

# **MINUTES OF THE BENTON CITY COUNCIL**

**Regular Session**

**May 19, 2025**

**City Hall**

**Benton City Council was called to order at 5:38 p.m.**

**The invocation was given by Bro. Bob Joyce.**

**Council Member Baptist led the pledge of allegiance.**

**A recess was taken; the clerk had forgotten the roll call sheet. Reconvened at 5:43 p.m.**

**Roll was called.**

**The following people were in attendance:**

**Council Member Steve Brown  
Council Member Evelyn Reed  
Council Member Jeff Morrow  
Council Member Trevor Villines  
Council Member Jeff Hamm  
Baxter Drennon, City Attorney – by Phone**

**Council Member Ann Spencer-Cole  
Council Member Bill Donnor  
Council Member Judd Hart  
Council Member Steve Lee  
Cindy Stracener, City Clerk  
Tom Farmer, Mayor**

**When the roll was called nine (9) council members were present. Council Member Baptist was absent. A quorum was declared.**

**Council Member Morrow made a motion to approve April 28, 2025, city council meeting minutes and public hearing minutes. Second, by Council Member Reed. The Mayor called for a voice vote. All council members voted in the affirmative. The April 28, 2025, regular and public hearing minutes were approved with 9 affirmative votes and 1 absent.**

**There was not a report from the Advertising and Promotion Commission, the Commission Committee, or the Animal Service Committee.**

**Council Member Reed was recognized for a report from the Community Service Committee. Council Member Reed made a motion to read and adopt Resolution 31 of 2025 – A Resolution to Condemn the Structure Located at 18623 I-30 and For Code Enforcement to Raze Said Property in Accordance with Arkansas State Law and City Ordinance; and For Other Purposes. Second, by Council Member Donnor. The resolution was read by title. The Mayor asked if anyone was here to represent this property. No one came forward. The Mayor asked for any questions or comments, none. Roll was called which resulted in Council Member Baptist absent, Council Member Brown yes, Council Member Spencer-Cole yes, Council Member Reed yes, Council Member Donnor yes, Council Member Morrow yes, Council Member Hart yes, Council Member Villines yes, Council Member Lee yes, and Council Member Hamm yes. Resolution 31 of 2025 was adopted with 9 affirmative votes and 1 absent.**

**Council Member Reed made a motion to read and adopt Resolution 32 of 2025 – A Resolution to Request the Saline County Tax Collector Place a Certified Lien Against Real Property**

Located at 613 Houston Drive as a Result of Incurred Expenses by the City of Benton in Accordance with State Law and City Ordinance; and For Other Purposes. Second, by Council Member Lee. The resolution was read by title. The Mayor asked if anyone was here to represent this property. No one came forward. The Mayor asked for any questions or comments, none. Roll was called which resulted in Council Member Baptist absent, Council Member Brown yes, Council Member Spencer-Cole yes, Council Member Reed yes, Council Member Donnor yes, Council Member Morrow yes, Council Member Hart yes, Council Member Villines yes, Council Member Lee yes, and Council Member Hamm yes. Resolution 32 of 2025 was adopted with 9 affirmative votes and 1 absent.

Council Member Morrow was recognized for a report from the Finance Committee. Council Member Morrow made a motion to read and adopt Resolution 33 of 2025 – A Resolution Authorizing the City to Enter Into an Agreement with Carelink For Management of the Benton Senior Center; and For Other Purposes. Second, by Council Member Brown. The resolution was read by title. The Mayor stated that Carelink started managing last November and the council voted to pay the utilities and \$3,500 per month. This is just a continuation of that. This was put back out to bid in April, and no one submitted a bid so Carelink is continuing to manage until next April. The Mayor asked for any questions or comments, none. Roll was called which resulted in Council Member Baptist absent, Council Member Brown yes, Council Member Spencer-Cole yes, Council Member Reed yes, Council Member Donnor yes, Council Member Morrow yes, Council Member Hart yes, Council Member Villines yes, Council Member Lee yes, and Council Member Hamm yes. Resolution 33 of 2025 was adopted with 9 affirmative votes and 1 absent.

Council Member Morrow made a motion to read and adopt Resolution 34 of 2025 – A Resolution Amending the 2025 Parks Budget to Increase the Expenditure Appropriation in the Amount of \$145,000 for the Final Tyndall Park Light Loan Payment; and For Other Purposes. Seconded by Council Member Lee. The resolution was read by title. The Mayor stated this was year 4 on the payment and this is an additional payment to pay 1 year off early, this will be the last and final payment for the lights. We have the cash to do it. The Mayor asked for any questions or comments, none. Roll was called which resulted in Council Member Baptist absent, Council Member Brown yes, Council Member Spencer-Cole yes, Council Member Reed yes, Council Member Donnor yes, Council Member Morrow yes, Council Member Hart yes, Council Member Villines yes, Council Member Lee yes, and Council Member Hamm yes. Resolution 34 of 2025 was adopted with 9 affirmative votes and 1 absent.

Council Member Morrow made a motion to read and adopt in its entirety Resolution 35 of 2025 – A Resolution Declaring Certain Property as Surplus; and Authorizing the Sale of the Surplus Property At Auction; and For Other Purposes. Second, by Council Member Reed. The resolution was read. The surplus property is 2 Dodge Chargers. The Mayor stated that both vehicles have over 100,000 miles on them. The Mayor asked for any questions or comments, none. Roll was called which resulted in Council Member Baptist absent, Council Member Brown yes, Council Member Spencer-Cole yes, Council Member Reed yes, Council Member Donnor yes, Council Member Morrow yes, Council Member Hart yes, Council Member Villines yes, Council Member Lee yes, and Council Member Hamm yes. Resolution 35 of 2025 was adopted with 9 affirmative votes and 1 absent.

