

**City of Benton City
Regular Council Meeting Minutes
November 24th, 2015**

CALL TO ORDER – Mayor Carnahan called the November 24th, 2015 Regular Council meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. (01:10:28* Audio recording begins)

PRESENTATION OF THE COLORS – Councilwoman Meredith led the Council and audience in the Pledge of Allegiance. (01:10:23*)

ROLL CALL (01:09:59*)

Council Members Present –

**Connie Meredith
Linda Lehman
Mary Lettau**

Council Members Absent –

Lisa Stade (Excused)
Michelle McLeod (Excused) 

City Staff Present –

Stephanie Haug, City Clerk/Treasurer

Other Professionals Present –

**Caleb Stromstad, City Engineer, Spink Engineering LLC
Eric Ferguson, City Attorney, Kerr Law Group**

Other Professionals Absent –

Capt. Clay Vannoy, Benton County Sheriff's Office

Councilwoman Lettau: I make a motion that we excuse Lisa.

Councilwoman Lehman: Second.

MOTION #1- C. M. Lettau moved and C. L. Lehman seconded to excuse Councilwoman Stade from the November 24th, 2015 Regular Council Meeting due to being out of town.

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

READING AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES (01:09:17*) - REGULAR MEETING NOVEMBER 3RD, 2015

Councilwoman Meredith: Mr. Mayor, I make a motion for the Minutes from November 3rd, 2015.

Councilwoman Lehman: I second.

MOTION #2- C. C. Meredith moved and C. L. Lehman seconded to approve the Minutes of the November 3rd, 2015 Regular Council Meeting as presented.

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

OPENING REMARKS, "HOUSEKEEPING" ITEMS, EXECUTIVE SESSION REQUESTS, ETC. –

(01:08:56*) None

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA (01:08:49*)

Councilwoman Lehman: I have some changes that I'd like to request on, on the Agenda.

Mayor Carnahan: Added?

Councilwoman Lehman: Nope. I want to postponed Items 3 and 4. Those are items that I have requested to be on the Agenda tonight, but I haven't had time to really go through them properly so I'd like to postpone them.

Mayor Carnahan: Okay, three and four you want to postpone until two weeks from now? Or the first meeting in December?

Councilwoman Lehman: Two weeks or the first of the year. At least two weeks, at least two weeks.

Mayor Carnahan - These are actually your items - Why don't you wait until the first of the year?

Councilwoman Lehman: Sounds good to me. Perfect!

Mayor Carnahan: I think we can take and approve the Agenda minus the two we're postponing until the first of the year.

Councilwoman Lehman: I do have one announcement; I could do that under the special (inaudible) if that would be alright?

Mayor Carnahan: Okay, I have a motion to approve the Agenda as stated minus the items 3 & 4.

Councilwoman Meredith: Mr. Mayor, I make a motion to approve the Agenda for November 24th as amended.

Councilwoman Lettau: I second.

MOTION #3- C. C. Meredith moved and C. M. Lettau seconded to approve the Agenda of the November 24th, 2015 Regular Council Meeting as amended.

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

VISITOR COMMENTS – (01:07:14*)

Heather Duncan, Benton City E.D.C. – Saturday – Small Business Saturday – Hunt for Elfie – Prizes – 10 to 2 – Santa on hand for pictures – Shop downtown Benton City – WinterFest - December 12th

REGULAR REPORTS

- 1. SHERIFF REPORT (01:06:08*)** – In Packet - **October 2015:** 314 Calls for Service vs. 227 in 2013 - 32 Case Offenses vs. 33 in 2013 - 30 Infraction Offenses Issued
- 2. STAFF REPORTS – (01:06:04*)** **Stephanie Haug, City Clerk/Treasurer** - In packets - Code Report - Treasurer Report
- 3. ENGINEER REPORT (01:05:58*)** **Caleb Stromstad, City Engineer, Spink Engineering LLC** – No T.I.B. funds were awarded – Put in for pavement preservation – Overlay on Neptune north of town – No money came in for that
- 4. COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORTS (01:05:00*)** No reports

