TOWN OF BENTONIA
220 EAST RAILROAD AVE.
BENTONIA, MS 39040
Monthly Board Meeting
July 7, 2026
6:00 PM

The meeting was called to order at 6 PM by Mayor Kim Martin with Loretta Thornton leading in prayer. Members present: Colby Parks, Robert Demus, Tamara Boatner and Greg Shaffer. Absent: Steve Pigg

Minutes of the June 6, 2026 meeting were read by BeLinda Sanders; motion to approve minutes as presented made by Colby Parks, seconded by Robert Demus. Motion carried with all in approval.

Expenditures for the month of June were read and approved with motion by Colby Parks, seconded by Robert Demus, with all in favor.

The mayor asked Ivan Holder to review with the members exactly what his monthly water operator fees offer to our town. Mr. Holder stated he is a certified Waste Water Operator which every town is required to have to oversee the health of their town's water and sewer system. Samples are required to be collected, taken to the state testing lab and reports submitted to the State Health Department. He stated with his knowledge and understanding of state requirements, he keeps our town in state guidelines. He can also offer the town assistance in zoning, building permits, and code enforcements. The aldermen expressed their appreciation of his expertise. One member noted they want to know how to keep water/sewer from backing up in homes and apartments when pumping stations lose power; the aldermen also expressed the need for a rate study. Mr. Holder stated unless a generator is placed on every pump station they will sometimes fail; he noted these are low flow pumps and during heavy rainfalls there is not much we can do; rainwater will get into manholes no matter what we do and that he would be happy to help us with a rate study but at a cost. Mr. Holder noted he is looking to get a quote for tank washout and will later get a quote for tank painting – both of which the town will need. The mayor thanked Mr. Holder who then left the meeting.

Mayor Martin stated the laptop computer approved at the last meeting has been received with the town's water system program on the computer as well as word, excel and outlook.

The mayor followed up from last month's meeting on the cost for maintaining our water/ sewer system reviewing a page in the agenda packet showing from January 1, 2026 to May 31, 2026, expenses of the water system versus water collections. She noted a deficit in collections to cost of maintaining of approximately $33,000. The mayor also reviewed the list of items requested by MsRWA to complete a rate study for us.

Sealed bids for revising the Hwy 49 building considered for the new fire department were opened and reviewed by each alderman present. Motion made by Tamara Boatner, seconded by Colby Parks to table this until next month. Motion approved by all present.

The mayor then asked Jennifer Blaylock, Dean Blaylock and Justin Boggs to speak as to their complaints about local law enforcement officers stopping them when riding their UTV on Pritchard Street. Ms. Blaylock stated they have been riding their UTV on Pritchard, using it to take their garbage to the dumpster, for several years and have never been told they could not. They asked for the Ordinance on recreational vehicles on the street. There is not one listed on the town's website. After some discussion it could not be determined if there is a town ordinance for this. Chief Doug Kirkland stated it is a Mississippi law and as a sworn officer of the law he must follow the state law unless and until the town has an ordinance allowing recreational vehicles to ride on town streets. Many possibilities were discussed; the matter was tabled until next month or if an ordinance is found before then, will post on website.

Justin Boggs then asked if there was an ordinance regarding fireworks within the town limits. None was noted except for the ordinance on noise disturbing the peace.

Loretta Thornton stated that two employees Paul Johnson and Gary Taylor have sure been working hard and doing a great job.

Monica Willis stated she had researched the cost of hiring a meter reader and wanted it on record that statements from town hall that it would be expensive are erroneous. In speaking with many other small towns, she has found that it does not require a full-time employee and can usually be done in a matter of hours for a town our size. In other research she found the software training for meter reading can be done in ½ a day and that some meter reader units are guaranteed 20 years. Ms. Willis emphasized the only fair situation for water/sewer provision is meters at every home / business. She went on to thank the Board and Mayor and urged them to look at how we got here, how we can get out and how to avoid getting back into the low funds' situation. She then asked could the cost of repairs be published.

Paul Johnson gave a brief overview of the VFD activities; during the month of June, the department responded to a total 31 calls.

Motion to adjourn was made and meeting ended at 8:07 pm.

BeLinda Sanders
Clerk

Kim Puckett Martin
Mayor

GFBENTONIA - GENERAL FUND

8/4/2026 4:16 PM

Register: General Fund Bank Plus
From 07/01/2026 through 07/31/2026
Sorted by: Date, Type, Number/Ref