**Council Member Morrow made a motion to read in its entirety and adopt Resolution 36 of 2025 – A Resolution Recognizing the Services of Lieutenant Curtis Wood to the Citizens of Benton and Awarding Him, His Badge and Duty Weapon in Recognition of Those Services; and For Other Purposes. Seconded by Council Member Lee. The resolution was read. The Mayor stated that this has been standard practice for a number of years. The Mayor asked for any questions or comments, none. Roll was called which resulted in Council Member Baptist absent, Council Member Brown yes, Council Member Spencer-Cole yes, Council Member Reed yes, Council Member Donnor yes, Council Member Morrow yes, Council Member Hart yes, Council Member Villines yes, Council Member Lee yes, and Council Member Hamm yes. Resolution 36 of 2025 was adopted with 9 affirmative votes and 1 absent.**

**Council Member Morrow made a motion to read in its entirety and adopt Resolution 37 of 2025 – A Resolution Recognizing the Services of Office Manager Cissy Brown to the Citizens of Benton and Awarding Her a Wooden Bench in Recognition of Those Services; and For Other Purposes. Seconded by Council Member Reed. The resolution was read by the city clerk. The Mayor stated that the bench was there when she started and was all that she asked for retirement. The Mayor asked for any questions or comments, none. Roll was called which resulted in Council Member Baptist absent, Council Member Brown yes, Council Member Spencer-Cole yes, Council Member Reed yes, Council Member Donnor yes, Council Member Morrow yes, Council Member Hart yes, Council Member Villines yes, Council Member Lee yes, and Council Member Hamm yes. Resolution 37 of 2025 was adopted with 9 affirmative votes and 1 absent.**

**Council Member Morrow made a motion to read and adopt Resolution 38 of 2025 – A Resolution Accepting a 3-Year-Old Belgian Malinois, Named K9 Cash, That Was Donated To The Benton Police Department, To Join Our K-9 Program; And For Other Purposes. Seconded by Council Member Lee. The resolution was read by title. The Mayor stated that if we had to go out and buy it would cost about \$15,000. It is already trained, the officer has already trained with the dog, so it is good for the city. The Mayor asked for any questions or comments, none. Roll was called which resulted in Council Member Baptist absent, Council Member Brown yes, Council Member Spencer-Cole yes, Council Member Reed yes, Council Member Donnor yes, Council Member Morrow yes, Council Member Hart yes, Council Member Villines yes, Council Member Lee yes, and Council Member Hamm yes. Resolution 38 of 2025 was adopted with 9 affirmative votes and 1 absent.**

**Council Member Hart was recognized for a report from the Parks Committee. Council Member Hart made a motion to read and adopt Ordinance 25 of 2025 – An Ordinance Amending Usage Rates At Riverside Park; and For Other Purposes. Second, by Council Member Reed. The ordinance was read. The Mayor stated that we are raising the day pass by \$1. It will now be \$5 across the board for everybody. The Mayor asked for any questions or comments. Council Member Brown asked how much increased revenue will come from this. He was told \$14,000 for a full year. Roll was called which resulted in Council Member Baptist absent, Council Member Brown yes, Council Member Spencer-Cole yes, Council Member Reed yes, Council Member Donnor yes, Council Member Morrow yes, Council Member Hart yes, Council Member Villines yes, Council Member Lee yes, and Council Member Hamm yes. Ordinance 25 of 2025 was adopted with 9 affirmative votes and 1 absent.**

**Council Member Hart made a motion to read and adopt Ordinance 26 of 2025 – An Ordinance Amending Ordinance 49 of 2022 Usage Rates For the Parks and Recreation Department; and**

**For Other Purposes. Second, by Council Member Spencer-Cole. The ordinance was read. The Mayor stated that it was going from \$100 to \$150 for the Gene Moss building. The Mayor asked for any questions or comments, none. Roll was called which resulted in Council Member Baptist absent, Council Member Brown yes, Council Member Spencer-Cole yes, Council Member Reed yes, Council Member Donnor yes, Council Member Morrow yes, Council Member Hart yes, Council Member Villines yes, Council Member Lee yes, and Council Member Hamm yes. Ordinance 26 of 2025 was adopted with 9 affirmative votes and 1 absent.**

**Council Member Donnor was recognized for a report from the Personnel/Health & Safety Committee. Council Member Donnor made a motion to read and adopt Resolution 39 of 2025 – A Resolution Determining that the City of Benton Shall Become a Participating Public Employer of the Arkansas Public Employees' Retirement System; and For Other Purposes. There was not a second. The resolution died for a lack of a second.**

**Council Member Spencer-Cole was recognized for a report from the Planning and Zoning Commission. Council Member Spencer-Cole made a motion to read and adopt Ordinance 27 of 2025 – An Ordinance Rezoning 206 Third Street in the City of Benton, Saline County, Arkansas, From R2 to R5; and For Other Purposes. Second, by Council Member Brown. The ordinance was read. The Mayor asked if anyone was here for this property. No one came forward. The Mayor asked for any questions or comments, none. Roll was called which resulted in Council Member Baptist absent, Council Member Brown yes, Council Member Spencer-Cole yes, Council Member Reed yes, Council Member Donnor yes, Council Member Morrow yes, Council Member Hart yes, Council Member Villines yes, Council Member Lee yes, and Council Member Hamm yes. Ordinance 27 of 2025 was adopted with 9 affirmative votes and 1 absent vote.**

**Council Member Spencer-Cole made a motion to read and adopt Ordinance 28 of 2025 – An Ordinance Rezoning 809 Pearl Street in the City of Benton, Saline County, Arkansas, From C2 to R2; and For Other Purposes. Seconded by Council Member Reed. The ordinance was read. The Mayor asked if anyone was here for this property. No one came forward. The Mayor asked for any questions or comments, none. Roll was called which resulted in Council Member Baptist absent, Council Member Brown yes, Council Member Spencer-Cole yes, Council Member Reed yes, Council Member Donnor yes, Council Member Morrow yes, Council Member Hart yes, Council Member Villines yes, Council Member Lee yes, and Council Member Hamm yes. Ordinance 28 of 2025 was adopted with 9 affirmative votes and 1 absent vote.**

**Council Member Spencer-Cole made a motion to read and adopt Ordinance 29 of 2025 – An Ordinance Rezoning Parcel Numbers 800-07502-005, 800-07502-004, 800-07502-003 in the City of Benton, Saline County, Arkansas, From C3 to R2; and For Other Purposes. Seconded by Council Member Lee. The ordinance was read. The Mayor asked if anyone was here for this property. No one came forward. The Mayor asked for any questions or comments. Council Member Lee asked how big the lots are. Jonathan Hope said 25ft wide, they are attached townhouses. An example project would be Village Loop on Springhill Road; the garage is on the front. Roll was called which resulted in Council Member Baptist absent, Council Member Brown yes, Council Member Spencer-Cole yes, Council Member Reed yes, Council Member Donnor yes, Council Member Morrow yes, Council Member Hart yes,**

**Council Member Villines yes, Council Member Lee abstained, and Council Member Hamm yes. Ordinance 29 of 2025 was adopted with 8 affirmative votes, 1 abstained and 1 absent.**

**Council Member Hart was recognized for a report from the Public Utility Commission. Council Member Hart made a motion to read and adopt Resolution 40 of 2025 – A Resolution Ratifying and Confirming the Appointment of Gary Ferrell as Commissioner to the Public Utility Commission; and For Other Purposes. Seconded by Council Member Reed. The resolution was read by title. The Mayor stated that Gary Ferrell has served on this commission for many years and has done an outstanding job; Mr. Ferrell is completing the term for Brad Johnston, who has moved out of state. The Mayor asked for any comments, none. Roll was called which resulted in Council Member Baptist absent, Council Member Brown yes, Council Member Spencer-Cole yes, Council Member Reed yes, Council Member Donnor yes, Council Member Morrow yes, Council Member Hart yes, Council Member Villines yes, Council Member Lee yes, and Council Member Hamm yes. Resolution 40 of 2025 was adopted with 9 affirmative votes and 1 absent.**

