

Combined Committee of the Whole & City Council Meeting Minutes November 25, 2025



The City Council of Bentonville, Arkansas, met in regular session Tuesday November 25, at 6:00 p.m., at City Hall, 305 S.W. A Street, Bentonville, Arkansas.

Present for Committee of the Whole; were Council Members Octavio Sanchez, Holly Hook, Gayatri Agnew, Bill Burckart, Beckie Seba & Chris Sooter. Council Members Aubrey Patterson and Cindy Acree joined online via Zoom.

Also, present were Mayor Stephanie Orman, City Attorney Nicholas Henry, 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, and 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 October 28th, regular council meeting as presented, second by Council Member Seba. There was no discussion.

Motion carried (8-0)

I. Committee of the Whole Discussion

Council Member Seba motioned to open the floor for Committee of the Whole discussion topics, seconded by Council Member Hook.

Mayor Orman turned over Committee of the Whole for Council Member Sooter.

1. Council Member Sooter called Committee of the Whole to Order

i. Discussion topics:

1. Ozark Regional Transit on demand transit discussion with ORT representatives.
2. Various 2026 Budget Items, Dan Weese gave council a summary regarding the purchasing of a concrete truck for mill & overlay.
3. Consent Agenda Discussion

ii. New Business items 4, 5, 6, 7, 9, 11, 12, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18 and Utility Board item 5 & 6 approved for consent agenda during Council

2. Committee of the Whole Closure move to City Council Topics

Present were Council Members Octavio Sanchez, Gayatri Agnew, Holly Hook, Bill Burckart, Beckie Seba & Chris Sooter. Also, present were Mayor Stephanie Orman, City Attorney Nicholas Henry, Clerk Malorie Marrs, the press, city staff, and the audience. Several members of the city staff and the public attended remotely via Zoom. Council Members Cindy Acree & Aubrey Patterson joined via zoom, however due to FOIA conditions were unable to vote.

A motion was made by Council Member Sooter, to suspend the rules regarding the reading of all ordinances on three separate days, and further that all ordinances and resolutions be read by title only, second by Council Member Sanchez. There was no discussion. Motion carried (6-0)

A motion was made by Council Member Sooter, to place New Business items 4, 5, 6, 7, 9, 11, 12, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18 and Utility Board item 5 & 6 approved for consent agenda second by Council Member Sanchez. There was no discussion. Motion carried (6-0)

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

1. Resolution 11-25-25 A: Adopt the 2026 Budget

Approving a Resolution to adopt the 2026 Budget
Council Member Burckart and Preston Newbill discussion for the increase of sewer/maintenance and the needing of funds to address the ongoing issue and how to gain future capital

Motion to vote by Council Member Sanchez, seconded by Council Member Sooter
City Attorney Nicholas Henry read the resolution by title only
Mayor Orman called for a role call vote
Resolution passes (6-0).

2. Ordinance Amending the Public Art Code

An Ordinance amending City of Bentonville Municipal Code Art. 2-IX, Art in Public Places.
No budget adjustment is needed.

3. Resolution Adopting Public Art Policy

A Resolution adopting the Bentonville Public Art Policy. No budget adjustment is needed.
Mayor Orman opened the floor for public comment. Individuals spoke about a possible adjustment to the approval process in the new code, to allow for more time for community dialogue, allowing for an approach where we can all connect early in the process
Council Members asked what be a good “grace period”, can this process start more before council to make council the final phase, allowing for the majority of public discussion to happen within Public Art Committee.
Council Members discussed various options for amendments to the code, eventually discussion led to tabling, to allow legal time to ensure proper wording.

Motion to table item 2 and 3 made by Council Member Sooter, seconded by Council Member Sanchez.
Motion to table passes (6-0).

III. Consent Agenda:

New Business Items: 4, 5, 6, 7, 9, 10, 11, 12, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18

Consent Items:

4. Resolution 11-25-25 B: Authorizing the Purchase of Furniture from Innovative Business Interiors

Resolution authorizing an agreement with Innovative Business Interiors for the purchase of outdoor furnishings for Bentonville Public Library in an amount not to exceed \$47,000.00 total, through participation in OMNIA Contract #07-103. No budget adjustment is needed.