Date	Number	Payee	Account	Memo	Payment	C	Deposit
07/02/2026	24948	BeLinda H Sanders	-split-		386.35		
07/02/2026	24949	Colby B Parks	-split-		166.70		
07/02/2026	24950	Dave E Collins	-split-		464.59		
07/02/2026	24951	David James	-split-		692.73		
07/02/2026	24952	Douglas V Kirkland	-split-		450.56		
07/02/2026	24953	Gary. Taylor	-split-		395.13		
07/02/2026	24954	Gregory T Shaffer	-split-		166.70		
07/02/2026	24955	Kim P Martin	-split-		458.43		
07/02/2026	24956	Paul F Johnson	-split-		1,182.31		
07/02/2026	24957	Robert L Demus	-split-		166.70		
07/02/2026	24958	Steven W Pigg	-split-		166.70		
07/02/2026	24959	Tamara L Boatner	-split-		166.70		
07/02/2026	24960	Willie Cole	-split-		506.89		
07/02/2026	24961	Dave E Collins	-split-		65.82		
07/06/2026	DRFT	P.E.R.S.	Payroll Expenses	June DRAFT	2,443.51		
07/06/2026	DRFT	EFTPS	-split-	64-0394270	1,596.76		
07/06/2026	DRFT	MS State Tax Comm...	Payroll Liabilities	64-0394270	92.00		
07/07/2026	24966	Robert Parrish	Legal Fees	June 2, 2026 to...	3,000.00		
07/07/2026	24967	Special Risk Insurance	Fire Dept Expense Pumper	VFNU-TR-004...	1,649.00		
07/07/2026	24968	AFLAC	Payroll Expenses	Douglas Kirkla...	136.35		
07/07/2026	24970	BBI	-split-	Office Laptop ...	1,339.89		
07/07/2026	24970	Hometown Hardware	-split-	2606-06164, 2...	2,291.50		
07/14/2026			State Sales Tax	Deposit			10,659.25
07/14/2026			State Sales Tax	Deposit			438.63
07/14/2026	24973	At & T	care of public property:...	Acc# 317531781	129.07		
07/14/2026	24974	FNBO Stamps,	-split- bug Spray, etc	Acct No. 8844	198.62		
07/14/2026	24975	Scott Petroleum Corp.	-split-	Inv 454789	1,287.68		
07/14/2026	24976	Yazoo Tire Service	Police Department:P.D...	INV 7467	564.96		
07/16/2026			Privelege Tax	Deposit			330.16
07/16/2026	24978	BeLinda H Sanders	-split-		591.39		
07/16/2026	24979	Dave E Collins	-split-		486.48		
07/16/2026	24980	David James	-split-		284.45		
07/16/2026	24981	Douglas V Kirkland	-split-		450.55		
07/16/2026	24982	Gary. Taylor	-split-		395.11		
07/16/2026	24983	Paul F Johnson	-split-		1,052.46		
07/16/2026	24984	Rickey Dale Fuller	-split-		228.01		
07/16/2026	24985	Willie Cole	-split-		425.93		
07/20/2026	24986	FNBO	Office Supplies Emp. Bulletin Legal	Acct No. 9664	87.99		
07/20/2026	24987	BeLinda H Sanders	mileage	Mileage	182.70		
07/28/2026		Douglas V Kirkland	-split-	VOID:		X	

Register: AA-Water/Sewer Fund
From 07/01/2026 through 07/31/2026
Sorted by: Date. Type. Number/Ref

Date	Number	Payee	Account	Memo	Payment	C	Deposit
07/02/2026			water collections	Deposit			515.97
07/07/2026	24962	Waypoint Analytical	-split-	INVOICE#04-...	434.00		
07/07/2026	24963	Forms Ink	Utility Fund:Water bill...	INVOICE #15...	42.77		
07/07/2026	24964	BBI	-split-	Water Class Tr...	200.00		
07/08/2026	24972	Thornton Constructio...	Sewer Improvements	PAYMENT #3...	95,591.49		
07/09/2026			water collections	Deposit			1,944.72
07/14/2026	24977	Hometown Hardware	Street Department:Stre...	Inv.2606-061606	42.00		
07/15/2026	DRFT	Entergy	-split-	Entergy Paym...	3,645.96		
07/16/2026			water collections	Deposit			1,536.05
07/20/2026			water collections	Deposit			3,127.06
07/20/2026			water collections	Deposit			648.50
07/20/2026	24988	Yazoo Valley E.P.A.	-split-	30553003	108.55		
07/20/2026	24989	Central Yazoo Water...	Utility Fund	Emergency Bac...	2,523.86		
07/20/2026	24990	Ivan Holder	Utility Fund:Water and...	INVOICE #20...	2,000.00		
07/20/2026	24991	McMaster & Associa...	Utility Fund:Design an...	Inv 3 Job # M-...	1,776.00		
07/30/2026			water collections	Deposit			1,220.31
07/30/2026	25000	Allen & Jessica Taylor	Utility Fund	Water Credit	272.50		
07/30/2026	25001	Tri-State Chlorination	Utility Fund:Water Ma...	INVOICE #14...	20.00		
07/30/2026	25002	Yazoo Valley E.P.A.	-split-	39130001, 305...	231.20		
07/30/2026	25003	Worrell Electrical & ...	Utility Fund:Water Ma... transformer & labor	Inv. 17039	3,835.00		

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From 07/01/2026 through 07/31/2026

Sorted by: Date, Type, Number/Ref

Date	Number	Payee	Account	Memo	Payment	C	Deposit
07/29/2026	24992	Douglas V Kirkland	-split-		450.56		
07/30/2026			-split-	Deposit Yazoo ...			1,048.09
07/30/2026		Paul F Johnson	-split-	VOID:		X	
07/30/2026	24993	BeLinda H Sanders	-split-		506.34		
07/30/2026	24994	Dave E Collins	-split-		475.22		
07/30/2026	24995	David James	-split-		506.28		
07/30/2026	24996	Gary. Taylor	-split-		395.12		
07/30/2026	24997	Rickey Dale Fuller	-split-		492.46		
07/30/2026	24998	Willie Cole	-split-		309.45		
07/30/2026	24999	Paul F Johnson	-split-		1,064.66		