**Council Member Hamm was recognized for a report from the Streets Committee. Council Member Hamm made a motion to read and adopt Resolution 41 of 2025 – A Resolution Expressing the Willingness of the City of Benton to Utilize Federal-Aid Transportation Alternatives Program or Recreational Trails Program Funds; And For Other Purposes. Second, by Council Member Villines. The resolution was read by title. The Mayor asked for any questions or comments, none. This is for sidewalks on 4<sup>th</sup> Street, and it is an 80/20 split. Roll was called which resulted in Council Member Baptist absent, Council Member Brown yes, Council Member Spencer-Cole yes, Council Member Reed yes, Council Member Donnor yes, Council Member Morrow yes, Council Member Hart yes, Council Member Villines yes, Council Member Lee yes, and Council Member Hamm yes. Resolution 41 of 2025 was adopted with 9 affirmative votes and 1 absent.**

**Council Member Hamm made a motion to read and adopt Resolution 42 of 2025 – A Resolution Authorizing the Abandonment of An Alley Located at 719 and 721 South Market Street; and For Other Purposes. Seconded by Council Member Lee. The resolution was read by title. The Mayor asked if anyone was here from 719 or 721 South Market Street that would like to speak, no one came forward. The Mayor asked for any questions or comments, none. Roll was called which resulted in Council Member Baptist absent, Council Member Brown yes, Council Member Spencer-Cole yes, Council Member Reed yes, Council Member Donnor yes, Council Member Morrow yes, Council Member Hart yes, Council Member Villines yes, Council Member Lee yes, and Council Member Hamm yes. Resolution 42 of 2025 was adopted with 9 affirmative votes and 1 absent.**

**Council Member Hamm made a motion to read and adopt Resolution 43 of 2025 – A Resolution Setting a Public Hearing to Hear the Petition of John Young to Abandon a Portion of Hester Drive, A Street in the City of Benton; Requiring Public Notice of the Hearing; and For Other Purposes. Seconded by Council Member Lee. The resolution was read by title. The public hearing will be on June 10, 2025 at 5:00 p.m. in the council chambers of city hall. The Mayor asked for any questions or comments, none. Roll was called which resulted in Council Member Baptist absent, Council Member Brown yes, Council Member Spencer-Cole yes, Council Member Reed yes, Council Member Donnor yes, Council Member Morrow yes, Council Member Hart yes, Council Member Villines yes, Council Member Lee yes, and**

**Council Member Hamm yes. Resolution 43 of 2025 was adopted with 9 affirmative votes and 1 absent.**

**There was not any old business or public comments.**

**The committee meetings will be on June 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup>. The next council meeting will be on June 23<sup>rd</sup>. June 19<sup>th</sup> is the next Third Thursday. Council Member Donnor stated that the Personnel Committee met on May 12, 2025 with a quorum. The quorum voted to send Resolution 35 of 2025 out to the full council. Nobody voted against it, so something has happened over the last week.**

**The meeting adjourned at 6:14 p.m.**

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**Tom Farmer, Mayor**

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**Cindy Stracener, City Clerk**

# **Benton Advertising & Promotion Commission**

## **Agenda**

**May 14, 2025**

**3:30 pm at the new Benton City Hall in Council Chambers  
(410 River Street)**

**I. Call to Order**

<b>II. Roll Call</b>	<b>Present</b>	<b>Absent</b>
Frank Baptist	_____	_____
Steve Brown	_____	_____
Alison Burch	_____	_____
Bill Eldridge	_____	_____
Elgin Hamner IV	_____	_____
Luke Moody	_____	_____
Greg Shinn	_____	_____

**III. Minutes from April Meeting**

**IV. Financial Reports**

- A. Profit and Loss Reports – Jordan Woolbright
- B. Bank Balances and Collections Report – Mandy Spicer

**V. Administrative**

Delinquency Report – Mandy Spicer

**VI. Funding**

- A. Old Fashioned Day – 1<sup>st</sup> Reading

**VII. Report from Benton Event Center – Nikki Chumley**

**VIII. Report on the Development of Exit 114 Property – Bill Eldridge**

**IX. Old Business**

A&P Marketing Committee – Steve Brown

**X. New Business**

Next Meeting Date – June 11

**XI. Other Business**

**XII. Adjournment**

## **BENTON ADVERTISING & PROMOTION COMMISSION**

### **Minutes**

**April 9, 2025**

#### **I. CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Bill Eldridge called the meeting of the Benton Advertising & Promotion Commission to order on April 9, 2025, at 3:31 pm at Benton City Hall in Council Chambers.

#### **II. ROLL CALL**

Commissioners in attendance were Bill Eldridge, Frank Baptist, Steve Brown, Alison Burch, Elgin Hamner, Luke Moody and Greg Shinn. No one was absent.

#### **III. MINUTES**

Luke Moody made a motion to approve the minutes of the March 12, 2025 meeting. Frank Baptist seconded. Motion carried.

#### **IV. FINANCIAL REPORTS**

##### **A. Profit & Loss Reports**

Financial reports were presented by Jordan Woolbright. The A&P Commission bank accounts show the following balances as of March 31, 2025:

Bank OZK – Focus Group Project	\$663,404.17
Bank OZK – A&P	\$145,903.76
Bank OZK – Event Center	\$478,946.60
Bank OZK – Savings	<u>\$380,947.07</u>
Total Checking/Savings	\$1,669,201.60

There is a liability of \$545.00 owed to the Arkansas Department of Finance for sales tax.

A&P profit and loss statement: for the month of March 2025 total income of \$18,290.15 and total operating expenses of \$13,361.49 resulting in net income of \$4,928.66. For the year to date as of March 2025 total income of \$51,178.50 and total operating expenses of \$32,848.38 resulting in net income of \$18,330.12.

Event Center profit and loss statement: for the month of March 2025 total income of \$59,878.02, total operating expenses of \$34,740.91 and capital expenditures of \$10,532.52 resulting in net income of \$14,604.59. For the year to date as of March 2025 total income of \$181,688.83, total operating expenses of \$123,391.58 and capital expenditures of \$47,531.79 resulting in net income of \$10,765.46.



