

MINUTES OF THE REGULARLY SCHEDULED BENTON CITY COUNCIL MEETING
HELD MONDAY SEPTEMBER 22, 2025 AT 5:00 P.M. IN THE COUNCIL ROOM OF THE
CAMPBELL BUILDING LOCATED AT 901 PUBLIC SQUARE, BENTON, ILLINOIS.

COMMISSIONER KAYS CALLED THE MEETING TO ORDER. COMMISSIONER
COCKRUM, COMMISSIONER STOREY, COMMISSIONER KAYS, AND COMMISSIONER
GARAVALIA WERE PRESENT FOR ROLL CALL. MAYOR MESSERSMITH WAS
ABSENT FROM THIS MEETING.

COMMISSIONER KAYS MADE A MOTION TO ACCEPT THE MINUTES OF THE
REGULARLY SCHEDULED CITY COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON SEPTEMBER 8, 2025
AS PRESENTED. SECOND BY COMMISSIONER GARAVALIA. VOTE WAS TAKEN.
YEAS: 5. COMMISSIONER COCKRUM, COMMISSIONER STOREY, COMMISSIONER
GARAVALIA, AND COMMISSIONER KAYS. NAYS: 0.

COMMISSIONER STOREY STATED THAT HE HAD NO PURCHASE ORDERS OR
PUBLIC PROPERTY USE PERMITS FOR THIS MEETING.

COMMISSIONER COCKRUM MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE PURCHASE #00706 TO
LITTLE TRACTOR AND EQUIPMENT FOR A HUSTLER MODEL 942854 IN THE
AMOUNT OF \$13,599.00. SECOND BY COMMISSIONER STOREY. VOTE WAS TAKEN.
YEAS: 4. COMMISSIONER COCKRUM, COMMISSIONER STOREY, COMMISSIONER
GARAVALIA, AND COMMISSIONER KAYS. NAYS: 0.

COMMISSIONER COCKRUM MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE PURCHASE ORDER
#00700 TO EAGLE CARPORTS FOR A 22 X 30 BUILDING FOR THE SEWER TRUCK IN
THE AMOUNT OF \$10,046.00. SECOND BY COMMISSIONER GARAVALIA. VOTE WAS
TAKEN. YEAS: 5. COMMISSIONER COCKRUM, COMMISSIONER STOREY,
COMMISSIONER GARAVALIA, COMMISSIONER KAYS, AND MAYOR MESSERSMITH.
NAYS: 0.

COMMISSIONER COCKRUM STATED THAT HE HAD NO POOL ADJUSTMENTS OR
LAKE LOT LEASE TRANSFERS FOR THIS MEETING.

COMMISSIONER GARAVALIA MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE PURCHASE ORDER
#00437 TO BUMPER TO BUMPER FOR REPLACE BATTERIES ON 803 IN THE AMOUNT
OF \$794.80. SECOND BY COMMISSIONER STOREY. VOTE WAS TAKEN. YEAS: 5.
COMMISSIONER COCKRUM, COMMISSIONER STOREY, COMMISSIONER
GARAVALIA, COMMISSIONER KAYS, AND MAYOR MESSERSMITH. NAYS: 0.

COMMISSIONER GARAVALIA MADE A MOTION TO TABLE ITEM (B) UPDATE TO
FIRE DEPARTMENT BILLING ORDINANCES TO REFLECT RATES FOR 2025. SECOND
BY COMMISSIONER STOREY. VOTE WAS TAKEN. YEAS: 4. COMMISSIONER
COCKRUM, COMMISSIONER STOREY, COMMISSIONER GARAVALIA, AND
COMMISSIONER KAYS. NAYS: 0.

COMMISSIONER GARAVALIA MADE A MOTION TO TABLE ITEM (C) UPDATE TO
BROWNING TOWNSHIP FIRE/EMS COVERAGE AGREEMENT. SECOND BY

COMMISSIONER COCKRUM. VOTE WAS TAKEN. YEAS: 4. COMMISSIONER COCKRUM, COMMISSIONER STOREY, COMMISSIONER GARAVALLA, AND COMMISSIONER KAYS. NAYS: 0.

