



**TOWN OF BENTON  
MAYOR AND BOARD OF ALDERMEN  
105 SIBLEY STREET  
BENTON, LOUISIANA  
MONDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2025, 6:30 PM**

**REGULAR SESSION MINUTES  
AMENDED**

The Town of Benton met in a regular legal session on the 8<sup>th</sup> day of December at 6:30 PM in the Benton Council Chambers, Benton Town Hall, 105 Sibley Street, Benton, Louisiana. Mayor James Friday called the meeting to order. Deborah Rios called the roll with all members as follows:

Alderman Jackie Carr	PRESENT
Alderman Tiffany Manning	PRESENT
Alderman Tammy Brunson	ABSENT
Alderman Arshundae Perry	ABSENT (Came in late right after roll call) PRESENT
Alderman Terry Lawrence	PRESENT

Others present were Attorney Chancellor Nerren and Debbie Rios

A motion was made by Alderman Carr and seconded by Alderman Lawrence to move all matters scheduled for the December 8<sup>th</sup> PUBLIC HEARING MEETING and the REGULAR SESSION MEETING to MONDAY, DECEMBER 15, 2025, AT 6:30 PM. Mayor Friday called for public comments.

Manning questioned the mayor, asking for a reason to reschedule the meeting. The mayor stated that Mrs. Collier was unable to attend due to a Fire District meeting. Manning stated that Mrs. Collier's priority should be the Town meeting. She also stated that a quorum is present and there is no reason the meeting could not have been held tonight. Manning stated that when Mrs. Collier sent the message to the council, it noted a scheduling conflict. Manning stated as the chief executive you don't have answers. The Mayor stated that he has answered the question and explained it to her just a few minutes ago. Alderman Carr stated that she has been on the Board for a while, and Ms. Debbie is here, and she did a wonderful job last time. There are specific reason as to why the mayor can reschedule a meeting. And the Town Clerk couldn't be here is not one of them.

105 Sibley Street / P O Box 1390  
Benton, Louisiana 71006  
(318) 965-2781 / (318)965-2577 fax  
[www.townofbentonlouisiana.webs.com](http://www.townofbentonlouisiana.webs.com) website

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.

Attorney Nerren stated that there are a number of reasons that you can reschedule meetings. In order to unilaterally reschedule one there has to be some sort of emergency. But the whole reason we are here tonight is because we are not unilaterally moving the meeting, so I just want to make sure that everybody is clear...

Alderman Carr asked the mayor ... Attorney Nerren stated let me finish this really quick. Both you and Manning mentioned emergencies. That is when mayors unilaterally move meetings when an emergency arises, and meetings can be moved by a vote of the board, and that is what we are doing tonight.

Alderman Carr asked Attorney Nerren if he was aware the mayor wanted to move the meeting. He said that he was not but the minute he became aware I reached out to him to let him know the proper way to do it. Like I said the proper way to do it when its not an emergency is to bring it to the board for a vote. Alderman Carr stated that she has a problem with that because the email attorney was copied on the email Mrs. Collier sent out. Attorney Nerren stated the first time he became aware was an email from Manning, and I responded immediately. I spoke to the mayor. Alderman Carr restated her point that just because Mrs. Collier could not be her is not a reason for this council to move the meeting. Alderman Carr stated that is what I have a problem with. They are out of order and they dont have control to change a meeting. Manning asked why is there not a business agenda so we can conduct the town business. Mayor Friday stated that Mrs. Collier is the only one who can answer questions. Manning states she wants to speak to the Ethics.

With no further comments having been made, the following votes were recorded:

AYES: Alderman Lawrence

NAYS: Alderman Carr, Alderman Manning, Alderman Perry

ABSENT: Alderman Brunson

ABSTAIN: None

Motion Failed to move all matters to the December 15<sup>th</sup> meeting.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

A motion was made by Alderman Manning and seconded by Alderman Lawrence to adjourn the meeting. Meeting adjourned.

105 Sibley Street / P O Box 1390  
Benton, Louisiana 71006  
(318) 965-2781 / (318)965-2577 fax  
[www.townofbentonlouisiana.webs.com](http://www.townofbentonlouisiana.webs.com) website

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.

105 Sibley Street / P O Box 1390  
Benton, Louisiana 71006  
(318) 965-2781 / (318)965-2577 fax  
[www.townofbentonlouisiana.webs.com](http://www.townofbentonlouisiana.webs.com) website

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.