Focus Group profit and loss statement: for the month of March 2025 total income of \$19,937.55 and total operating expenses of \$11.10 resulting in net income of \$19,926.45. For the year to date as of March 2025, total income of \$55,900.36, total operating expenses of \$11.10 and total special project expense of \$50,000.00 resulting in net income of \$5,889.26.

#### B. Bank Balances and Collections Report

Mandy Spicer presented the bank accounts with the following balances as of March 31, 2025:

	Statement Balance	Prev. Month's Balance
A&P Collections General	\$8,981.27	\$5,985.10
A&P Large Project Checking	\$1,848,619.43	\$1,770,626.71
A&P Small Project Checking	\$1,358,048.93	\$1,318,681.72
A&P General Operating Checking	\$148,125.82	\$140,975.10
Benton Focus Group Checking	\$663,404.17	\$643,477.72
Benton Event Center Gen Operating Checking	\$480,209.06	\$473,133.08
Benton Event Center Savings	<u>\$380,947.07</u>	<u>\$380,238.67</u>
	\$4,888,335.75	

#### V. ADMINISTRATIVE

Collections received in the month of March 2025 were \$181,237.48 which is 10.5% more than in March 2024. The collections received in March are for the month of February.

Below are the amounts collected in March of this year along with March of the previous six years:

March 2025 Collections:	\$181,237.48
March 2024 Collections:	\$164,045.85
March 2023 Collections:	\$153,767.56
March 2022 Collections:	\$127,930.49
March 2021 Collections:	\$114,271.51
March 2020 Collections:	\$111,444.38
March 2019 Collections:	\$110,355.97

There are 20 restaurants and food trucks currently delinquent with the majority of them being one month late. Mandy anticipates the accounts being brought current before the next meeting.

Luke Moody made a motion to accept the financial reports as presented by Jordan Woolbright and Mandy Spicer. Alison Burch seconded. Motion carried.

**VI. FUNDING REQUESTS**

- A. Saline County Comic Expo – 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading and Vote – The request is for \$3,704. Alison Burch asked if the re-usable signage would decrease any future funding request. Mike Tinnell responded yes since the dates could be changed on the signs. Luke Moody made a motion to approve funding up to \$3,704 for the Saline County Comic Expo. Alison Burch seconded. Motion carried.
- B. Saline River Canoe Inc. – 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading and Vote – The request is for \$5,000. Bill Eldridge explained that this request has been tabled by Saline River Canoe and will be discussed at a later meeting.

**VII. REPORT FROM BENTON EVENT CENTER**

Nikki Chumley reported about 16 events that have been hosted in the building since the last meeting, including conferences, a workshop, banquets, bingo, company meetings and family celebrations. Attendance since the building opened on October 1, 2013 is 998,505. Nikki projects the attendance will reach a million people next week. Two events had to be cancelled because of last week's thunderstorms but will be rescheduled. The building lost power for approximately 24 hours because of the storms. This is the first time power has been lost for a significant length of time.

**VIII. REPORT ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF EXIT 114 PROPERTY**

Bill Eldridge reported the Buc-ees groundbreaking will be on April 16, 2025 at 2:00 pm.

**IX. OLD BUSINESS**

A&P Marketing Committee – Steve Brown reported the committee has been working with the marketing agency on a new logo, tagline and branding. He distributed an example of what they've been working on and said the process is continuing. He reported that he's met with Gary James several times and the posting for the new marketing position will happen within the next few days. The current plan is for the workload and salary to be allocated as follows: 60% A&P, 15% Benton Event Center and 25% Benton Chamber. Luke Moody made a motion to approve this allocation. Alison Burch seconded. Motion carried.

Alison Burch suggested for the marketing committee to revisit the matter of "Welcome to Benton" signage and additional signage within the city once the website project is complete. The commissioners agreed this would be a good project to handle next.

**X. NEW BUSINESS**


The next meeting of the A&P Commission will be May 14, 2025.


**XI. OTHER BUSINESS**

Frank Baptist re-iterated that signage recognizing the entrances into Benton would be a good project. Bill Eldridge stated the marketing committee would work on this once its current project is solidified.

XII. ADJOURNMENT

Luke Moody made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Alison Burch seconded. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 3:56 pm.

  
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Bill Eldridge, Chairman

  
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Amy McCormick, Recording Secretary

**Benton A&P Commission**  
**Statement of Assets, Liabilities & Equity - Modified Cash Basis**  
**Substantially All Disclosures Required by the Modified Cash Basis of Accounting Omitted**  
**As of April 30, 2025**

	<u>Apr 30, 25</u>
<b>ASSETS</b>	
<b>Current Assets</b>	
<b>Checking/Savings</b>	
Bank OZK - Focus Group Project	685,538.67
Bank OZK - A&P	156,611.91
Bank OZK - Event Center	500,439.36
Bank OZK - Savings	392,169.15
<b>Total Checking/Savings</b>	<u>1,734,759.09</u>
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<u>1,734,759.09</u>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<u><u>1,734,759.09</u></u>
<b>LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>	
<b>Liabilities</b>	
<b>Current Liabilities</b>	
<b>Other Current Liabilities</b>	
Sales Tax Payable	635.74
<b>Total Other Current Liabilities</b>	<u>635.74</u>
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>	<u>635.74</u>
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<u>635.74</u>
<b>Equity</b>	
Retained Earnings	1,633,671.76
Net Income	100,451.59
<b>Total Equity</b>	<u>1,734,123.35</u>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>	<u><u>1,734,759.09</u></u>

NO ASSURANCE IS PROVIDED ON THESE STATEMENTS.

**Benton A&P Commission**  
**Profit & Loss Budget vs. Actual - A&P - Modified Cash Basis**  
**Substantially All Disclosures Required by the Modified Cash Basis of Accounting Omitted**  
**April 2025**

	<u>Apr 25</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>\$ Over Budget</u>	<u>% of Budget</u>
<b>Ordinary Income/Expense</b>				
<b>Income</b>				
Interest	439.72	350.00	89.72	125.63%
Sales Tax Revenue	20,060.41	20,450.00	(389.59)	98.1%
<b>Total Income</b>	<u>20,500.13</u>	<u>20,800.00</u>	<u>(299.87)</u>	<u>98.56%</u>
<b>Gross Profit</b>	<u>20,500.13</u>	<u>20,800.00</u>	<u>(299.87)</u>	<u>98.56%</u>
<b>Expense</b>				
Accounting Services	600.00	600.00	0.00	100.0%
Advertising Expense	82.50	0.00	82.50	100.0%
Comp. for Commissioners	600.00	750.00	(150.00)	80.0%
Funding	651.15	4,167.00	(3,515.85)	15.63%
Legal Counsel	1,200.00	1,200.00	0.00	100.0%
Repairs & Maintenance	0.00	825.00	(825.00)	0.0%
Service Agreement	6,658.33	6,658.33	0.00	100.0%
<b>Total Expense</b>	<u>9,791.98</u>	<u>14,200.33</u>	<u>(4,408.35)</u>	<u>68.96%</u>
<b>Net Ordinary Income</b>	<u>10,708.15</u>	<u>6,599.67</u>	<u>4,108.48</u>	<u>162.25%</u>
<b>Net Income</b>	<u>10,708.15</u>	<u>6,599.67</u>	<u>4,108.48</u>	<u>162.25%</u>

NO ASSURANCE IS PROVIDED ON THESE STATEMENTS.