***** SPECIAL PRESENTATION – COMMUNITY ACTION CONNECTIONS *****

(Postponed until December 15th, 2015)

ITEMS FOR APPROVAL:

- 1. PUBLIC HEARING – 2016 FINAL BUDGET (01:04:46*)**

Ms. Haug – Overview of 2016 Final Budget

Mayor Carnahan: I am now closing the regular council meeting and opening it to the public for the, any questions on the City budget.

*** Public Hearing begins at 7:07 p.m. ***

Heather Duncan – Not City resident – Resident of the area - Not looked at budget – Heard there was consideration of increasing allocation to the E.D.C. to \$40,000 – Then reducing it back to \$35,000 – Would like to encourage Council to push forward with increase to \$40,000 - Been at \$35,000 for about ten years – Just like everything else – Cost of doing business and making things happen continue to rise – Don't know how much in budget for parks improvements – Encourage you to allocate as much there as possible – One of things that adds to quality of life in our community – Need for upgrades - City Park and Archie Borden Skate Park

**** Public Hearing ends at 7:09 p.m. ***

Mayor Carnahan: I now close the Public Hearing at 7:09 and reopen the City Council Meeting at 7:09. Discussion on the budget?

Councilwoman Lehman: Yes, I have a couple things that I want to bring up; I think we discussed the \$250,000 Line Item last time and I would like to change that. I don't mind having some money going towards that, but I think that all our other needs, right now, that we should not put all of that money into that fund. Rather, I would, I have a number of, several things that I think, it's my opinion, and I hope the other council members will speak up and I think we have a need for more roads and sidewalk improvements, sewer lines. Two things that I really would like to push for; number one is the \$15,000 for a grant writer. This woman has returned \$15.00 for every dollar that's been spent by PMH and City of Prosser and Port of Benton and she comes highly recommended. I have met with her. Think that she was planning to come in our December meetings so that everyone could meet her at that point, but anyway, I would like to urge that and secondly, I would like to urge...

Mayor Carnahan – One point at a time – First point - \$250,000 for City Hall – This City Hall – Too much rain – Gets mold – Almost lost it two years ago – Any remodeling done – Have to bring it up to ADA Standards - Need new City Hall – Is opportunity for money from County fund – If Council and Commissioners agree to splitting it – It could be split eight or nine ways – Every one of the cities and the port commission would get roughly \$406,000 – And that's each year for seven years – That money can be used for anything else – Housing, Infrastructures, Streets – Have to build out plan for – Need to be available to attend meetings – If not – City doesn't have representation to split money out - Should leave \$250,000 in there – Can be amended out at later date – Or set aside – Think it's best to leave it in there – On second point - \$15,000 – Had meeting at E.D.C. office in Prosser – Lady didn't show or call – Read her information – Point is – Going to be conflict of interest between cities – \$15,000 could be spent somewhere else – Grants we get for streets goes through City Engineer – Personally – Don't believe City needs a grant writer

Councilwoman Lehman – Agree we need new City Hall – How soon do we need it – How much we need to put towards it now – Thinks there better use of the money – Don't mind putting half that in to fund – Would like to distribute the rest of it towards something that would work – Don't know if \$400,000 you're talking about is a sure thing or not – It's a possibility – A bird in the hand is worth two in the bush – Would like to see us redistribute this money

Mayor Carnahan – That money was accumulated over several years

Councilwoman Lettau – Agree – Don't want to see \$200,000 going to City Hall Fund this year

Councilwoman Meredith – Does money have to stay there? Can we pull it out for anything anytime?

Ms. Haug – It's Capital Improvement

Mayor Carnahan – Capital Improvement – Can be pulled out at anytime

Councilwoman Meredith – If something comes up – Can be pulled out and used for another item?

