

SHELLY HORTON JR
MAYOR



STEPHANIE SULLIVANT-COLLIER
CAO/TOWN CLERK

TOWN OF BENTON
LOUISIANA

PUBLIC HEARING
MINUTES
MAYOR AND BOARD OF ALDERMAN
TOWN OF BENTON
105 SIBLEY STREET, BENTON, BOSSIER PARISH, LOUISIANA
MONDAY, OCTOBER 10, 2022, 6:00 PM

The Town of Benton Council met in regular and legal session on the 10th day of October 2022, at 6:00 p.m., in the Benton Council Chambers, Benton Town Hall, Benton, Louisiana. The Mayor, Shelly Horton, called the Public Hearing to order. The invocation was given by Alderman Manning, and the pledge of allegiance was led by Alderman Jones. Mrs. Stephanie Collier, Town Clerk, called the roll, with all members present as follows:

Alderman Jackie Carr - Absent
Alderman Tiffany Manning - Present
Alderman Ron Jones - Present
Alderman James Friday - Present
Alderman Wayne Cathcart - Absent

Others present were Attorney Neil Erwin, Chief Collier, Stephanie Collier, and members of the public.

Motion was made by Alderman Manning, seconded by Alderman Jones to approve the Public Hearing agenda. The mayor called for public comments. There being none, motion carried with the following votes recorded:

YEAS: Alderman Tiffany Manning, Alderman Ron Jones, and Alderman Friday.

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Alderman Jackie Carr and Alderman Cathcart

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www.townofbentonlouisiana.webs.com website

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Mayor Horton called for any comments or questions on Ordinance 578 adopting the Reapportionment of the five Council Districts.

AN ORDINANCE DEFINING THE FIVE ELECTION DISTRICTS OF THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN OF THE TOWN OF BENTON, BOSSIER PARISH

No Comments were made

Mayor Horton adjourned the meeting

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**REGULAR SESSION
MINUTES
MAYOR AND BOARD OF ALDERMAN
TOWN OF BENTON
105 SIBLEY STREET, BENTON, BOSSIER PARISH, LOUISIANA
MONDAY, OCTOBER 10, 2022, 6:00 PM**

The Town of Benton Council met in regular and legal session on the 10th day of October 2022, at 6:00 p.m., in the Benton Council Chambers, Benton Town Hall, Benton, Louisiana. The Mayor, Shelly Horton, called the Regular Session Meeting order.

Motion was made by Alderman Jones, seconded by Alderman Friday to approve the Regular Session agenda. The mayor called for public comments. There being none, motion carried with the following votes recorded:

YEAS: Alderman Tiffany Manning, Alderman Ron Jones, and Alderman Friday.

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Alderman Jackie Carr and Alderman Cathcart

Motion was made by Alderman Friday, seconded by Alderman Manning to approve the minutes of the September Meeting. The mayor called for public comments. There being none, motion carried with the following votes recorded:

YEAS: Alderman Tiffany Manning, Alderman Ron Jones, Alderman Friday, and Alderman Wayne Cathcart.

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Alderman Jackie Carr

OLD BUSINESS

Mayor Horton called for a motion for final vote for adoption of 578 of 2022 and ordinance establishing the five Council districts of the Town of Benton:

AN ORDINANCE DEFINING THE FIVE ELECTION DISTRICTS OF THE BOARD OF
ALDERMEN OF THE TOWN OF BENTON, BOSSIER PARISH

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Motion was made by Alderman Friday, seconded by Alderman Manning to adopt Ordinance 578 of 2022 adopting the reapportionment of the five council districts. The mayor called for public comments. There being none, motion carried with the following votes recorded:

YEAS: Alderman Tiffany Manning, Alderman Ron Jones, and Alderman Friday.

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Alderman Jackie Carr and Alderman Cathcart

NEW BUSINESS

Mayor Horton introduced Coach Scott O'Donohue, and Mike McClung of the Benton Middle School Archery Team who have won the World Championship. Coach briefly spoke about the achievements of the Benton Middle School Archery. They have won the North Regionals Championship, 3D State Championship, Bullseye State Championship, National Championships-Bullseye and 3D, and the World Champions 2021-2022. Mayor Horton presented the Proclamation and congratulated the team members and the parents.

Mayor Horton spoke about Ordinance 579 a zoning change that has been approved by the Benton Parish MPC on October 4th and they have made a favorable recommendation to the Council for approval. The application made by Jonathan Hodge requesting a change of zoning classification on .96 acres from R-2 (Multi-Family Residential) to B-1 (Business District) for proposed commercial office building. (Corner of 3rd Street and Pine Street)

Alderman Manning asked the exact location of this property. Mayor Horton explained that is at the corner of Pine Street and 3rd Street. And they plan on constructing a small commercial office complex. A motion by Alderman Jones, seconded by Alderman Manning to set Ordinance 579 for a Public Hearing on November 14th. The mayor called for public comments. There being none, motion carried with the following votes recorded:

YEAS: Alderman Tiffany Manning, Alderman Ron Jones, and Alderman Friday.

