOSSIER PARISH, LOUISIANA
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2025, 6:00 PM

The Town of Benton Council met in a regular legal session on the 10th day of February 2025, at 6:00 p.m., in the Benton Council Chambers, Benton Town Hall, 105 Sibley Street, Benton, Louisiana. Alderman Perry gave the invocation, and Alderman Manning led the pledge. Mayor James Friday called the Public Hearing to order. Stephanie Collier, called the roll, with all members as follows:

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

Others present were Attorney Erwin, Stephanie Collier, Debbie Rios, Officer Mora, and members of the public.

PUBLIC HEARING ITEMS

1. **ORDINANCE 598 of 2025:**

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ARTICLE I, "ADMINISTRATION" OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES, TOWN OF BENTON, LOUISIANA, BY ADDING SECTION 2.8 WHICH SHALL READ "REGULAR MEETINGS OF THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN"

WHEREAS the Board of Aldermen of the Town of Benton desires to amend Article I by adding Section 2-8 of the Benton Municipal Code; and

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WHEREAS, the Board of Aldermen has approved a change to the time of the regular monthly meeting, which is held on the second Monday of each month, the meeting time will be 6:30 PM.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Board of Aldermen of the Town of Benton, Bossier Parish, Louisiana, that the Municipal Code of Benton, Article I, ADMINISTRATION, be amended as follows:

Section 2.8, REGULAR MEETINGS OF THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN:

The Board of Aldermen shall meet regularly in the Municipal Building located at 105 Sibley Street, Benton, on the second Monday of each month at 6:30 PM prevailing time. When any regular meetings of the Board of Alderman fall on a holiday, the meeting shall be held at the same hour on the next succeeding workday, which is not a holiday.

BE FURTHER ORDAINED, all ordinances or parts of ordinances inconsistent or in opposition to the provisions of this ordinance are hereby repealed in their entirety. This ordinance shall take effect after final passage and publication as required by law.

No Comments were made

Motion by Alderman Lawrence, seconded by Alderman Perry to Adjourn Public Hearing

In favor: 4

Opposed: 0

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**REGULAR SESSION
MINUTES
TOWN OF BENTON
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2025, 6:00 PM**

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

Attorney Erwin, Stephanie Collier, Debbie Rios, Officer Mora, and members of the public were also present.

A motion by Alderman Manning, seconded by Alderman Perry, to amend the Regular Session Agenda to add item #7: Resolution 3 of 2025

Public Comments: None

Ayes: Alderman Manning, Alderman Brunson, Alderman Perry, and Alderman Lawrence

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Alderman Carr

A motion by Alderman Lawrence, seconded by Alderman Manning, to approve the agenda as amended.

Public Comments: None

Ayes: Alderman Manning, Alderman Brunson, Alderman Perry, and Alderman Lawrence

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Alderman Carr

Alderman Manning requested that the minutes be corrected to reflect the question she asked about when the packets are to be delivered to the council. Mayor Friday stated those will be corrected

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OLD BUSINESS:

1. Final Vote: Ordinance 596 of 2024:

ANNEXATION

AN ORDINANCE ANNEXING CERTAIN LANDS AND ROADWAYS TO THE TOWN OF BENTON, LOUISIANA: DESCRIBING SAID LAND AND ROADWAYS DECLARING SAME A PART OF THE TOWN OF BENTON, LOUISIANA

BE IT ORDAINED BY the Board of Aldermen of the Town of Benton, Bossier Parish, Louisiana, does hereby declare that the land and existing roadway hereinafter described is contiguous and adjacent to the Town of Benton, and the Parish of Bossier has requested in writing to the Council that said property be annexed to the Town of Benton for permanent maintenance by the town, and

WHEREAS, it appears to the Mayor and the Board of Aldermen of the Town of Benton, Louisiana, that the hereinafter-described property is subject to annexation to the Town of Benton under and pursuant to the provisions of RS 33:172(A), and that 3500 feet of Palmetto Road from the Town limits to north of Lakeview Drive should be annexed and become a part of the Town of Benton, Louisiana.

:

Exhibit A: Map

Exhibit B: Legal Description

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED upon a motion of Alderman Lawrence seconded by Alderman Brunson this Ordinance was introduced and set for Public Hearing and final adoption on the 10th day of February 2025 by the following votes:

Public Comments: None

Ayes: Alderman Manning, Alderman Brunson, Alderman Perry, and Alderman Lawrence

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Alderman Carr

2. Final Vote: ORDINANCE 598 of 2025:

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ARTICLE I, "ADMINISTRATION" OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES, TOWN OF BENTON, LOUISIANA, BY ADDING SECTION 2.8 WHICH SHALL READ "REGULAR MEETINGS OF THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN"

Motion by Alderman Perry, seconded by Alderman Brunson to adopt Ordinance 598 of 2025