5. Resolution 11-25-25 C: Accepting the McKissic Creek Trail Construction Grant from Walton Family Foundation

Resolution Authorizing the Mayor and City Clerk to accept an updated grant agreement, in the amount of \$2,565,274.76, for the construction of the McKissic Creek Trail. A budget adjustment is needed.

6. Resolution 11-25-25 D: Approving a Change Order to CEI, Inc. for the McKissic Creek Trail Project

Resolution approving a Change Order, in the amount of \$66,000.00, with CEI, Inc. for Construction Administration and Construction Observation for the final phase of the McKissic Creek Trail Project. The needed budget adjustment was approved on a prior agenda item.

7. Resolution 11-25-25 E: approving a Change Order with Milestone Construction Company, LLC

Resolution approving a Change Order with Milestone Construction Company, LLC, in the total amount of \$1,261,935.83, for the construction of the final phase of McKissic Creek Trail Project. The needed budget adjustment was approved on a prior agenda item

9. Resolution 11-25-25 F: Awarding IFB-25-69 to Skyline Printing & Merchandise for Half Marathon Finisher Hoodies

Resolution to award bid IFB-25-69 2026 Run Bentonville Half Marathon Finisher Hoodies to Skyline Printing & Merchandise per the unit prices attached. No budget adjustment is needed.

10. Resolution 11-25-25 G: to Enter Into An Agreement with Pritchard Industries, LLC for Bentonville Community Center Janitorial Services

Resolution authorizing the Mayor and City Clerk to enter into an agreement with Pritchard Industries, LLC, per the unit prices, for janitorial services at the Bentonville Community Center for 2026. No budget adjustment is needed.

11. Resolution 11-25-25 H: to Enter Into an Agreement with Siddons-Martin for Fire-Dex PPE (Bunker Gear)

Resolution to enter into an agreement with Siddons-Martin for the purchase of Fire-Dex Personal Protective Equipment (Bunker Gear) in the amount of \$64,239.65, through participation in HGAC Cooperative Contract # EE11-24. Fire-Dex has been evaluated and tested to meet Bentonville requirements for firefighters. Due to the daily usage of protective fire gear, it is needed to be evaluated and replaced consistently. No budget adjustment is needed.

12. Resolution 11-25-25 I: Awarding Bid IFB-25-73 for Fire Station #1 Roof Project to Terra Firma Restorations

Resolution to award bid IFB-25-73-Fire Station 1 Re-Roof Project to Terra Firma Restorations, LLC in the amount of \$300,000.00. The roof has reached the end of its service life and is showing signs of wear and failure. This is a budgeted item. No budget adjustment is needed.

14. Resolution 11-25-25 J: Approving a Budget Adjustment & Change Order to IFB-25- 44 Street Overlay

Resolution approving a budget adjustment and change order for IFB-25-44 to Emery Sapp & Sons for additional asphalt needed for driveways, pavement smoothness, and pavement markings. Requesting \$13,254.38 be allocated from street fund reserves. The contract amount was approved under Resolution 7-22-25 G as an amount not to exceed \$176,653.42. The total cost for materials installed is \$189,907.81 per the approved unit prices. A budget adjustment is needed.

15. Resolution 11-25-25 K: to Award Bid IFB-25-78 for a 2026 Tandem Axle Dump Truck to MHC Kenworth Volvo

Resolution to award bid IFB-25-78 2026 Tandem Axle Dump Truck to MHC Kenworth Volvo of Springdale in the amount of \$351,167.15. This unit was advertised for bid two previous times through IFB-25-60 with bids considerably over budget. No budget adjustment is needed.

16. Resolution 11-25-25 L: Accepting Arkansas Division of Aeronautics Grant for the Bentonville Municipal Airport Resolution

A resolution accepting an 80/20 grant in the amount of \$300,000.00 from the Arkansas Division of Aeronautics Commission providing funding to rehabilitate the West taxiway pavement. A budget adjustment is needed.