**Benton A&P Commission**  
**Profit & Loss Budget vs. Actual - A&P - Modified Cash Basis**  
**Substantially All Disclosures Required by the Modified Cash Basis of Accounting Omitted**  
**January through April 2025**

	<u>Jan - Apr 25</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>\$ Over Budget</u>	<u>% of Budget</u>
<b>Ordinary Income/Expense</b>				
<b>Income</b>				
Interest	1,672.51	1,400.00	272.51	119.47%
Sales Tax Revenue	70,006.12	71,871.00	(1,864.88)	97.41%
<b>Total Income</b>	<u>71,678.63</u>	<u>73,271.00</u>	<u>(1,592.37)</u>	<u>97.83%</u>
<b>Gross Profit</b>	<u>71,678.63</u>	<u>73,271.00</u>	<u>(1,592.37)</u>	<u>97.83%</u>
<b>Expense</b>				
Accounting Services	2,575.00	2,515.00	60.00	102.39%
Advertising Expense	82.50	200.70	(118.20)	41.11%
Comp. for Commissioners	2,700.00	3,000.00	(300.00)	90.0%
Funding	4,793.21	16,666.00	(11,872.79)	28.76%
Legal Counsel	4,800.00	4,800.00	0.00	100.0%
Office Expense	11.10	0.00	11.10	100.0%
Postage	224.92	225.00	(0.08)	99.96%
Repairs & Maintenance	820.31	1,650.00	(829.69)	49.72%
Service Agreement	26,633.32	26,633.32	0.00	100.0%
<b>Total Expense</b>	<u>42,640.36</u>	<u>55,690.02</u>	<u>(13,049.66)</u>	<u>76.57%</u>
<b>Net Ordinary Income</b>	<u>29,038.27</u>	<u>17,580.98</u>	<u>11,457.29</u>	<u>165.17%</u>
<b>Net Income</b>	<u>29,038.27</u>	<u>17,580.98</u>	<u>11,457.29</u>	<u>165.17%</u>

NO ASSURANCE IS PROVIDED ON THESE STATEMENTS.

**Benton A&P Commission**  
**Profit & Loss Budget vs. Actual - Event Center - Modified Cash Basis**  
**Substantially All Disclosures Required by the Modified Cash Basis of Accounting Omitted**  
**April 2025**

	<u>Apr 25</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>\$ Over Budget</u>	<u>% of Budget</u>
<b>Ordinary Income/Expense</b>				
<b>Income</b>				
Interest	2,712.47	2,300.00	412.47	117.93%
<b>Sales-Revenue</b>				
Alcohol Sales-Beer/Wine	1,298.29	1,200.00	98.29	108.19%
Alcohol Sales-Mixed Drinks	307.40	200.00	107.40	153.7%
Sales-Revenue - Other	46,556.52	25,803.00	20,753.52	180.43%
<b>Total Sales-Revenue</b>	<u>48,162.21</u>	<u>27,203.00</u>	<u>20,959.21</u>	<u>177.05%</u>
Sales Tax Revenue	20,060.41	20,450.00	(389.59)	98.1%
<b>Total Income</b>	<u>70,935.09</u>	<u>49,953.00</u>	<u>20,982.09</u>	<u>142.0%</u>
<b>Gross Profit</b>	70,935.09	49,953.00	20,982.09	142.0%
<b>Expense</b>				
Bank Service Fees	634.69	391.85	242.84	161.97%
Building Alarm System	0.00	147.61	(147.61)	0.0%
Cable TV	197.00	186.35	10.65	105.72%
Cleaning Service	1,486.42	1,345.00	141.42	110.51%
Contract Labor	3,320.50	4,400.00	(1,079.50)	75.47%
Health Insurance	1,364.53	1,364.53	0.00	100.0%
Internet/IT	378.95	2,193.00	(1,814.05)	17.28%
Labor Expenses	14,059.52	14,090.83	(31.31)	99.78%
Laundry Expense	2,814.15	1,719.15	1,095.00	163.69%
Linen & Supplies	0.00	118.13	(118.13)	0.0%
Office Expense	1,285.78	493.70	792.08	260.44%
Pest Control Expense	76.56	70.00	6.56	109.37%
Repairs & Maintenance	2,554.19	5,828.75	(3,274.56)	43.82%
Supplies	1,269.66	2,658.36	(1,388.70)	47.76%
Telephone Expense	215.60	117.00	98.60	184.27%
Trash Pickup	567.60	557.92	9.68	101.74%
Utilities	5,521.11	5,447.40	73.71	101.35%
Website	69.95	69.95	0.00	100.0%
<b>Total Expense</b>	<u>35,816.21</u>	<u>41,199.53</u>	<u>(5,383.32)</u>	<u>86.93%</u>
<b>Net Ordinary Income</b>	35,118.88	8,753.47	26,365.41	401.2%
<b>Other Income/Expense</b>				
<b>Other Expense</b>				
<b>Capital Expenditures</b>				
LED Lights Change Out	2,494.78	0.00	2,494.78	100.0%
<b>Total Capital Expenditures</b>	<u>2,494.78</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>2,494.78</u>	<u>100.0%</u>
<b>Total Other Expense</b>	<u>2,494.78</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>2,494.78</u>	<u>100.0%</u>
<b>Net Other Income</b>	<u>(2,494.78)</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>(2,494.78)</u>	<u>100.0%</u>
<b>Net Income</b>	<u>32,624.10</u>	<u>8,753.47</u>	<u>23,870.63</u>	<u>372.7%</u>

NO ASSURANCE IS PROVIDED ON THESE STATEMENTS.

