

**City of Benton City
Regular Council Meeting Minutes
September 15th, 2015**

CALL TO ORDER – Mayor Carnahan called the September 15th, 2015 Regular Council meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. (00:00:08*Audio recording begins)

PRESENTATION OF THE COLORS – Councilwoman Lettau led the Council and audience in the Pledge of Allegiance. (00:00:14*)

ROLL CALL (00:00:39*) Council Members Present –

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

Council Members Absent –
Linda Lehman

City Staff Present –
Stephanie Haug, City Clerk/Treasurer

Other Professionals Present –
**Alan Rainey, Spink Engineering LLC
Capt. Clay Vannoy, Benton Co. Sheriff's Office
Larry Howell, President, Benton City E.D.C.**

Other Professionals Absent –
Eric Ferguson, Kerr Law Group

Councilwoman Meredith: Mr. Mayor, I make a motion that we excuse Linda Lehman from the meeting tonight.

Councilwoman McLeod: I second.

MOTION #1- C. M. McLeod moved and C. M. McLeod seconded to excuse Councilwoman Lehman from the September 15th, 2015 Regular Council Meeting for work related reasons.

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

READING AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES (00:01:25*)

- REGULAR MEETING SEPTEMBER 1ST, 2015

Councilwoman McLeod: Mr. Mayor, I ask that we approve Minutes as presented.

Councilwoman Meredith: I'll second.

MOTION #2- C. M. McLeod moved and C. C. Meredith seconded to approve the Minutes of the September 1st, 2015 Regular Council Meeting as presented.

VOICE VOTE #2- C. M. McLeod, C. C. Meredith, C. M. Lettau, C. L. Stade
ALL YEAS. Motion carried.

OPENING REMARKS, "HOUSEKEEPING" ITEMS, EXECUTIVE SESSION REQUESTS, ETC. –
(00:01:51*) - None

APPROVAL OF AGENDA – (00:01:58*)

Councilwoman Stade: Mr. Mayor, I make a motion that we approve the Minutes, the Agenda as presented for September (inaudible)...

Councilwoman Meredith: I'll second it.

MOTION #3- C. L. Stade moved and C. C. Meredith seconded to approve the Agenda of the September 15th, 2015 Regular Council Meeting as presented.

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

VISITOR COMMENTS – None at this time – See below (00:02:36*)

REGULAR REPORTS

- 1. SHERIFF'S REPORT - (00:02:36*) Capt. Clay Vannoy, Benton Co. Sheriff's Office - July Report**
268 Calls for service vs. 349 in 2014 - 26 Case Offenses vs. 26 in 2014 - 30 Infraction Offenses Issued – Gone last month – Slight decrease – Gang team active in Benton City – Narcotics Team as well – Not an epidemic but are issues – Other – Not a lot of activity – Quiet summer – County-wide – Calls are down – Most activity – Proactive – Less reactive – 1993 – Benton City was a different town – Benton City Daze on Saturday – Benton County Sheriff and KPD officers – Help them with boat races
Councilwoman Meredith – In county – White solid fence with cameras on Horne Road by E. Highland
Captain Vannoy – I'm sure guys are aware of it
Councilwoman Meredith – Never been there before
Councilwoman McLeod – Bicycle police too?
Captain Vannoy – Yes
Councilwoman McLeod – Suicide? Adult or child
Captain Vannoy – Don't believe it was a child – Has increased Tri-Cities wide in last year – Eight police shootings – All but one – Suicide by cop – Prevalent
Councilwoman Stade – Crossing guards – Down from Methodist Church – Dropping off far side
Mayor Carnahan – Not supposed to park on safety walkway – Spoke with Mr. Haun – Big trucks and parking – Need to police area
Councilwoman Stade – Enforceable if posted
Captain Vannoy – Yes – If posted – Where Child Drop Off authorized
Mayor Carnahan – Handle thru school
Councilwoman Meredith – Teddy Bear Newsletter
Councilwoman McLeod - Semis ripping thru town by bridge at 45 mph at 3 a.m.
Captain Vannoy – Will do what we can – Will let WSP know
Councilwoman McLeod – Ripping thru town – Alarming
Captain Vannoy – 200 truck stops in last few months
- 2. STAFF REPORTS – (00:13:24*) Stephanie Haug, City Clerk/Treasurer - Code Report – In Packets**
Councilwoman McLeod – Upset regarding D.O.A. – Anything done to owners? Awesome follow up
Ms. Haug – My understanding – Most D.O.A.s unidentifiable – Keeps record for future inquiries – JB follows up on Animal Welfare calls – Food, water and shelter
Councilwoman Meredith – Building permits – 29 of those?
Mayor Carnahan – Yes for three months – July, August and September
- 3. ENGINEER REPORT - (00:15:49*) Alan Rainey, City Engineer, Spink Engineering LLC**
- City Park Project – Working on drawing – Less groundwork that first intended – First meeting in October
- 4. COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORTS - (00:17:04*)**
Councilwoman McLeod – Mosquito Control Board – Working on budget – Two board members leaving – Bought a copier – 19 Seasonal employees – Tires – Excited by 3,966 tires collected – KNDU clips – Mosquito Control information – New website – Public relations event – Hogs & Dogs – New janitorial bid went out - Durashine won bid – Fogger surplus for sale - \$4,500 or best offer

