

# The Marshall Times

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During the Benton City Council Meeting, the Benton Police department was honored for their 100 percent rating on their safety and liability review by the Kentucky League of Cities. Since 2012, the Benton Police Department has been 100 percent compliant. (Photo provided)

## Calvert City Council Discusses Alcoholic Beverage Hours

**By Kelsey Edwards**  
Marshall Times Editor

The Calvert City Council will likely amend an ordinance extending the hours alcoholic beverages are sold within the city. A lengthy discussion was held at the city council meeting that took place Monday July 14, 2025, where the council introduced and heard the first reading of an ordinance for extending the hours. During the discussion, Councilwoman Neeta Hale asked Police Chief Mike Cannon how he felt about extended hours, to which Cannon responded saying, “I don’t think it’s going to be a burden on the police department.” Councilman Dustin Brown told the council that he researched the hours of alcoholic beverage sales in surrounding cities and his research showed that for Lexington it is 6 a.m. to 2:30 a.m.; Eddyville: 6 a.m. to 1 a.m. (on premise), 12 midnight (off premise); Grand Rivers: 6 a.m. to 12 midnight; Paducah: 6 a.m. to 3 a.m. (on premise), 6 a.m. to 12 midnight (off premise refers to package sales); Oak Grove: 6 a.m. to 3 a.m.; Owensboro: 6 a.m. to 2 a.m., Sunday 11 a.m. to midnight; Cadiz: 6 a.m. to midnight; Benton: 6 a.m. to midnight; Kuttawa: 6 a.m. to 1:30 a.m., Sunday: 12 noon to 1:30 a.m. Madisonville: 6 a.m. to 12 midnight, Sunday 12 noon to 12 midnight; Murray: 6 a.m. to 1 a.m., Sunday 1 p.m. to 1 a.m.; Daviess County: 6 a.m. to 2 a.m. The Oak Grove facility is open 24-hours-a-day and serves alcohol from 8 a.m. to 1 a.m.

Sunday through Thursday and 8 a.m. to 3 a.m. Thursday through Saturday. After the discussion finished up, Hale made a motion to amend the ordinance to extend drink sales from midnight to 2 a.m. Monday through Sunday to which Brown seconded the motion with no opposition. If adopted after the council holds the second reading, the amendment will keep the closing of package sales at midnight Monday through Sunday and extend drink sales until 2 a.m. This discussion/amendment comes after a request by Churchill Downs Inc. for Marshall Yards Gaming Center that is currently under construction.

In other city council business, John Ward, the City Administrator informed the council that the director of the Kentucky Railroad Museum at New Haven, contacted him about acquiring the Illinois Central Gulf caboose which is owned by the city and has been parked at Rail Services for the last three decades. Hale spoke up and said she favors donating the caboose to the museum. Ward did show photos to show that the caboose would require extensive work before it could receive public visitors. Loyd Ford, publisher of The Lake News, mentioned that the caboose was mentioned during recent discussions about creating a historic district in the city. Another item that Ward reported to the council, was that he ordered additional fireworks for the Fourth of July Ameribration in 2026 due to it

being the Semiquincentennial (250th anniversary) of the United States of America.

Blair Travis, the Marketing Director reported on findings of the Community Health Assessment, that is performed every three years by the Marshall County Health department. A community survey found that the top priorities for the city include access to mental health care, access to healthy food, housing, transportation, access to physical health care, access to healthy activities, economic development, reading skills in youth, elder care, and job training. It was stated that the top risk factors are alcohol, tobacco and other drugs, abuse/neglect/ sexual abuse, poor eating habits/limited access to healthy food, access to health care including medications, lack of a living wage, housing insecurity, exercise, distracted driving, and social media use.

