ORDINANCE NO. 2022-_____

AN ORDINANCE APPROVING THE AMENDED INTERLOCAL COOPERATION AGREEMENT BETWEEN SALINE COUNTY, ARKANSAS, THE CITY OF BENTON, AND THE CITY OF BRYANT AND JOINING SALINE COUNTY EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS CENTER; DECLARING AN EMERGENCY; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

WHEREAS, the Arkansas Public Safety Communications and Next Generation 911 Act of 2019 authorizes each chief executive to direct the establishment and operation of public safety answering points ("PSAP") in their political subdivisions, to designate the location of a PSAP, and agency which is to operate the PSAP; and

WHEREAS, Saline County and the City of Benton passed an Ordinance in 2020 authorizing the Saline County Judge and the Mayor of the City of Benton to enter into an interlocal cooperation agreement to implement, operate, and maintain a combined PSAP for Saline County and the City of Benton ("Saline County PSAP"); and

WHEREAS, on September 29, 2020, the Saline County Judge and Mayor of the City of Benton executed an interlocal cooperation agreement ("2020 Interlocal Agreement"), which established a combined communications network ("Saline County Emergency Communications Center"), to provide for the health, safety, and welfare of the residents of Saline County; and, to receive emergency calls which may result in dispatch of the appropriate response for fire suppression and rescue, emergency medical services, hazardous material, disaster or major emergency occurrences, and law enforcement activities; and

WHEREAS, the 2020 Interlocal Agreement provides for service to the unincorporated areas of Saline County, Arkansas and the incorporated areas of Benton, Haskell, Shannon Hills, Bauxite, Traskwood and Alexander, Arkansas; and

WHEREAS, the 2020 Interlocal Agreement created a 911 Governing Board consisting of the Saline County Judge, Mayor of the City of Benton, Saline County Sheriff, Benton Police Chief, Benton Fire Chief, OEM Director, Ambulance Service Manager, and Fire Service Coordinator;

WHEREAS, the 2020 Interlocal Agreement, in Section Ten, provides that "other municipalities are invited to fund and participate in this agreement if they so desire by giving a written notice to the 911 Governing Board . . ."; and

WHEREAS, the City of Bryant will provide written notice to the 911 Governing Board; and

WHEREAS, Saline County, the City of Benton, and the City of Bryant have determined that it is in the best interests of their citizens for the City of Bryant to enter into an amended interlocal cooperation agreement ("2022 Interlocal Agreement") for the purposes of the City of Bryant joining the Saline County PSAP and Saline County Emergency Communications Center, authorizing the Mayor of the City of Bryant to join the 911 Governing Board, and to help finance the Saline County Emergency Communications Center.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED by the City Council of the City of Bryant, Arkansas that

Article 1. Pursuant to Ark. Code Ann. § 14-14-910, the Saline County Judge, Mayor of the City of Benton, and the Mayor of the City of Bryant have the authority to enter into the 2022 Interlocal Agreement subject to the approval of the respective legislative bodies.

Article 2. The purpose of the 2022 Interlocal Agreement is to authorize the City of Bryant and its citizens to receive the benefits and be served by the Saline County PSAP and the Saline County Emergency Communications Center, to better provide for their health, safety and welfare; authorizing the Mayor of the City of Bryant to join the 911 Governing Board; and, to authorize the City of Bryant to help finance the Saline County Emergency Communications Center.

Article 3. Be it further understood the City Council, by passage of this Ordinance, approves the 2022 Interlocal Agreement, which is attached hereto as Exhibit "1," and, that the terms and conditions of Ark. Code Ann. § 14-14-910 have been met and complied with. The 2022 Interlocal Agreement establishes a perpetual relationship between Saline County, the City of Benton, and the City of Bryant.

Article 4. Should any word, phrase, or section of this Ordinance be held to be invalid or unconstitutional, by a court of competent jurisdiction, such invalidity shall not affect the force and validity of the remaining portion of sections of this Ordinance.

Article 5. Because of the need to provide emergency services effectively within the City of Bryant and to commence with the transition, an emergency is hereby declared to exist, and this Ordinance being necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health, and safety, shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage and approval.

Passed and approved this the _____ day of _____, 2022.

_____
Allen Scott
Mayor, City of Bryant

ATTEST: _____
Mark Smith
City Clerk