

TOWN OF BENTONIA MONTHLY BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Date: July 2, 2025

Time: 6:00 PM

Location: Town Hall

Call to Order:

The regular meeting of the Mayor and Board of Aldermen was called to order at 6:00 PM by **Mayor Lancaster**.

Roll Call:

The following members were present:

- Colby Parks
 - Robert Demus
 - Greg Shaffer
 - Steve Pigg
 - Tamara Boatner
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New Business:

- **Swearing In of New Mayor:**
Mayor Lancaster swore in **Kim Puckett Martin** as the new Mayor of Bentonina.
 - **Selection of Mayor Pro-Tem:**
Mayor Kim Puckett Martin selected **Steve Pigg** as Mayor Pro-Tem.
Motion made by **Colby Parks**, seconded by **Robert Demus**. Motion passed unanimously.
 - **Approval of Minutes and Bills:**
Motion to approve the minutes and bills made by **Colby Parks**, seconded by **Steve Pigg**.
Motion passed unanimously.
 - **Ashley Dill Property Damage:**
A tree caused damage to **Ashley Dill's** house. She requested \$1,000 to cover her insurance deductible.
Motion to **view the damage** made by **Robert Demus**, seconded by **Colby Parks**.
 - **Demolition of Old Buildings:**
The board agreed to **contact the County** for pricing on removal and to **solicit bids for demolition**.
 - **Public Comment Policy:**
Mayor Martin stated that **speaking at meetings is limited to those on the agenda**.
 - **Tree Service/Electrical Lines:**
Motion to **hire a tree service to remove electrical lines** made by **Colby Parks**, seconded by **Robert Demus**
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Executive Session:

- Motion to enter executive session made by **Colby Parks**, seconded by **Robert Demus**.
- Motion to **close executive session** and return to regular meeting made by **Colby Parks**, seconded by **Robert Demus**.

Actions taken from executive session

- Ashley Dill's request was discussed by Tamara Boatner and motion for the town to pay her deductible was denied, motion made by Steve Pigg and seconded by Robert Demus. Motion passed with all in favor.

Department Updates:

- **Volunteer Fire Department:**
Paul Johnson provided a brief update on the status of the Volunteer Fire Department.
- **Police Department Complaint:**
A complaint was made about a **police officer working the Blues Festival**. It was noted that the officer was **not employed by the town**, but hired privately by **Mr. Holmes**.

Chief Kirkland clarified that the officer in question was **not hired by the Town**, but rather by **Clint Lancaster**.

Adjournment:

- Mayor Martin asked if there was any other business.
Motion to **adjourn the meeting** was made by **Colby Parks**, seconded by **Greg Shaffer**.
Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

My Emfinger
Town Clerk

Kim Puckett Martin
Mayor