Ms. Haug – Direction I need – What fund you're wishing to allocate to – Or just have it sit in Reserves of General Fund – That's where it's coming from as of now

Mayor Carnahan – Let's get it settled here – All three of you have to be in agreement tonight – What fund do you want to put it into? How much do you want to put up? Or do you want to change it?

Councilwoman Meredith – Say no to changing – My vote – Leave it as it is right now – Can pull it out at any given time

Mr. Ferguson – At this point – Just discussing what Council would be willing to vote for – Just political debate – Trying to determine what could vote for if budget came up for reading and approval

Mayor Carnahan – Another way we can handle it also – After first of the year – Can amend your budget whatever way you'd like – Get this settled for now – Bring it to your budget next spring as it comes along – Can amend it with approval of Council

Councilwoman Lehman – Have question about that – Can some of this money be allocated to a grant writer should I choose to do that – Or does it have to be in Capital Improvements?

Mr. Ferguson – Sounds like this is in Capital Improvements

Ms. Haug – How budget is set up - \$200,000 is being transferred from the General Fund to this Capital Improvement Fund – Basically dedicating it to City Hall construction at this point – That savings account

Mr. Ferguson – Earmarked

Ms. Haug – Yes – If not transferred to that fund – Will just sit in the Reserve for General Fund

Mr. Ferguson – Restriction on it being in that fund?

Ms. Haug – Action of the Council can move it out – Basically earmarking it for that project at this point – Right now City has quite a bit of money in our General Fund Reserve – Transferring that – Basically sits in that savings account for that project – As opposed to the general savings account

Mr. Ferguson – Based on what Stephanie is saying – You could move it back into the General Fund – Then used that with majority of Council approval – Come back with that expenditure to get approval of majority of Council to be able to reallocate that \$15,000 for grant writer – If goes into account earmarked – Then have to take two steps – Have pass resolution to move it out – Then do something to approve it for...

Mayor Carnahan – Would have to it approved to spend it for grant writer

Mr. Ferguson – Correct

Mayor Carnahan – Through the new council

Councilwoman Lehman – Other thing I would like to do – Would like to add the \$5,000 back into the Economic Development Council budget – Really feel we need that money to continue with the website and keeping up with that

Mayor Carnahan – Reason had that pulled out – Technically speaking - E.D.C. is supposed to stand on their own – Took that out for a one-shot year – One shot time – Paid \$35,000 for this all along – Think it should go back to \$35,000 – Be done with it

Councilwoman Lettau – Would agree with that – Want it to stay at \$35,000

Councilwoman Meredith – Agree – Question? Shouldn't E.D.C. be doing grant writing – Isn't that part of the job requirement?

Councilwoman Lehman – Not without a grant writer

Mayor Carnahan – Can hire own grant writer

Councilwoman Lehman – They don't have enough money to hire a grant writer

Councilwoman Meredith – Can learn how to do that too

Mayor Carnahan – That is not the City's - City is putting out \$35,000 to E.D.C. at present time

Councilwoman Lehman – And that pays rent

Mayor Carnahan – That should cover expenses for those folks – When it was started – They are a separate entity – City is helping them – They are supposed be getting to work on supporting themselves

Councilwoman Meredith – Question about E.D.C. – Don't know their purpose or function – Haven't see a lot of good results – Don't think we need E.D.C. – That's my opinion

Mayor Carnahan – We do need an E.D.C. – To get State street projects – Lot of other things City works for – Capital Improvement Bonds – If not E.D.C. to back up requests – Won't get bonds and money from state for that – Do need an E.D.C. – Saying you can't see what they've been doing – Lot of it – Like myself - Go to meetings – Work on it – Can't really talk about it - Might not materialize – Is there and is functioning – Is a functioning organization – Do need that

Councilwoman Meredith – Don't think we're getting enough bang for our buck

Councilwoman Lehman – Agree with that

Mayor Carnahan – Is a toss-up – Why I pulled \$5,000 – One-time shot – Agreed on

Councilwoman Lehman – What was a one-time shot?

