

** First Meeting after transition of power from former Mayor, Wayne Cathcart to the newly elected Mayor, Shelly Horton Jr. (Term begin 01/01/2017 expires on 12/31/2020)*

**REGULAR SESSION
MINUTES**

MAYOR AND BOARD OF ALDERMAN
TOWN OF BENTON
105 SIBLEY STREET, BENTON, BOSSIER PARISH, LOUISIANA
MONDAY, JANUARY 9, 2017 7:00 PM

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Shelly Horton

INVOCATION: by Alderman Wayne Cathcart

PLEDGE: by Alderman Ron Jones

PRESENT: Alderman Jackie Carr, Alderman Linda Gates, Alderman Ron Jones, Alderman Donna Wyatt, and Alderman Wayne Cathcart

ALSO PRESENT: Attorney James Southerland and Chief Pilkinton

AGENDA: Motion by Alderman Wyatt, Seconded by Alderman Carr to approve the Agenda

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None

FAVOR 5
OPPOSED 0

MINUTES: Motion by Alderman Cathcart, Seconded by Alderman Wyatt to approve the Minutes from December Meeting

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None

FAVOR 5
OPPOSED 0

OLD BUSINESS:

1. None

NEW BUSINESS:

1. APPOINT TOWN ATTORNEY: Attorney James Southerland

Motion by Alderman Wyatt, Seconded by Alderman Gates to Re-appoint Attorney James Southerland as the Town Attorney

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None

AYES: Alderman Jackie Carr, Alderman Linda Gates, Alderman Ron Jones, Alderman Donna Wyatt, and Alderman Wayne Cathcart

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

2. APPOINT a MAYOR PRO TEM:

Nominations by Alderman Cathcart, seconded by Alderman Wyatt to appoint Alderman Ron Jones as Mayor Pro Tem

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None

AYES: Alderman Jackie Carr, Alderman Linda Gates, Alderman Ron Jones,
Alderman Donna Wyatt, and Alderman Wayne Cathcart
NAYS: None
ABSENT: None
ABSTAIN: None

3. CHIEF CHARLES PILKINTON: Request approval to fill a full time vacancy

Officer David Hamm answered various question presented by council members and gave a brief employment history including Post Certification and years of service in law enforcement.

Motion by Alderman Wyatt seconded by Alderman Carr to follow the recommendation of the Chief of Police and approve Officer David Hamm to fill the full time vacancy in the Benton Police Department

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None

AYES: Alderman Jackie Carr, Alderman Linda Gates, Alderman Ron Jones,
Alderman Donna Wyatt, and Alderman Wayne Cathcart
NAYS: None
ABSENT: None
ABSTAIN: None

4. APPOINT TOWN CLERK:

Motion by Alderman Cathcart seconded by Alderman Wyatt to follow the recommendation of Mayor Horton to reappoint Stephanie Sullivant-Collier as Town Clerk.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None

AYES: Alderman Jackie Carr, Alderman Linda Gates, Alderman Ron Jones,
Alderman Donna Wyatt, and Alderman Wayne Cathcart
NAYS: None
ABSENT: None
ABSTAIN: None

5. ORDINANCE 545 OF 2017: SETTING THE SALARY OF THE TOWN CLERK

AN ORDINANCE SETTING THE SALARY OF THE TOWN CLERK OF
BENTON EFFECTIVE FEBRUARY 16, 2017

WHEREAS the Board of Aldermen of the Town of Benton has considered the Budget for the FY 2017 and has determined to grant the Town Clerk an increase in salary.

BE IT ORDAINED by the Board of Aldermen of the Town of Benton, Bossier Parish, Louisiana, in regular session convened, does hereby set the salary of the Town Clerk to be \$41,600.00 per year effective February 16, 2017.

Motion by Alderman Cathcart Seconded by Alderman Wyatt to introduce and set for Public Hearing on February 13

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None

AYES: Alderman Jackie Carr, Alderman Linda Gates, Alderman Ron Jones,
Alderman Donna Wyatt, and Alderman Wayne Cathcart
NAYS: None
ABSENT: None
ABSTAIN: None

COUNCIL COMMENTS: Each Council member spoke to Mayor Shelly Horton and welcomed him as Mayor of Benton and look forward to working together the next four years.

Mayor Horton responded by thanking the council and stated his is looking forward to working together as well.

CLERKS COMMENTS: Stephanie Collier thanked the Mayor and Council for another term.

Motion by Alderman Wyatt, Seconded by Alderman Cathcart to adjourn the meeting

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None

FAVOR 5
OPPOSED 0

Shelly Horton, Jr. Mayor

Stephanie Collier, Town Clerk