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Alderman Jackie Carr and Alderman Cathcart

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Mayor Horton asked Mrs. Collier to explain Resolution 14 the 504 Grievance Procedures. Mrs. Collier discussed that this is something we have adopted in the past for application of a LCDBG grant. This is a updated version and this will cover both LCDBG grants that we have applied for this year.

WHEREAS The Louisiana Division of Administration requires that all recipients of Community Development Block Grant funds adopt grievance procedures that provide for the prompt and equitable resolution of complaints concerning equal opportunity and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Town of Benton has adopted an internal grievance procedure providing for prompt and equitable resolution of complaints alleging any action prohibited by the regulation of the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, 24 CFR Part I, implementing Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended (Public Law 93-112). „Section 504 states, in part: No otherwise qualified handicapped individual. . . shall, solely by reason of his handicap be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance. To further assist those who may have a grievance concerning Section 504 compliance, Stephanie Collier, Town Clerk, has been designated to coordinate the efforts of the Town of Benton to comply with requirements of Section 504 and its implementing regulation, 24 CFR Part 8.

SECTION 504 GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE

The Town of Benton has adopted an internal grievance procedure providing for prompt and equitable resolution of complaints alleging any action prohibited by the regulation of the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, 24 CFR Part I, implementing Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended (Public Law 93-112). Section 504 states, in part: No otherwise qualified handicapped individual . . . shall, solely by reason of his handicap be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance.” To further assist those who may have a grievance concerning Section 504 compliance Stephanie Collier has been designated to coordinate the efforts of the Town of Benton to comply with requirements of Section 504 and its implementing regulation, 24 CFR Part 8.

A complaint should be in writing, contain the name and address of the person filing it, and briefly describe the action alleged to be prohibited by the regulation.

A complaint should be filed in the office of the Section 504 Coordinator within a reasonable time after the person filing the complaint became aware of the action alleged to be prohibited by the regulation.

The Compliance Coordinator shall meet with the complainant within 15 days after receipt of the complaint to discuss the complaint and any possible resolution(s).

The Compliance Coordinator or his/her designee shall conduct such investigation of the complaint as may be appropriate to determine its validity. These rules contemplate informal but thorough

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investigations, affording all interested persons and their representatives, if any, an opportunity to submit evidence relevant to the complaint.

The Compliance Coordinator shall issue a written decision determining the validity of the complaint no later than thirty (30) days after its filing. The response will offer options for resolution of the complaint. The Town of Benton shall be advised of any decision or resolution regarding the complaint.

If the decision of the Compliance Coordinator does not resolve the issue, the complainant may appeal the decision of the coordinator within fifteen (15) days after receipt of the response to the Mayor of Benton or his or her designee.

The Mayor of Benton or his or her designee shall meet with the complainant within 15 days after receipt of the appeal to discuss the complaint and any possible resolution. Within fifteen (15) days after the meeting the Mayor of Benton or his or her designee will respond in writing, with a final resolution of the complaint.

The Section 504 Coordinator shall maintain the files and records of the Town of Benton relating to complaints filed hereunder.

The right of a person to prompt and equitable resolution of the complaint filed hereunder shall not be impaired by the person's pursuit of other remedies such as the filing of a Section 504 complaint with the Department of Housing and Urban Development or other Federal or State Agencies. Utilization of this grievance procedure is not a prerequisite to the pursuit of other remedies. Complaints may be forwarded for disposition to the:

Office of Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity
Department of Housing and Urban Development
Washington, DC 20410

Complaints may also be filed at any Regional or Field Office of the Department such as:

Department of Housing and Urban Development
Regional Office
Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity Division
P. O. Box 2905
Fort Worth, Texas 76113-2905

Determinations made under these procedures shall be liberally constructed to protect the substantial rights of interested persons, to meet appropriate due process standards and to assure the compliance of the Town of Benton with Section 504 and its implementing regulation.

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C E R T I F I C A T E

I, Stephanie Collier, Clerk for Town of Benton, hereby certify that the attached constitutes a true and accurate copy of a Resolution, which UPON MOTION of Alderman Manning, seconded by Alderman Friday, was adopted by the following Yea and Nay vote:

and the same was declared adopted by the mayor on this 10th day of October, 2022.

YEAS: Alderman Tiffany Manning, Alderman Ron Jones, and Alderman Friday.

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Alderman Jackie Carr and Alderman Cathcart

Motion was made by Alderman Jones, seconded by Alderman Manning to approve the Monthly Financials and and YTD budget reports. The mayor called for public comments. There being none, motion carried with the following votes recorded:

YEAS: Alderman Tiffany Manning, Alderman Ron Jones, and Alderman Friday.

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Alderman Jackie Carr and Alderman Cathcart

A motion made by Alderman seconded by Alderman to adjourn the Regular Session Meeting. The motion carried with the following votes recorded:

YEAS: Alderman Tiffany Manning, Alderman Ron Jones, and Alderman Friday.

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Alderman Jackie Carr and Alderman Cathcart

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NOTICE POSTED ON _____ @ _____

BY _____
Stephanie Collier

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