

**MINUTES OF THE BENTON HARBOR CITY COMMISSION MEETING
LULA LEE COMMISSION CHAMBERS
APRIL 4, 2016**

The regular meeting of the Benton Harbor City Commission was called to order by Mayor Muhammad at 7:03 p.m. Invocation was given by Duane L. Seats II, which was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Roll call showed the following members present: Commissioners Adams, Haralson, Henderson, Henry, Isom, Jones, Mayor Pro-Tem Seats, Commissioner Singleton and Mayor Muhammad. Members Absent: None. Also present: City Manager Watson and City Clerk Thompson.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

A motion was made by Commissioner Adams and supported by Commissioner Singleton to remove **ADOPT A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE SUPPORT OF PURE MICHIGAN TELEVISION COMMERCIAL** from the Consent Calendar and entertaining it as a separate resolution carried unanimously on the roll call vote.

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES – MARCH 21, 2016

A motion was made by Mayor Pro-Tem Seats and supported by Commissioner Adams to approve the Regular Minutes of March 21, 2016 with any necessary corrections or deletions. The motion carried unanimously on the roll call vote.

CITIZENS' COMMENTS

Jerry Edwards spoke on the recent protesting of Babes and Beauty due to the disrespect shown to his wife.

Ralph Crenshaw, Chairman of the Benton Harbor Housing Commission, reported on meeting with the City to address issues. He welcomed all to attend the monthly Housing Commission meetings and gave a brief overview of its accomplishments.

Danny Jennings, Benton Harbor Baseball Coach, expressed appreciation for the expeditious work being done to Union Field. He gave an overview of this season's baseball program. He acknowledged Coaches Crossley, Brooks, Green, participants and parents.

Nathaniel Green spoke on his positive experience with the baseball program.

Daniel Moore expressed his love for the baseball program.

CONSENT CALENDAR

The following Consent Calendar item was presented by City Manager Watson, moved by Mayor Pro-Tem Seats and supported by Commissioner Singleton carried unanimously on the roll call vote.

RESOLUTIONS:

ADOPT A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE APPOINTMENT TO THE SOUTHWEST MICHIGAN PLANNING COMMISSION (COMMISSIONER HENDERSON)

SEPARATED RESOLUTIONS

After discussion, a motion made by Mayor Pro-Tem Seats and supported by Commissioner Haralson to **ADOPT A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE SUPPORT OF PURE MICHIGAN TELEVISION COMMERCIAL** failed unanimously on the roll call vote.

COMMUNICATIONS

City Manager Watson reported on the foreclosed homes and directed those in need to make payment arrangements on them. He announced that the first proposed Fiscal Year 2016-2017 budget will be presented at this week's Personnel & Finance Committee meeting. He said that April 15th is the anticipated completion date for Union Field. He stated that the City will meet with representatives from the Housing Commission on a monthly bases to stay abreast of things.

COMMISSION COMMENTS

Commissioner Haralson thanked everyone for attending tonight's meeting to see their government in action. She expressed appreciation for the youth.

Commissioner Henry thanked residents for attending tonight's meeting and extended encouraging words to the youth. She urged citizens to get involved on the various boards and committees.

Commissioner Jones thanked everyone for attending tonight's meeting. He extended encouraging words to the youth and various individuals in the audience.

Commissioner Henderson thanked citizens for attending tonight's meeting. She extended encouraging words to the youth. She spoke on the Empire Corridor project and invited all to attend the April 25th forum for it.

Commissioner Singleton thanked citizens for attending tonight's meeting. He commended Mr. Jennings and Mr. Edwards for their efforts in the community. He reported on the Communications/Public Relations Committee and encouraged all to attend the monthly meetings.

Commissioner Isom thanked citizens for attending tonight's meeting. He commended Mr. Jennings for efforts with the youth and Mr. Edwards for taking a stand. He encouraged everyone to keep the City clean. He expressed concerns with double parking.

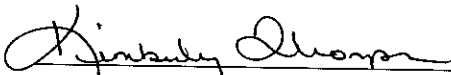
Commissioner Adams thanked residents for attending tonight's meeting. She commended Mr. Jennings and his assistants for working with the youth. She spoke on the My Brother's Keeper Initiative. She extended encouraging words to the youth and Mr. Edwards. She encouraged everyone to do better with the clean-up of the City.

Mayor Pro-Tem Seats extended encouraging words to the youth. He spoke on the improvement of parks and stated that when you have better parks, there is less crime from youth. He stated that Al Pscholka was the worst State Representative in the history of the position and spoke on things that he's done during his tenure. He said that the days of being treated any kind of way are over.


Mayor Muhammad thanked everyone for attending tonight's meeting and acknowledged Mr. Jennings, youth and parents in attendance. He briefly spoke on his experience with the Little League and offered to participate at the opening game. He commended Mr. Edwards and stated that we must have businesses that respect residents as well as the community. He reported on the review of the Emergency Manager Law and the debacle in Flint which ultimately affected the State. He stated that he is willing to file a class action lawsuit with other communities for the incurred legal damage from emergency mismanagement on behalf of the residents.

MOTION TO ADJOURN

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.



Kimberly Thompson, City Clerk



Marcus Muhammad, Mayor