Next, Bobby Henson, the Utilities Superintendent reported “water is circulating” in the Lone Valley waterline project that started several months ago. He said, “Today we tied in the last meter, and we’ve started dewatering one of our lagoons.” This will allow the department to replace the lagoon’s lining. Also during the meeting, Elizabeth Mudd from Kentucky Lake Economic Development updated the council about the work of her organization in assisting industries to locate “build ready” sites.

## Hardin City Council Receives \$450K Grant

**By Kelsey Edwards**  
Marshall Times Editor

The Hardin City Council recently held its July meeting where it began with a discussion to implement an ordinance that allows special purpose vehicles on the roadways. This ordinance comes after the state of Kentucky enacted a law that allows cities and counties to opt into allowing those vehicles on the roads. The Marshall County Fiscal Court, along with the City of Benton, and the City of Calvert have already passed similar ordinances. The council decided to table the discussion for the next meeting in order for Mabry Green, the Hardin City Attorney to research the state law and then present all of the details to the council. Hank

Rogalinski, the Hardin Mayor, noted that the city has previously allowed similar vehicles on the roadways, even though there is no ordinance in place. He went on to say that this would simply be following suit with the county and other cities.

Rogalinski also shared with the council that the city had received a grant for \$450,000 to replace a bridge on Fourth Street, however, there is no set date for this project yet. Rogalinski went on to share that he has been working to apply for a grant so that work can continue on the city’s wastewater treatment plant. Rogalinski went on to share that the old water tower near the old South Marshall Middle School is not being used and the property owners would like it to be removed. Rogalinski

went on to make the suggestion to place the tower on GovDeals at a price of \$15,000. He also stated, to put a stipulation with the listing that the purchaser has to take the tower down within six months, and only after full payment is made. The council did go on to approve the recommendation of the Mayor. Rogalinski then asked if the council had any concerns to discuss, to which Council member Gary Freeman said he had received several calls regarding the state of the park. Rogalinski said the park had recently been mowed, and he would be weed-eating the property in the near future. The Hardin City Council will hold its next council meeting on August 11, 2025 at 6 p.m.



## Jason Youngblood and Dr. Tina Bernot receive promotions

MURRAY, Ky. – Murray State University staff members Jason Youngblood and Dr. Tina Bernot have been promoted to Assistant Vice President of Facilities Management and Assistant Vice President of Advancement, respectively, effective July 1, 2025.



Dr. Tina Bernot and Jason Youngblood

A dedicated member of the Racer community since 2008, Bernot has served in multiple leadership roles within the Office of Development and University Advancement. Throughout her tenure, she has played a pivotal role in fundraising strategy, alumni and donor engagement, and campaign leadership—including the historic “Be Bold – Forever Blue and Gold” Centennial Campaign.

Bernot holds both a Master of Science degree and a Doctor of Education degree in P-20 and Community Leadership from Murray State University. A proud first-generation college graduate, she is a passionate advocate for the University’s mission and for the transformative impact of scholarships and philanthropy on students and families. Her personal connection to the institution runs deep—not only as an alumna and long-serving staff member, but also as a parent; her youngest daughter Megan is currently a student at Murray State.

“It is a true honor to serve the Racer family, which has given so much to me both professionally and personally,” said Bernot. “I am deeply grateful for this opportunity and look forward to continuing to support a University and community that means the world to me and to my family.”

Youngblood holds 28 years of service at Murray State and earned associate, bachelor and master degrees from Murray State. He leads a team of approximately 65 employees and hundreds of contracted labor personnel in various disciplines, covering nearly 4 million gross square feet of campus facilities, with oversight of 200+ active projects nearing \$100 million dollars at any given time.

His wife, Mandy is the Assistant Athletic Director for Academic Services and Racer alumna. Their son, Cameron, is a senior student pursuing a Business Administration degree.

“Both Tina and Jason’s leadership in their respective areas has elevated our institution in many ways, including private support, alumni engagement, facilities management and the evolution of our campus footprint with new building projects,” Murray State President Dr. Ron Patterson said. “We are grateful for their hard work and continued dedication in the years to come.”