

**MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL BENTON HARBOR CITY COMMISSION MEETING
LULA LEE COMMISSION CHAMBERS
JANUARY 25, 2016**

The special meeting of the Benton Harbor City Commission was called to order by Mayor Muhammad at 7:03 p.m. Invocation was given by Ruthie Haralson, which was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Roll call showed the following members present: Commissioners Adams, Haralson, Henderson, Jones, Joseph, Mayor Pro-Tem Seats and Mayor Muhammad. Members Absent: Commissioner Henry (arrived at 7:05 p.m.). Also present: City Manager Watson and City Clerk Thompson.

CITIZENS' COMMENTS

James F. Turner of 216 E. Main Street congratulated Mayor Muhammad and commended him for his efforts. He announced that Shelly Mills-Walker is now the superintendent of the Benton Harbor Area Schools.

INTERVIEWS

The City Commission interviewed the following candidates interested in filling the Commissioner-At-Large vacancy: Wilce Cooke, Edward Isom, Charles Jennings, Jerry Price and Ron Singleton.

After the interviews, City Clerk Thompson announced that Ron Singleton received the highest score.

Ron Singleton thanked everyone and pledged to give his best.

COMMISSION COMMENTS

Commissioner Haralson congratulated Mr. Singleton and thanked everyone for attending tonight's meeting. She also suggested for the City to join forces with the school system to help the City of Flint.

Commissioner Henry congratulated Mr. Singleton and stated that she looks forward to working with him. She requested for the City Commission to have a retreat to work on goal setting.

Commissioner Jones thanked everyone for attending tonight's meeting. He expressed appreciation to the Commissioner-at-Large applicants and congratulated Mr. Singleton. He spoke on the situation in Flint and said that the issues were brought forth years ago.

Commissioner Henderson thanked everyone for attending tonight's meeting. She congratulated Mr. Singleton and encouraged the Commissioner-at-Large applicants to stay involved. She invited all to attend a forum on the Empire Corridor project on February 8th at the Street Ministry at 6:00 p.m. She also suggested partnering with Pastor Lange's church to send water to Flint.

Commissioner Joseph thanked everyone for attending tonight's meeting. He expressed appreciation to the Commissioner-at-Large applicants and congratulated Mr. Singleton. He encouraged all to be safe.

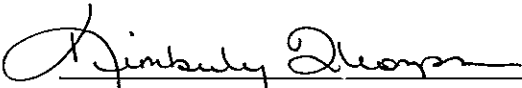
Commissioner Adams thanked everyone for attending tonight's meeting. She congratulated Mr. Singleton and encouraged the Commissioner-at-Large applicants to stay involved. She expressed great concerns for Flint residents and urged all to donate water to them.

Mayor Pro-Tem Seats congratulated Mr. Singleton and expressed appreciation to the Commissioner-at-Large applicants. He commended Mayor Muhammad for his efforts to better the community. He informed all that there will be free concerts in Flint for water and urged everyone to help with the crisis. He also expressed issues with comments made by the State Representative regarding the matter in Flint. He stated that the City of Benton Harbor should rally here as well to show that residents have been affected by emergency management.

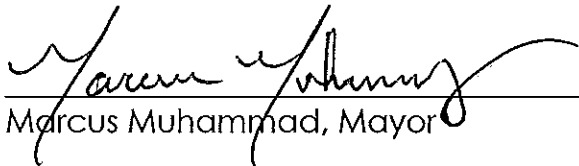
Mayor Muhammad thanked residents for attending tonight's meeting and the Commissioner-at-Large applicants for their willingness to serve. He congratulated Mr. Singleton and stated that he looks forward to working with him. He commended City Manager Watson for his efforts. He reported on a Mayor's conference that he attended in Washington, D.C.

MOTION TO ADJOURN

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 8:29 p.m.



 Kimberly Thompson, City Clerk



 Marcus Muhammad, Mayor