



After eight years on the council, Kevin Farley announced his resignation during the May 18 meeting.

GRACE BOATRIGT JACHIM | Tribune-Courier

# Farley resigns from Benton Council for new job

Gas surcharge for trash service approved

BY GRACE BOATRIGT JACHIM  
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The Benton City Council has seen the resignation of a second member in six months. Council Member Kevin Farley resigned at the conclusion of the May 18 meeting, in order to take on the job of planning and zoning administrator and code enforcement officer for the city.

In his letter of resignation, Farley shared that he considered his eight years on the council to be “an honor,” and that he considers the loss of his council position to be his only regret in accepting the new position.

Mayor Rita Dotson and several council members thanked Kevin for his service, and wished him luck in his new position. The council previously saw the resignation of Darryl Carr in December 2025 due to professional obligations.

Carr’s resignation led to the appointment of Laura Craynon, who is currently serving the remainder of his term. Dotson said a special meeting would be called for the council to appoint someone to fill the remainder of Farley’s term. All six council seats, as well as Dotson’s mayoral seat, will be on the November 2026 ballot.

The meeting opened with citizen

comments, at which point Elizabeth Griffith Mudd of Kentucky Lake Economic Development addressed the council. Mudd shared that she had multiple projects that could potentially locate at the Southwest One industrial park in the city.

Mudd also thanked the councilmembers for their continued support and investment in the Economic Development board. The city and Benton Gas currently each invest \$11,000 into KLED each year. Mudd requested the council consider raising that investment to \$15,000 each during the next budget cycle.

Dotson also noted that Mudd and Elena Blevins of the Kentucky Lake Convention and Visitors Bureau are working to find a business or businesses to come into the former First Missionary Baptist Church building on the corner of Main Street and 13th Street.

The council then approved the annual Municipal Road Aid Agreement with the state. The agreement allows a certain amount of gas tax funds to be held by the state to be used in the event of a road issue. The agreement was passed unanimously by present members of the council. Councilmember Guy Henton was absent due to a family obligation.

The council then heard from a representative of GFL, the city’s trash service. He explained that the company is requesting a gas

surcharge, as the price of fuel has increased. The city just renewed its contract with GFL earlier this year with a slight increase to the price. However, the contract included verbiage that allowed the company to come back and request the addition of a gas surcharge in extenuating circumstances.

Ultimately, the council granted the request, with the amount being an increase of \$1.16 per customer, to begin on June 1. The increase will be reevaluated in 120 days, but if the cost of diesel falls below \$4 per gallon for a period of 30 days, the charge will be dropped immediately.

Councilmembers brought no discussions during the request for mayor/council items. However, it was noted that the discussion of a potential golf cart ordinance had been removed from the agenda at the request of Henton, as he wanted to contribute to the discussion.

Dotson also shared that state engineers would come to assess the speed limits in various locations, which could lead to more areas where golf carts could cross state roads, if an ordinance were adopted. The council is expected to take up the discussion again at the next meeting.

The council regularly meets at 5 p.m. on the third Monday of the month. The next regular meeting is set for June 15.



Adam Gray | Associated Press

A person uses an umbrella to shield themselves from the sun during a heat advisory in Central Park on Tuesday in New York.



Adam Gray | Associated Press

A person uses a fan as they wait in line to purchase Broadway tickets in Times Square, during a heat advisory in New York on Tuesday.

## Eastern US sweats through another hot day before rain, cold move in

BY TASSANEE VEJPONGSA  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

PHILADELPHIA — The eastern U.S. sweated through a second day of early-season heat Wednesday, with some schoolchildren being sent home while others stayed in sweltering classrooms.

The Philadelphia school district shifted to remote learning for students at 57 schools, saying that while it has made progress, a number of schools continue to have inadequate air conditioning.

The National Weather Service said another day of record heat was expected from the mid-Atlantic to New England before a cold front brings rain later in the week. Daily high temperature records were broken Tuesday in Portland, Maine, at 92 degrees Fahrenheit (33 degrees Celsius) and Boston, at 96 degrees (35.5 degrees Celsius).

In Boston’s Dorchester neighborhood, officials at one high school set up fans, passed around bottled water and allowed students to wear shorts and T-shirts instead of their usual uniforms.

“The heat outside feels like it’s manageable because of the wind but inside it feels just tight and burdening because we also have to go through quizzes, exams, there is no excuse,” student Ariolainy Baez told CBS News.

A heat advisory was in effect for portions of New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Connecticut, Massachusetts and Rhode Island through Wednesday evening.

In New York City, city officials opened cooling centers to help residents find relief.

“Just as New Yorkers look out for one another through the coldest days of winter, we must do the same through the hottest days of the year,” Mayor Zohran Mamdani said.

### CALVERT CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT REPORTS

On May 4, officers responded to Marshall Yards in reference to a call from their security team about two females with active warrants. Contact was made with the females and Marshall County Central Dispatch verified that they did have multiple active out of state warrants and that the entering agencies would extradite. Colleen

Marie Hill, age 41, of 207 Friar Tuck Circle, Smyrna, Tennessee was arrested on a felony warrant out of Sumner County, Tennessee, with an original charge of worthless checks over \$2500. Karla R. Hill, age 42, of 2842 Grange Place, Murfreesboro, Tennessee was arrested on a felony warrant from the Metropolitan Police Department of Nashville

and Davidson County, Tennessee, with an original charge of failure to appear on a theft of a motor vehicle over \$10,000. She was also served a felony warrant from Sumner County, Tennessee with an original charge of worthless checks \$2,500 or more and three felony warrants from Rutherford County, Tennessee, for theft of merchandise &gt; \$1,000.

On May 8, a subject came to the police department in regards to an active criminal summons. Lora Ann Rivera, age 60, of 180 Galahad Drive, Calvert City was served a Marshall County Criminal Summons for passing an unloading/loading school or church bus 1st offense.

On May 17, officers responded to a call of a man in his driveway who

was nude and bleeding. Officers made contact with the man who admitted to recently smoking a bowl and advised that it was messing with him. Alan J. Devine, age 61, of 205 West 3rd Avenue, Calvert City was cited for possession of marijuana and possession of drug paraphernalia. He was transported by EMS to Marshall County Hospital.

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