

# Benton County Council

## April 28, 2022

The Benton County Council were set to meet at 8:30 a.m. at the Benton County Courthouse. Those in attendance were Council members: Brent Cox, Jim Schoen, Robert Sloniger, Jack Duncan, Bruce Buchanan, Brad Harman and Deputy Auditor Beth Budreau.

Others in attendance were – Bryan Berry, Mike Freeland, Don Munson, Lisa Jefvert and Angie Taylor.

Don Munson came in to discuss the Sheriff pension plan. He discussed that the Merit Board had a meeting in February to discuss the retirement plan, they must do that once a year. He stated that the lady was talking to him about his retirement plan and the issue came up that an employee that has previously left before they were vested and would come back to the department and then put in the rest of their time. If you leave before you are vested, then they pay you back your portion that you paid in. In the plan if you left because it was a changing of sheriff and you didn't want to work under the new sheriff when you came back you could buy back in, pay back your money plus interest, but for anyone else it wasn't in there. Don asked to amend the plan, so that he could pay back the whole amount of time, even though he doesn't need all of it. So that it gives him a full retirement of 20 years, even though it will give him 23 years of service. But it also gives them the options for good people that have left before they got their 10 years of being vested. If they get to a point in their career where they want to quit their job and want come back to the department, it's a benefit for them because they can come back and still get a pension. So, Don just wanted to get approval from the council to amend the plan, he has already gotten approval from the Merit Board. Councilman Jim Schoen approved to amend the plan, second by Council Jack Duncan and motion carried.

### **Business:**

The meeting minutes from February 24, 2022 & March 24, 2022, meeting were approved as presented with a motion by Councilman Brent Cox, second by Councilman Brad Harmon and motion carried.

Councilman Jim Schoen motioned to approve the amended ARPA ordinance and agree to budget the account lines as determined in the plan, second by Councilman Bruce Buchanan and motion carried.

Bryan Berry discussed that the courthouse roof is coming along good. He also stated that the ambulances are in the new part of the EMS building. The equipment for dispatch is still stuck up in Canada so wants that gets down here they can get them moved. Mike Freeland discussed the progress on the addition at the retirement village, he said its coming along good they have most of the flooring down. He said its starting to come together. It will be the laundry and storage room. Bryan Berry also said that Mike Budreau will need to come before the council to ask for an additional, because the Mac Truck did not get done in time.

Beth Budreau asked the councilman if any of them were interested in the State Board of Accounts state called meeting for the county council on June 24<sup>th</sup> & 25<sup>th</sup>. Councilman Brent Cox said he would think on it.

Councilman Jack Duncan talked about being able to enter through any door of the courthouse instead of just using the public entrance, he stated that they are elected officials so they would be apart of the system. Bryan Berry said its because they have added security and asked if they are wanting keycards to be able to access any door. Councilman Jack Duncan said it sounds like it, if that is what its going to take. Bryan Berry and Mike Freeland both stated they did not have a problem with the council members having keycards. Bryan Berry said that they can get it done for them.

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With no further business the meeting adjourned at 8:42 am with a motion by Councilman Brent Cox, second by Councilman Brad Harmon, motion carried.

Brent Cox \_\_\_\_\_  
Jack Duncan \_\_\_\_\_  
Brad A. Harmon \_\_\_\_\_  
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Attest: Beth Budreau  
Beth Budreau, Deputy Auditor