

Bentonville City Council
Meeting Minutes
May 26, 2015

The City Council of Bentonville, Arkansas, met in regular session Tuesday, May 26, 2015, at 6:00 p.m., at the Community Development Building, 305 Southwest A Street, Bentonville, Arkansas.

Present were council members Stephanie Orman, John Skaggs, Tim Robinson, Chris Sooter, James Smith, Bill Burckart, Octavio Sanchez and Jim Webb. Also present were Mayor Bob McCaslin, City Attorney George Spence, City Clerk Linda Spence, the press, city staff and the audience.

At 6:00 p.m., prior to calling the meeting to order, Mayor McCaslin invited public comments. There was no response so the Mayor declared the comment period closed. The Mayor then invited questions or comments from the Council about items on the agenda and there were none.

Thereafter, Mayor McCaslin called the meeting to order. The Mayor then led everyone present in the pledge of allegiance followed by a moment of silence in support of our armed forces.

Motion was made by Alderman Sanchez to approve the minutes of the May 12, 2015 meeting as presented, second by Alderman Smith. There was no discussion. Motion carried (8-0).

Motion was made by Alderman Sooter to suspend the rules regarding the reading of all ordinances on three separate days and further that all ordinances and resolutions be read by title only, second by Alderman Smith. There was no discussion. Motion carried (8-0).

Mayor McCaslin recognized Jennifer Jones, District Court Clerk, and presented her with a proclamation recognizing the month of May 2015 as National Drug Court month in the City of Bentonville. Ms. Jones noted that the programs were spearheaded by former District Court Judge, now Alderman, John Skaggs.

- 1a. Ordinance No. 2015-63: Ordinance accepting a lot split of Lots 14, 15 and 16, Block 9, Deming's Addition to the City of Bentonville, Arkansas.

[Applicant: Mill Project LLC (Todd Jacobs);
Location: Southeast corner of Northwest B Street and
Northwest 4th Street]

City Attorney Spence read the ordinance by title only.
Motion to pass by Alderman Sanchez, second by Alderman Orman.
There was no discussion. Motion carried (8-0).

- 1b. Ordinance No. 2015-64: Ordinance accepting a property line adjustment of Lot 11 Block 10 of Deming's 2nd Addition to the City of Bentonville.

[Applicant: Sandra Edwards; Location: Northeast A Street]

City Attorney Spence read the ordinance by title only.
Motion to pass by Alderman Sanchez, second by
Alderman Burckart. There was no discussion. Motion carried
(8-0).

- 1c. Ordinance No. 2015-65: Ordinance changing real estate in the City of Bentonville, Arkansas from its present classification to R-1, single family residential.

[Applicant: Charles and Brenda Rateliff;
Location: 1716 Southwest 2nd Street]

City Attorney Spence read the ordinance by title only.
Motion to pass by Alderman Sanchez, second by
Alderman Sooter. There was no discussion. Motion carried
(8-0).

2. Resolution No. 5-26-15 A: Resolution authorizing the Mayor and Clerk to enter into a supplemental agreement with Garver Engineers for additional work on the Highway 12 improvement project.

City Attorney Spence read the resolution by title only. Motion to pass by Alderman Burckart, second by Alderman Smith. There was no discussion. Motion carried (8-0).

Alderman Sanchez recognized Mike Churchwell, Transportation Director, with regard to his efforts in keeping ahead of developments on this project.

3. Resolution No. 5-26-15 B: Resolution authorizing the Mayor and Clerk to enter into an agreement with Journal Technologies, Inc. for the purchase and configuration of Justice Web software for the Bentonville District Court.

City Attorney Spence read the resolution by title only. Motion to pass by Alderman Burckart, second by Alderman Webb. There was no discussion. Motion carried (8-0).

4. Resolution No. 5-26-15 C: Resolution declaring certain property belonging to the City of Bentonville, Arkansas as surplus property.

City Attorney Spence read the resolution by title only.

Alderman Burckart asked about the auction date. The Mayor indicated that the date was June 26 and that the sale would take place at the site of the future utility campus.

Motion to pass by Alderman Burckart, second by Alderman Sooter. There was no further discussion. Motion carried (8-0).

5. Approval to award Bid No. 15-25 to Techline in the amount of \$69,800 to purchase single phase pad mount transformers for the Electric Department.

Motion to approve by Alderman Sanchez, second by Alderman Orman. There was no discussion. Motion carried (8-0).

- 6a. Ordinance No. 2015-66: Ordinance amending the pay plan for the City of Bentonville, Arkansas, pertaining to certain job titles in the Electric Utilities Department.

City Attorney Spence read the ordinance by title only.

Alderman Sanchez requested an explanation from Ed Wheeler, Human Resources Manager, for the proposed job title changes in the Electric Department. Mr. Wheeler stated that the current pay plan has been in place since 2004 and that the proposal for restructuring is to align the Electric Department with other City departments.

Alderman Burckart asked what the anticipated increase in staff would be to fill those positions in the future. Mr. Wheeler indicated that he did not anticipate any additional staff. He added that cost wise it was almost a wash because of the difference in pay between a crew leader and a field supervisor. Alderman Burckart asked whether the proposed changes would allow for upward mobility within the department. Mr. Wheeler indicated that they would.

Motion to pass by Alderman Smith, second by Alderman Sooter. There was no further discussion. Motion carried (8-0).

- 6b. Approval of a budget adjustment for the changes to the 2015 pay plan for the Electric Department.

Motion to approve by Alderman Sanchez, second by Alderman Smith. There was no discussion. Motion carried (8-0).

7. Ordinance No. 2015-67: Ordinance authorizing the Mayor and the City Clerk to enter into an agreement with Mission Communications LLC for certain alarm services for the City of Bentonville wastewater system and waiving the requirement of competitive bidding.

City Attorney Spence read the ordinance by title only.

Motion to pass by Alderman Sanchez, second by Alderman Burckart. There was no discussion. Motion carried (8-0).

8. Approval to award Bid No. 15-18 to Hugg & Hall Equipment in the amount of \$30,630 for the purchase of one diesel powered trench roller for the Water Department.

Motion to approve by Alderman Burckart, second by Alderman Webb. There was no discussion. Motion carried (8-0).

9. Resolution No. 5-26-15 D: Resolution authorizing the Mayor and City Clerk to assign a land lease agreement for a hangar site located at the Bentonville Municipal Airport.

City Attorney Spence read the resolution by title only. Motion to pass by Alderman Burckart, second by Alderman Sanchez. There was no discussion. Motion carried (8-0).


10. Resolution No. 5-26-15 E: Resolution authorizing the Mayor and Clerk to enter into an agreement with Morrison-Shipley Engineers for engineering services for the Bentonville Municipal Airport.

City Attorney Spence read the resolution by title only. Motion to pass by Alderman Sanchez, second by Alderman Smith. There was no discussion. Motion carried (8-0).

At the end of the published agenda, Mayor McCaslin noted that the sales tax receipts released last week were a new record for the City. He also noted that the official opening for the new Community Center would be Saturday, June 6.

Alderman Burckart asked about the status of the rate study. Mike Bender, Public Works Director, indicated he anticipated that the study work would be presented to Council in August or September.

Motion to adjourn by Alderman Burckart, second by Alderman Sooter. Motion carried (8-0).


Linda Spence, City Clerk


Bob McCaslin, Mayor