**Benton A&P Commission**  
**Profit & Loss Budget vs. Actual - Event Center - Modified Cash Basis**  
**Substantially All Disclosures Required by the Modified Cash Basis of Accounting Omitted**  
**January through April 2025**

	<u>Jan - Apr 25</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>\$ Over Budget</u>	<u>% of Budget</u>
<b>Ordinary Income/Expense</b>				
Income				
Interest	10,529.58	9,200.00	1,329.58	114.45%
Sales-Revenue				
Alcohol Sales-Beer/Wine	1,642.98	3,900.00	(2,257.02)	42.13%
Alcohol Sales-Mixed Drinks	1,245.36	2,700.00	(1,454.64)	46.12%
Sales-Revenue - Other	169,199.88	168,314.00	885.88	100.53%
Total Sales-Revenue	172,088.22	174,914.00	(2,825.78)	98.38%
Sales Tax Revenue	70,008.12	71,871.00	(1,862.88)	97.41%
Total Income	252,623.92	255,985.00	(3,361.08)	98.69%
Gross Profit	252,623.92	255,985.00	(3,361.08)	98.69%
Expense				
Alcohol Expense	4,902.97	4,422.20	480.77	110.87%
Bank Service Fees	2,574.33	2,424.97	149.36	106.16%
Building Alarm System	724.09	590.44	133.65	122.64%
Cable TV	766.70	745.40	21.30	102.86%
Cleaning Service	4,872.13	5,380.00	(507.87)	90.56%
Contract Labor	15,938.50	16,225.00	(286.50)	98.23%
Dues & Memberships	375.00	1,175.00	(800.00)	31.92%
Health Insurance	5,253.44	5,253.44	0.00	100.0%
Internet/IT	1,578.80	8,772.00	(7,193.20)	18.0%
Labor Expenses	62,662.42	63,534.73	(872.31)	98.63%
Laundry Expense	8,037.30	9,836.35	(1,799.05)	81.71%
Linen & Supplies	1,233.60	1,138.96	94.64	108.31%
Office Expense	3,350.99	2,063.52	1,287.47	162.39%
Pest Control Expense	306.24	280.00	26.24	109.37%
Repairs & Maintenance	13,675.54	32,456.08	(18,780.54)	42.14%
Supplies	4,901.34	5,836.28	(934.94)	83.98%
Telephone Expense	431.28	468.00	(36.72)	92.15%
Trash Pickup	2,153.72	2,037.04	116.68	105.73%
Utilities	25,189.60	23,947.40	1,242.20	105.19%
Website	279.80	279.80	0.00	100.0%
Total Expense	159,207.79	186,866.61	(27,658.82)	85.2%
Net Ordinary Income	93,416.13	69,118.39	24,297.74	135.15%
<b>Other Income/Expense</b>				
Other Expense				
Capital Expenditures				
Network Improvements	10,532.52	0.00	10,532.52	100.0%
Security Cameras	23,959.14	23,959.14	0.00	100.0%
LED Lights Change Out	15,534.91	6,447.91	9,087.00	240.93%
Chair Replacement	0.00	10,337.00	(10,337.00)	0.0%
Total Capital Expenditures	50,026.57	40,744.05	9,282.52	122.78%
Total Other Expense	50,026.57	40,744.05	9,282.52	122.78%
Net Other Income	(50,026.57)	(40,744.05)	(9,282.52)	122.78%
Net Income	43,389.56	28,374.34	15,015.22	152.92%

NO ASSURANCE IS PROVIDED ON THESE STATEMENTS.



**Benton A&P Commission**  
**Profit & Loss Budget vs. Actual - Focus Group - Modified Cash Basis**  
**Substantially All Disclosures Required by the Modified Cash Basis of Accounting Omitted**  
**April 2025**

	<u>Apr 25</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>\$ Over Budget</u>	<u>% of Budget</u>
<b>Ordinary Income/Expense</b>				
<b>Income</b>				
Interest	2,074.09	1,500.00	574.09	138.27%
Sales Tax Revenue	20,060.41	20,450.00	(389.59)	98.1%
<b>Total Income</b>	<u>22,134.50</u>	<u>21,950.00</u>	<u>184.50</u>	<u>100.84%</u>
<b>Gross Profit</b>	<u>22,134.50</u>	<u>21,950.00</u>	<u>184.50</u>	<u>100.84%</u>
<b>Net Ordinary Income</b>	<u>22,134.50</u>	<u>21,950.00</u>	<u>184.50</u>	<u>100.84%</u>
<b>Other Income/Expense</b>				
<b>Other Expense</b>				
Special Projects	0.00	50,000.00	(50,000.00)	0.0%
<b>Total Other Expense</b>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>50,000.00</u>	<u>(50,000.00)</u>	<u>0.0%</u>
<b>Net Other Income</b>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>(50,000.00)</u>	<u>50,000.00</u>	<u>0.0%</u>
<b>Net Income</b>	<u>22,134.50</u>	<u>(28,050.00)</u>	<u>50,184.50</u>	<u>(78.91%)</u>

NO ASSURANCE IS PROVIDED ON THESE STATEMENTS.

**Benton A&P Commission**  
**Profit & Loss Budget vs. Actual - Focus Group - Modified Cash Basis**  
**Substantially All Disclosures Required by the Modified Cash Basis of Accounting Omitted**  
**January through April 2025**

	<u>Jan - Apr 25</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>\$ Over Budget</u>	<u>% of Budget</u>
<b>Ordinary Income/Expense</b>				
<b>Income</b>				
Interest	8,028.74	6,000.00	2,028.74	133.81%
Sales Tax Revenue	70,006.12	71,871.00	(1,864.88)	97.41%
<b>Total Income</b>	<u>78,034.86</u>	<u>77,871.00</u>	<u>163.86</u>	<u>100.21%</u>
<b>Gross Profit</b>	<u>78,034.86</u>	<u>77,871.00</u>	<u>163.86</u>	<u>100.21%</u>
<b>Expense</b>				
Office Expense	11.10	0.00	11.10	100.0%
<b>Total Expense</b>	<u>11.10</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>11.10</u>	<u>100.0%</u>
<b>Net Ordinary Income</b>	<u>78,023.76</u>	<u>77,871.00</u>	<u>152.76</u>	<u>100.2%</u>
<b>Other Income/Expense</b>				
<b>Other Expense</b>				
Special Projects	50,000.00	100,000.00	(50,000.00)	50.0%
<b>Total Other Expense</b>	<u>50,000.00</u>	<u>100,000.00</u>	<u>(50,000.00)</u>	<u>50.0%</u>
<b>Net Other Income</b>	<u>(50,000.00)</u>	<u>(100,000.00)</u>	<u>50,000.00</u>	<u>50.0%</u>
<b>Net Income</b>	<u>28,023.76</u>	<u>(22,129.00)</u>	<u>50,152.76</u>	<u>(126.64%)</u>

NO ASSURANCE IS PROVIDED ON THESE STATEMENTS.