Public Comments: None

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Ayes: Alderman Manning, Alderman Brunson, Alderman Perry, and Alderman Lawrence
Nays: None
Abstain: None
Absent: Alderman Carr

NEW BUSINESS

1. **Consider ORDINANCE No. 600 of 2025 (T-4-25)** Introduction and set for public hearing AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 130, ARTICLE 7, SECTION 130-182 OF THE TOWN OF BENTON CODE OF ORDINANCES

BE IT ORDAINED by the Mayor and Board of Alderman of the Town of Benton, Bossier Parish, Louisiana, convened in regular session that Chapter 130-Zoning, Article 7-Zoning Amendments, Section 130-182 be amended to reflect the Zoning Classification of a tract of land being 1.306 acres more or less, from R-2 (Multiple Family Residence District) to a B-3 (Community Business and Central Business District) for a proposed storage, office facility, and restaurant, to be located at 210 Fifth Street, Benton. (Town Council District 2) (Police Jury District 4) on the following described property:

BEING A RESUBDIVISION OF LOTS 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, AND 6 OF BLOCK 28 IN THE TOWN OF BENTON, BOSSIER PARISH, LOUISIANA; AND THE SOUTH HALF OF THE ABANDONED RIGHT OF WAY OF FOURTH STREET BY TOWN OF BENTON ORDINANCE #262 OF 1994; AND THE WESTERN 20' OF THE ABANDONED RIGHT OF WAY OF BOSSIER STREET; AND THE EAST HALF OF THE ABANDONED ALLEY BY TOWN OF BENTON ORDINANCE #144 OF 1983. ALSO LOCATED IN SECTION 29, TOWNSHIP 20 NORTH, RANGE 13 WEST, TOWN OF BENTON, BOSSIER PARISH, LOUISIANA. SAID TRACT BEING MORE FULLY DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS:

BEGINNING AT A FOUND SQUARE TUBING AT THE NORTHEAST CORNER OF LOT 1 OF T.L. CHANCE COMMERCIAL SUBDIVISION UNIT NO. 1, AS RECORDED UNDER INSTRUMENT NUMBER 1325477 OF THE RECORDS OF BOSSIER PARISH, LOUISIANA; RUN THENCE SOUTH 74°34'21" EAST A DISTANCE OF 170.00 FEET, THENCE RUN SOUTH 15°19'23" WEST A DISTANCE OF 335.00 FEET TO THE NORTHERLY RIGHT OF WAY OF FIFTH STREET, THENCE RUN ALONG SAID RIGHT OF WAY NORTH 74°34'21" WEST A DISTANCE OF 170.00 FEET, THENCE RUN NORTH 15°25'03" _EAST A DISTANCE OF 200.00 FEET TO A FOUND 2" IRON PIPE; THENCE RUN NORTH 15°10'59"

EAST A DISTANCE OF 135.00 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING· SAID TRACT CONTAINING APPROXIMATELY 1.306 ACRES.

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Motion by Alderman Lawrence, seconded by Alderman Manning to introduce Ordinance 600 and set for public hearing

Public Comments: None

Ayes: Alderman Manning, Alderman Brunson, Alderman Perry, and Alderman Lawrence

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Alderman Carr

2. **ORDINANCE No. 601 of 2025 (T-1-25) Introduction and set for public hearing**

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

BE IT ORDAINED by the Mayor and Board of Alderman of the Town of Benton, Bossier Parish, Louisiana, convened in regular session that Chapter 130-Zoning, Article 7-Zoning Amendments, Section 130-182 be amended to reflect the Zoning Classification of a tract of land being 1.681 acres more or less, from R-1 (One Family Residence District) to a B-3 (Community Business and Central Business District) for a proposed cheer and tumbling gymnasium, located at 608 Fifth Street, Benton on the following described property:

