

**Town of Bentonia
Board Meeting
August 10, 2021**

The regular meeting of the Mayor and the Board of Alderman Town of Bentonia was called to order at 6:00 pm by Mayor Clint Lancaster. The following members were present Patricia Stevens, Coly Parks, Greg Shaffer and Kim Martin also present was Gary Taylor. Absent: Jace Creel

Motion to accept the minutes and bill from July 2021 Colby Parks, seconded by Patricia Stevens, motion passed with all in favor.

The mayor gave a brief overview of the problems with the pump station that services Tony's Tamales. He stated that the town has replaced and repaired numerous pumps due to grease being in the pump station. The town had to have it pumped out last week and the pump will need to be replaced again. McMaster and Associates and Ivan Holder are working on schematic to offer the business option on how to proceed with sewer options. Motion was made by Colby Parks to allow options to be presented to the business and for the town to address the issue as needed. Motion was seconded by Patricia Stevens.

The mayor presented the board with a dumpster ordinance and an ordinance to address the dog issue we have in town and he also recommended a couple of issues that need to be added before the official ordinance is drafted. The ordinance will limit the number of dogs and cats you can own inside the city limits to 4. Motion was made by Colby Parks, seconded by Kim Martin.

The mayor swore Greg Shaffer in as Alderman.

The mayor asked for volunteers for Mayor Pro Tiem and Colby Parks volunteered. Motion was made by Kim Martin, seconded by Greg Shaffer. Motion passed with all in favor.

The mayor discussed the cost to replace the signs on Hwy 433. 3 quotes were received and Gem Publications in flora was the least expensive at \$250 per sign. Motion was made by Colby Parks, seconded by Kim Martin. Motion passed with all in favor.

Court clerk training for September 22-24 in Philadelphia was approved. Motion by Colby Parks seconded by Patricia Stevens. Motion passed with all in favor.

The mayor gave a brief overview of the plans for repairs to the bank building and stated that he is in the process of obtaining quotes.

The mayor plans to have quotes for Bentonia signs on hwy 49 for the next meeting.

A round table discussion was held concerning the empty shell of a building next to the fire department and the land at the end of the bank building.

The mayor will be working on the budget and will present it at the next board meeting.

Motion was made to close regular secession and go into executive session by Patricia Ferris and seconded by Colby Parks, motion passed with all in favor.

Motion to end executive session and open the regular meeting was made by Colby Parks and seconded by Kim Martin, motion passed with all in favor.

No action was taken from the executive session.

The mayor and board discussed water cut offs and the decision was made that once water service has been turned off it will not be turned on until the water bill and reconnect fee is paid in full during regular working hours. Motion was made by Colby Parks, seconded by Greg Shaffer, Motion passed with all in favor.

Greg Shaffer addressed the mayor and stated that the Ford 250 needs to have the back glass replaced and other repairs are needed before we put police officers on patrol with a headlight not working. Greg also stated that we need to have a Mississippi flag flying. The mayor has plans for both flags to be placed on the bank building and will also have lights installed on them.

The mayor asked if the board was interested in the keep Mississippi beautiful program, consisting of clean up, wild flowers. The startup is minimal. Motion by Colby Parks, seconded by Greg Shaffer. Motion passed.

Motion to adjourn was made by Colby parks and seconded by Patricia Stevens, motion passed with all in favor.

Kim Tyer, Clerk

Clint Lancaster, Mayor