

**BENTON ZONING AND PLANNING COMMISSION
REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 7, 2019**

The Benton Zoning and Planning Commission's public hearing was called to order by Chairman Shockley at 6:20 pm on Wednesday, August 7, 2019 at 1403 at the Benton Municipal Building at 1403 South Main Street.

Roll Call: Shockley, McGuire, Cockrum, Payne-Hubler, Clark, Neal, Collier

Also Present: David Garavalia, Zoning Administrator; Members of the public

A motion to approve the July 3 Special Meeting Minutes was made by Clark and seconded by Neal.

Ayes: Shockley, McGuire, Payne-Hubler, Clark, Neal, Collier

Nays: Abstain: Cockrum

A motion to approve the July 3 Regular Meeting Minutes was made by Payne-Hubler and seconded by Neal.

Ayes: Shockley, McGuire, Payne-Hubler, Clark, Neal, Collier

Nays: Abstain: Cockrum

Discussion was held regarding the application by Franklin Hospital at 203 Bailey Lane, Benton, IL 62812 for the purpose or replacing the existing hospital sign with a taller / electronic message center. Mr. McGuire asked whether the sign could be moved by 5 feet to avoid the entire issue requiring the variance. Mr. Johnson stated that he did not believe that the 5-foot move would be the only issue requiring a variance as its size would also be a factor.

Ms. Payne-Hubler made motion that contingent upon a property agreement between the City of Benton and Franklin Hospital either by lease or title, that a sign variance be granted which was seconded by Cockrum.

Ayes: Shockley, Cockrum, Payne-Hubler, Clark, Neal, Collier **Nays:** McGuire

Under old business, Ms. Payne-Hubler stated that she met with Mr. Garavalia and Mr. Malckovich regarding nuisance ordinances and indicated that the city attorney did not believe creating an ordinance based on utility connection and/or type of dwelling would be feasible. She also stated that current ordinances, in-place, would address a number of concerns brought to the commission in past meetings and could be enforced by the codes enforcement officer. Ms. Payne-Hubler stated that she felt more time should be allocated to codes enforcement.

Under Miscellaneous Business, Mr. Neal presented a rendering of the proposed Spotlight Award Program signs.

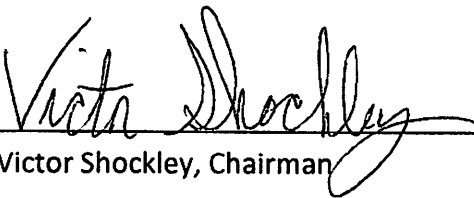
Under public comments, Mr. Morris stated that he was concerned with abandoned homes/trailers and asked what could be done so that ordinances would be enforced.


Mr. Shockley asked Mr. Perkins whether the commission could recommend that the city hire an additional officer to aid in enforcement. Mr. Perkins brought up possible other conflicts of time interfering with Mr. Garavalia completing his assigned duties as Zoning / Codes enforcement officer and that those conflicts should be evaluated. Ms. Payne-Hubler stated that she disagreed with those statements based on the fact that Mr. Garavalia has training which allows him to fully investigate matters.

Having no further business or public comments, a motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Cockrum and seconded by Collier.

Ayes: Shockley, McGuire, Cockrum, Payne-Hubler, Clark, Neal, Collier

Nays:


Victor Shockley, Chairman


Garrett Collier, Secretary