

**City of Benton City
Regular Council Meeting Minutes
February 3rd, 2015**

CALL TO ORDER – Mayor Carnahan called the February 3rd, 2015 Regular Council meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. (248/2/113*Audio recording begins)

PRESENTATION OF THE COLORS –Councilwoman Meredith led the Council and audience in the Pledge of Allegiance. (252/1/434*)

ROLL CALL – (264/3/471*) Council Members Present –

**Connie Meredith
Linda Lehman
Mary Lettau
Lisa Stade
Michelle McLeod**

City Staff Present –

**Stephanie Haug, City Clerk/Treasurer
Paula Kauer, General Clerk**

Other Professionals Present –

**Eric Ferguson, City Attorney, Kerr Law Group (In at 7:03 p.m.)
Alan Rainey, City Engineer, Spink Engineering LLC
Larry Howell, President, Benton City EDC**

READING AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES (273/3/016*)

- **REGULAR MEETING JANUARY 20th, 2015**

Councilwoman Meredith: Mr. Mayor, I make a motion to approve the Minutes of January 20th, 2015.

Councilwoman Lehman: I second.

MOTION #1- C. C. Meredith moved and C. L. Lehman seconded to approve the Minutes of the January 20th, 2015 Regular Council Meeting as presented.

VOICE VOTE #1- C. L. Lehman, C. L. Stade, C. M. Lettau, C. C. Meredith, C. M. McLeod
ALL YEAS. Motion carried.

OPENING REMARKS, “HOUSEKEEPING” ITEMS, EXECUTIVE SESSION REQUESTS, ETC. –
(284/1/601*)

Councilwoman Lehman – Like to add discussion of letter received from Jack Davis

Mayor Carnahan – Been taken care – Doesn't go thru Council - Goes to Code Enforcement

Councilwoman Meredith – What is the procedure?

Ms. Haug – Letter went to Council for awareness – It also went to Mayor and myself – Forwarded to Code Officer for Code Enforcement to follow up on – Making progress - Working with them to take care of issues

(7:03 p.m. – Eric Ferguson arrives)

Councilwoman Lehman – Not an isolated issue – I live down there

Mayor Carnahan – Once it goes into Code Enforcement – Separate issues – Not the issue now – Goes to Code Enforcement – It's in there – Let's move on

Councilwoman Stade – Recommending if someone finds a similar issue – Report that to City Hall – This is another occurrence of this – Code Enforcement deals with

Mayor Carnahan – Yes – That is the procedure - Administrative decision – Not Council decision

Councilwoman Meredith - Once in Code Enforcer hands

Mayor Carnahan – Then it goes thru court (*inaudible*) – Why we have two separate groups – Council does not have anything to do with Code Enforcement – That’s why they have separate attorney

Ms. Haug – If Council would like to read up on actual process – Section 9 – Either 9.48 or 9.50 – Outlines what procedures are – Nuisances considered violations – Process – Basically giving citizens opportunity for voluntary abatement – If fail to correct issue – Then issued violation including fine – Could progress further into City having to do abatement and property owner having to pay for abatement

Councilwoman Stade – Add for discussion – Expanding what Sheriff Report include

Mayor Carnahan – Can do in General Comments

APPROVAL OF AGENDA – (377/1/188*)

Councilwoman Stade: Mr. Mayor, I move to approve the Agenda as amended, as written.

Councilwoman Meredith: Second.

MOTION #2- C. L. Stade moved and C. C. Meredith seconded to approve the February 3rd, 2015 Agenda as presented.

VOICE VOTE #2- C. L. Stade, C. M. Lettau, C. C. Meredith, C. M. McLeod – YEAS; C. L. Lehman – NAY. Motion carried.

1. VISITOR COMMENTS – None (386/2/111*)

REGULAR REPORTS

1. EDC REPORT (395/3/369*) Larry Howell, President, Benton City EDC - Written report provided

Councilwoman Lehman – Selected awnings for Chamber building – One selected accent colors – Work with existing colors in town – Two 7th graders attended – Looking for project – Help with warehouse – Mary Hanlan – Painted Branches & Vines – Window/Doors – False grates – Put together design plan

2. STAFF REPORTS - (607/1/276*) Stephanie Haug, City Clerk/Treasurer - None

3. ENGINEER REPORT (610/2/167*) Alan Rainey, City Engineer, Spink Engineering LLC - Skate Park Land – Met with adjacent property owners regarding land swap – Fence has been in same location – Will get back - Legion Park Improvements – Basketball cost estimates – Almost full court

Mayor Carnahan – Just estimates now – If Council willing to do this – We can go out for bids – Do we have money for this?

Ms. Haug – In that Park Fund – Budgeted \$15,000 specifically for Legion Park for upgrade – Have \$25,000 just for general park upgrades for all parks

Councilwoman McLeod – Affect skate park money?

Ms. Haug – No

Mayor Carnahan – Skate board park going to have to be a grant – Have \$40k for skate park now – Existing skate board park built with grant money and volunteers

Councilwoman Stade – Plan met with approval – City would put down some money – Should be some allotted towards that if we agree

Mayor Carnahan – I mentioned the existing park was hardly any money from the City – Some matching money – May have to have it for engineering and something like this

Councilwoman Stade – Legion allotted \$15,000 - \$40,000 was to be spread amongst other parks – But nothing specific for each park

Ms. Haug – No - \$40,000 for skate park - \$15,000 set aside for this project - \$25,000 set aside for general park improvements – Project overage for this – Unsure of cost – Any other park improvements outside what’s set aside specifically for projects

Mayor Carnahan – Are we in consensus on going out for bid for basketball court?