Mayor Carnahan – The \$5,000 for their websites – Agreed upon at Council

Councilwoman Lettau – Does the fee we pay go mainly to a salary for Randy?

Councilwoman Lehman – Yes

Mayor Carnahan – Salary for Randy and same type of items

Ms. Haug – City not involved

Councilwoman Lettau – Understand that's how they distribute their money

Mr. Ferguson – Since we held public meeting on budget – Need to know what to come back with on first to make sure for First Reading you have something you think majority of Council will approve

Ms. Haug – Yes

Mr. Ferguson – Tough to do that with two members not here – What are our alternatives?

Ms. Haug – Big thing is for that transfer between General Fund and Capital Improvement Fund – Will affect total expenditure – Way budget is done – Have actual expenditures – Include Ending Fund Balance – Total allocation for what you'll see in ordinance – Adjusting what ending balance is can be done - \$15,000 is allocated next year – Can be adjusted in that Ending Fund Balance – Would change how much revenue would go into that fund – Would need to know for sure – If money not being transferred – Where it's staying or going elsewhere – What I need to know to prepare that ordinance

Mr. Ferguson – Can you imagine any impediment to putting together the budget - Be on for First Reading on the 1st?

Ms. Haug – Yes

Mr. Ferguson – Can be amended at that time – Just making sure we have something to come back for Second Reading on

Ms. Haug – So can approve by end of the year

Councilwoman Lettau – Without looking through this again – Can you tell me what we have in the budget for infrastructure – Know you made big point we need to start taking care of that

Mayor Carnahan – Really come out with more money than thought we had – Going to cover lot of stuff – Going to get a lot of it done next year – But still – Probably get about a fourth of it done – Won't get done all in one year

Ms. Haug – Easiest place to see what's included in next year's budget is Mayor's letter – In third paragraph down – Lists projects included in this budget – Includes new building at maintenance shop for City's larger equipment – Didn't get T.I.B. funding for roadway maintenance up at the north end streets – Do have some money set aside for portion of overlay project for that – Upgrades to Community Center with new doors and retaining wall – Construction of Well #5 – Well house – Finishing out that project – Purchase of additional water meters – Upgrading the water to radio reads – Sewer re-lining project – Some improvements on Edith Avenue for sewer line

Mayor Carnahan – Pressurized line for sewer background – Should keep this project in mind

Ms. Haug – Also includes Capital Purchases – Striping equipment – New maintenance truck – Putting savings aside for new City Hall building – Budgeted for purchase of large scale printer/copier to scan the archive drawings

Councilwoman Lettau – Question on new City truck in budget – How many trucks do we have now?

Ms. Haug – Right now – Only have one truck with toolboxes – Wanting another truck for that need – Kyle would be better at explaining need – Something he's been requesting for few years

Councilwoman Lehman – Question on large shed - \$70,000 in budget for large shed – Again – Don't mind us getting one – Wouldn't mind paying half this year – Building it following year so we don't have to take so much out for that

Ms. Haug – Question would be – If we don't spend it this year – Where would you like to reallocate those funds – So we have the money this year to do that

Councilwoman Lehman – Can't you do like you did with the other one where you put it aside this year – Put \$35,000 aside this year for that – Then allocate other monies to other projects that might need?

Ms. Haug – What I'm asking – What are the other projects you are wanting to – Right now – Way budget is – Have those projects that were listed included to be paid for in full during this fiscal year – If other projects you are wanting to accomplish during that year – Would make sense to not do that one if full – Without knowing what those are – Basically just putting half of it in savings

Councilwoman Lehman – Don't know what it would cost to add to our sidewalks for example – Can we do another block of sidewalk improvement? Or can we do another block of sewer line lining?

