

Bentonville City Council

Meeting Minutes

September 23, 2025



The Bentonville City Council met in regular session Tuesday, September 23, at 6:00 p.m. in City Hall Chambers at 305 S.W. A Street, Bentonville, Arkansas.

Present Council Members: Octavio Sanchez, Cindy Acree, Holly Hook, Gayatri Agnew, Bill Burckart, Aubrey Patterson, Beckie Seba & Chris Sooter.

Also, present: Mayor Stephanie Orman, City Attorney Nicholas Henry, City Clerk Malorie Marrs, the press, city staff, and the audience.

Several members of the city staff and the public attended remotely via Zoom.

Mayor Orman called the meeting to order. A scout from Troop 36 led everyone present in the Pledge of Allegiance, which was followed by a moment of silence in support of our armed forces.

Motion was made by Council Member Sanchez to approve the minutes of September 9th, regular council meeting as presented, second by Council Member Agnew.

There was no discussion.

Motion carried (8-0)

A motion was made by Council Member Sooter to suspend the rules regarding the reading of all ordinances on three separate days, and further moved that all ordinances and resolutions be read by title only, second by Council Member Sanchez.

There was no discussion.

Motion carried (8-0)

I. New Business - Public Comment to be Heard with Agenda Item

1. Consent Agenda Discussion

i. Council Member Sooter motioned to put items 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, & 10 under New Business and items 1 & 2 under Utility Board, on a consent agenda.

Seconded by Council Member Sanchez

ii. Motion passed (8-0)

2. September Residential Landscape Award - 848 Northwest 'C' Street

Recognition by City Council of the landscaping of residential property at 848 NW 'C' St.

The property was selected by the Tree & Landscape Advisory Committee and is the

September Residential Landscaping of the Month award winner.

Mayor Orman read the award out loud, and Tyler Overstreet presented the award to Mark Haney

Ia. Consent Agenda Items

New Business - Consent

3. Resolution 9-23-25 A: Certifying the 2025 Tax Levy to be Collected in 2026

Adopt a resolution certifying the rate of taxation levied on real and personal property in the City of Bentonville. No budget adjustment is needed.

4. Resolution 9-23-25 B: Approving Agreement & Budget Adjustment Related to 2022 Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards

Resolution approving an agreement with Forvis Mazars, LLP in the amount of \$17,000.00 to restate the 2022 Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards. A budget adjustment is needed.

5. Resolution 9-23-25 C: Approving Agreement & Budget Adjustment Related to 2023 Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards

Resolution approving an agreement with Forvis Mazars, LLP in the amount of \$34,000.00 to restate the 2023 Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards (SEFA). A budget adjustment is needed.

6. Resolution 9-23-25 D: Bentonville History Museum Support

A Resolution supporting the Bentonville History Museum. No budget adjustment is needed.

7. Resolution 9-23-25 E: Approving a Budget Adjustment for Incurred Expenses from May 2024 Storm

Resolution approving a Budget Adjustment for expenses incurred to repair City infrastructure damaged during the May 2024 Storm Event. Total expense is \$102,324.92. Requesting 75% reimbursement in the amount of \$76,743.69 to be allocated to 203810-44450. All funds have been received from FEMA. A budget adjustment is needed.

8. Resolution 9-23-25 F: to Purchase 2025 Aerial Bucket Truck through Sourcewell Cooperative

Resolution authorizing the purchase of a 2025 Aerial Bucket truck from Global Rental Co, Inc. through Sourcewell Contract # 040924-ALT in the amount of \$205,320.00. This unit was advertised for bid twice through IFB-25-36. The submissions received did not

meet specifications. No budget adjustment is needed.

9. Resolution 9-23-25 G: to Declare Various Items as Surplus for Public Auction

A Resolution declaring various items as surplus, to be sold via Public Online Auction. No budget adjustment is needed.

10. Resolution 9-23-25 H: to Declare Various Items as Surplus for Landfill Disposal

A Resolution declaring various items as surplus, rendered worthless by damage or prolonged use, to be disposed of in the landfill. No budget adjustment is needed.

Utility Board Consent Items

1. Resolution 9-23-25 I: Amending IFB-24-70 - IDIQ Water Service Line Replacement Agreement

Staff requests a Resolution amending the 2025 budget and authorizing the Mayor and City Clerk to amend the IDIQ contract for Mo-Ark Utilities, increasing the amount by \$500,000.00. Utility Board approved 5-0. A budget adjustment is needed.

2. Resolution 9-23-25 J: Resolution and Budget Adjustment for GDS Associates, Inc. for a Not to Exceed Cost of \$75,000.00

GDS Associates is and has been performing the engineering work for the two law firms that are representing Bentonville (and other utilities) against AEP at FERC. AEP has been trying to allocate costs for retired/retiring power plants to various utilities in Arkansas and Texas. This is not to exceed cost of \$75,000.00. Utility Board approved 5-0. A budget adjustment is needed.