Councilwoman Lettau – None

Councilwoman Lehman – Absent

Councilwoman Meredith – None

Councilwoman Stade – Narrowed down to two firms to hire general manager for Benton Franklin Transit – October meeting to be held in Denver

Mayor Carnahan – Benton Franklin Council of Governments – Working on Budget – Stay about the same – Board Meeting – Friday – Small Cities

VISITOR COMMENTS – Continues (00:21:02*) **Heather Duncan, Benton City Chamber of Commerce** – Luncheon – Paul D. Kasey – Thursday – Work/Life Balance – BC Daze – Friday Night Kick-off – 4 p.m. to 9 p.m. – Red Mountain RV Rentals – Saturday – Events all day

ITEMS FOR APPROVAL:

1. RESOLUTION #2015-16 – UPDATING BENTON CITY’S STANDARD SPECIFICATIONS (00:25:54*)

Councilwoman Meredith: Mr. Mayor, I move to approve Resolution #2015-16, a resolution of the City of Benton City, Washington, amending the City of Benton City Standard Drawings and Specifications for public works construction.

Councilwoman McLeod: Second it.

MOTION #4- C. C. Meredith moved and C. M. McLeod seconded to approve Resolution #2015-16, a resolution of the City of Benton City, Washington, amending the City of Benton City’s Standard Drawings and Specifications for public works construction.

VOICE VOTE #4- C. M. McLeod, C. L. Stade, C. M. Lettau, C. C. Meredith
ALL YEAS. Motion carried.

2. AWARD BID – ARCHIE BORDEN DRAINAGE PROJECT - (00:31:08*)

Alan Rainey, City Engineer, Spink Engineering LLC – Explanation of park drainage project

Councilwoman Meredith: Mr. Mayor, I move to award the Archie Borden Park Drainage project base bid plus Alternate 1 to Sharpe & Prezler Construction in an amount not to exceed \$25,379.82.

Councilwoman Lettau: Second.

MOTION #5- C. C. Meredith moved and C. M. Lettau seconded to award the Archie Borden Park Drainage Project base bid plus Alternate 1 to Sharpe & Prezler Construction in an amount not to exceed \$25,379.82.

ROLL CALL VOTE #5- C. L. Stade, C. M. Lettau, C. C. Meredith, C. M. McLeod
ALL YEAS. Motion carried.

3. VARIANCE APPLICATION – 616 BOTAKA LOOP – (00:39:29*)

Stephanie Haug, City Clerk/Treasurer – Explanation of Variance Application

Councilwoman Lettau: Mr. Mayor, I move to approve the Variance Application for construction of a covered patio off the back of house located at 616 Botaka Loop, as recommended by the Planning Commission.

Councilwoman Meredith: I’ll second.

MOTION #6- C. M. Lettau moved and C. C. Meredith seconded to approve the Variance Application for construction of covered patio off the back of house located at 616 Botaka Loop, as recommended by the City of Benton City Planning Commission.

VOICE VOTE #6- C. C. Meredith, C. M. McLeod, C. L. Stade, C. M. Lettau

4. VOUCHERS (00:41:09*)

Councilwoman Meredith: I move to approve payment of Claim check numbers 27114 thru 27143 with EFTs as listed in the amount of \$45,327.42 and Payroll check numbers 27071, 27072, 27106 thru 27113 with EFTs as listed in the amount of \$48,338.90 this 15th day of September 2015.

Councilwoman Lettau: I second.

MOTION #7– C. C. Meredith 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 27114 thru 27143 with EFTs as listed in the amount of \$45,327.42 and Payroll Check numbers 27071, 27072, 27016 thru 27113 with EFTs as listed in the amount of \$48,338.90 this 15th day of September, 2015.