Ms. Haug – All those are coming out of different funds – No money coming from Street Fund to pay for that building – Coming from General Fund – Sewer Fund and the Water Fund

Mayor Carnahan – Sewer and Water are independent – Can't be used for streets

Councilwoman Lehman – Understand – But could put it in one of those accounts

Ms. Haug – Have \$100,000 budgeted for sewer lining project for next year - \$35,000 for Edith Avenue project - \$17,500 coming from sewer fund for the building

Councilwoman Lettau – What is the Edith project?

Ms. Haug – Sewer line running through there has collapsed – To replace that to make functioning sewer – Potential for developer to come in and completed rest of improvements to make buildable lots

Mayor Carnahan – Sewer line has collapsed – Going in with Latecomers Agreement on Engineering and sewer line – If lot owners want to hook up to it – Will have to pay connection fees

Councilwoman Lettau – Have had several attempts by developers to get the road – People who own property there said have voted it down – Am one of those – Own two lots

Mayor Carnahan – Deterrent on open land – Urban Growth Boundary expansion – See how much open land available in cities – Fighting with about forty acres of cherry orchard up here - Two years ago wanted us to de-annex – Too much open land – Couldn't do it – Land owner annexed it in way back when – When Hanford shut down – Money dried up – All platted and plotted – Never approved through county – Should be developed

Councilwoman Lettau – You are saying – If we do sewer on Edith – If developer does come in – If lots were to be sold – Whoever buys those would pay fee to pay back portion of what it costs

Mayor Carnahan – City would pay it – Not property owner – Developer would pay back the City

Mr. Ferguson – City would do initial outlay for sewer – Developer would pay

Mayor Carnahan – Existing property owners – Unless you have property abuts to it – Wanted to hook up to sewer line back there – Would be involved

Mr. Ferguson – Would only apply to folks when applying for building permit for developer – Someone never using it or not using from that side isn't going to pay fee – Not paying for permit

Mayor Carnahan – Light Industrial and Commercial land looked at differently than Residential land

Councilwoman Meredith – Getting back – What do we need for next week?

Mr. Ferguson – At this point – Best council would be to figure out – Two people not here – May have strong opinions on this – Best thing to do at this point – Decide as a Council what you want in the next reading – How you want that to go – Then will be open for discussion next time

Ms. Haug – As presented here – Is a balanced budget – Boils down to whether or not what the changes are for City Hall fund – Everything else will be readjusted for that

Councilwoman Lettau – Will say that I will vote for this budget now – Think I'm okay with what's here – Do like the fact that we can pull that out if we need to – Not sure I'm ready to build City Hall yet

Mayor Carnahan – Future – Something Benton City does need – Notice I haven't pushed it that hard in the last three years either – Had engineer donated his time to come up and draw pictures – Same gentleman that engineered library – At that time – Supposed to be another building to north – Conference Room and such – Capital Improvement didn't come thru on that project – That all could be worked into together on future plans

Councilwoman Meredith – I like it as it is

Mr. Ferguson – Sounds like based on majority of Council that would be willing to vote on this – Sounds like the amendments would need to come back for First Reading – At that point – Could make a motion to amend for those other items we talked about

Ms. Haug – This as it is drafted will come back – Any amendments will be part of the motion too

Mr. Ferguson – Yes – With full council too

Councilwoman Lehman – So if I next week move to amend a grant writer for \$15,000 – There's funds available that we could have that – Or that's only going to be in...?

Mayor Carnahan – That would be approval of the Council

Mr. Ferguson – You would make those funds available

Councilwoman Lehman – But it could be done?

Mr. Ferguson – Absolutely

Councilwoman Lehman – One more question before I back down – As you know – If I take office in January – There is no office for the Mayor – So I would like to have an office in this building – That may put us into bringing the building up to code – I also as a statement – I don't think it's right to have people – Staff – Working around mold – Think we need to set an example that we clean up the mold – Rather than just allowing our staff to work ...