17. Resolution 11-25-25 M: Approving Work Order 6 with Garver for VBT West Taxiway Pavement Rehabilitation

Resolution to enter into Work Order 06 with Garver, LLC in the amount of \$49,200.00 for the VBT West Taxiway Pavement Rehabilitation project. No budget adjustment is needed.

18. Resolution 11-25-25 N: Awarding IFB-25-79 to Custom Pavement Maintenance and Safety, LLC

Resolution entering into an agreement with Custom Pavement Maintenance and Safety, LLC, in the amount of \$141,630.00, for the VBT West Taxiway Pavement Rehabilitation project. No budget adjustment is needed.

Utility Board Items: 5 & 6

Consent Items:

5. Resolution 11-25-25 O: Approving Amendment 4 to the Wastewater Treatment Capacity/Growth Feasibility Study

Resolution authorizing the Mayor and City Clerk to amend the Professional Services Agreement with Hawkin-Weir Engineers, Inc. for the increased amount of \$5,994,400.00 for a total contract price of \$15,138,400.00. This is Amendment 4. This request is to amend HWEI Project No. 2021037. This will be funded by the additional \$55,000,000 revenue bond from ANRC. Utility Board approved 5-0. A budget adjustment is required to record the bond funding.

6. Resolution 11-25-25 P: to Amend Existing Professional Service Agreement with Crossland Heavy Contractors, Inc.

Staff request City Councils approval of a Resolution authorizing the Mayor and City Clerk to enter into an agreement to amend the existing GMP for with Crossland Heavy Contractors, Inc. This amendment is in the amount of \$32,398,479.62, resulting in an amended GMP of \$130,056,395.61. This is funded by the ANRC revenue bond. Utility Board approved 5- 0. No budget adjustment is needed.

City Attorney Nicholas Henry read the items on the consent agenda out loud by title only.

Motion to vote by Council Member Sanchez, seconded by Council Member Burckart

Consent agenda passed (6-0).

IV. New Business- NON Consent Items

8. Ordinance 2025-197: to Waive Competitive Bidding with Ann O'Sullivan for Fitness Services

Ordinance to Waive Competitive Bidding to enter into an agreement with Ann O'Sullivan for

fitness services for Bentonville Parks and Recreation, in the estimated amount of \$85,000.00. No budget adjustment is needed.

City Attorney Nicholas Henry read the Ordinance out loud by title only.

Motion to approve by Council Member Sanchez, seconded by Council Member Burkart>
Ordinance passes (6-0).

13. Ordinance 2025-198: Public Hearing and Ordinance Vacating a Utility Easement (VAC25-0029)

Public Hearing and approval of an Ordinance vacating a Utility Easement Vacation located at Lot 14 of Kensington Subdivision Phase 3 (VAC25-0029).

City Attorney Nicholas Henry read the Ordinance out loud by title only.

Motion to approve by Council Member Sanchez, seconded by Council Member Burkart.
Ordinance passes (6-0).

V. Utility Board NON Consent Items

1. Ordinance 2025-199: Waiver of Bid to Core and Main for the Purchase of Sensus Water Meters for 2026

An ordinance waiving competitive bidding for the purchase and delivery of various water meters on an as needed basis from Core and Main, for the City of Bentonville Inventory Department. The items will be ordered on an as needed basis per the unit prices attached. Utility Board approved 5-0. No budget adjustment is needed.

City Attorney Nicholas Henry read the Ordinance out loud by title only.

Motion to approve by Council Member Sanchez, seconded by Council Member Seba.
Ordinance passes (6-0).

2. Ordinance 2025-200: for Waiver of Bid to Henard Utility Products to Purchase Badger Water Meters for 2026

An ordinance waiving competitive bidding for the purchase and delivery of various water meters on an as needed basis from Henard, for the City of Bentonville Inventory Department. The items will be ordered on an as needed basis per the unit prices attached. Utility Board approved 5-0. No budget adjustment is needed.

City Attorney Nicholas Henry read the Ordinance out loud by title only.

Motion to approve by Council Member Sanchez, seconded by Council Member Burkart.