**ROLL CALL VOTE #7– C. M. McLeod, C. C. Meredith, C. M. Lettau, C. L. Stade
ALL YEAS. Motion carries.**

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION (00:42:32*)

Councilwoman Stade – Regarding Skate Park – Not unanimous – What items of concern or opposition are there – Any way to get data to prove how many people use it – How it affects the youth – How helps City – Preemptive at October meeting – Would like to know why to alleviate concerns or opposition to it – When talking about keeping money in fund for improvements – Some concern regarding putting it towards roads – Divvy it up – Why should money comes from skate park budget

Councilwoman Lettau – Haven't come to workshop on budget – May well be the case where we slice and dice other things to – We need to be careful how we use our citizens' money – Not that I don't want addition or improvement in skate park – Being very cautious how we use money and budget it – Not going to hand over that much money into park without looking at other expenditures we have – Very cautious – Want to spend our people's money *nicely wisely. SMFD*

Councilwoman Stade – I agree – Have heard discussion about how little people use it – It's not that important – There are other things for kids to do – If I could address any of those things – Be prepared when disapproval comes up in October budget workshop

Mayor Carnahan – Thought about it too – Notebook for children to sign and make comments about it – Weatherproof box – Will talk to Maintenance about that

Councilwoman Stade – Or ask at the school – Other factor is feel like anything dealing with money – Need to spend wisely – Some of us say "No" no matter what it is – Platform is "I don't think any more money should be spent" and it's always "no" – Recognize on roads and sewer – Problem – No enough money in budget – Few other things where we didn't have enough money in the budget – Taken it from another place – If we would have taken money from the skate board park and then still proposed we need \$25,000 – We would have had to take it from someplace else – Because it rose to the priority level due to flood – Thankfully we didn't take it from Roads – No money in that budget – If the money hadn't been in there – We would have said "Well, it has to be fixed!" – Would have taken it somewhere else – Now its \$25,000 less and has \$15,000 in it from \$40,000

Councilwoman McLeod – You're correct – Last time taken was from \$35,000 we put back – Realize more important things – Need to consider children and young people that are using it – Bringing their children – Really not a lot to do here – Compared to Richland – Our skate Park should be commended – Richland Skate Park having some serious problems we are not having – Easy to say "Oh, that's too much money!" and "We're wasting our funds!" – But are we really wasting them? So easy to take from the Skate Park because we find it so frivolous – How are we going to get it back – Once spent it is gone – Now we have to spend it because of erosion – Really need to invest in these children – Easy to take money out of General Park Fund for whatever the majority of us think it the correct way to spend it – Perhaps we're not always right – Think we really need to consider how we can regenerate these funds – Little children came here – To little children that sounded like a lot of money – They expected for us to help them – They are citizens even though they're children

Councilwoman Stade – Just a drop in the bucket – Have so many students say “Ms. Stade, when are you going to have a meeting where we can get together and share ideas?” It’s not just the five that were here five times – Its really representational a lot more – On the news – One of key factors when coming up with plans for what could be done with Benton City Pilot Project – No problem getting input about who uses it and why – If you came to Skate Board Park demonstration with those that started it – Amazing event – Lots of people – Great feedback – Same day as car show

Councilwoman Meredith – Didn’t say we would never spend the money – Have a budget – Never said against Skate Park – Diversify – That’s what we need to do – We only have so much land – Found out to do the other part is astronomically expensive – To put a wall up was astronomically expensive – Then start budgeting – Now we have to go backwards in time because we have an issue that needs repair – Just like in your home – It’s called budgeting

Councilwoman McLeod – That’s why we all said yes – Also talked to the mayor – Mentioned wooden fence lengthwise with the cement foundation and metal poles that could be reinforced with broken skateboards as a memorial – Artistic – Would sound proof that barrier – Considerably less money – Also brought up – Son suggested this – Cement less expensive – To make it rounded up on edges since we don’t have an abundance of property – We could take what we have and make it better – Around the edges – Not going to take great deal down the road to improve – Just need to figure out cheapest way – When they’re down there – Not doing drugs – Not drinking beer – They’re down where we can see them – Is a benefit to our community

Councilwoman Stade – Just some things to consider when go to budget – Think in terms of how we need to subtract – And just think in terms of adding – Seems like once it’s gone – Hard to get permission to have it added back

GENERAL COUNCIL COMMENTS – None (00:51:33*)

ADJOURNMENT – Mayor Carnahan (00:51:33*)

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

Councilwoman McLeod: Second it.

MOTION #8– C. C. Meredith moved and C. M. McLeod seconded to adjourn the September 15th, 2015 Regular Council Meeting at 7:52 p.m.

**VOICE VOTE #8– C. C. Meredith, C. M. McLeod, C. L. Stade, C. M. Lettau
ALL YEAS. Motion carried.**

Meeting adjourned at 7:52 p.m. (00:51:44*Audio recording ends)


Lloyd Carnahan
Mayor, City of Benton City


Stephanie Haug, CMC
City Clerk-Treasurer

Date: 10/7/15