Mayor Carnahan – Mold has been cleaned up – No sign that won't come back some day – Question of the Mayor's Office should be handled next year when the Mayor receives office – I was perfectly happy the way it was

Councilwoman Lehman – There are signs of flooding down there

Mr. Ferguson – Fine if current mayor feels like that – If that's something that you also want to make an amendment for to allocate funding for that – You could also do that next week as well – Sounds like – All we're really talking about tonight is just what's going to come back for First Reading and completely able to be amended next week

Ms. Haug – Next Tuesday – Week from today

Mr. Ferguson – This is effort to see if we can limit those amendments – When we come back so we have something as close as possible to go through First Reading, Second Reading, done

Mayor Carnahan – Further discussion in a week

2. SECOND READING – ORDINANCE 948 – 2016 AD VALOREM TAX (00:30:25*)

Councilwoman Meredith: Mr. Mayor, I move to approve on the Ordinance 948, on its Second Reading of the City of Benton City, Washington, setting the tax levy for the City of Benton City, and fixing the amount of ad valorem taxes for the year 2016.

Councilwoman Lettau: I second.

MOTION #4- C. C. Meredith moved and C. M. Lettau seconded to approve on the Second Reading, Ordinance No. 948, an ordinance of the City of Benton City, Washington, setting the tax levy for the City of Benton City, and fixing the amount of ad valorem taxes for the year 2016.

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

3. RESOLUTION #2015-19 – PROCLAMATIONS, CERTIFICATES & KEYS TO THE CITY (00:29:17*)

*** Removed from Agenda ***

4. RESOLUTION #2015-20 – AUTHORIZE MAYOR TO SIGN PROCLAMATION - RMAVA (00:29:16*)

**** Removed from Agenda ****

5. RESOLUTION #2015-21 – INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT – STREET SWEEPING SERVICES (00:29:08*)

Councilwoman Lehman: Mr. Mayor, I move to approve Resolution #2015-21, a resolution authorizing the Mayor to sign Amendment No. 4 to the Interlocal Agreement with the City of West Richland for Street Sweeping Services.

Councilwoman Meredith: I'll second.

MOTION #5- C. L. Lehman moved and C. C. Meredith seconded to approve the closure of City Hall on December 24th, 2014 from 12 p.m. to 4 p.m.

VOICE VOTE #5- C. C. Meredith, C. L. Lehman - **ALL YEAS;**
C. M. Lettau – **NAY.** Motion fails.

Mayor Carnahan – Can bring it up again next meeting – By Robert's Rules of Order – Has to be the person that voted "NO" to bring it back on Agenda

Councilwoman Lettau – Don't think they do a good job – Overall quality is low

Mayor Carnahan – They have gotten new street sweeper – Prices will be coming down next year – Don't have exact figure – Hard to sweep streets without curbs – Not 100% - Better than before – Costs more money to hand sweep – Done three times a year – Once before Benton City Daze – Again in fall – Once in summertime – Personally feel money well spent – Can't afford to buy one – Same as with County Sheriff's Department – Get a lot of good out of it

Councilwoman Lettau – Might be willing to give them another try if they have a new street sweeper – Willing to bring back to next meeting

6. RESOLUTION #2015-22 – COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENT – TEAMSTERS (00:24:17*)

Councilwoman Lettau: I move to approve Resolution #2015-22, a resolution authorizing the Mayor to sign the Collective Bargaining Agreement between the City of Benton City and Teamsters Local #839.

Councilwoman Meredith: I'll second.

MOTION #6- C. M. Lettau moved and C. C. Meredith seconded to approve Resolution #2015-22, a resolution authorizing the Mayor to sign the Collective Bargaining Agreement between the City of Benton City and Teamsters Local #839.

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

7. PROJECT ACCEPTANCE – ARCHIE BORDEN PARK DRAINAGE (00:23:37*)

Caleb Stromstad, City Engineer, Spink Engineering LLC – Project finished – Did any excellent job

Councilwoman Meredith: Mr. Mayor, I move to accept the Archie Borden Park Drainage project as recommended by the City Engineer, Spink Engineering.