Benton Advertising & Promotion Commission Bank Account Balances  
April 30, 2025

Account Name		Acct #	Statement Balance	Previous Month's Balance
<b>Cash Accounts:</b>				
A&P Collections General		***1584	10,962.44	8,981.27 0.00
A&P Large Project Checking	50%	***0318	1,950,783.52	1,848,619.43
A&P Small Project Checking	20%	***0348	1,402,415.50	1,358,048.93
A&P General Op Checking	10%	***3297	158,855.12	148,125.82
Benton Focus Group Checking	10%	***2274	685,538.67	663,404.17 0.00
Benton Event Center General Op Checking	10%	***2640	517,418.13	480,209.06
Benton Event Center Savings		***9832	392,169.15	380,947.07

**TOTAL OPERATING CASH & INVESTMENTS**

**5,118,142.53**

Read in Jan	Read in Feb	Read in Mar	Read in April	Read in May	Read in June	Read in July	Read in Aug	Read in Sept	Read in Oct	Read in Nov	Read in Dec	
DEC	JAN	FEB	MARCH	APRIL	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUGUST	SEPT	OCT	NOV	TOTAL

Read in Jan	Read in Feb	Read in Mar	Read in April	Read in May	Read in June	Read in July	Read in Aug	Read in Sept	Read in Oct	Read in Nov	Read in Dec	TOTAL
DEC	JAN	FEB	MARCH	APRIL	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUGUST	SEPT	OCT	NOV	

157,721.20	121,106.33	138,508.67	175,669.53	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	626,565.47
82	71	87	86						

1.31266	29137	57445	1,713.70	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	3,897.09
20	13	15	18						

4,034.37	3,487.93	3,808.75	5,185.85	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	16,659.92
11	10	11	11						

2,765.24	2,277.77	2,968.75	3,244.94	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	11,535.94
19	16	19	18						

11,988.51	11,394.76	10,618.15	13,120.92	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	46,797.48
9	12	12	13						

4,004.98	901.11	4,785.71	3,440.85	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	11,059.77
5	3	5	5							

[illegible][illegible]

# **Benton Event Center-Event Report**

**April 10, 2025 to May 13, 2025**

**October 1, 2013 to April 9, 2025**

**998,505**

	<b>Date(s)</b>	<b># of Attendees</b>
Memphis Flea Market	4/11-4/13/25	1,200
AR Basketball Coaches Banquet	4/14/2025	175
Benton Boy's Basketball Championship Banquet	4/15/2025	100
RetirePath Meeting	4/15/2025	20
Benton Chamber Luncheon	4/16/2025	240
Project Prevent Youth Conference	4/17/2025	300
Bauxite Prom	4/18/2025	600
Collective Church	4/19-4/20/25	700
McGraw Regional Sales Meeting	4/23/2025	70
John 3:17 Fundraiser	4/24/2025	400
Bryant HS Prom	4/25-4/26/25	1,000
AFMC MMS Billing	4/28-4/29/2025	335
ADE Novak Conference	5/1/2025	120
Missionary Baptist Seminary Conference	5/3/2025	305
Ashley Furniture/ Ferguson Finish Empty	5/5/2025	100
Chamber Job Fair	5/7-5/8/25	450
Chamber Business Expo	5/9/2025	515
SportsCard & Memorabilia Show	5/10/2025	200
AR Retired Teachers Conference	5/12-5/13/2025	320

**# of Events: 19**

**TOTAL: 7,150**

**TOTAL: 1,005,655**

May 8, 2025

Chairman Bill Eldridge  
Benton A&P Commission  
410 River St  
Benton, AR 72015

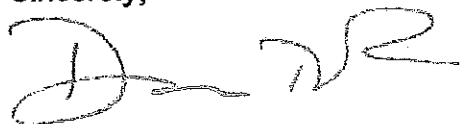
RE: Thomas Park Project

Dear Mr. Eldridge,

Now that we have submitted our Thomas Park Project to the USACE for permit, McClelland Consulting Engineers recommends that we develop and bid an early site package for the rough grading earthwork on the Thomas Park RV and Soccer Projects. MCE would prepare the drawings and specifications and advertise the project for bids in accordance with State Law towards the end of May and take bids in the middle to the end of June. Once we have received and reviewed the bids from contractors we can move forward quickly or hold the bids for up to 120 days before deciding to move forward. This will allow us to be ready to move into construction once we receive the permit.

If this plan is acceptable, please let us know and we will move forward with the preparation of the documents.

Sincerely,



Dan Beranek, PE  
President MCE-Little Rock  
(501) 371.0272  
[dberanek@mce.us.com](mailto:dberanek@mce.us.com)

CITY OF BENTON UTILITY COMMISSIONERS MEETING  
MONDAY, MAY 5, 2025, 6:00 P.M.,  
ELECTRIC UTILITY BUILDING  
1827 DALE AVENUE

The City of Benton Utility Commissioners met in regular session Monday, May 5, 2025, at the Electric Utility Building, 1827 Dale Avenue.

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Commission Chairman Ponder.

The invocation was given by Commission Chairman Ponder.

Commission Chairman Ponder led the Pledge of Allegiance.

When the roll was called, Commissioners present were:

Jerry Ponder, Chairman  
David McCollum, Commission Member  
Skylyr Stott, Commission Member  
Jana Hogue, Commission Member

A quorum was declared with four members present.

Commission Chairman Ponder asked if everyone had read the regular meeting minutes of April 7, 2025, and if so, is there a motion. Commission Member McCollum made a motion to accept the minutes as presented and be filed for future reference. The motion was seconded by Commission Member Hogue. Commission Chairman Ponder called for a voice vote. All commission members present voted in the affirmative. April 5th minutes were approved.

#### Departmental Reports

##### A. Safety/Personnel Update

Mrs. Terrie Sossamon, Human Resources Manager gave the monthly update on employee numbers, both budgeted and actual, workers' comp claims, safety classes and new employees.

##### B. March Financials

Mr. Jimmy Garrett, CFO, went through the March financials. In March, revenues were over expenses by \$853,493. He then went through the cash balances, franchise fees, revenues versus expenditures by department, bad debts, Capital Outlay Budget VS Actual 2025 and billing statistics for March in all three departments. Commission Member Stott made a motion to approve the March financials as presented. Commission Member McCollum seconded the motion. Commission Chairman Ponder called for a voice vote.

All commission members present voted in the affirmative. March financials were approved.

## Old Business

### A. Update on Electric Rates

Mr. Todd Pedersen, General Manager, passed out a sheet showing the rates as approved by City Council. He said there were a few people that showed up at the meeting to complain but once they found out the rates were not changing that it was just a restructuring they were okay.

## New Business

### A. Appointment of Commissioner to Fill Vacancy

Commission Chairman Ponder explained that the commission had interviewed two applicants for the position vacated by Brad Johnston. He said they were both very qualified candidates and asked if there was a motion regarding either applicant. Commission Member Stott made a motion to accept the application from Gary Ferrell to fill the vacant position until December 31, 2026. Commission Member Hogue seconded the motion. Commission Chairman Ponder called for a voice vote. All commission members present voted in the affirmative. A resolution will be sent to City Council for approval. Commission Chairman Ponder thanked Mr. Kevin Perry for applying and ask him to reapply for the next vacant position.