COMMENCE AT A FOUND ½" IRON PIPE MARKING THE SOUTHEASTERLY CORNER OF LOT No. 1 NEILL ACRES, ON THE NORTHERLY EXISTING APPARENT RIGHT-OF-WAY LINE OF LOUISIANA HIGHWAY NO. 162 (FIFTH STREET) BOSSIER PARISH ASSESSMENT # 103944 LYING NORTH OF FIFTH STREET LOCATED IN THE NORTHWEST ¼ OF SECTION 29, TOWNSHIP 20 NORTH, RANGE 13 WEST OF THE LOUISIANA MERIDIAN, NORTHWESTERN LAND DISTRICT, PARISH OF BOSSIER, STATE OF LOUISIANA; THENCE RUN SOUTH 75°52'16" EAST ALONG SAID APPARENT RIGHT-OF-WAY LINE, A DISTANCE OF 513.87' TO A FOUND 1" IRON ROD FOR A POINT OF BEGINNING; THENCE NORTH 09°46'15" EAST DEPARTING SAID APPARENT RIGHT-OF-WAY LINE, A DISTANCE OF 309.22' TO A SET ½" REBAR WITH YELLOW CAP ON THE NORTHERLY LINE OF LOT 5, BLOCK "C"; THENCE SOUTH 89°46'04" EAST, CONTINUING ALONG SAID NORTHERLY LINE, A DISTANCE OF 190.00' TO A SET ½" REBAR WITH YELLOW CAP; THENCE SOUTH 00°00'00" WEST DEPARTING SAID NORTHERLY LINE OF LOT 5, A DISTANCE OF 365.00' TO A SET ½" REBAR WITH YELLOW CAP ON THE NORTHERLY APPARENT RIGHT-OF-WAY LINE OF SAID HIGHWAY NO. 162; THENCE NORTH 75°52'16" WEST ALONG SAID RIGHT-OF-WAY LINE, A DISTANCE OF 250.04' BACK TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING, CONTAINING 1.681 ACRES, MORE OR LESS AND SUBJECT TO ANY AND ALL SERVITUDES, RIGHTS OF USE, AND/OR RIGHT OF WAY OF RECORD OR USE.

Motion by Alderman Lawrence, seconded by Alderman Perry to introduce Ordinance 601 and set for public hearing

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Public Comments: None

Ayes: Alderman Manning, Alderman Brunson, Alderman Perry, and Alderman Lawrence

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Alderman Carr

Alderman Carr is now counted as present for the remainder of the meeting.

3. ORDINANCE No. 602 OF 2025 (T-9-25) Introduction and set for public hearing

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 130, ARTICLE 7, SECTION 130(G)(2)-182 OF THE TOWN OF BENTON CODE OF ORDINANCES

BE IT ORDAINED by the Mayor and Board of Alderman of the Town of Benton, Bossier Parish, Louisiana, convened in regular session does hereby amend Chapter 130-Zoning, Article 7-Zoning Amendments, Section 130 (g) Legislation Disposition, (2) Reconsideration, to read as follows:

(2) In all cases where property is rezoned and is not used for the purpose for which it was rezoned within a period of one year two years from the date of rezoning, the planning commission shall, upon its own notice, call a public hearing for the purpose of considering changing the zoning classification to that which existed at the time of the original application.

Motion by Alderman Perry, seconded by Alderman Manning to introduce Ordinance 602 and set for public hearing

Public Comments: None

Ayes: Alderman Manning, Alderman Brunson, Alderman Perry, and Alderman Lawrence

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Alderman Carr

Consider approval of alcohol permit renewal for Dollar General:

Motion by Alderman Lawrence, seconded by Alderman Carr to approve the permit renewal

Public Comments: None

Ayes: Alderman Carr, Alderman Manning, Alderman Brunson, Alderman Perry, and Alderman Lawrence

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Absent: None

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4. Consider items to be declared as surplus:

Motion by Alderman Lawrence, seconded by Alderman Manning to approve the items listed as surplus

Public Comments: None

Ayes: Alderman Carr, Alderman Manning, Alderman Brunson, Alderman Perry, and Alderman Lawrence

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Absent: None

5. Consider approval of month-to-date budgets and financials:

Motion by Alderman Carr, seconded by Alderman Manning to approve the month-to-date financials

Public Comments: None

Ayes: Alderman Carr, Alderman Manning, Alderman Brunson, Alderman Perry, and Alderman Lawrence

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Absent: None

Agenda amendment item Added :

6. Resolution 3 of 2025 Authorizing the Mayor to sign a service agreement for lobbyist services.

BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Aldermen of the Town of Benton in regular and legal session on this 10th day of February 2025, that it does hereby accept the proposal for Lobbyist Services for the 2025 Legislative Session for Caroling Mladenka.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Aldermen does hereby authorize the mayor to execute and administer the agreement in connection with said service agreement. This resolution was offered by

Motion by Alderman Carr, seconded by Alderman Manning to approve the mayor to sign documents for the service agreement

Public Comments: Alderman Manning requested the details of what is the service agreement Mayor Friday provided that the agreement is for a total amount of 10,800.00 annually to be paid monthly of 900.00.

Ayes: Alderman Carr, Alderman Manning, Alderman Brunson, Alderman Perry, and Alderman Lawrence

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Absent: None

Alderman Carr presented Chinetta Neal a Years of Service award for 20 years of service and stated that she is very proud of Ms. Neal for her service to the Town of Benton.

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Motion by Alderman Carr, seconded by Alderman Lawrence to adjourn the Regular Session
Ayes: Alderman Carr, Alderman Manning, Alderman Brunson, Alderman Perry, and Alderman Lawrence
Nays: None
Abstain: None
Absent: None

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