Councilwoman Lehman: I second.

MOTION #7- C. C. Meredith moved and C. L. Lehman seconded to accept the Archie Borden Park Drainage project as recommended by the City Engineer, Spink Engineering.

VOICE VOTE #7- C. M. Lettau, C. C. Meredith, C. L. Lehman
ALL YEAS. Motion carried.

8. BID AWARD – LIBRARY PERGOLA (00:21:31*)

Caleb Stromstad, City Engineer, Spink Engineering LLC – Bid Tabulation attached – Can see how the bids came in – Three lowest are competitive – Recommend awarding the bid to Booth – Worked with Booth before – Reputable contractors

Ms. Haug – As you can see – Bid is more than original architect estimate – With some creative – At end of fiscal year – Do have money budgeted for 2015 – Also budgeted some money in proposed budget for library in 2016 – Likelihood of project happening partway in 2015 and partway in 2016 could make it feasible to afford the higher construction costs

Mayor Carnahan – Would ask the Council not to approve this – Too much money for what they're getting – Looking at pictures and building – Don't think it's going to look right

Councilwoman Meredith – Any way we can get the specs or the drawings?

Mayor Carnahan – To me – Just not good addition to City Library

Ms. Haug – First estimate was \$60,000 plus – Waited – Rejected that one – Think other thing to remember – Why it's more – Prevailing wages – It will always cost us more to do project than private individual

Mayor Carnahan – Recommend we turn this down – This year – Can work on it next year

Ms. Haug – Total bid roughly \$45,000 - In this year's budget have about \$15,000 available – There's \$10,000 donation – Next year we have \$20,000 budgeted for Library improvements – If you went between two years – Pay for part this year – Part next year

Mr. Stromstad – Not involved in this project – Four bids – All competitive – If what you want – Don't see how you're going to get that for lesser amount – Unless you just want to do something different – Have different alternative

Ms. Haug – Council needs to make a motion to reject the bids if that's what they choose to do – Even if don't approve – Need to move to reject – No motion on the floor but could be set over – Next meeting – Could get drawings and bid documents from Spink Engineering

Councilwoman Lehman – If we sent it over – Decide we want to look at another drawing – Does the Library have to agree with that?

Ms. Haug – We own the building and the (inaudible) to the building – They own the contents – It's an exterior – It's up to us – Do have Donation Agreement with Lorz Foundation – They would be included in the design – If we were to drastically change it – None of these would be applicable if changes – Bid to what the specs were that were sent out – Would have to go back out for bid – If design changes – Would need to be approved with Lorz Foundation

Councilwoman Lehman – Cost of architect included in this \$40,000? He did it for free? Did we pay?

Ms. Haug – No – Lorz Foundation paid him

Councilwoman Lehman – They would have to conceivably pay for another design?

Ms. Haug – Their doing – They brought project to us – They hired the architect that designed the Library to design the pergola

Mayor Carnahan – We'll postpone this for one week – Bring it back to Council

9. VOUCHERS – (00:11:47*)

Councilwoman Lettau: I move to approve payment of Claim check numbers with EFTs as listed in the amount of \$72,567.88 and Payroll checks numbers 27184, 27213 thru 27221 with EFTs as listed in the amount of \$59,954.08 this 24th day of November, 2015.

Councilwoman Meredith: I'll second.

MOTION #8– C. M. Lettau moved and C. C. Meredith seconded approve payment of Claim check numbers 27237 thru 27275 with EFTs as listed in the amount of \$72,567.88 and Payroll checks numbers 27184, 27213 thru 27221 with EFTs as listed in the amount of \$59,954.08 this 24th day of November, 2015.