### B. Capacity Auction Discussion

Mr. Pedersen said that last month he had brought before them what is going to be occurring on the capacity auction in regard to planning reserve margin requirements. He showed them how much capacity per season Benton is requiring. He went through some basics with some spreadsheets from him and MISO and said they probably needed a work session if the commissioners really wanted to dig into it.

### C. Discussion/Approval of COLA

Mrs. Sossamon explained that instead of asking for a COLA raise for the employees she was asking for a \$3.00 per hour raise across the board. She said she is having a hard time keeping new employees when other businesses around can pay them more. She said that there were 9 employees lost so far this year for more money at other places compared to 14 for all of 2024. She explained there was money in this year's budget to cover the increase and they would add it to the budget next year. Commission Member Hogue made motion to approve the request with a second by



Commission Member Stott. Commission Chairman Ponder called for a voice vote. All commission members voted in the affirmative. Motion passed

#### Announcements

Next Meeting Date: June 2, 2025

#### Executive Session

A. None

Commission Member McCollum made a motion to adjourn with a second by Commission Member Stott. Commission Chairman Ponder called for a voice vote. All commission members present voted in the affirmative. The meeting was adjourned at 7:05 p.m.

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Jerry Ponder, Commission Chairman

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Madeline Wilson, Recording Secretary

CITY OF BENTON, ARKANSAS  
**Planning & Zoning Special Meeting**  
Tuesday April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024  
6:00 P.M.

Chairman Stilwell called the meeting to order. Roll call resulted in 0 member[s] being absent.

Members Present	Members Absent
Carl West	
Brett Chumley	
Lois Burks	
Darrell Wood	
John Clements	
Pamela Gibson	
James Stilwell	
Andy Warford	
Mark Chilton	
John Parton, Comm. Development Director	
Chelsea Matthews, City Planner	

*Approval of the minutes of March 4<sup>th</sup>, 2025, Planning Commission Meeting*

Chairman Stilwell asked if there were any additions, deletions, or corrections to the minutes. Commissioner Gibson makes a motion to approve the minutes, as is. Commissioner Chilton second. Motion carried.

**Board of Adjustments**

**Planning Commission**

*1601 Hudson Street [Rezone from R2 to R7]*

*Commissioner Chilton recused himself.*

Chairman Stilwell asked Ms. Matthews to introduce the rezone request. Ms. Matthews reads the memorandum that states that GarNat Engineering, on behalf of Folsom Holdings, LLC, is requesting approval of a rezone at 1601 Hudson Street. The property is currently zoned R2 [single family district detached housing] and the applicant is requesting the property be rezoned to R7 [multi family residential district]. Chairman Stilwell calls for any questions or comments regarding this request. Vernon Williams with GarNat Engineering speaks in favor of this item. Commissioner Burks makes a motion to approve this request. Commissioner Clements second. **Motion carried 7-0.** Since this is a rezone request, this request will go before City Council at the end of the month for final approval.

*1712 Thomas Road [Rezone from R2 to C3]*

*Commissioner Chilton recused himself.*

Chairman Stilwell asked Ms. Matthews to introduce the rezone request. Ms. Matthews reads the memorandum that states that GarNat Engineering, on behalf of Folsom Holdings, LLC, is requesting approval of a rezone at 1712 Thomas Road. The property is currently zoned R2 [single family district detached housing] and the applicant is requesting the property be rezoned to C3 [service commercial]. Chairman Stilwell calls for any questions or comments regarding this request. Vernon Williams with GarNat Engineering speaks in favor of

CITY OF BENTON, ARKANSAS  
**Planning & Zoning Special Meeting**

Tuesday April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024  
6:00 P.M.

this request. Commissioner Clements makes a motion to approve this request. Commissioner Warford second. **Motion carried 7-0.** Since this is a rezone request, this request will go before City Council at the end of the month for final approval.

*Winchester Drive [Preliminary Plat]*

Commissioner Chilton returns to meeting.

Chairman Stilwell asked Ms. Matthews to introduce the preliminary plat. Ms. Matthews reads the memorandum that states that Hope Consulting, on behalf of Kennedy Development, is requesting approval of their preliminary plat at Winchester Drive. The rezone request that was submitted in March 2025 was denied by Planning Commission. This updated preliminary plat now meets the current R2 zone requirements. Chairman Stilwell calls for any questions or comments regarding this item. Jonathan Hope with Hope Consulting speaks in favor of this item and clarifies that they will take out the hammerheads and put in cul-de-sacs to meet City code. Discussion is made around the room regarding problems with flooding and drainage. Mr. Hope states that they have tripled the detention area past city requirements to help with this issue. Several citizens from the area come to speak against this item. Commissioner Chilton makes a motion to approve this preliminary plat. Commissioner Clements second. **Motion carried 7-1 with Commissioner West voting "no".**

*Dobbs Creek [Preliminary Plat; ETJ]*

Chairman Stilwell asked Ms. Matthews to introduce the preliminary plat. Ms. Matthews reads the memorandum that states that Davidson Engineering is requesting approval of a preliminary plat for Dobbs Creek. This property is currently outside of Benton City limits but is within the ETJ so the City of Benton must oversee the approval process. Ms. Matthews clarifies that the Developers/property owners are wanting to annex the property once the preliminary plat has been approved so that they are able to utilize City services. Chairman Stilwell calls for any questions or comments regarding this request. Bear Davidson with Davidson Engineering speaks in favor of this request. Discussion is made around the room regarding the high number of lots. Several citizens from the area come to speak against this item. The consensus of the group has concerns about potential traffic, the number of lots, potential blind spots, and potential safety issues. Mr. Davidson asks if we can table this item so that he is able to go back to his team and try to address all of these concerns. Commissioner Gibson makes a motion to table this item. Commissioner Burks second. **Item tabled 8-0.**

#001-04759-000 & #001-04751-000 [Annexation]

Chairman Stilwell asked Ms. Matthews to introduce the annexation request. Ms. Matthews reads the memorandum that states that Richardson Engineering, on behalf of Azteca on Highway 5 is requesting to annex into Benton City Limits as a C3 [service commercial] zone. The purpose of this annexation is to be able to utilize City sewer. Chairman Stilwell calls for any questions or comments regarding this request. Tristin Phillips with Richardson Engineering speaks in favor of this request. Commissioner Gibson makes a motion to approve this request. Commissioner Burks second. **Motion carried 8-0.** Since this is an annexation request, final approval will go before City Council at the end of the month.