

**REGULAR SESSION  
MINUTES  
MAYOR AND BOARD OF ALDERMAN  
TOWN OF BENTON  
105 SIBLEY STREET, BENTON, BOSSIER PARISH, LOUISIANA  
MONDAY, APRIL 8, 2019 AT 7:00 PM**

**CALL TO ORDER:** Mayor Shelly Horton  
**INVOCATION:** Alderman Cathcart  
**PLEDGE:** Alderman Wyatt  
**PRESENT:** Alderman Jackie Carr, Alderman Ron Jones, Alderman Donna Wyatt and Alderman Wayne Cathcart  
**ABSENT:** Alderman Linda Gates

**AGENDA:** A motion Alderman Wyatt by seconded by Alderman Cathcart to approve the agenda

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None  
IN FAVOR 4 Ayes  
OPPOSED 0 Nays

**MINUTES:** A motion Alderman Wyatt by seconded by Alderman Carr to approve the minutes

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None  
IN FAVOR 4 Ayes  
OPPOSED 0 Nays

**OLD BUSINESS:**

1. Steven Maxwell, Maxwell Insurance Group presenting proposals of insurance policies. Mr. Maxwell presented his second half of his proposal on all the Town insurance policies. Last month he presented workers comp and the other smaller policies and this month he is presenting the liability insurance on automobiles. Mr. Maxwell provided a full package total of a savings of over 23,000.00 for the Town when combining all policies. In addition to the savings Mr. Maxwell doubled the Towns limits on all liability policies. After some discussion with the council A motion made by Alderman Wyatt seconded by Alderman Cathcart to accept the proposals presented for insurance using Maxwell Insurance Group, LLC

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None  
Ayes: Alderman Carr, Alderman Jones, Alderman Wyatt, and Alderman Cathcart  
Nays: None  
Abstain: None  
Absent: Alderman Gates

2. PMI Resources proposal for HR Services to develop a new personnel ordinance/handbook. Mayor Horton called for a motion to bring this item back off the table and open for discussion

A motion by Alderman Wyatt seconded by Alderman Cathcart to bring it off the table and open for discussion

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None  
IN FAVOR: 4 Ayes  
OPPOSES: 0 Nays

Mayor Horton explained that the proposal has been reduced to \$7500.00 which includes creating a new employee ordinance for both the town and police department and policies that apply to the ordinances. Mayor Horton asked for questions by the council.

After some discussion and various questions from the council a motion was made by Alderman Cathcart to table this item again to allow the mayor to implement a time to explore with PMI Resources what they can provide to us on an ongoing basis and at what cost to keep the town current with state and local laws, seconded by Alderman Wyatt

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None  
IN FAVOR: 4 Ayes  
OPPOSES: 0 Nays

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

1. Benton Fire District: Stephanie Collier briefly discussed the Benton Fire District 4 having an interest in property located in the industrial park for the purpose of building a training center. The Fire District's goal is to build a training center equipped with classroom facilities that will be available for use by other entities such as other Fire Districts as well as law enforcement. The Council expressed interest in hearing more about the plans if the Chief would like to bring plans and present a more detail project.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None

2. RESOLUTION 1 OF 2019: Acceptance of Lost River Estates North Unit 3 Streets and Drainage.

WHEREAS a formal request by Raley and Associates for the acceptance of the streets and drainage in Lost River Estates North Unit No. 3 as part of the Town of Benton infrastructure, and

WHEREAS Balar Engineers has provided the Town with documents pertaining to their monitoring the construction of said streets and drainage, and has made the recommendation for acceptance, and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Alderman of the Town of Benton convened in regular session does hereby accept the streets and drainage in Lost River Estates North Unit No. 3 into the Town of Benton infrastructure,

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A motion by Alderman Wyatt seconded by Alderman Carr to adopt Resolution 1 of 2019

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None

Ayes: Alderman Carr, Alderman Jones, and Alderman Wyatt

Nays: None

Abstain: Alderman Cathcart

Absent: Alderman Gates

3. RESOLUTION 2 OF 2019: A resolution authorizing the Mayor to sign contract with Balar for street improvements to Oakridge Drive from Stinson rd., to Old Plain Dealing Rd.

WHEREAS the Board of Aldermen of the Town of Benton approved a Street Master Plan in May of 2015 for repairs of all street within the Town of Benton, and

WHEREAS Balar Engineers has presented the Town with a contract for engineering services on repairs to Oakridge Drive from its intersection at Stinson Rd., to the intersection at Old Plain Dealing Rd. for the amount of \$38,100.00 which includes basic engineering services, RPR inspection fees up to 115 hours, geotechnical reports, and construction testing.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Aldermen of the Town of Benton, Bossier Parish Louisiana does hereby authorize the Mayor to execute and administer a contract with Balar Engineers for engineering services not to exceed \$38,100.00 for street repairs on Oakridge Drive.

A motion by Alderman Wyatt seconded by Alderman Cathcart to adopt Resolution 2 of 2019

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None

Ayes: Alderman Carr, Alderman Jones, Alderman Wyatt, and Alderman Cathcart

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Alderman Gates

4. Approval of the month-to-date budgets and monthly financials.

A motion by Alderman Wyatt seconded by Alderman Cathcart to approve the monthly financials and month to date budgets.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None

IN FAVOR: 4 Ayes

OPPOSES: 0 Nays

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**Notice is hereby given pursuant to Article 7, Section 23(C) of the Louisiana Constitution and R.S. 47:1705(B) that a public hearing of the Town of Benton in Bossier Parish will be held at its regular meeting place Benton Town Hall, located at 105 Sibley Street, Benton, LA on Monday, May 13 at 7:00 p.m. to consider adopting the millage rates not to exceed the prior year's maximum of 12.38 mills (7.42 mills General Alimony, and 4.96 mills Streets)**

**ADJOURN:**

A motion by Alderman Cathcart seconded by Alderman Wyatt to adjourn the meeting

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None

IN FAVOR: 4 Ayes

OPPOSES: 0 Nays

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