COMMISSIONER GARAVALLA MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT FOR STANDBY AMBULANCE SERVICE WITH BCHS. SECOND BY COMMISSIONER STOREY. VOTE WAS TAKEN. YEAS: 4. COMMISSIONER COCKRUM, COMMISSIONER STOREY, COMMISSIONER GARAVALLA, AND COMMISSIONER KAYS. NAYS: 0.

COMMISSIONER KAYS MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE PAYROLL DATED SEPTEMBER 26, 2025 FOR GENERAL FUND IN THE AMOUNT OF \$85,194.16 AND FOR THE WATER AND SEWER FUND IN THE AMOUNT OF \$28,131.98 FOR A TOTAL PAYROLL OF \$113,326.14. SECOND BY COMMISSIONER COCKRUM. VOTE WAS TAKEN. YEAS: 4. COMMISSIONER COCKRUM, COMMISSIONER STOREY, COMMISSIONER GARAVALLA, AND COMMISSIONER KAYS. NAYS: 0.

COMMISSIONER KAYS STATED THAT HE HAD NO PURCHASE ORDERS OR MONTHLY BILLS FOR APPROVAL AT THIS MEETING.

IN THE ABSENCE OF MAYOR MESSERSMITH, COMMISSIONER KAYS STATED THAT THE CDAP WATER PROJECT AROUND THE HIGH SCHOOL IS CLOSE TO COMPLETION. COMMISSIONER KAYS ALSO STATED THAT THE WILLIAMS STREET SEWER MAIN PROJECT HAS BEGUN. IT WAS ALSO STATED THAT THE FALL SPORTS ARE IN FULL EFFECT HERE IN TOWN AND THE RANGER FOOTBALL TEAM IS ON A WINNING STREAK.

COMMISSIONER KAYS STATED THAT THERE ARE NO PURCHASE ORDERS FOR PUBLIC AFFAIRS AT THIS MEETING.

NO MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS.

IN OLD BUSINESS, COMMISSIONER STOREY ASKED WHY A CROSSWALK HAS NOT BEEN PLACED AT THE KOA ON DUQUOIN STREET. COMMISSIONER COCKRUM EXPLAINED THAT THIS IS A BAD SPOT FOR A CROSSWALK AND THAT HE HAS EXPLAINED THAT TO THE OWNERS. CHIEF CHRIS FUNKHOUSER ADDRESSED THE COUNCIL AND STATED THAT HE ALSO THINKS THAT PUTTING A CROSSWALK IN THAT AREA WOULD BE A BAD IDEA.

ALSO UNDER OLD BUSINESS, COMMISSIONER STOREY ASKED WHAT COULD BE DONE ABOUT THE LIGHTS IN CAPITOL PARK. HE STATED THAT THE STEPS DOWN TO THE STREET LEVEL ARE VERY DARK. CITY CLERK BROOK CRAIG STATED THAT THIS HAS ALREADY BEEN ADDRESSED AND LIGHTS ARE GOING TO BE INSTALLED ON THE BUILDING NEXT TO CAPITAL PARK TO SHINE INTO CAPITOL PARK.

IN NEW BUSINESS, COMMISSIONER STOREY STATED THAT HE WOULD LIKE TO SEE THE COPIES OF ALL RECEIPTS FROM IML. HE HAS ASKED THAT THEY BE PLACED IN HIS MAILBOX AT CITY HALL. COMMISSIONER STOREY ASKED COMMISSIONER COCKRUM HOW MUCH THE CONCRETE COSTS THAT WAS

POURED IN THE MUNICIPAL PARKING LOT ON WEST MAIN AND MAPLE.
COMMISSIONER COCKRUM STATED THAT HE WOULD LOOK INTO THIS QUESTION.

NO MATTERS FROM THE PUBLIC AUDIENCE.

COMMISSIONER GARAVALLA MADE A MOTION TO ADJOURN. SECOND BY
COMMISSIONER COCKRUM. VOTE WAS TAKEN. YEAS: 4. COMMISSIONER
COCKRUM, COMMISSIONER STOREY, COMMISSIONER GARAVALLA, AND
COMMISSIONER KAYS. NAYS: 0.

5:11 P.M.