

City of Benton

July 8, 2024

Commissions Committee Meeting Minutes

Committee Members:

Ann Spencer-Cole, Chair – Present	Evelyn Reed, Vice Chair - Absent
Frank Baptist - Present	Steve Brown - Present
Bill Donnor - Present	Jeff Morrow – Present
Judd Hart - Present	Shane Knight - Present
Steve Lee – Present	Jeff Hamm – Lee

Staff Liaison: Toby Hirscheider – Absent
Mayor: Tom Farmer – Present

Council Member Spencer-Cole – We are calling the Commissions Committee meeting to order. To my left with Alderman Lee. Thank you, we do have recognition of the attendees. Next on the agenda, the chair carries the motion to approve the June 2024 minutes all in favor any opposed motion carried next on our agenda is our information from the PUC from Council Member Knight.

Council Member Knight - Thank you Madam Chair. We have an ordinance that will be waiving competitive bidding and authorizing utilities to purchase a flight pump for the Pucket wastewater pump station there is no emergency clause on this due to the timing of it everything falls in place the reason for waiving competitive bidding is Jack Tyler engineering is a local supplier of this particular piece of equipment it is special to this particular pump station and specific to Jack Tyler engineering in Little Rock.

Council Member Spencer-Col - Thank you, do we have any questions from the council? OK, next on our agenda is information from the A&P Council Member Brown.

Council Member Brown - Yes ma'am, everyone is aware the A&P Commission appointed a marketing committee to best determine how to better promote our fair city and all of its amenities the committee after much deliberation has made the determination the first step in creating a comprehensive marketing plan for the city is to have a website dedicated and paid for by the A&P Commission to promote our again our fair city and as a result, we have put that out to bid and we will receive the responses within the next month or so and we'll review and hopefully at next month's meeting to be able to give you an update on them.

Council Member Knight - Where are those bid specs at for the website where can those be found?

Council Member Knight – Mrs. Spicer can get you a copy of that.

Council Member Hart - So currently we don't have a website that does this other than the city website?

Council Member Brown – The city does a lot but what we were looking at is you know if you look at a lot of other cities that are active in promoting tourism and other things they have a website that's paid for either A&P Commission that promotes all events does a whole lot of stuff and so we're using that model to create that first step into the foray of what will all everything that we will ultimately do of these.

Council Member Hart - Will the things that are on the website be done by an employee or by the committee?

Council Member Brown - That's working through that whether that the I think it this is my personal opinion not necessarily the opinion of the committee I think at some point in time there will be such a demand of marketing effort related to the A&P and the and the and everything that's going on to promote that we will have to hire someone I think we'll explore all avenues now do we is there someone at the city that could do it is there could we make it part of what we're paying the chamber to do on behalf of A&P so we're looking at a lot of different things to get us out of the gate with but you know eventually I think it'll turn into its own monster so to speak.

Bill Donnor - Parks Department yeah and everything they do at what 62 events last year or something the parks are hitting home run.

Council Member Brown - Yeah so that's where we're at.

Council Member Spencer-Cole - Do we have any questions there are questions from the council hi next time agenda is information from the P&Z we have no information tonight next time agenda is to list the combination for the June community service at 1215 Cherry Lane at this time we don't have any updated information, so the condemnation goes next month. Do we have any other information that needs to be discussed with this commission, question on the condemnation?

Council member Hart - Is that the house that's the mobile almost half the walls are gone on it that's on the corner kind of right on Cherry Landing or is that a different house? That's a really bad one.

Council Member Spencer Cole - Do you have any other questions for the commissions?

Council Member Lee - Has anybody from the city got a call about the 4 structures around Woodland on Congo Rd. the guy called me today and yelled at me and I told him exactly who he needed to contact.

Mayor Farmer - Our phone systems have been down today.

Council Member Spencer-Cole - Any other questions from the council, if nothing else I will adjourn this meeting thank you.