Councilwoman Meredith – Would like to get a bid

Mayor Carnahan – Floor cracking up - Needs to be replaced – New concrete and double the size – Have consensus - Have Engineer go out for bids

4. COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORTS (764/1/413*)

Councilwoman Lehman – None

Councilwoman Lettau – None

Councilwoman McLeod - None

Mayor Carnahan – None

Councilwoman Meredith – None

Councilwoman Stade – None

ITEMS FOR APPROVAL:

1. RESOLUTION #2015-01 – WATER/SEWER BOND CALL - (769/4/178*)

Ms. Haug – Explanation of Water/Sewer Bond

Councilwoman Lehman: Mr. Mayor, I move to approve Resolution No. 2015-01, a resolution authorizing issuance of Notice of Redemption of the Water & Sewer Revenue Bonds Series 1997; and authorizing bond redemption by the City Clerk.

Councilwoman Lettau: I second.

MOTION #3- C. L. Lehman moved and C. M. Lettau seconded to approve Resolution #2015-01, a resolution of the City of Benton City, Washington, authorizing issuance of Notice of Redemption of the Water & Sewer Revenue Bonds Series 1997; and authorizing bond redemption by the City Clerk.

ROLL CALL VOTE #3- C. L. Stade, C. M. Lettau, C. C. Meredith, C. M. McLeod, C. L. Lehman
ALL YEAS. Motion carried.

2. FIRST READING – ORDINANCE AMENDING MAYOR’S SALARY - (828/1/747*)

Councilwoman Meredith: Mr. Mayor, I move to approve on the First Reading, an ordinance of the City of Benton City, Washington, amending Benton City Municipal Code Chapter 2.28, entitled “Officials’ Salaries.”

Councilwoman Stade: Second.

MOTION #4- C. C. Meredith moved and C. L. Stade seconded to approve on the First Reading, an ordinance of the City of Benton City, Washington, amending Benton City Municipal Code Chapter 2.28, entitled “Officials’ Salaries.”

VOICE VOTE #4- C. C. Meredith, C. L. Stade, C. M. Lettau – YEAS; C. M. McLeod, C. L. Lehman – NAYS. Motion carried.

3. **VOUCHERS** (846/3/394*)

Councilwoman Stade: Mr. Mayor, I move to approve payment of Claim check numbers 36672 through 36684 with EFTs as listed in the amount of \$56,529.55, on this 3rd of February, 2015.

Councilwoman Lettau: I second.

MOTION #5– C. L. Stade moved and C. M. Lettau seconded for the City Council of the City of Benton City, Washington, to hereby authorize payment of Claim check numbers 36672 thru 36684 with EFTs as listed in the amount of \$56,529.55, this 3rd day of February, 2015.

**ROLL CALL VOTE #5–C. L. Lehman, C. C. Meredith, C. L. Stade, C. M. McLeod, C. M. Lettau
ALL YEAS. Motion carries.**

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION (896/2/601*)

Councilwoman Stade – Speaking with Security and SWAT Team officers – Information that benefits families in Benton City – Youth empowerment support – Pilot program – More detail in Sheriff's Report – Can we ask Sheriff – Have data to help

Mayor Carnahan – Ask Sheriff next week

Councilwoman Stade – Substance Abuse – Educational – Parenting – Language skills - Concern for health of child – Attempted suicide example – Wanted to see if Council okay with us getting data about specifics – It's legal – Open public records

GENERAL COUNCIL COMMENTS – (967/4/110*)

Councilwoman McLeod – Mosquito Meeting – Budget savings – Doing well – Very good bids on new vehicles – Learning about mosquitos in New Orleans

Councilwoman Stade – Ask if I could speak with attorney regarding Richland, Pasco, Kennewick, Prosser – Get portion of Public Safety Tax

Mr. Ferguson – May be because contracting with County – May be getting your share

Councilwoman Meredith – Timeline for moratorium

Ms. Haug – Planning Commission met last Wednesday – Public Hearing – February 25th, 2015 – Notice in Water/Sewer bills – Hoping for public input – Get opinions – Reviewing draft regulations for marijuana establishments

Mr. Ferguson – Supreme Court update – Fife case – Rumor – Legislature will have come to end right after hearing – Long session – Looks like Supreme Court going to hold off and see if Legislature does something with it

Councilwoman Lehman – Heard on news – Cities getting larger portion

Mr. Ferguson – Many bills submitted – One you're referring to is for Revenue distribution – Up to 15% - General Fund – Government counter argument – Cities received a lot of money through General Fund – Already receiving more than 1% - Six bills currently in committee

Councilwoman McLeod – Effect on moratorium? Deadline to meet – No enough information

Mr. Ferguson – Moratorium Statute currently under is very Strong statute – Built for this dilemma

Mr. Jack Davis – 506 Carol – Met with Lloyd and JB – Past week – Notice a bit of action – Thank you very much - Appreciate it

ADJOURNMENT – Mayor Carnahan (1227/3/791*)

Councilwoman Meredith: Mr. Mayor, I make a motion to, that we adjourn.

Councilwoman Lettau: I second.

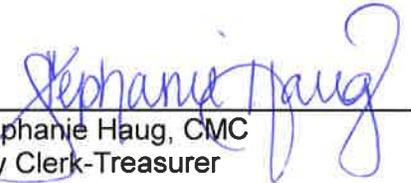
MOTION #6– C. C. Meredith moved and C. M. Lettau seconded to adjourn the February 3rd, 2015 Regular Council Meeting at 7:32 p.m.

VOICE VOTE #6–C. L. Lehman, C. M. Lettau, C. C. Meredith, C. L. Stade, C. M. McLeod
ALL YEAS. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 7:32 p.m. (1232/3/958*)



Lloyd Carnahan
Mayor, City of Benton City



Stephanie Haug, CMC
City Clerk-Treasurer

Date: 2-18-15