Ordinance passes (6-0).

3. **Ordinance 2025-201: Waiver of Bid to Mueller, Inc. to Purchase Water Meters for 2026**
An ordinance waiving competitive bidding for the purchase and delivery of various water meters on an as needed basis from Mueller, for the City of Bentonville Inventory Department. The items will be ordered on an as needed basis per the unit prices attached. Utility Board approved 5-0. No budget adjustment is needed.

City Attorney Nicholas Henry read the Ordinance out loud by title only.
Motion to approve by Council Member Sanchez, seconded by Council Member Burkart.
Ordinance passes (6-0).

4. **Ordinance 2025-202: Waiver of Bid to Purchase Holophane Decorative Lighting for 2026**

An ordinance waiving competitive bidding for the purchase and delivery of various decorative poles, arms and light fixtures on an as needed basis from Holophane, for the City of Bentonville Inventory Department. The items will be ordered on an as needed basis per the unit prices attached. Utility Board approved 5-0. No budget adjustment is needed.

City Attorney Nicholas Henry read the Ordinance out loud by title only.
Motion to approve by Council Member Sanchez, seconded by Council Member Burkart.
Ordinance passes (6-0).

VI. Planning

1. **Ordinance 2025-203: Property Line Adjustment - Lot 237 of Original Town of Bentonville - 403 West Central Avenue (PLA25- 0026)**

The Planning Commission voted 7-0, recommending approval.

An Ordinance Accepting A Property Line Adjustment Of Lots 172 And 173 Of Original Town Of Bentonville Creating New Lot 237 Of Original Town Of Bentonville To The City Of Bentonville, Arkansas; And For Other Purposes.

City Attorney Nicholas Henry read the ordinance out loud by title only. Motion to approve by Council Member Sanchez, seconded by Council Member Burkart
Ordinance Passes (6-0)

2. **Ordinance 2025-204: Property Line Adjustment - Lot 23 of Lefors Addition - 510 West Central Avenue (PLA25-0030)**

The Planning Commission voted 7-0, recommending approval.

An Ordinance Accepting A Property Line Adjustment Of Lot 8 Of Lefors Addition Creating

New Lot 23 Of Lefors Addition To The City Of Bentonville, Arkansas; And For Other Purposes.

City Attorney Nicholas Henry read the ordinance out loud by title only. Motion to approve by Council Member Sanchez, seconded by Council Member Burkart
Ordinance Passes (6-0)

3. Ordinance 2025-205: Rezoning - Yellow Brick Road LLC - R-2, Medium Density Two Family and Townhome Residential to DE, Downtown Edge - 507 Southeast A Street (RZ25-0044)

The Planning Commission voted 7-0, recommending approval.

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

City Attorney Nicholas Henry read the ordinance out loud by title only. Motion to approve by Council Member Sanchez, seconded by Council Member Burkart
Ordinance Passes (6-0)

4. Ordinance 2025-206: Flood Damage Prevention Code

The Planning Commission voted 7-0, recommending approval.

An Ordinance Amending The Flood Damage Prevention Code And Codifying In Chapter 34 Environment Of Bentonville Municipal Code: And For Other Purposes.

City Attorney Nicholas Henry read the ordinance out loud by title only. Motion to approve by Council Member Sanchez, seconded by Council Member Burkart
Ordinance Passes (6-0)

Motion to adjourn made by Council Member Burkart, second by Council Member Hook, motion passed (6-0). 8:06pm voting portion closed

IV. Other Business

1. Point of Clarification

-Council Member Seba clarified the portion of the budget pertaining to sidewalks was not reduction

2. Rebecca DeClerk spoke about Public Transit

3. Committee Reports

a. Seba: Public Art met to discuss the code

- b. Mayor Orman: discussed the need for an emergency meeting, and to have the second council meeting in December. Which will be Monday December 22nd to avoid issues with Christmas.
- c. Hook: Tree and Landscaping met to go over the year information.

The next Bentonville City Council meeting will be on Tuesday December 9, 2025.



Malorie Marris, City Clerk



Stephanie Orman, Mayor

