

**Town of Bentonia
Board Meeting
January 8, 2019**

The regular meeting of the Mayor and the Board of Alderman Town of Bentonia was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Mayor Roger Burton III. The following members were present Clint Lancaster, Robert Demus, Greg Shaffer and Patricia Ferris; also present were Police Chief Jason Bright, Clerk Cannon Williams, Clerk Kim Tyer, Fire Chief Gary Taylor, House of Representative Deborah Butler Dixon and members of the community. Absent: Colby Parks

Motion was made by Clint Lancaster to open the meeting and seconded by Robert Demus. Motion passed with all in favor.

Motion was made by Patricia Ferris to adopt the minutes and bills and was seconded by Clint Lancaster. Motion passed with all in favor.

Old Business:

The Mayor gave a brief update on the clean- up progress of Mr. Alvin Ross's property.

Jason Bright stated that he had spoken to Loretta Thornton concerning her dogs and she stated that she had chained them up but one had broken the chain.

Jason stated that it has been too wet to install the pipe railing behind town hall to prevent eighteen wheelers from busting the water pipe while making deliveries to Planters Supply.

Jason Bright addressed the board concerning the roof leaking at town hall. The mayor requested that Jason obtain quotes for repair.

Mayor stated that we had opened an account with Bank of Yazoo City in flora for the Senate Bill 2002 monies received for sewer projects.

New Business:

Greg Shaffer stated that the ditches on Rosenburg needed to be swept out and that in areas of Rosenburg erosion is causing issues.

Patricia Ferris asked if the town could burn the ditches out and stated that her ditch needs to be cleaned out as well.

Brother DJ Speckner addressed the board concerning the Christian Music Festival and stated that weather permitted it would be held on Hancock's Land on 49 highways on April 27, 2019.

Mr. Holmes addressed the board concerning his past due account and stated that he did not feel as if he was being treated properly. The Mayor addressed the issue and stated that he was cut off due to an illegal tap that has not to date been corrected and also delinquent water/sewer bill. Greg Shaffer stated that Mr. Holmes is being treated like everyone else and that rules are rules. Mr. Holmes paid his delinquent bill and also the cut off fee.

Mr. Holmes stated that the water going to the duplex did not have much pressure. Jason Bright stated that he and the water operator Jeff Williamson would check on the pressure issue.

It was determined that the new water meter for one side of the duplex was installed on August 31, 2018.

Mrs. Deborah Dixon addressed the board introducing herself and the Mayor stated that if had not been for Mrs. Dixon's efforts to help the town we would have received the grant or Senate Bill 2002 monies for the sewer system. The board expressed their thankfulness to Mrs. Dixon for her efforts.

The Mayor stated that the compilation for fiscal year 2017 was completed and available for review. Motion was made by Clint Lancaster to accept the Compilation and was seconded by Greg Shaffer. Motion passed with all in favor.

The Mayor requested permission to send Mike Grishim who owns the old BellSouth building a letter concerning the condition of the property. Motion was made by Patricia Ferris, seconded by Robert Demus. Motion passed with all in favor.

The Mayor requested permission to add old delinquent water/sewer account to customers current bill who have opened new accounts without paying the delinquent account. It was discussed that the town would allow them 90 days to pay the delinquent account and that a \$10.00 late fee would occur monthly until the debt was paid in full. Motion was made by Clint Lancaster, seconded by Patricia Ferris. Greg Shaffer was in favor with Robert Demus in opposition.

The mayor requested permission to purchase a new key board for the security camera system. Motion was made by Greg Shaffer, seconded by Patricia Ferris. Motion passed with all in favor.

The mayor gave a brief overview of the vacant lot next to the fire department and stated that the cost to keep the same architecture would be cost prohibited and it would be more economical to build a new one-story structure. Bricks are falling off planters side and causing a hazard. The town will proceed with obtaining estimates.

Motion to adjourn was made by Patricia Ferris, seconded by Greg Shaffer. Motion passed with all in favor.

Kim Tyer, City Clerk

Roger Burton III, Mayor