**ROLL CALL VOTE #8–C. L. Lehman, C. C. Meredith, C. M. Lettau
ALL YEAS. Motion carries.**

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

1. OUTDOOR ASHTRAY RECEPTACLES – OTHER CITIES (00:10:45*)

Ms. Haug – Krista – Information – Bring to December 15, 2015 Regular Council Meeting

2. CITY COUNCIL COMPENSATION – Eligibility (00:08:33*)

Councilwoman Meredith – Asked it be included on Agenda - \$75.00 – Think is high – Asking to lower or put cap when attend meetings

Ms. Haug – As drafted now – Every time City has workshop or special meeting – Additional \$75.00 – Think what you feel issue is – You get your two meetings at \$75.00 – No matter how many other meetings for City Council – Just get those two

Councilwoman Meredith – Have always thought \$75.00 was little high

Mayor Carnahan - Bring back to Council when there is a full council

Ms. Haug – On Agenda for Council discussion tonight – If Council wishes to have ordinance drafted to amend – If so – Before new council takes office – Would need to be passed by second meeting in December – Would have to have something for First Reading on Tuesday

Mayor Carnahan – Disagree – Voted on the election at that wage – Don't think it can be changed until next General Election – On your Council position for \$75.00 – Don't think you can do this – If it's gone through the Election Officer – Everybody that had chance to run for office knew what salary they were getting – Think only way you can change it is through vote on next Council

Mr. Ferguson – Technically - When in your term – Allowed to change for next term

Mayor Carnahan – Mayor can be voted on anytime during four years because it's a salary position – Council cannot be – On their election day - Fixed salary for term of office

Mr. Ferguson – Might be something to the time period between the election and being sworn in – Is very specific answer to this – Don't know it right off top of head – If legal – Does Council want us to try to draft it

Ms. Haug – It would take affect at beginning of year as term begins for new council – If legal way – Would need to be adopted December 15th – First and Second Reading – If elections don't play part in that – If term starts January 1st – If adopted by new council – It won't affect them – Can't change their pay during their term – Wouldn't take effect until next two years

Councilwoman Lehman: Just as a courtesy, I think, it would be more correct, maybe not legally, but the way I feel about it, is let the new members vote on what they, if they want to do this. I think it's wrong for outgoing members to say we're cutting your salary to the new people, and I was...

Ms. Haug – Wonder too – Might be changing the amount – But if putting cap on per diem – It's a per diem not salary – It's what's paid per meeting

Mr. Ferguson – Problem is R.C.W.s only defines it as compensation – Broad

Mayor Carnahan – Good thing to move to first of year

Mr. Ferguson – To be clear though – The last council meeting of December is the 15th? Would have to have First Reading on the 1st then...

Ms. Haug – Or do an Emergency Reading on 15th – If something Council wanted to push through before end of the year

Mayor Carnahan – Take consensus of three council members now here – Would you be willing to take cut in pay?

Councilwoman Lettau – I would and/or a cap – Not that often we have extra meetings – Also need to look at compensation for committee meetings – Think its needs to be addressed also

Mayor Carnahan – Personally like to see it go back to original way – Only paid for those committees the City paid membership fee to join – If paid membership should have reimbursement – Just going to meeting and sitting in crowd - No

GENERAL COUNCIL COMMENTS – (00:00:59*)

Councilwoman Lehman – Color palette style guide – Revitalization – Final Draft ready – Hand it out to new businesses to encourage them to blend in with rest of town

ADJOURNMENT – Mayor Carnahan (00:00:15*)

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

Councilwoman Lehman: Second.

MOTION #11– C. C. Meredith moved and C. L. Lehman seconded to adjourn the November 24th, 2015 Regular Council Meeting at 8:10 p.m.

**VOICE VOTE #11– C. C. Meredith, C. M. Lettau, C. L. Lehman
ALL YEAS. Motion carried.**

Meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m. (00:00:08*Audio recording ends)

Lloyd Carnahan
Mayor, City of Benton City

Stephanie Haug, CMC
City Clerk-Treasurer

Date: 12-16-15