City Attorney Nick Henry read the consent agenda items by title only.

Motion to pass the consent agenda items as read made by Council Member Sanchez, seconded by Council Member Sooter

Motion Passes (8-0)

II. Planning

1. Ordinance 2025-171: Property Line Adjustment - Lot 1 of J Street Apartments Subdivision - 3110 SE J St. (PLA25- 0018)

The Planning Commission voted 5-0, recommending approval.

An Ordinance Accepting A Property Line Adjustment Of Parcels 01-00177-000 And 01-00157-000 Creating New Lot 1 Of J Street Apartments Subdivision To The City Of Bentonville, Arkansas; And For Other Purposes.

City Attorney Nick Henry read the Ordinance by title only, motion to approve by Council Member Sanchez, seconded by Council Member Burckart.

Ordinance passes

(8-0)

2. Ordinance 2025-172: Property Line Adjustment - Lot 11 of Railroad Addition - 204 Southeast 3rd Street (PLA25-0023)

The Planning Commission voted 5-0, recommending approval.

An Ordinance Accepting A Property Line Adjustment Of Lot 2, Block 5, Of Railroad Addition Creating New Lot 11, Block 5, Of Railroad Addition To The City Of Bentonville, Arkansas; And For Other Purposes.

City Attorney Nick Henry read the Ordinance by title only, motion to approve by Council Member Agnew, seconded by Council Member Burckart.

Ordinance passes

(8-0)

3. Ordinance 2025-173: Lot Split - Lots 16 & 17 of Young's Addition - 823 & 825 Southeast 5th Street (LS24-0050)

The Planning Commission voted 5-0, recommending approval.

An Ordinance Accepting A Lot Split Of Lot 15, Block 3 Of Young's Addition Creating New Lots 16 And 17, Block 3 Of Young's Addition To The City Of Bentonville, Arkansas; And For Other Purposes.

City Attorney Nick Henry read the Ordinance by title only, motion to approve by Council Member Sanchez, seconded by Council Member Acree.

Ordinance passes

(8-0)

4. Ordinance 2025-174: Rezoning - Hill - A-1, Agriculture to R-1, Low Density Single-Family Residential - 1711 Southwest 2nd Street (RZ25-0038)

The Planning Commission voted 5-0, recommending approval.

An Ordinance Changing Real Estate In The City Of Bentonville, Arkansas, From Its Present Zoning Classification Of A-1, Agricultural To R-1, Low Density Single Family Residential; And For Other Purposes.

City Attorney Nick Henry read the Ordinance by title only, motion to approve by Council Member Acree, seconded by Council Member Sanchez.

Ordinance passes

(8-0)

5. Ordinance 2025-175: Rezoning - Goins - R-1, Low-Density Single-Family Residential to R-2, Medium Density Two Family and Townhome Residential - 802 Northwest 13th Street (RZ25-0033)

The Planning Commission voted 5-0, recommending approval.

An Ordinance Changing Real Estate In The City Of Bentonville, Arkansas, From Its Present Zoning Classification Of R-1, Low Density Single Family Residential To R-2, Medium Density Two Family and Townhome Residential; And For Other Purposes.

Council Member Patterson, asked about the change from Agriculture to R1; due to the status of the lot split location & timing. Tyler Overstreet discussed the property change was submitted before the date of enactment.

Council Member Hook commented on the rezoning of the property

Council Member Burckart discussed the value of the E-Track it System usage so issues are no longer heard after the fact.

City Attorney Nick Henry read the Ordinance by title only, motion to approve by Council Member Sanchez, seconded by Council Member Burckart.

Ordinance passes

(7-1: Hook-NO)

Motion to adjourn from the voting portion of the agenda by Council Member Seba, seconded by Council Member Patterson.

Motion passed

Voting portion closed at 6:47pm

III. Other Business

1. Public Comment

- i. **Becky Declerk** Spoke about her experience regarding using the buses around town/ORT

2. Committee Reports

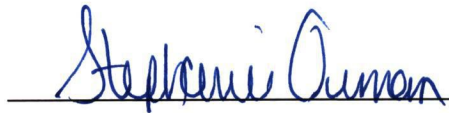
- i. **Sanchez: Library:** Geek Con Event brought 2,000 people
- ii. **Seba: Public Art:** A lot of feedback has been presented regarding the new procedures

- iii. **Mayor Orman:** Up Summit is coming up, providing air shows, vendors etc
Discussion on the new agenda process
- iv. **Agnew:** Finance: CPI Meeting coming up. Active Transportation: Meeting Oct. 21st
- v. **Hook:** Tree and Landscaping: Tree Giveaway-October 18th, 7:30am Municipal Building

The next Bentonville City Council meeting will be on Tuesday October 14, 2025



Malorie Marrs, City Clerk



Stephanie Orman, Mayor

